



Second European Summit  
on Interoperability in the **iGovernment**  
**Rome, 20-22 October 2008**

## **W3C eGovernment Activity**

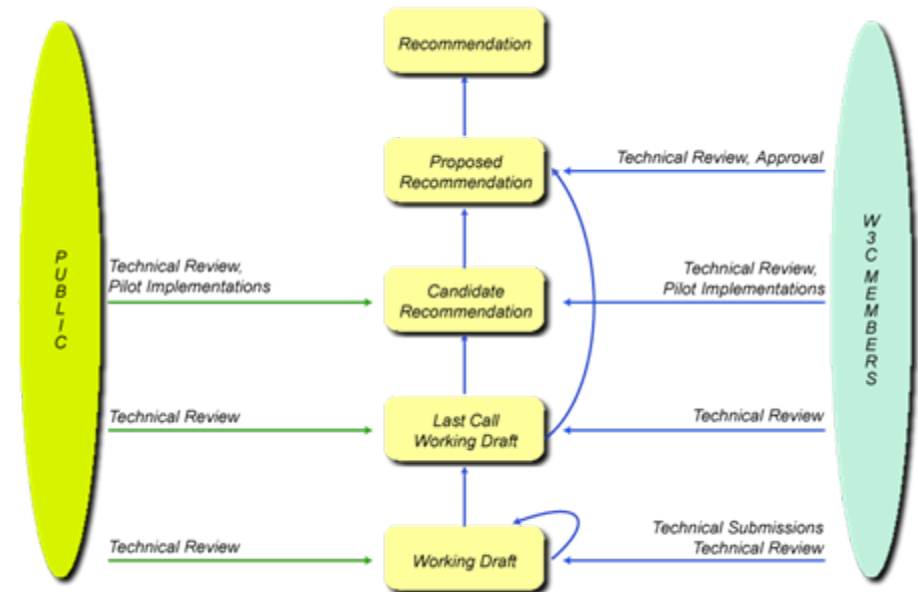
***Oreste Signore***

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2008

**Interoperability's laboratories: iGovernment border places**

The **World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)** is an international consortium where Member organizations, a full-time staff, and the public work together to develop **Web standards**.

W3C's **mission** is: To lead the World Wide Web to its **full potential** by developing **protocols** and **guidelines** that ensure long-term growth for the Web.



The primary goal of an **Interest Group** is to bring together people who wish to evaluate potential Web technologies and policies. An Interest Group is a forum for the exchange of ideas

## ❖ The eGovernment Interest Group

### ◆ part of the eGovernment Activity.

### ◆ mission:

- ✓ *to explore how to improve access to government through better use of the Web*
- ✓ *achieve better government transparency using open Web standards at any government level (local, state, national and multi-national)*

### ◆ 3 eGovernment-related workshops so far:

- ✓ [European Symposium on eGovernment \[report\]](#)  
*Gijón, Spain, 1-2 February 2007*
- ✓ [Toward More Transparent Government: Workshop on eGovernment and the Web \[report\]](#)  
*Washington DC, USA, 18-19 June 2007*
- ✓ [Role of Mobile Technologies in Fostering Social Development](#)  
*São Paulo, Brazil, June 2-3 2008*

### ◆ launched June 2008

- ✓ *36 participants (23 from 17 organizations + 13 Invited Experts)*

## ❖ Activity to tackle issues in three main areas:

### ◆ Usage of Web Standards (**Open Standards**)

- ✓ *Gather information about the areas where best practice guidelines are needed*
- ✓ *Provide input on how to ease standards compliance*

### ◆ Participation and Transparency

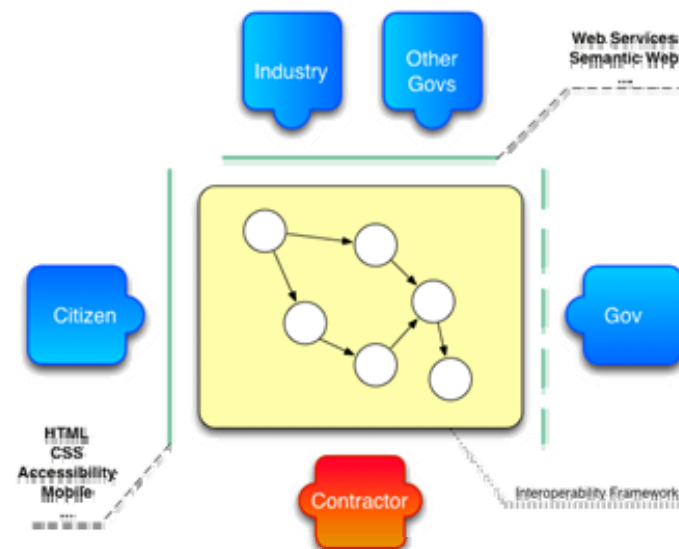
- ✓ *Identify ways to improve government transparency and openness*
- ✓ *Identify ways to increase citizenship participation*
- ✓ *Identify ways to increase citizens and business use of eGovernment services*

### ◆ Seamless **Integration of Data**

- ✓ *Identify how to advance the state-of-the-art in data integration strategies*

## ❖ Open Standards Policies

- ◆ Governments should not require people to purchase particular software to access information
- ◆ Promote longevity of information
- ◆ Openness helps to maximize reuse of knowledge
  - ✓ *Colleagues, departments, agencies, citizens, companies, other governments, other partners*
- ◆ Open standards promote research



## Applications must be conformant with ...



... W3C standards

## ❖ Participation

- ◆ Find ways to engage the users (collaborative tools)
- ◆ Change, Innovate

## ❖ ... and Transparency

- ◆ Accessible Web site
- ◆ Open Government Information

## ❖ Data Integration

- ◆ XML is not always enough



## ❖ Linked Data

- ◆ No more scraping
  - ✓ *Cost, maintenance*
- ◆ Start simple
  - ✓ *RSS, Atom, Microformats, GRDDL, RDFa*
- ◆ No need to throw away your existing systems, build on top
- ◆ Metadata are the goal (data mashups)
  - ✓ *Linking Open Data project*





(Photo source: NY Times)

## ❖ Mobile Web for Social Development

- ◆ W3C goal: to make the Web accessible, relevant, usable and useful for **under-privileged populations** and **rural communities**

- ❖ **Formal work has just started**
- ❖ **We don't have the solutions!**
  - ◆ trying to identify challenges
- ❖ **Dependencies**
  - ◆ Other **W3C** WGs (WAI, Web Services, Semantic Web, ...)
  - ◆ **External Groups** (CEN, European Commission, OASIS, World Bank, ...)
- ❖ **Consider joining W3C and the group**
- ❖ **References:**
  - ◆ José M. Alonso [josema@w3.org](mailto:josema@w3.org)  
(much material comes from his slides)
  - ◆ eGovernment at W3C: <http://www.w3.org/2007/eGov/>
  - ◆ If it isn't on the web it doesn't exist!  
Slides at:
    - ✓ <http://www.w3c.it/talks/2008/esiig2008/esiig2008.ppt>
    - ✓ <http://www.w3c.it/talks/2008/esiig2008/esiig2008.odp>
    - ✓ <http://www.w3c.it/talks/2008/esiig2008/esiig2008.pdf>