

Impact of standards and regulations

Measures adopted in Spain for ensuring a positive impact

Impacto de normas e regulações

Medidas adotadas na Espanha para assegurar um impacto positivo

Francisco J. VERDERA

**Diretor de Relações Internacionais e Cooperação
Associação Espanhola de Normalização y
Certificação (AENOR)**

**Spanish Association for Standardization and Certification (AENOR)
Asociación Española de Normalización y Certificación (AENOR)**

Rio de Janeiro, 31 de maio de 2011

AENOR



Purpose of the presentation

- Introduce the relations between standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment;
- Present the situation in Spain, considering as well the European context;
- Explain measures put in place for ensuring a positive impact in the Society, specially regarding Small and Medium enterprises.

Content of the presentation

- Initial considerations:
 - Legislations, standards and specifications;
 - The standards setting process and motivations.
- Assuring positive impact of standards:
 - Access from small and medium enterprises;
 - Consumers and the society in general;
 - Relation with public policies;
- Impact on conformity assessment.

Spanish standardization system

- AENOR created 25 years ago as an initiative of industry associations willing to increase competitiveness and exports towards the EU.
- Strong relations with industry.
- Independence from particular interests.
- Nearly 72 % of secretariats managed by national Industry associations.
- Business model of Spanish standardization: industry and users finance the standardization through sales but mainly by other services.

AENOR



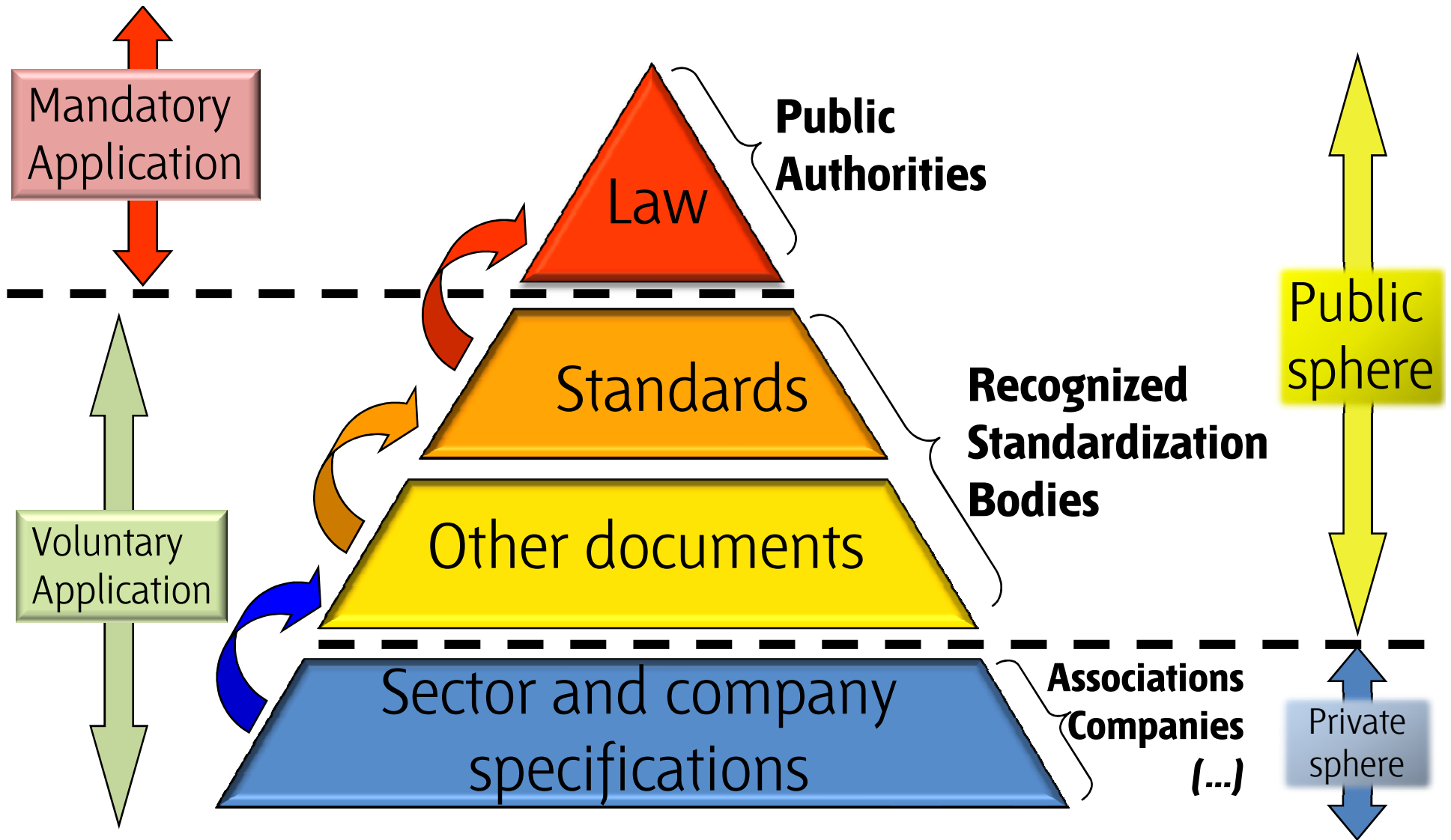
Legislation, standards and other specifications

Differences and similarities

Implications for conformity assessment

AENOR





AENOR



Attention: standards are voluntary, but...

- they have a strong impact in public policies;
- they have a deep impact in the market and the society.

AENOR



Access to AENOR as association

Manufacturers and professional Associations

SMEs

Public institutions

AENOR



Access to AENOR as an association

- Private, non for profit, association
- AENOR has more than 800 members
 - Sector and professional associations: 173
 - Companies: 539
 - Institutions: 85

57% of AENOR membership are SMEs

In addition, they can be also represented through the associations

AENOR



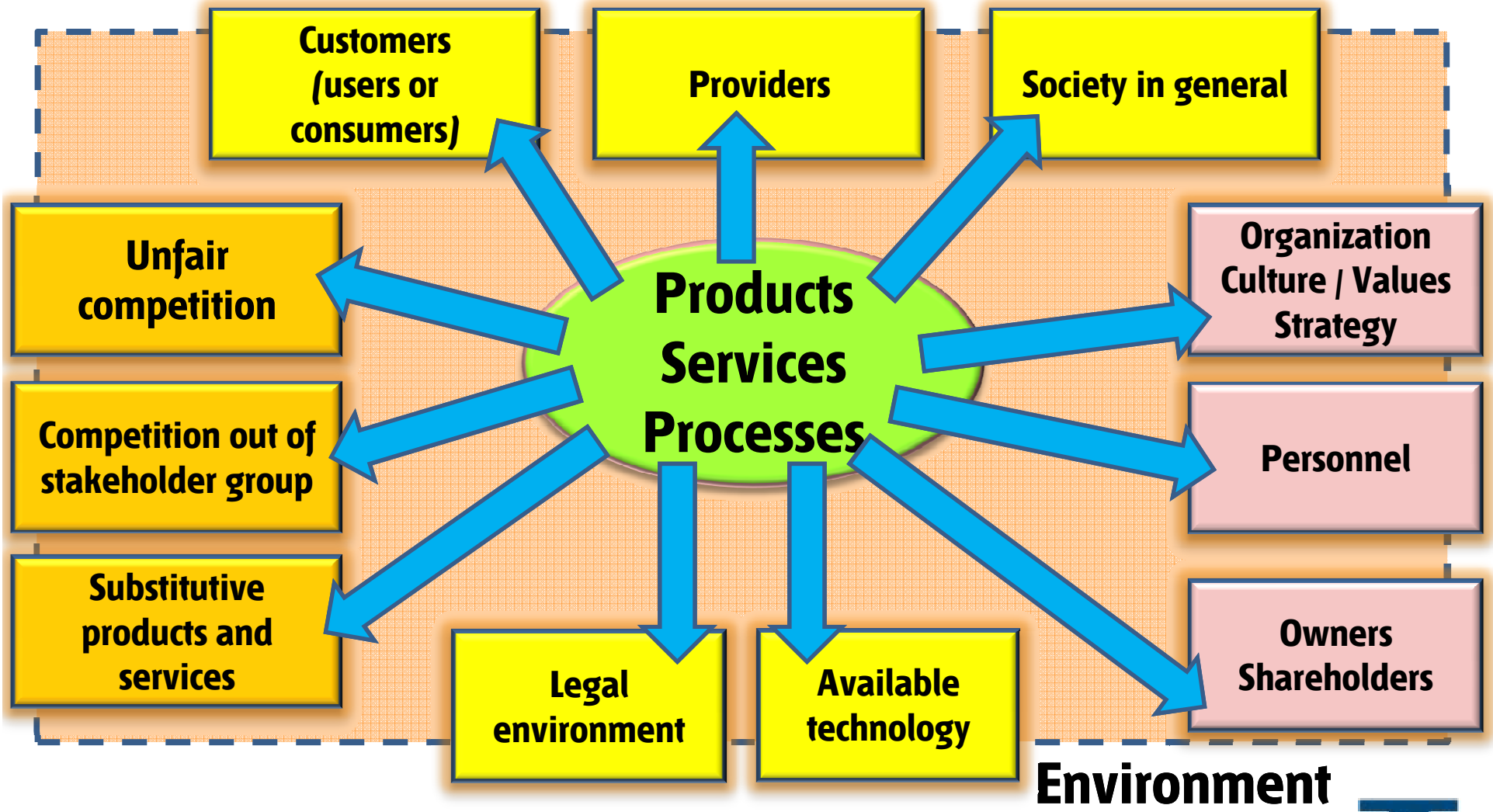
Why preparing standards? (voluntary requirements in the markets)

Motivations and objectives for the development of standards by the group of stakeholders promoting standardization

AENOR



Main elements to be considered at the moment of developing a standards



Access to standardization processes

Actions to ensure a wide participation of Spanish interested parties

Special focus on SMEs, consumers, users and public administrations

AENOR



National standardization in Spain: SMEs

Direct participation in national committees

- 200 national Technical Committees in AENOR
- Participation:
 - 9 484 participants
 - 3151 entities (of which 2 275 companies)

47% of total entities
65% of total companies

**Small and Medium
Enterprises**

AENOR



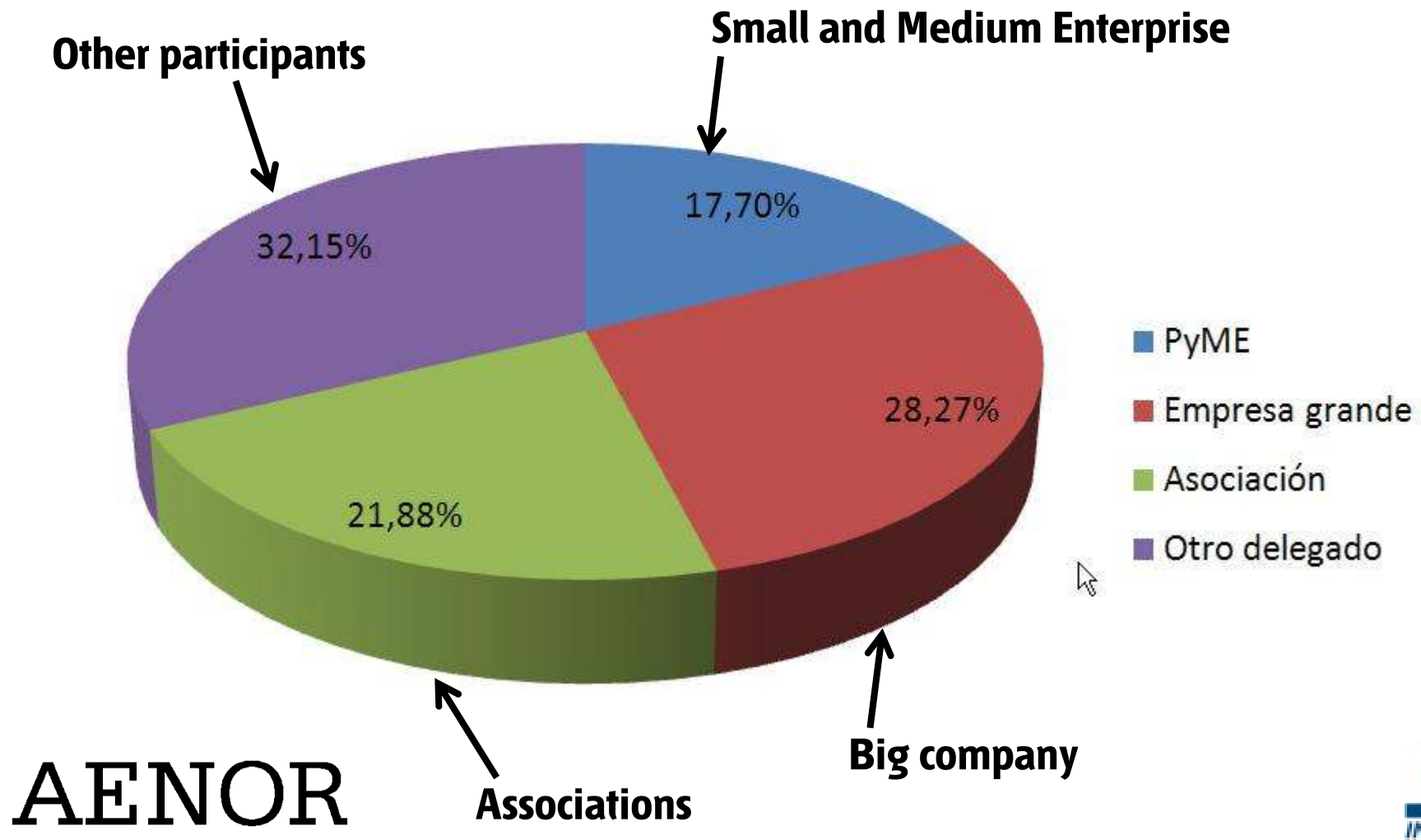
National standardization in Spain: Public servants

Direct participation in national committees

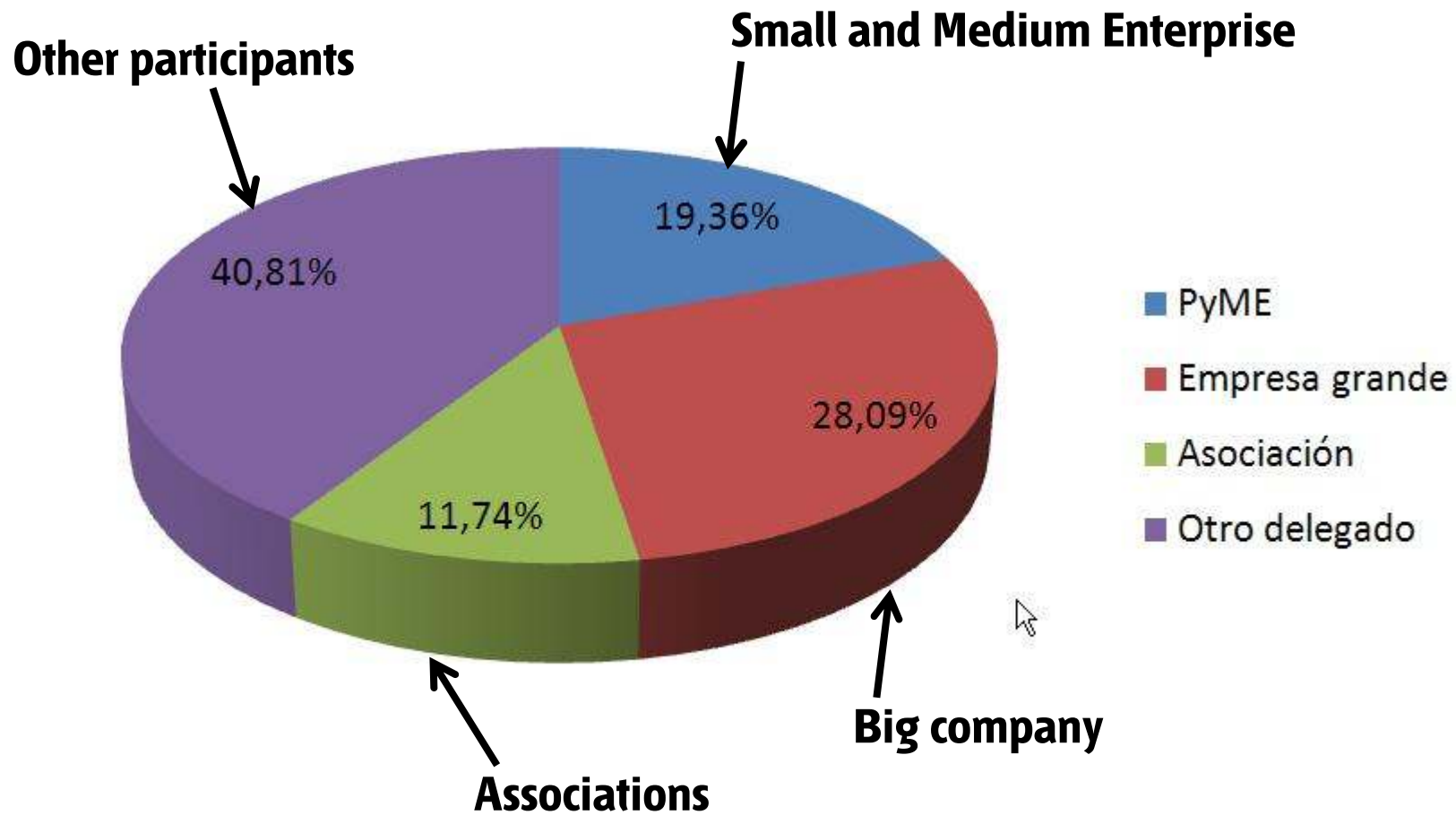
- Participation:
 - 2739 participants (from a total of 9 484)

**Public servants and
representatives of
public institutions**

Participation in Spanish delegations to European and International standardization committees



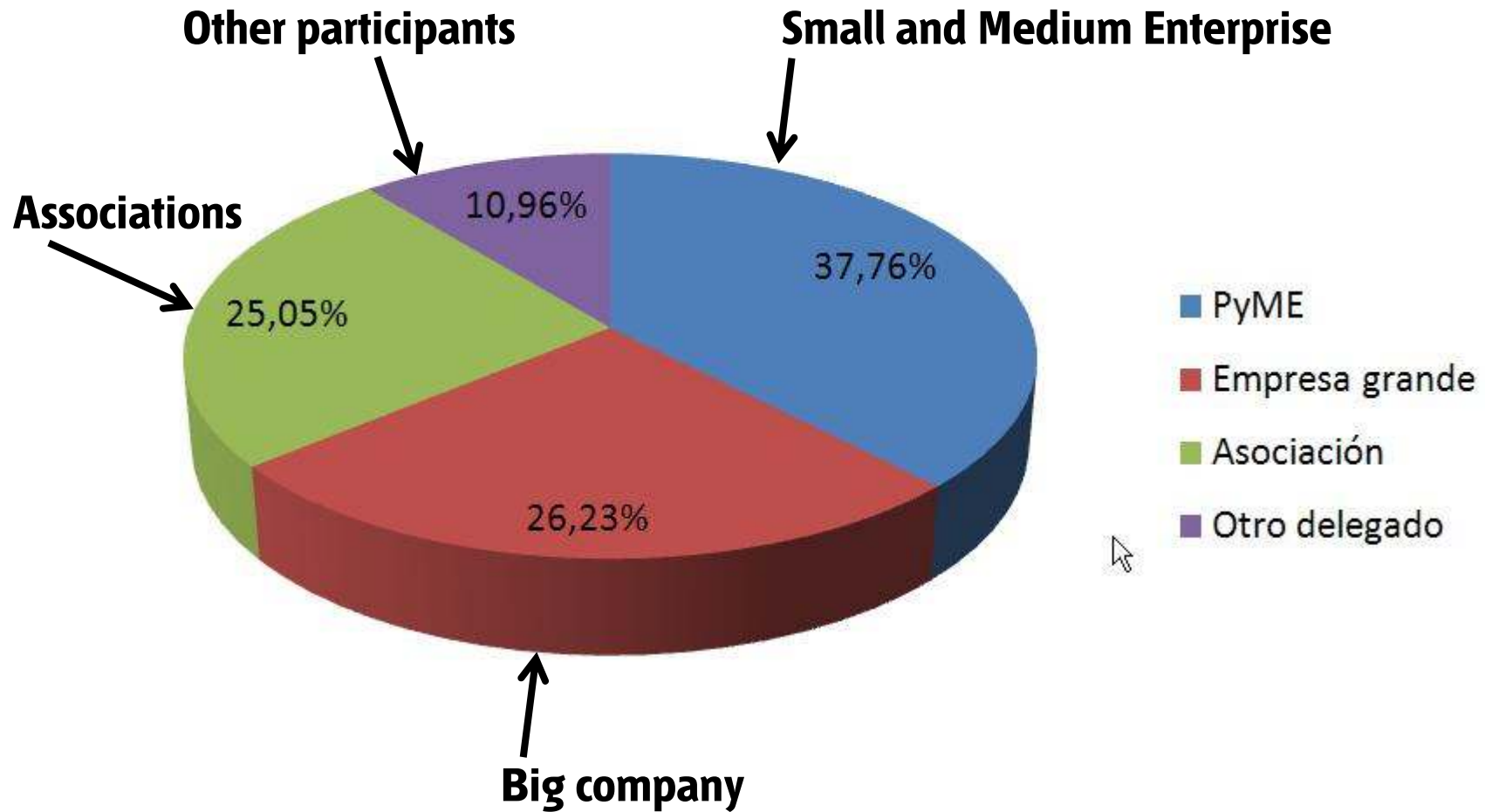
Total Spanish experts in ISO and CEN Working Groups



AENOR



Total Spanish experts in IEC and CENELEC Working Groups



AENOR



Subsidies for participation of Spanish experts in Standardization from AENOR budget

Year	Subsidies (Euro, €)
2001	234 413
2002	419 149
2003	317 616
2004	556 567
2005	496 130
2006	565 606
2007	560 007
2008	565 670
2009	371 602
2010	423 882

AENOR



Secretariat of National Standardization committees

200 national technical committees:

- 71% of secretaries managed by National Industry Associations;
- 29% managed by AENOR technical staff;

In any of the committees, AENOR staff has no voting rights (observers or secretaries).

AENOR



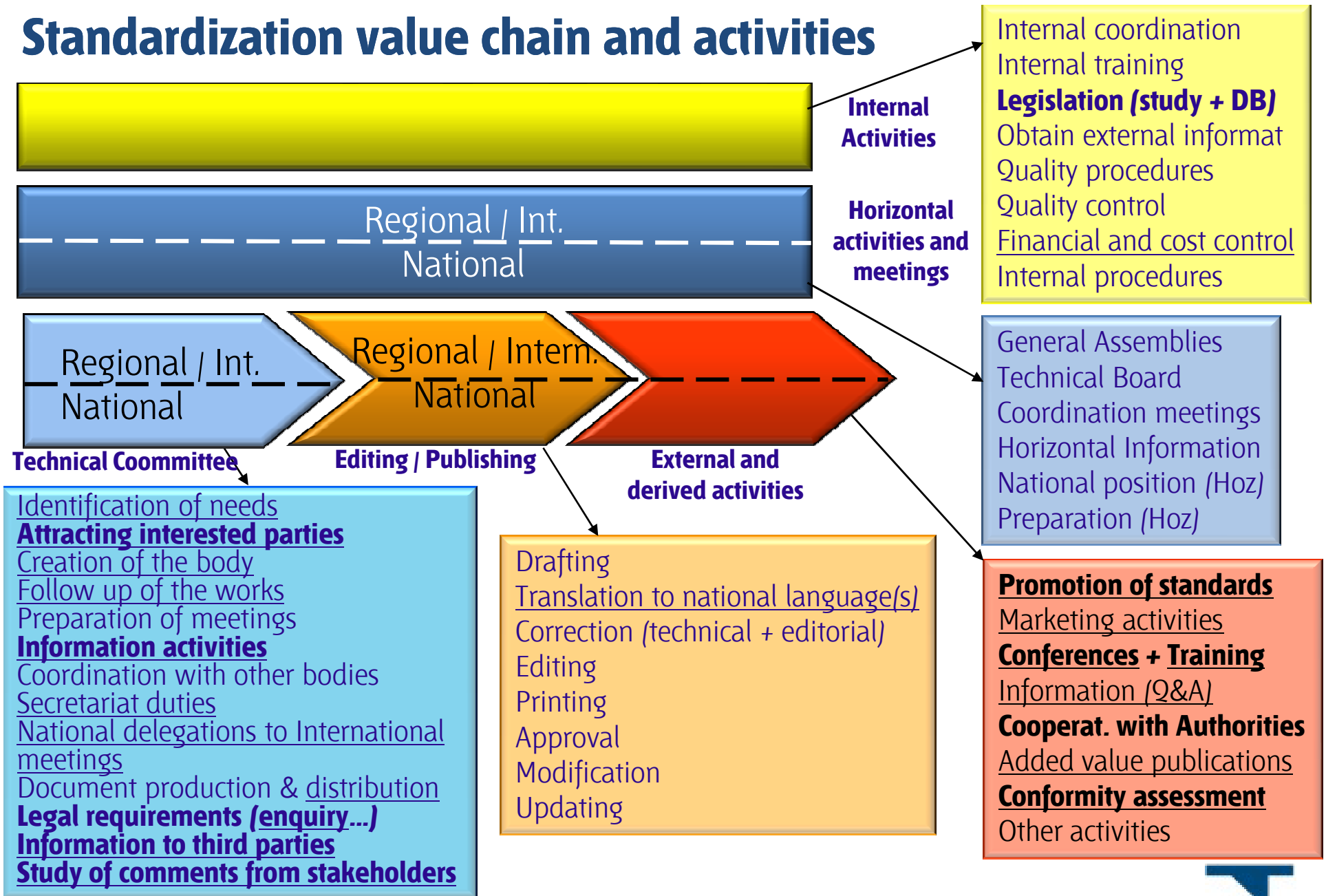
Access to standardization processes

- Openness: Essential to assure that all interested parties can access and participate in the standardization processes;
- Transparency: Information and public enquiry;
- Consensus driven processes;
- To follow adequately ISO, IEC, CEN and CENELEC;
- Guarantee for national and regional Authorities wanting to use the standards in public policies and public procurement;

AENOR



Standardization value chain and activities



AENOR



Access to standardization results

Actions to ensure wide public access to Standards and normative documents

AENOR



Catalogue of Spanish standards

- Spanish standards (UNE in 2010): 28 918
- Standards in Spanish language: 26 315 (91%)
- Standards in othe Spanish languages: 33

- European standards in catalogue: 21 543 (74,5%)
- ISO catalogue adopted in Spain: 31%
- IEC catalogue adopted in Spain: 81%

AENOR



Access to information

Actions to ensure awareness in the Spanish society

AENOR



Access to information

- Online catalogue;
- Free of charge information service
 - More than 42 000 queries, of which 20 550 are linked with standards (48%)
- Free access library in 22 cities in Spain;
- Other added value services:
 - Subscriptions by sectors and areas of interest;
 - Training about content of standards.

AENOR



Spanish Standards and SMEs

- The existence of standards in Spanish language(s) is considered a good practice for application by SMEs;
- Price policy facilitates access from SMEs to standards;
- Free of charge library and telephone in 20 cities in Spain;
- Information centre (local phone cost only or by e mail).

AENOR

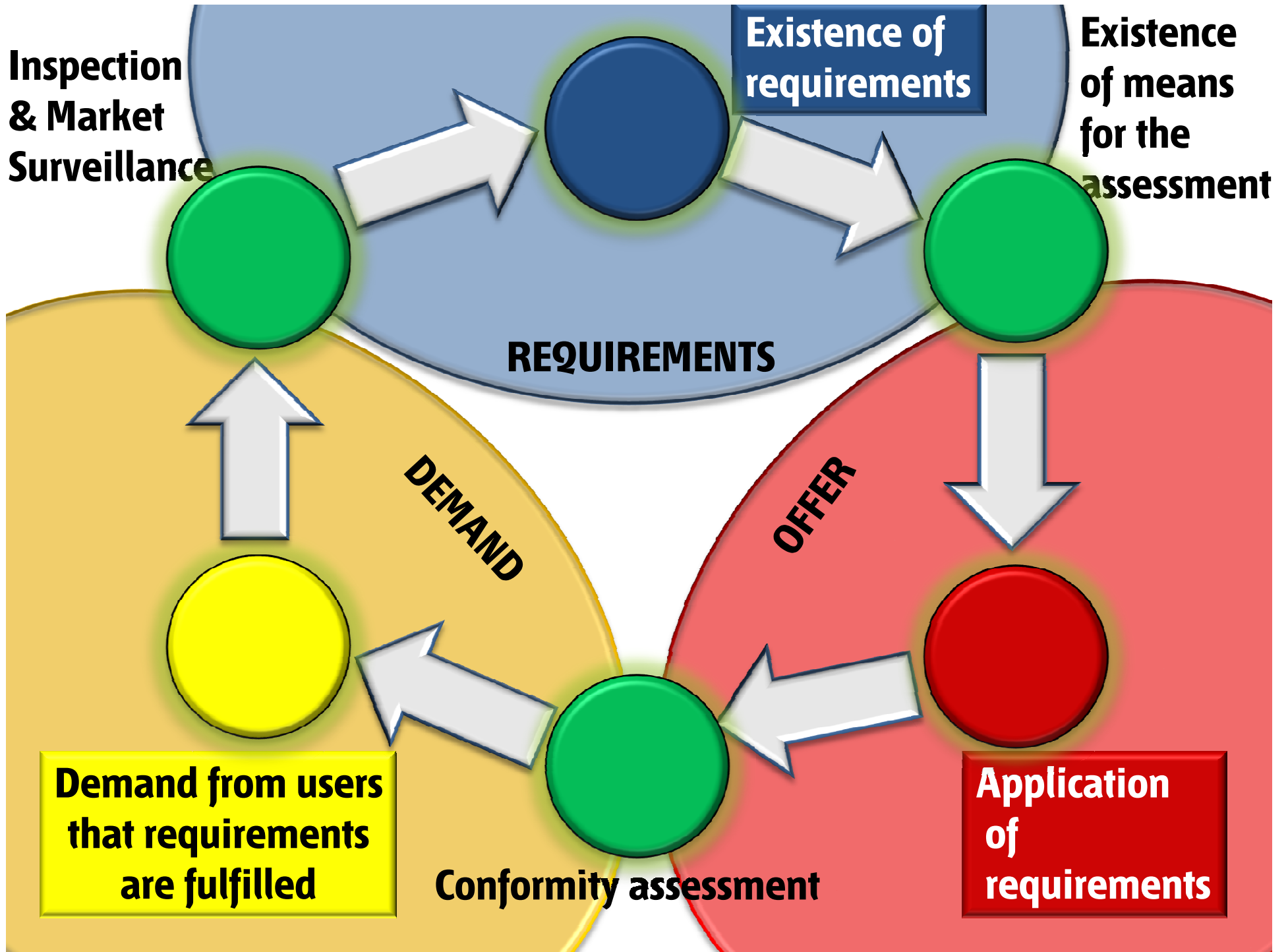


Quality Infrastructure Cycle

Relations between requirements, their application in products and services, the conformity assessment procedures, consumers or users, and market surveillance

AENOR





Conformity assessment:

Voluntary Certification

- Decision of private socioeconomic stakeholders;
- Used as a tool for competitiveness:
 - Differentiation in local and international markets;
 - Communication that requirements are assessed and fulfilled;
 - Used as an extra guarantee to internal assessment.
- Credibility of the certification company and mark is a key issue;
- Accreditation and international recognition.

AENOR



Technical regulations (Spain and EU)

- Impact assessment;
- Transparency and information procedure;
- Reference to standards:
 - Revision of standards and technological evolution;
- In EU directives, voluntary references for standards;
- Principle of equivalent safety;
- Innovation and transfer of technology.

AENOR



Conformity assessment in the legal framework

- National or regional authority establishes the type of conformity assessment to be applied:
 - Depending on the type of product or service;
 - Depending on the associated risks;
 - Normally depending on the degree of consensus within the society.
- In the EU, accreditation is a mandatory requirement for recognition of the certification in the legal framework.

AENOR



Conclusions

- Role of standards:
 - Important to ensure transparency, openness and access;
 - Special attention to SMEs, users and consumers;
 - Role in support of public policies;
- Role of conformity assessment:
 - As voluntary tools for differentiation in market;
 - As a way to declare or demonstrate compliance with legal requirements;
- Tight relations amongst different elements of quality infrastructure.

Thank you very much for your attention
Muito obrigado pela sua atenção
Muchas gracias por su atención

Impact of standards and regulations
Measures adopted in Spain for ensuring a positive impact

Francisco J. VERDERA

<http://www.aenor.es>
cooper@aeon.es

AENOR

