



Environmental Technologies Verification (ETV)

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Innovation Union

turning ideas into jobs, green growth and social progress

- supporting companies, especially SMEs, to develop and market innovations
- Eco-Innovation Action Plan: innovations with an environmental benefit; bridging the gap between innovation and the market
- European Innovation Partnerships, for example on water

Resource Efficiency Flagship

transition towards a green economy

- reinforcing demand for eco-innovation and related investment



The need for performance verification

Lack of confidence in new technologies:

- investors and users often opt for mature technologies with performance track record

Public consultation on ETV:

- 11% of purchasers trust producers' claims
- 57% would ask for evidence backing-up the claims
- 26% consider they have no way of checking



ETV to generate independent and credible information on new environmental technologies, by verifying that performance claims are complete, fair and based on reliable test results.



Expected benefits

For technology producers:

- Establishing trust with technology purchasers and users
- Facilitated access to markets, access to new markets (EU and abroad)

For technology users:

- Easier comparison of technologies, facilitates informed decisions
- Facilitated access to innovative technologies, cost-efficient solutions

For policy-makers:

- Source of knowledge to inform regulation
- Cost-efficient solutions to address environmental challenges



Example of performance claim

Is the designation T precise enough to refer to only one technology?

Is the intended application clear enough to identify precise user needs?

Technology T, whose intended application is A, operated under conditions O, performs in such a way that

*parameter $a < \text{or} = a_0$,
parameter $b > b_0$ and regulated
parameter $c < \text{or} = c_0$ in compliance with
Standard S.*

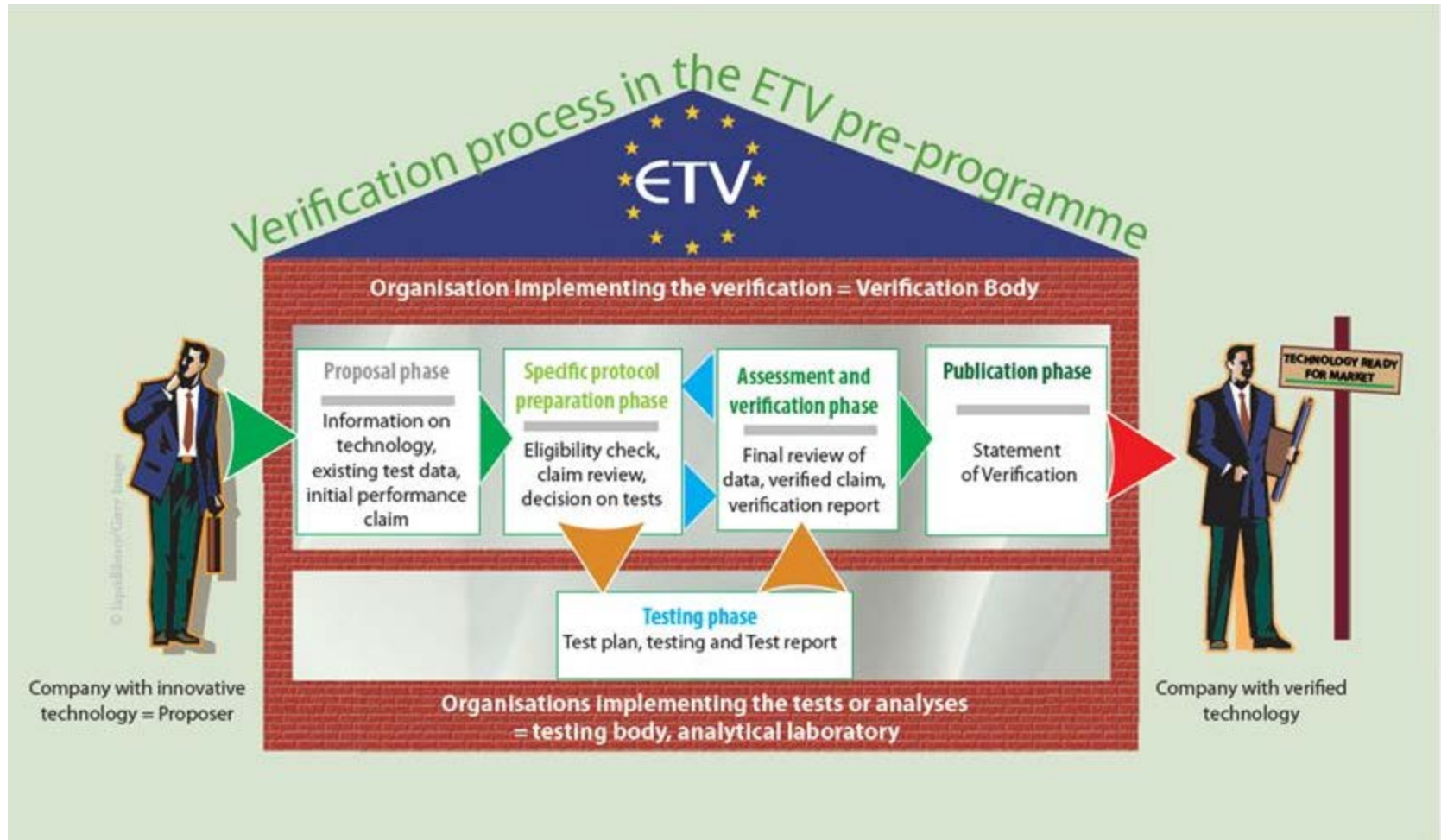
Are operating conditions clearly known and unambiguous?

Are the regulatory framework and applicable standards known, specific to particular markets?

Are parameters quantified, verifiable by testing, representative of user needs and key environmental factors, enabling comparisons?



Outline ETV process





Proposal phase

- Contact and eligibility check
- Proposal and initial review
- Contractual agreement

Specific verification protocol preparation

- Precise definition of performance parameters
- Requirements on test design and data quality

Assessment of existing data



Testing (if additional tests are needed)

- Test site selection and test plan
- Test report

Assessment of all data and verification

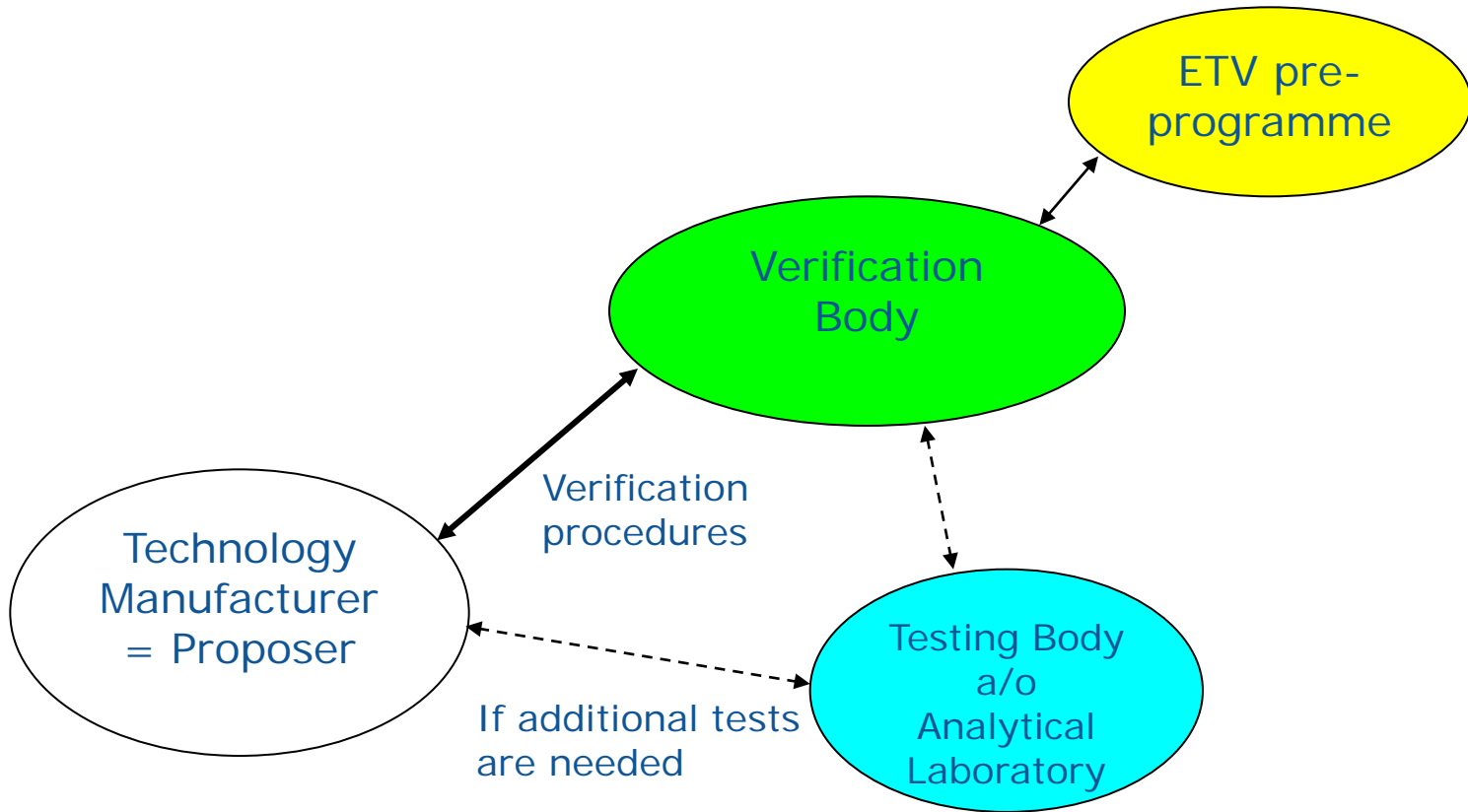
- Assessment of data and review of test procedure
- Assessment of additional information

Reporting and publication

- Verification report and Statement of verification
- Publication

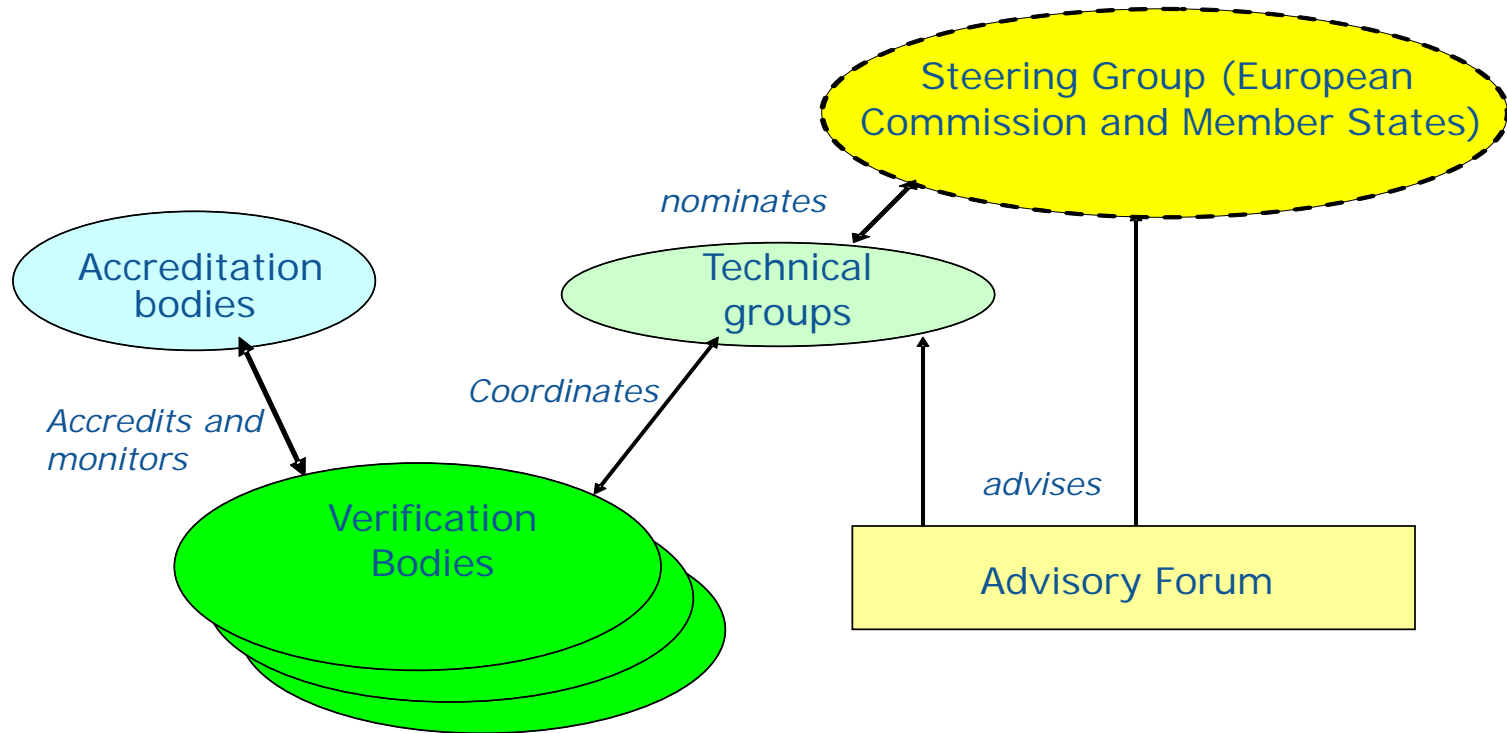


Organisation of ETV process





Organisation of ETV pilot programme





Accredited for ETV by national accreditation bodies

- Compliance with ISO 17020 and ETV General Verification Protocol (GVP)

Responsible for the verification of individual technologies in a specific technology field

- Assistance to SMEs during the ETV process

Coordinated by thematic technical groups

From 2012 to 2014, Partnership Agreements with the Commission (call in preparation)



Responsible for producing test data and analyses acceptable under ETV

- Includes test plans and test reports

Test bodies: QM/QA equivalent to ISO 9001

- Certification or accreditation possible, or audits by Verification Body

Analytical Laboratories: accreditation under ISO 17025

Existing data: same requirements checked by Verification Body



Technical groups

- One per technology area (or sub-area)
- Representatives of VBs and other experts, chaired by Commission
- Provides guidance to VBs: key environmental factors, specific requirements, users needs
- May give an opinion in case of conflict VB-proposer

Advisory Forum

- Advises on ETV processes, scope, results
- Includes technology purchasers and users
- Setting-up planned in 2nd part of 2012



ETV open to all technologies ready for the market, presenting a potential for innovation and environmental benefit, in three initial areas:

- 1) Water treatment and monitoring (monitoring equipments, treatment of drinking water, waste water treatment...)
- 2) Energy technologies (renewables, waste to energy, CHP...)
- 3) Materials, waste and resources (sorting of solid waste, materials recycling, products from biomass...)

Possible extension in future:

- Soil and groundwater monitoring and remediation
- Cleaner production and processes
- Environmental technologies in agriculture
- Air pollution monitoring and abatement



Participating countries

Member States participating in the ETV Steering Group:

Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France,
Poland, United Kingdom

Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, Slovakia observers

ETV pilot programme is not restricted to these countries:

Proposers, Verification Bodies, Testing Laboratories,
Analytical Laboratories may come from any country



International co-operation

International Working Group (IWG) on ETV:

Canada, EU, Korea, the Philippines and the USA – Japan and ASEAN are observers

Prepares the ground for mutual recognition of ETV programmes:

- Drafting of consensus policy documents on key aspects of ETV
- Facilitates joint and co-verification of technologies by 2 or more programmes
- Investigates the feasibility of an ISO standard for environmental technology verification and reporting
- Organises international forums and workshops to engage stakeholders, promote the adoption and use of ETV globally

**European Commission
Environment
Directorate General**

**Thank you for
your attention**

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<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/etv/index.htm>

