
Standards Harmonization Readiness Criteria

TIER 1

Revised February 20, 2006

HITSP Standards Harmonization Criteria Committee

Caution – Preliminary Document

- This is a preliminary committee work product which has not yet been approved by HITSP.
- The Readiness Criteria presented here are “Tier 1” or the highest level and require further definition and detail before meaningful use.
- Thus we anticipate significant change and welcome feedback.

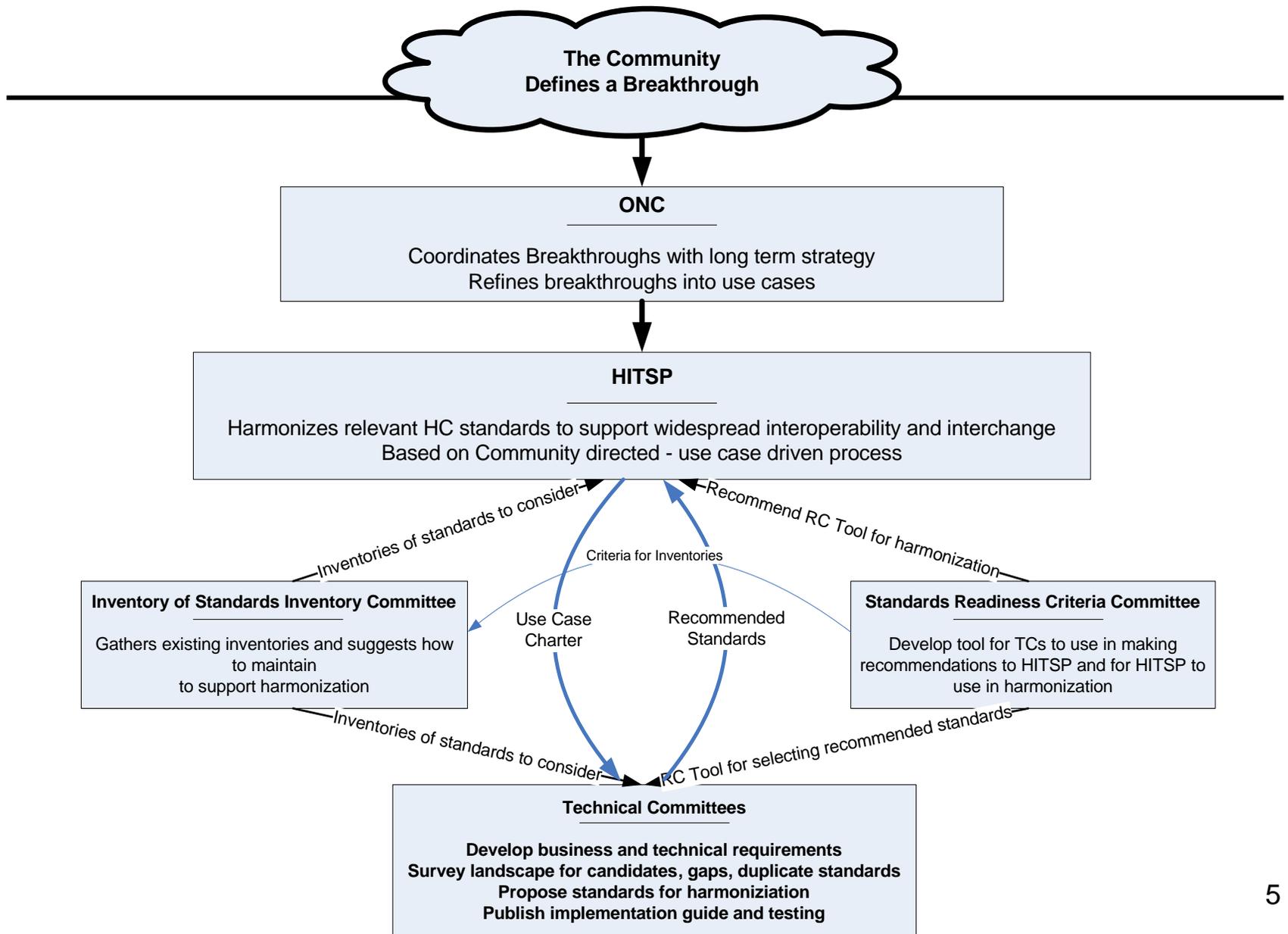
Foundation for Standards Harmonization

- We are planning a recommendation to HITSP to adopt a primary goal and basic set of objectives as the foundation for harmonizing healthcare standards

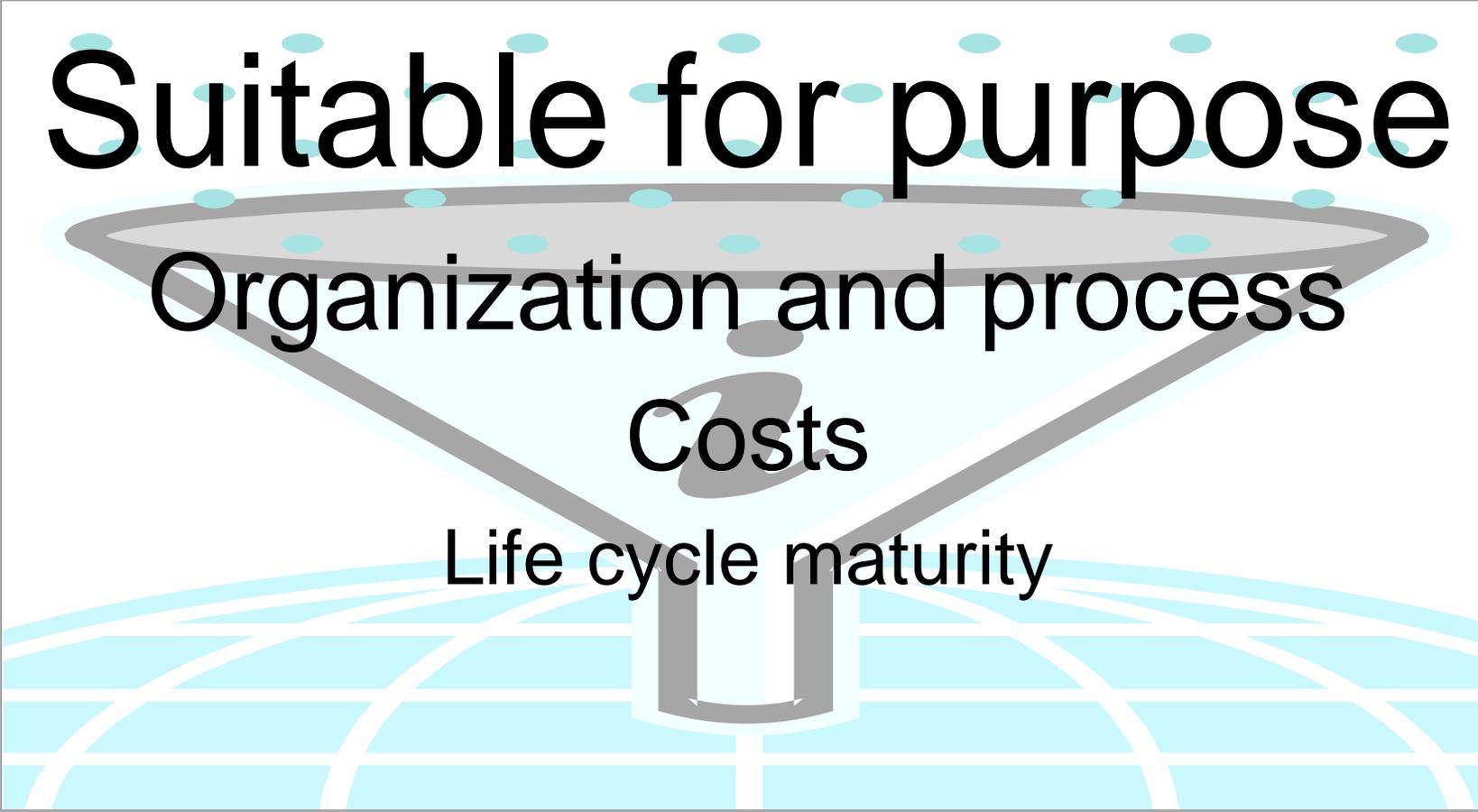
Harmonization Readiness Explained

- Harmonization Readiness is the act of applying criteria to specific standards in a way that will allow the HITSP to select the standard most ready for use as the harmonized standard for a specific action of interoperability.
- Harmonization is three fold 
 - Selection of initial standards based on criteria
 - Resolution of gaps and overlaps 
 - Ongoing harmonization maintenance 
- Readiness is relative to an action for interoperability  and must be understood at the messaging level with constrained vocabulary.

Readiness Criteria within Standards Harmonization Flow



Criteria as Filters



Suitable for purpose

Organization and process

Costs

Life cycle maturity

Suitable for Purpose

- Meets the business and technical criteria of the use case
- Compatible with other standards, framework, architecture and models (as indicated) 
 - Backward, lateral and forward 
compatibility considerations
- Includes a documented discovery process of standards landscape

Organization and Process

Initial Criteria:

- Openness & transparency
- Balance and lack of dominance by any single interest group 
- Formal development and approval processes
- Effective governance and funding to be responsible stewards, open to stakeholders and able to maintain and enhance their standards
- Domain relevance with history of commitment
- Favorable intellectual property and licensing terms
- Willingness to collaborate with other standards developers and HITSP
- Technology and vendor neutrality

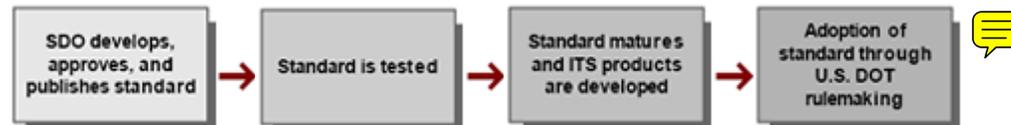
Costs

- Total life cycle costs including licensing, development and use 
- Lack of barriers, ease of access

Life Cycle Maturity

Examples:

- Where is standard in Life Cycle from Initial Development to Adoption?



- What is the level of system[💬] developer support and market adoption? This must be a balance, particularly when dealing with gaps and duplications.

Other Considerations

- Prior history and existing sources of “approved” and “harmonized” standards
 - **National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS)**
 - **Consolidated Health Informatics (CHI)**
 - **ANSI Health Informatics Standards Board (HISB)**
 - **ePrescribing and other regulations**
 - **Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)**