



Developing Recommendations

THE LIFECYCLE OF A STANDARD

Who am I?

My name is Brent Zundel

I work for Gen

I am a chair of VCWG and DID WG

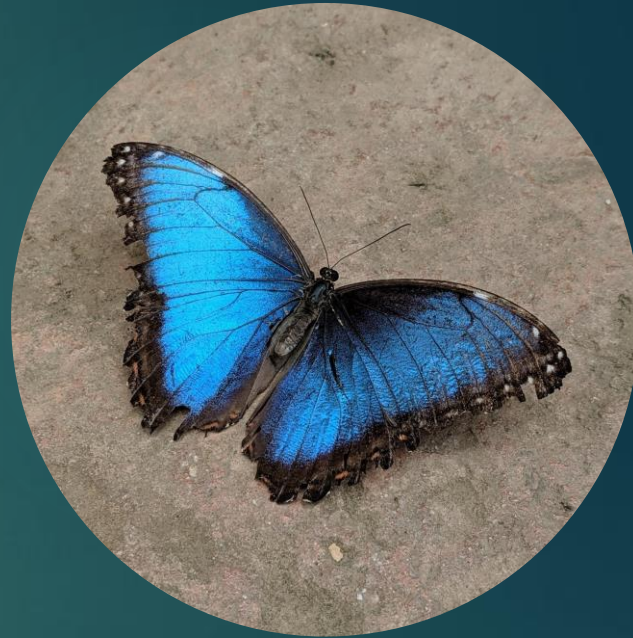




Small Cause



Large Effect



Butterflies (and Standards) have an origin story.

Starting the Lifecycle

- Internet Identity Workshop (IIW)
- IETF BOFs
- W3C Community Groups

Ideas generated rapidly (in clusters)

Not all ideas may not be long-term viable

Hypothetical discussions allow freedom

Influence: Ideas and Discussion

Influence at this stage is most effective, but results may be difficult to quantify

Ideas Form Legs

Groups form to discuss ideas in detail and to work on creating a draft document:

- IETF Working Groups
- W3C Community Groups, part 2
- OIDF Working Groups

Discussion of ideas may consume a large amount of time and effort

Each participant has a motivating incentive (and they sometimes conflict)

Influence: Drafts and Comments

Influence at this stage requires a careful consideration of time and incentives



Implementation Starts

Implementation of standards develop

Standards may have minor refinement as ideas meet reality

May be difficult to perceive growth or progress

Open-source implementations can assist others in development and interoperability

Influence: Implementations
(Quality = Progress)

Influence at this stage requires a higher level of investment (implementation, etc.)



Adoption Progresses

Standard is adopted via existing implementations in real-world deployments

May take several years

Continued discussions about details and future work on adopted standard

Influence: Adoption and Deployment

all (More adoption benefits involved)

Influence at this stage mainly consists in adoption or continued promotion of the standard

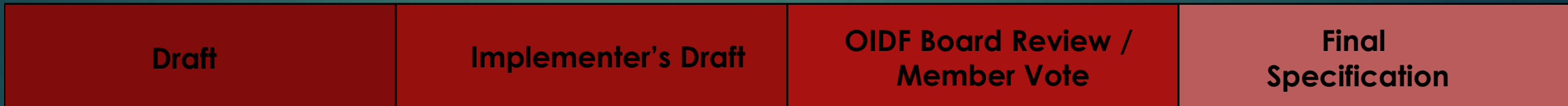


The Evolution of Standards

ISO



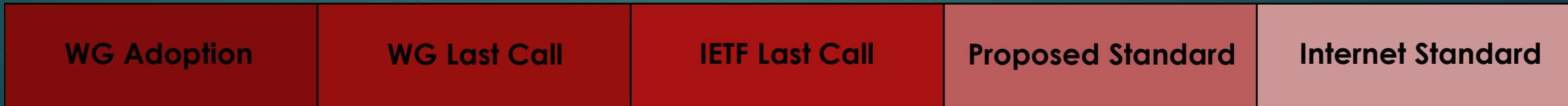
OIDF



W3C



IETF



W3C Process

W3C



The **Process Document** is the official guide for developing Recommendations at W3C
<https://www.w3.org/Consortium/Process/>

As mentioned previously, W3C Recommendations begin development long before a Working Group is chartered. They are most often incubated in Community Groups.

Not all publications are Standards!

- Reports
- Best Practices
- Drafts
- Notes
- Information

W3C Process

W3C



Decisions at W3C

W3C strives for consensus

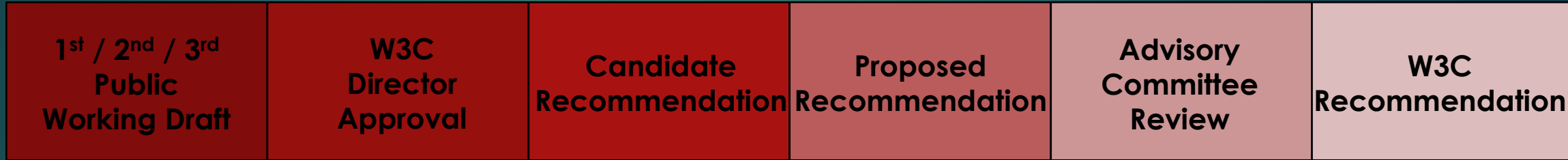
Most decisions are Group decisions (note, the group is whatever body is designated by the Process as responsible for finding consensus)

Other decisions:

- Chair decisions
- Team decisions
- W3C decisions

W3C Process

W3C



Groups at W3C

Community Groups

Working Groups

Interest Groups

Governing Groups:

Advisory Committee (a.k.a. the W3C)

Technical Architecture Group

W3C Process

W3C



Charter Development for Working Groups

When there is interest in forming a Working Group, a charter is drafted and presented to the W3C Team. Chartering a WG is a W3C decision, enabled by a Team decision.

If a Team decision is made to proceed with the charter, it is presented to the Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee is the group responsible for coming to consensus on a new charter.

Only Working Groups can develop Recommendations

W3C Process

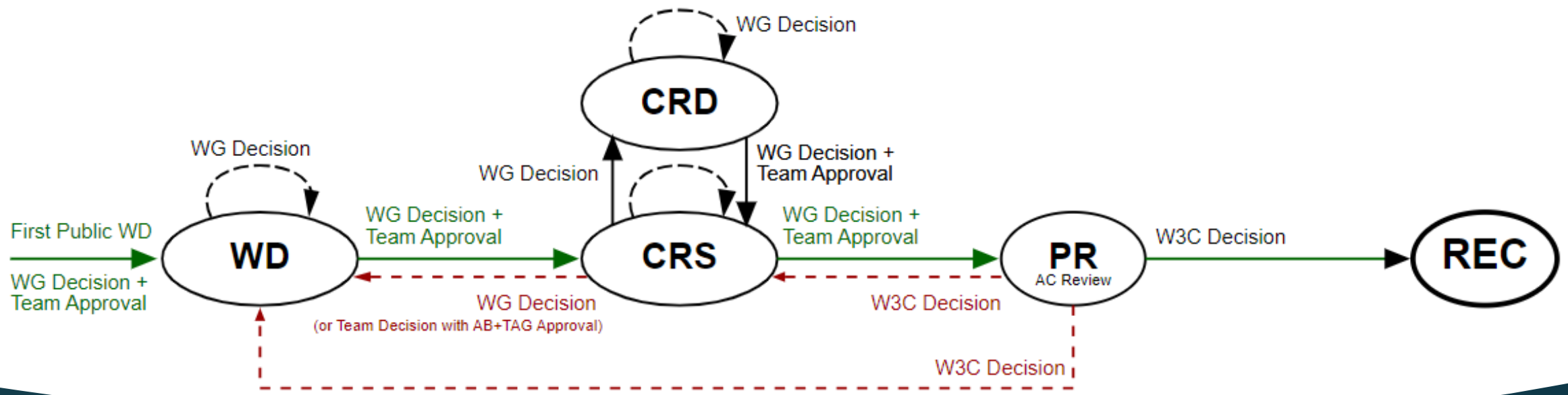
W3C



Recommendation Development for Working Groups

The scope of work defined in a Working Group charter usually includes one or more Recommendations, also called Technical Reports.

Recommendations have almost always been incubated elsewhere prior to the formation of a Working Group.



W3C Technical Report Process

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- ← The time to get involved in standards development is early in its lifecycle
 - ← Your value-add comes from how well you implement, not how far you go to be unique
 - ← If you want to implement well, you need to be a part of the process

Acknowledgements

- ▶ I stole most of these slides (with permission) from Heather Flanagan of [Spherical Cow Consulting - Translating geek to human](#)