

Bulgaria

Bulgaria participated in the IDABC activities before its EU accession in 2007. eGovernment is considered a central tool in transforming government and the economy to improve competitiveness. This has resulted in the creation of the Bulgarian National Interoperability Framework for Governmental Information Systems, published in June 2006. The strong legal basis has subsequently been extended and updated by the publication of the Law on e-Governance in 2008 and six supporting ordinances.

The political objectives of the Bulgarian NIF are stated as follows:

- Social efficiency, minimisation of the capital investments and the exploitations costs;
- Equal treatment of the participants in the exchange;
- Security, confidential exchange, personal data protection, intellectual property protection;
- Homogeneity and interoperability of the information structures – basis for macro-management of the cybernetic principles;
- Integration in the global and regional information structures.

The Bulgarian NIF aims to standardise the exchange of information between parts of government to enable the creation of complex eServices, facing citizens, businesses and other organisations. Also in scope are companies providing national services, such as Energy and Mail. The Unified Environment for e-Documents Exchange (ESOED) is the national Bulgarian secure communications infrastructure that allows the transport and transformation of electronic request/response documents for these eServices.

Governance of the NIF is organised in a top-down manner. The State Agency for IT and Communications (SAITC), mandated in the Law on e-Governance, owns the framework and the rule set. New connections to the central communications infrastructure and/or new document types need to be certified beforehand. This certification process is governed centrally, but executed by third parties through an accreditation scheme.

Development of eServices is laid down in a road map as part of a four year action plan, recently adopted by the Council of Ministers.