

Iceland

Dimension Context & Principles

Context	The Ministry of Finance initiated a formal project establishing National Interoperability Framework for Iceland (NIF) in the fall of 2008. As a result of the economic crisis this work was slowed down, but the Ministry has maintained the focus on the project, now dedicating its own resources for the work. The main aspects of a NIF proposal have been established with proposal for priorities and actions towards issuing the first draft of Iceland NIF in August 2010. Currently, the emphasis is on establishing the NIF organisation and initiation of the work, in alignment with other NIF initiatives and compliance with the proposed version 2 of the EIF. At the same time, several other projects and initiatives are progressing towards interoperability consensus and agreements for both national and cross-border eServices. These serve as stepping stones towards the NIF.
Principles	User centricity, openness, integrated architecture, administrative simplification.
Effectiveness	The project is a measure in implementing the Icelandic Government Policy on the Information Society 2008-2012 called Iceland the e-Nation.

Dimension Interoperability

Political	The Icelandic Government Policy on the Information Society 2008-2012 also handles interoperability by defining objectives for an integrated architecture, i.e. standardisation, coordination, cooperation and security.
Legal	One of the measures in the Government Policy on the Information Society is eliminating barriers to e-services by reviewing and streamlining the framework of laws and regulations.
Organisational	Iceland is classified as a Member State in the CIP e-IDM project STORK, taking active role in building infrastructure for pan-European e-Identity interoperability and currently leading one of STORK's pilots, SaferChat. The government has established a Public Key Infrastructure with a single Iceland Root and is supporting issuance of X.509 electronic certificates residing on debit-cards in association with all the banks in Iceland. There are standards for public administrations documented on the area of e-Procurement and e-Business.
Semantic	A first draft is now available on standardisation of forms by definition of an Icelandic XML scheme for electronic forms.
Technical	Iceland was instructive in developing the North European UBL Subset for XML-based messages and exchange of business data and has an active role in the CEN/BII workgroup that is developing the NES profiles further on a European level. At the same time, the government is supporting and actively involved in creating technical specifications based on the NES and CEN/BII work under Icelandic Standards. The deliverables, including frameworks, specifications and standards, are accessible on the website www.ut.is operated by the government. The government of Iceland has issued a policy for public administrations on Free and Open Source software which also covers the use of open standards.

Dimension Services Support

General	The Prime Minister's Office in Iceland has launched an eGovernment toolbox. The purpose is to facilitate further development of public services. It is available to any national or local public body free of charge and it reduces the need for the public bodies "to reinvent the wheel". The toolbox consists of an authentication module, an electronic document delivery module and a service layer to facilitate interchange of services and data.
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<p>Tool Support</p>	<p>The national information and service portal www.island.is is well established as a central information source for citizens and businesses and is currently being expanded to serve as a central interactive portal for all eGovernment and Information Society issues.</p>
<p>Integration</p>	<p>A central pillar of the eGovernment toolbox is the service layer to facilitate public bodies to offer electronic services and access to data. The service layer also functions as a library of central solutions available to all public agencies, for example authentication, document delivery, e-payments and access to central registries.</p>
<p>Security</p>	<p>The government Public Key Infrastructure under the Iceland Root supports issuance of X.509 electronic certificates residing on debit-cards and other smart-cards complying with security requirements based on the Common Criteria (EAL 4). Standards for authentication and security are made available via the eGovernment toolbox.</p>