

Dimension Context & Principles

Area	Analysis
Context	<p>The Ministry of Regional Development and Local Government of the Republic of Latvia (http://www.rapl.gov.lv) is the leading state administrative institution in the field of planning and coordination e-government, information society and information technology area.</p> <p>The targets of the Ministry in this area are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ elaboration and provision of implementation of state policy in e-government, information society and information technology areas; ■ promotion of state and municipal electronic services. <p>Under the supervision Ministry there is a project that will implement universal electronic document exchange standards for state administration, but it is still in early development stage.</p> <p>There are no universal guidelines for interoperability framework in Latvia, however there are various regulations and tools for particular government relationship types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ G2G – the cooperation of registries (state information systems) is based mostly on mutual agreements which include the interoperability standards used in each case of collaboration. ■ G2C / G2B – the government organisations and local administrations are encouraged to provide electronic services for citizens using standardised shared service platform (https://ivis.eps.gov.lv/ivisportal/) which is backbone system for unified state service portal Latvija.lv (http://www.latvia.lv). Government organisations and local administrations can also use their own service portals, but it is commonly agreed that in future the portal Latvija.lv will be the unified electronic one-stop shop agency in Latvia.
Principles	<p>The principles of State Information System Integrator architecture are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The usage of SOA principles and standards. The main standards of SOA are BPEL, WSDL, XML etc. ■ Distributed functionality. The State Information System Integrator provides standards, tools, authentication infrastructure and standard functionality for creation of data exchange solutions of institutions and e-services and other functions. ■ United environment – many participants. Each institution maintains its data by itself (XML schemes, IS-services, classifiers, performs administering of users in its area), while the logics behind the services does not change and the major part of their performance is carried out in a centralised e-service infrastructure. ■ Integrated state information system tries to use already existing state registers and information systems data exchange infrastructure, if it exists and provide new interfaces using State information integrator tools. ■ Architecture has been introduced with the possibility to connect business systems of departments or industry integrators to it.
Effectiveness	<p>At the moment about 5% of State information systems use the State Information Systems Integrator. No specific details about the effectiveness of interoperability initiatives.</p>

Dimension Interoperability

Area	Analysis
Political	<p>Interoperability principles are split between various policy planning documents and requirements of legal acts. Below is a selection of the most recent achievements:</p> <p>Declaration of the Intended Activities of the Cabinet of Ministers On 12 March 2009 the Latvian <i>Saeima</i> (Parliament) approved the new government headed by Valdis Dombrovskis. Declaration of the Intended Activities of the Cabinet of Ministers headed by Valdis Dombrovskis http://www.mk.gov.lv/en/mk/darbibu-reglamentejosie-dokumenti/deklaracija-dombrovskis/ foresee tasks for the benefit of the growth of the Latvian State, including the topics of interoperability, development of the information society, security and innovation.</p> <p>Guidelines for the development of Information Society (2006-2013) Latvia's 'Guidelines for the development of Information Society (2006-2013)' adopted by the Latvian Government in 2006. The guidelines are aimed at complying with the EU's Lisbon Strategy objectives and the European initiative i2010 and cover the interoperability topics as development of services and electronic Content and Internet management and security</p> <p>E-government Action Plan (2010 – 2013) – under development It is foreseen that E-government Action Plan of Latvia (2010 – 2013) political priorities will be closely linked with Ministerial Declaration on eGovernment approved unanimously in Malmö, Sweden, on 18 November 2009 foreseeing to increase the trustworthiness, security and interoperability of eGovernment services promoted in the national interoperability framework in order to lower barriers to the market.</p> <p>Public e-procurement system usability and improvement plan (2010-2013) Draft public e-procurement system usability and improvement plan (2010-2013) is under development. Plan provides national level objectives in compliance with EU e-procurement standards. Till 31 December 2010 it is planned to implement mandatory public procurement system of state.</p>
Legal	<p>The following laws and regulations are of importance in the context of interoperability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Law on State Information Systems (2005, amendments 2007, 2008) ■ Section 6. Operating Principles for State Information Systems ■ Regulations of Cabinet of Ministers issued pursuant to State Information Systems Law ■ Electronic Documents Law was adopted by the Latvian Parliament on 31 October 2002 and came into force on 1 January 2003. Electronic Documents Law (with amending laws of 6 May 2004; 17 August 2004; 28 October 2004; 25 April 22 June 2006; 24 May 2007) http://www.e-me.lv/index_en.html ■ Regulations of Cabinet of Ministers issued pursuant Law of electronic documents ■ Other Regulations issued by Government of Latvia (the law on Personal Data Protection; the law on information society services; electronics communications law; law on public procurement; etc.)

Area	Analysis
Organisational	<p>National point of single contact At the moment intensive work is being done to implement the Directive 2006/123/EC On services in the internal market and especially – creation of point of single contact (PSC) to allow service providers to obtain information and conduct all formalities and procedures necessary for access to and exercise of a service activity.</p> <p>National Information System integrator In January, 2006 was started development of Latvian State E-government E-service Infrastructure Development Project – Integrated State Information System. The infrastructure is already accessible for E-service designers and developers since the middle of 2007.</p> <p>Republic of Latvia Cabinet Regulation No. 326 Adopted 10 May 2005 „By-laws of the Electronic Government Co-ordination Council of Latvia” (with amending regulations of 2006 and 2009). Council consist of authorised representatives of all ministries of state, Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments, the authorised representative of the State Revenue Service and the authorised representative of the Association of the Cities of Latvia. Minister of Regional Development and Local Government is Chairperson of the Council. Council have the function to co-ordinate and organise solving of issues related to e-government; and to inform State and local government institutions regarding activities in the field of e-government.</p> <p>Informal meetings between administrators of the largest state information systems organised by the Ministry of Regional Development and Local Government of the Republic of Latvia One of the forms of collaboration is informal meetings (three of four times a year) between administrators of the largest state information systems (base registries) and policy coordinators on which the current issues of base registries are discussed.</p> <p>Consultative council of security of electronic communication and information technology. Ministry of Transport chair the Consultative council of security of electronic communication and information technology of Latvia, which has been represented by various ministries and institutions involved in the information and network security processes.</p>
Semantic	<p>Platform independent file formats and data transmission protocols are regulated (regulation No. 764). From 2005, the necessity has been expressed to create an international level “independent” intermediate layer able to provide institutions the possibility to exchange data in a platform-independent way. State Information System Integrator provides the XML schema catalogue which is open for interested parties to publish their schemas or gather schemas of other organisations.</p>
Technical	<p>In January 2006 the development was started of the Latvian e-Services Infrastructure. The infrastructure is already accessible for e-Service designers and developers since the middle of 2007. The first e-Service (available on Latvian government E-service portal – www.latvija.lv), which is integrating four significance state registers, is released February 1, 2008.</p> <p>State portal www.latvija.lv on 2010 already offers a 27 eServices which sophistication, accordance with EU provisions, are above level 3. (<i>Two-way interaction (electronic forms)</i>). It is foreseen in the 2010 to develop 5 e-health services.</p> <p>From 1 June 2009 The Ministry of Regional Development and Local Government continues to work on developing a service catalogue, where about 1.000 e-services will be grouped by subject. For more information see http://www.vraa.gov.lv/lv/katalogs/</p>

Dimension Services Support

Area	Analysis
General	<p>In order to attract a wider audience, the State Regional Development Agency under Ministry of Regional Development and Local Government plans to extend its electronic services further, including other banks authentication. Integrated state information systems and a unified government e-service portal (www.latvija.lv) are established, intended to be the main channel of access to e-services of the public sector.</p>
Tool Support	<p>A single platform for all government institutions makes it possible without creating customised e-government solutions for building, but to use these shared components: such as a single e-service portal www.latvija.lv providing authentication via Latvia's e- signatures and the bank's banking authentication tools; payment service - an option to process payments to online e-services, E-signature functionality - the opportunity to prepare a framework and the authority to submit an e-signed documents, etc.</p>
Integration	<p>Since August 2008, the State Regional Development Agency is under the supervision providing development and maintenance of the Joint Information System for Municipalities of Latvia, the main task of which is to provide technological support to municipalities of Latvia for accessing their services electronically by creating compatible joint data accounting and exchange systems. The Joint Information System for Municipalities is used by more than 120 local municipalities every day, and this number is constantly increasing. To promote e-governance implementation in the municipalities, 10 competence centres were established. Two competence centres have study classes where studies on utilisation of the information system for the employees of the municipalities take place.</p>
Security	<p>Latvia does not have a single agency or organisation that is specialised in national information security or is recognised as the national agency for information security. There are many government bodies involved and the structure of information security responsibilities is unstructured. Information security and privacy in Latvia are protected by the State Information Systems Law (setting general security requirements of State Information Systems) and the Law on Personal Data Protection fully compliant with the EU Data Protection Directive (95/46/EC) (protecting the fundamental human rights and freedoms of natural persons, in particular the inviolability of private life, with respect to the processing of personal data). The regulations include requirements for state information systems such as power supply and provision, data exchange, physical and logical data protection, monitoring, data backup and storage systems, software update as well as support personnel.</p>