

## Norway

### Dimension Context & Principles

Area	Analysis
Context	<p>The Ministry of Government Administration and Reform has the overall strategic responsibility for ICT strategy, more specific the Department of ICT Policy and Public Sector Reform. The Agency for Public Management and eGovernment, Difi, is responsible for operational and governance actions. Both high-level and operational committees and cooperation are in place.</p> <p>Within Difi, the ICT governance and coordination department (ITS) is responsible for both architecture guidelines and the standardisation secretariat as well as for the Common Component Program. ITS take part in The EU EIF group as well as in other relevant (EU IDABC) expert groups.</p> <p><a href="http://regjeringen.no">Department of ICT Policy and Public Sector Reform - regjeringen.no</a></p> <p>There is not one single document, but several that define the Norwegian interoperability goals, principles and regimes. Important parts of an interoperability framework are in place, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Political goals described in two Government Reports to the Parliament</li> <li>■ The strategic and following-up responsibilities are defined</li> <li>■ ICT architecture principles are defined and obligatory to follow (for large projects a self declaration must follow the plan and budget proposal). A governance regime is in place.</li> <li>■ A standardisation committee evaluate and propose suitable technical and other standards for the government and recommendations are enforced by government decisions (Catalogue). A governance regime is in place.</li> <li>■ A common portal (AltInn) with development tools, common semantic database and presentation layer is in place for all reporting of data from businesses/ legal persons/ private persons to the government (to various governmental bodies). Altinn is currently undergoing a new development process, where the functionalities are to be designed as modules. This will allow the re-use and sharing of these modules, which in fact will be separate components. These are to be available for public entities to use independently from the Altinn portal itself.</li> <li>■ A program for evaluation of common components (eID and others, in a broad sense) is starting from 2010. For now, eID is in place, together with the AltInn portal.</li> <li>■ A portal for advice and sharing of best practice for running project management for IT projects in the public sector is in place.</li> <li>■ Some of the interoperability features are measured, as for example the use of obligatory standards, but regular broader surveying is not yet in place.</li> </ul>

Principles	<p>See also below (Section Interoperability, Political basis).</p> <p>Seven architecture principles are defined:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Service orientation</li> <li>■ Interoperability</li> <li>■ Availability (independent of time, place, channel) and accessibility</li> <li>■ Information security (confidentiality, quality, availability)</li> <li>■ Openness. Public services should be based on open standards</li> <li>■ Flexibility for changes in use, content, ownership, organisation, infrastructure</li> <li>■ Scalability regarding number of users, data load and lifetime.</li> </ul> <p>The principles are published on Difi's main portal together with information about the budget procedure for major ICT development projects, standards, universal accessibility, information security and other topics.</p> <p><a href="#">Difi - Arkitekturprinsipper</a> and</p>
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	<a href="http://www.difi.no/emne/ikt/it-arkitektur/arkitekturprinsipper">http://www.difi.no/emne/ikt/it-arkitektur/arkitekturprinsipper</a> which is version 2 of the operational explanation of the architecture principles together with information about legal basis etc.
Effectiveness	There is no overall surveying on the effectiveness of the interoperability work, however. The uptakes of both obligatory and mandatory standards are measured. Self declaration on compliance with architecture principles will be used in the preparation for the budget procedure for 2011 which starts in January 2010.

## Dimension Interoperability

Area	Analysis
Political	<p>Three documents defines the political agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ (St. meld. nr. 17) Report no. 17 (2006-2007) from the Government to the Parliament An Information Society for All, published in December 2007 by the Ministry of Government Administration and Reform.</li> <li>■ (St. meld. nr. Report no 19) Report no. 19 (2008-2009) from the Government to the Parliament A Government for democracy an inclusiveness, by the Ministry of Government Administration and Reform.</li> <li>■ Project report Common ICT Architecture for the Public sector, established by a working group in August 2007 and presented to a Ministerial conference in March 2008 by the Ministry of Government Administration and Reform.</li> </ul>
Legal	<p>The interoperability work is supported by official guidelines, formal recommendations and legislation.</p> <p>The obligatory use of the architectural principles is stated in a governmental decision. It is enforced through instructions to all ministries and their underlying agencies. The principles must be taken into consideration for all ICT related initiatives and deviations must be explained, "comply or explain".</p> <p>The uses of standards are obligatory and recommended for the public sector through regulation of 25 September 2009 under the provision of the Administration Act, entering into force from 1 January 2010. <a href="#">New obligatory IT standards for the state sector adopted - regjeringen.no</a></p> <p>The Anti-discrimination and accessibility act has a provision regarding requirements for accessibility of all ICT solutions directed at the public. The provision enters into force 1 July 2010.</p>

Area	Analysis
Organisational	<p>Difi is responsible for several initiatives and coordinating activities to promote and secure interoperability in the public sector. There are also established coordinating forums for eGovernment initiatives.</p> <p>In Difi's work with common ICT components an important element will be to establish models for governance and management of these common resources. There also exist several common standards and specifications which are obligatory and which also includes the organisational elements.</p> <p>In addition several projects are working on drafting process flows for a number of services:</p> <p><a href="#">SEMICOLON</a> (Semantic and Organisational Interoperability in Communicating and Collaborating Organisations) is a R&amp;D- project partly funded by the Norwegian Research Council. The main goal of Semicolon is to develop and test ICT-based methods, tools and metrics to obtain faster and cheaper semantic and organisational interoperability both with and within the public sector. The SEMICOLON-consortium is multidisciplinary. It aims at identification of obstacles in real collaboration cases, and at the development of new methodologies, tools and metrics. The development work shall be based on prototypes, and the results shall be verified in real collaboration cases. SEMICOLON allows differences in collaborating organisations, such as different values, different goals, and different aspects of the same concept.</p>
Semantic	<p>Seres (Semantic register for electronic collaboration) is a project run by the Brønnøysund Register Center, which is a government body responsible for several national registers organised under the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Seres contains metadata on describing the semantics and information structure of data being exchanged with and between government bodies. Initially Seres will focus on structured information, and the metadata will be used in the production of electronic forms by defining the content of data flows. The Seres project will deliver solutions to provide necessary metadata to Altinn.</p> <p>A National strategy for metadata is under development, and will be delivered by summer 2010. The strategy will be considering several ongoing initiatives and look at the need for metadata. The working group consists of representatives from several agencies, and Difi is secretariat for the group. There are also established metadata initiatives in the health sector, the geodata sector and the justice sector.</p>

### Dimension Services Support

Area	Analysis
General	<p>Information is available via web sites and through collaborative portals. In general, the body being responsible for the services has the responsibility of providing relevant support. The level of support and tools provided will vary according to the complexity and necessity.</p>
Tool Support	<p>Difi has established a portal <a href="http://prosjektveiviseren.no">prosjektveiviseren.no</a> which is a project management tool focusing on the requirements and frameworks which apply to public IT projects. The portal provides resources for several agencies and puts them in a combined context. In addition the portal also highlights best practices and invites collaboration through interaction.</p> <p>For other specific measures and resources, tools are provided by the responsible body.</p>
Integration	<p>Guidelines to support the integration with service end-points and business processes are available for the required services.</p>

Area	Analysis
Security	<p>There is a common <a href="#">Requirements specification for PKI for the public sector</a> which is currently being revised. Difi is responsible for the revision.</p> <p>In addition there is a Framework for authentication and non-denial for electronic communication with and within the public sector.</p> <p>During 2008 and 2009 Difi has established a common eID for public eServices, MinID (MyID), and an infrastructure for validation and federation of eIDs. The work is also in progress for a public PKI solution.</p> <p>There are also several other initiatives in specific sectors which have established common security norms, and there is a national strategy for information security and a coordination forum at ministerial level.</p> <p>Work is also in progress for evaluating standards for information security.</p>