Interoperability Data for Lithuania, 2012

1. Interoperability as a strategic goal

1.1. Strategic Priority on Interoperability	Yes *(2011)*

An interoperability strategy is in progress and will be created by a working group under the Information Society Development Committee. However, due to political and reorganizational changes (affecting the way in which e-governance is organized), the process has been slowed down. The committee is under reconstruction and will fall not under the government but directly under a Ministry (probably Transport & Communication).

(2011) [5]

1.2. National Interoperability Strategy Status	Under development *(2011)*

2. National Interoperability Frameworks

2.1. National Interoperability Framework Status

2.1.1. Title	*Not applicable*
2.1.2. Version	*Not applicable*
2.1.3. Release Date	*Not applicable*
2.1.4. Focus / Scope	Unknown *(2011)*
2.1.5. Audience	Unknown *(2011)*
2.1.6. Status	Under development *(2011)*

Currently, there is no interoperability framework available in Lithuania. The Lithuanian new Government formed after Parliament election at the end of 2008 included into its work programme the creation of a national interoperability strategy.

(2011) [5]

2.1.7. Responsible Agency	Ministry of the Interior (http://www.vrm.lt/index.php?id=528), Information Society Development Committee under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania (http://www.ivpk.lt/) *(2011)* [6]
2.2. Compatibility of National Interoperability Framework with the European Interoperability Framework	Yes *(2011)*

The NIF currently under development has been Influenced by the IDABC programme outcomes (preparation of EIF version 2, outcomes of CIO meetings and EIS), as well as the study on Lithuania's Strategic goals of national interoperability framework inspirited by the Ministry of the Interior.

(2011) [5]

3. Interoperability Projects and Activities

3.1. Number of interoperability-related projects of local or national scope	Low

National-Public Administration Portal: -

E-Government Backbone:

- **VAIISIS** (Interoperability Infrastructure for Information Systems of Public Administrations), aiming to develop a system for data exchange among public institutions when providing complex online public services for citizens, and to update the existing Lithuanian e-government portal with new functionality and qualitative features (http://www.epaslaugos.lt/egovportal/appmanager/main/public) [1].

Research & Education Network: EU-Funded

Environmental Geoportal: EU-Funded
Marine Data Management Infrastructure: EU-Funded

Legislation & e-Justice System: EU-Funded

e-Health System: -

e-Tax Portal & Infrastructure:
- **EDS** (E-Declaration System in Lithuania), provides an option for taxpayers to submit electronically the State Tax Inspectorate administered tax returns and other related documents, and receive information regarding the acceptance of such documents from the STI. For tax administrators, it allows to process tax return data more effectively. With the implementation of the EDS, tax procedures have become less complicated and less time and resource consuming, all of which are advancements and major goals connected with the successful implementation of interoperability. (http://deklaravimas.vmi.lt/PublicPages.aspx) [3].

Other projects:
- **ELPAS** - Electronic Signature Information System (launched September 2011), which allows the Government, while drawing and passing its legal acts, to abandon paper copies and save working time for Ministry clerks. The Government will also uses ELPAS for the submission of draft Presidential decrees as well as draft laws to the Parliament [2].

[1, 2, 3]

3.2. Number of EU-funded interoperability-related projects	Moderate *(2011)*

3.2.1. Indicative projects

- **Innovall** (Innovall, search of patent databases), aiming to provide cost-effective search of patent databases through a user- friendly web site. It will allow the search of patents, trademarks, and designs rights in a simple and affordable manner, providing an alternative for organizations - especially SMEs - that need to consult such information but often have few effective ways to do so (http://www.innovall.eu/) [4, 5].

- **CrossBorderDS** (Cross-border digital signature in company registration portal) aiming to make establishing a company in a foreign country an easier process (especially for SMEs), and allow to overcome at least some of the obstacles on the way (https://ettevotjaportaal.rik.ee) [6].

- **EULIS** (European Land Information Service) access to land and property information across Europe to meet the needs of professional users - lenders, conveyancers and other professional groups (http://eulis.eu/service/) [7].

- **NATURE-SDIplus** (Best Practice Network for SDI in Nature, Oct 2008 - July 2011), aiming to improve harmonization of national datasets on nature conservation and make them more interoperable, accessible and exploitable, by developing the NATURE-SDIplus geoportal, to permit recovery of metadata, data and services, and involving stakeholders, data and best practices sharing (http://www.nature-sdi.eu/) [8].

- **NET-EUCEN** (European Network for Enhanced User Centricity in eGovernment, April 2010 -) to create, animate and manage a working network of stakeholders in the Governance, User Centricity and Policy Modelling domains belonging to all European countries, and covering the whole range of Services for Users (S4U), and with the aim, among others, to identify opportunities for interoperability and standardization in the aforementioned domains, raise awareness, and provide guidelines and recommendations (http://www.net-eucen.org/) [9].

- **eRepresentative** (A virtual desktop for the mobile European elected officials, Feb 2006 – May 2008), for creating a virtual desktop for mobile devices, to support elected representatives in the legislative process, and mainly the scrutiny of legislation through relevant committees, by enabling seamless use of desktop with Parliaments' current systems, personalised interaction with, and integration of, relevant information, and collaboration on legislative documents while meeting needs for integrity, authenticity and privacy (http://www.erepresentative.org/) [10].

- **SeaDataNet** (Pan-European Infrastructure for Ocean and Marine Data Management, April 2006 – March 2011), aiming to develop an efficient distributed Pan-European Marine Data Management Infrastructure for managing large and diverse marine research data sets, and to network the existing professional data centers of 35 countries, active in data collection, and provide integrated databases of standardized quality on-line (http://www.seadatanet.org/) [11].

- **SeaDataNet II** (Pan-European infrastructure for ocean and marine data management, Oct 2011- Sept 2015) aiming to upgrade the present SeaDataNet infrastructure into an operationally robust and state-of-the-art Pan-European infrastructure for providing up-to-date and high quality access to ocean and marine metadata, data and data products originating from data acquisition activities by all engaged coastal states, by setting, adopting and promoting common data management standards and by realising technical and semantic interoperability with other relevant data management systems and initiatives on behalf of science, environmental management, policy making, and economy (http://www.seadatanet.org/) [12].

- **GEO-SEAS** (Pan-european infrastructure for management of marine and ocean geological and geophysical data, May 2009 – Oct 2012), to effect a major and significant improvement in the overview and access to marine geological and geophysical data and data-products from national geological surveys and research institutes in Europe by upgrading and interconnecting their present infrastructures, and adopting the SeaDataNet interoperability principles, architecture and components wherever possible to avoid duplicative effort (http://www.geo-seas.eu/) [13].

- **PROTECTRAIL** (The Railway-Industry Partnership for Integrated Security of Rail Transport, Sep 2010 – Feb 2014), aiming to make single asset-specific solutions for railway security interoperable and to conceive and design a modular architectural framework, where each one of the latter can be plugged (http://www.protectrail.eu/About-Protectrail) [14].

- **COIN** (Collaboration and interoperability for networked enterprises, Jan 2008 – Dec 2011), aiming to study, design, develop and prototype an open, self-adaptive, generic ICT integrated solution to support the above 2020 vision of Enterprise collaboration and Interoperability services becoming an invisible, pervasive and self-adaptive knowledge and business utility at disposal of the European networked enterprises from any industrial sector and domain in order to rapidly set-up, efficiently manage and effectively operate different forms of business collaborations, from the most traditional supply chains to the most advanced and dynamic business ecosystems (http://www.coin-ip.eu/) [15].

- **CLARIN** (Common language resources and technology infrastructure, Jan 2008 – June 2011), with the goal to develop and operate a shared distributed infrastructure, making available language resources and technology to the humanities and social sciences research communities, based on data and interoperability standards (http://www.clarin.eu/external/) [16].

- **BALTICGRID-II** (Baltic Grid second phase, May 2008 – April 2010), aiming to increase the impact, adoption and reach, and to further improve the support of services and users of the recently created e-Infrastructure in the Baltic States (http://www.balticgrid.org/) [17].
- **CHINA EU STANDARDS** (China EU information technology standards research partnership, March 2008 – Feb 2010), aiming to develop a knowledge network of top researchers in the field in Europe, China and beyond, examine the new ICT standardisation activity emerging in China, apparently linked to its goals to promote indigenous technology, and compare these emerging standardisation processes with the more established approaches that have evolved at a European level (http://www.china-eu-standards.org/) [18].
- **eRepresentative** (A virtual desktop for the mobile European elected officials, Feb 2006 – May 2008), for creating a virtual desktop for mobile devices, to support elected representatives in the legislative process, and mainly the scrutiny of legislation through relevant committees, by enabling seamless use of desktop with Parliaments' current systems, personalised interaction with, and integration of, relevant information, and collaboration on legislative documents while meeting needs for integrity, authenticity and privacy (http://www.erepresentative.org/) [19].
- **GENESIS** (Generic European sustainable information space for environment) aiming to provide Environment management and Health actors with an innovative solution based on advanced ICT. Relying on interoperability standards and harmonization process, GENESIS helps to constitute complex information networks, by combining benefits of various information systems with a collaborative systems approach [20].

(2011) [7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23]

4. National Interoperability Practices

4.1. Number of Interoperability Cases with Good Practice Label	Low

- **EDS** (E-Declaration System in Lithuania), provides an option for taxpayers to submit electronically the State Tax Inspectorate administered tax returns and other related documents, and receive information regarding the acceptance of such documents from the STI. For tax administrators, it allows to process tax return data more effectively. With the implementation of the EDS, tax procedures have become less complicated and less time and resource consuming, all of which are advancements and major goals connected with the successful implementation of interoperability. (http://deklaravimas.vmi.lt/PublicPages.aspx) (Good Practice Label 2007) [3].

[3]

4.2. Best Interoperability Practice

4.2.1. Title	E-Declaration System in Lithuania

4.2.2. Description

E-Declaration System in Lithuania, provides an option for taxpayers to submit electronically the State Tax Inspectorate administered tax returns and other related documents, and receive information regarding the acceptance of such documents from the STI. For tax administrators, it allows to process tax return data more effectively. With the implementation of the EDS, tax procedures have become less complicated and less time and resource consuming, all of which are advancements and major goals connected with the successful implementation of interoperability. Now taxpayers in Lithuania deliver a number of procedures on the basis of the one-counter principle and without having to leave their place of work (http://deklaravimas.vmi.lt/PublicPages.aspx).

[3]

4.2.3. Status

Operational since March 2004

4.2.4. Indicative interoperability aspects covered

- Service Registries
- Data Modelling
- Semantics
- Metadata Management
- Service Portals
- Legal Framework

4.2.5. Impact

The EDS has become a valuable instrument for all taxpayers (both legal and physical entities) to accomplish declaration procedures in the most convenient way and increase the efficiency of tax collection. During the past 3 years 10 million documents have been submitted in the form of the EDS electronic data and 3 million electronic info messages were sent to users using the system. Additionally, the following goals have been achieved: - To provide high-level services for taxpayers as well as multiple tools and methods for submission of returns, including electronically through the Internet and e-mail, manually, and based on e-signature; - To develop an electronic declaration environment for both taxpayers and employees of the STI; - To improve the internal process of the STI for registration, storage, and processing of submitted returns and calculation of refundable overpayments, etc. - To improve the efficiency of tax collection by provision of electronic means; - To promote the usage of modern information technologies within Lithuanian society.

Track Record of Sharing:

The growing recognition of the EDS has encouraged the development of similar e-services by other public institutions, i.e. the State Enterprise Centre of Registers. The ABBYY eFormFiller tool is also used by the Department of Statistics of the Republic of Lithuania (www.std.lt) for provision of statistical forms as well as SODRA. Therefore, the EDS has contributed to promote the development of the information society in Lithuania.

Lessons Learnt:

- As EDS and other IS were created, the STI had to adapt its internal structure, which was no longer able to effectively function. The restructurization of the inspectorate helped to achieve a better distribution of areas of responsibility as well as to adapt to new conditions.
- In order to ensure an efficient labour system in the STI as well as the active involvement of taxpayers in the EDS services, the STI had to implement several information and training campaigns.
- The EDS services for taxpayers are just the tip of the iceberg, because the greater share of functions of this system are used by the STI specialists to achieve a more efficient and transparent work. Therefore, high data base reliability, uninterrupted operation and data security requirements have to apply to all the systems.

5. e-Government Interoperability

5.1. Interoperability Level of core e-Government services to citizens / businesses	72.0% *(2010)* [24]
5.2. Connected Government Status	5.49% *(2008)* [25]

6. e-Business Interoperability

6.1. Intra-organizational Integration Level	28.0% [4]
6.2. Cross-organization Integration Level	61.0% [4]

6.3. Cross-organization Application-to-Application Integration Level	37.0% [4]
6.4. e-Invoicing Status	53.0% [4]
6.5. B2B Data Standards Usage	
6.5.1. EDI-based standards	*Not available*
6.5.2. XML-based standards	*Not available*
6.5.3. Proprietary standards	*Not available*
6.5.4. other technical standards	*Not available*
6.6. Interoperability Awareness	
6.6.1. Within their sector	*Not available*
6.6.2. Between sectors	*Not available*
6.6.3. For producing or providing products and services	*Not available*

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