



*Interoperability Solutions
for European Public Administrations*

Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations

A Commission-driven EU programme (2010-2015)

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Disclaimer

- **I am not an official spokesperson of the European Commission**
- **This presentation provides technical information on the ISA programme and other related actions of the European Commission**
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Content of the presentation

- **Context**
- **The European Interoperability Framework (IEF)**
- **The Interoperability Solutions of European Public Administrations (ISA) programme**





The Context and related activities

- **The Digital Agenda for Europe**
- **The Malmö Conference and the eGovernment action plan**
- **Revision of the ICT standardisation legal framework**
- **The European Interoperability Framework**





Digital Agenda : Aim

"The overall aim of the Digital Agenda is to deliver sustainable economic and social benefits from a digital single market based on fast and ultra fast internet and interoperable applications"





ISA Digital Agenda : Interoperability and Standards

“A key action to promote interoperability between public administrations will be the Commission's adoption of an ambitious European Interoperability Strategy and the European Interoperability Framework to be drawn up under the ISA programme (Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations)”





Digital Agenda : Interoperability Actions

"The Commission will :

...

- ***Promote interoperability by adopting in 2010 a European Interoperability Strategy and European Interoperability Framework***

Member States should :

...

- ***Apply the European Interoperability Framework at national level by 2013***
- ***Implement commitments on interoperability and standards in the Malmö and Granada Declarations by 2013"***





The Malmö declaration – Some quotes

- **Background:**

- We recognise that better public services need to be delivered with fewer resources, and that the potential of eGovernment can be increased by promoting a common culture of collaboration and by improving the conditions for interoperability of our administrations.

- **Our administrations should therefore:**

- Pay particular attention to the benefits resulting from the use of open specifications in order to deliver services in the most cost-effective manner. We will ensure that open specifications are promoted in our national interoperability frameworks in order to lower barriers to the market. We will work to align our national interoperability frameworks with applicable European frameworks. The Open Source model could be promoted for use in eGovernment projects. It is important to create a level playing field where open competition can take place in order to ensure best value for money





White paper on ICT standardisation

- **The current legal basis on ICT standardisation recognised certain ICT specificities such as the need for interoperability and allows for some flexibility in case of referencing ICT standards in public procurement.**
- **Proposal for attributes of ICT standards associated with EU legislation and policies**
- **The use of ICT standards in public procurement:** When acquiring ICT services and products, additional requirements may prevail. Public authorities need to be able to define their ICT strategies and architectures, including interoperability between organisations, and will procure ICT systems/services and products or components thereof, that meet their requirements.





The European Interoperability Framework (EIF)





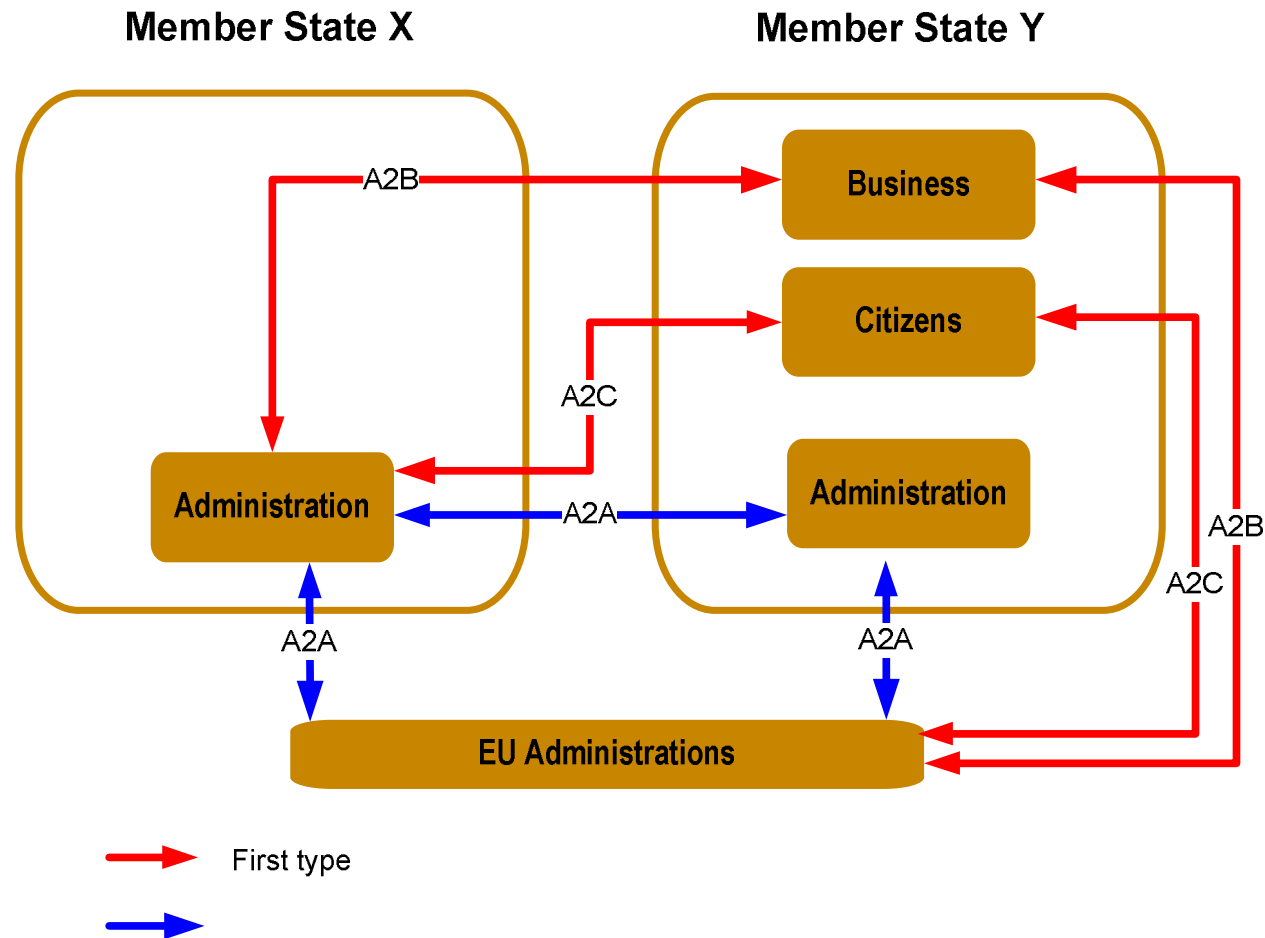
Definitions

- **In the context of European Public Service delivery**
 - Interoperability means:
 - *"the ability of disparate and diverse organisations to interact towards mutually beneficial and agreed common goals, involving the sharing of information and knowledge between the organisations, through the business processes they support, by means of the exchange of data between their respective ICT systems"*
 - An interoperability framework is:
 - *"an agreed approach to interoperability for organisations that wish to work together towards the joint delivery of public services. Within its scope of applicability, it specifies a set of common elements such as vocabulary, concepts, principles, policies, guidelines, recommendations, standards, specifications and practices"*



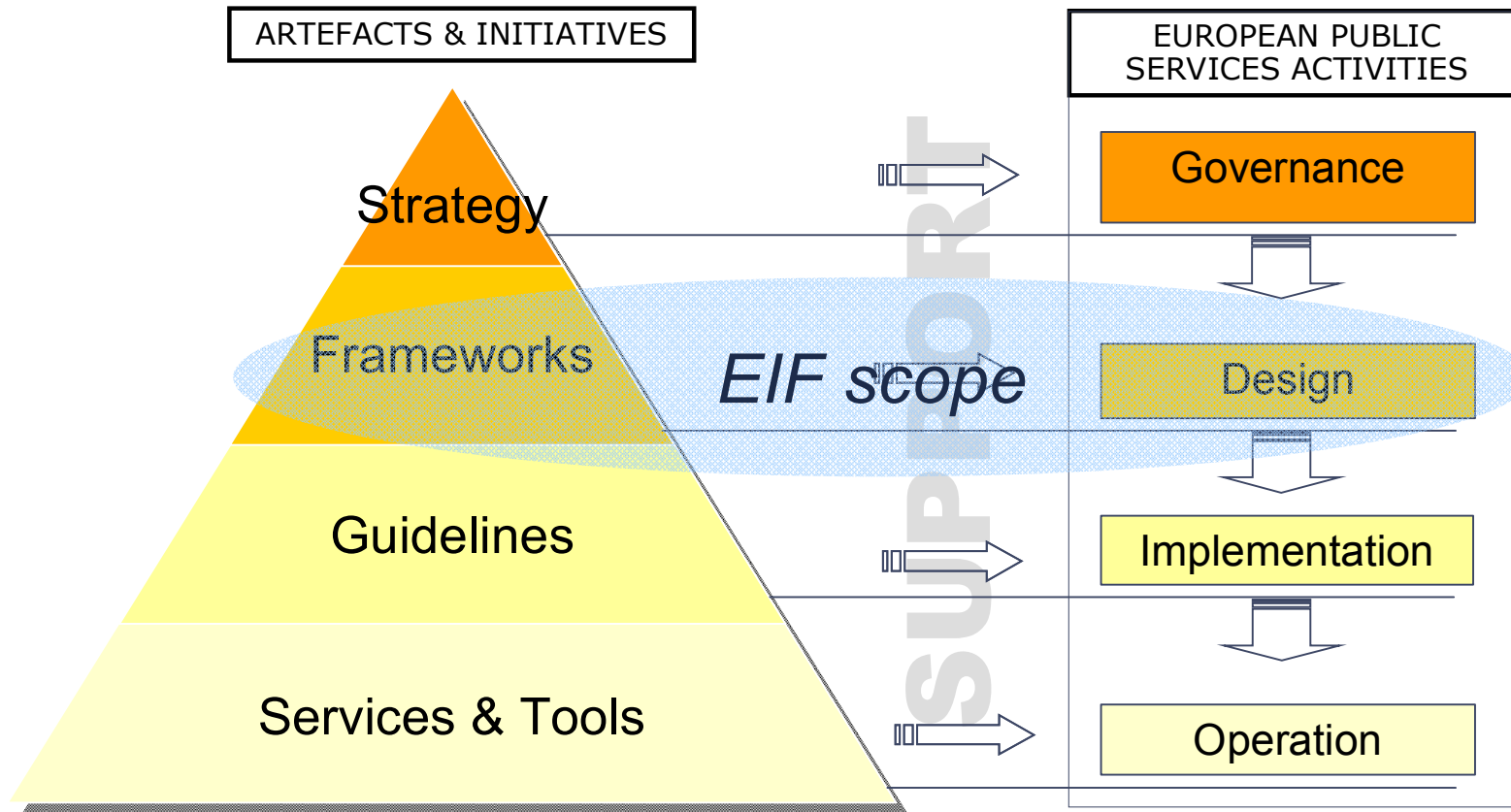


European Public Services scenarios





EIF scope





European Interoperability Framework (EIF)

- **The purpose of the EIF is**
 - To promote and support the delivery of European Public Services by fostering cross-border and cross-sectoral interoperability
 - To guide public administrations' efforts in providing European Public Services to businesses and citizens
 - To complement and tie together the various National Interoperability Frameworks (NIF's) in a European dimension
- **NIF's are more detailed and often prescriptive whereas EIF operates as a "meta framework"**





EIF content

- **Public service and the interoperability mindset:**
 - 12 underlying principles
- **How to build European Public Services?**
 - Public services conceptual model
- **How to address interoperability issues?**
 - 4 interoperability levels, common vocabulary and concepts
- **How to implement interoperability?**
 - Interoperability agreements
- **The needs for interoperability governance:**
 - Interoperability over time when operating and delivering a European Public Service
 - An holistic approach to interoperability activities across administrative levels





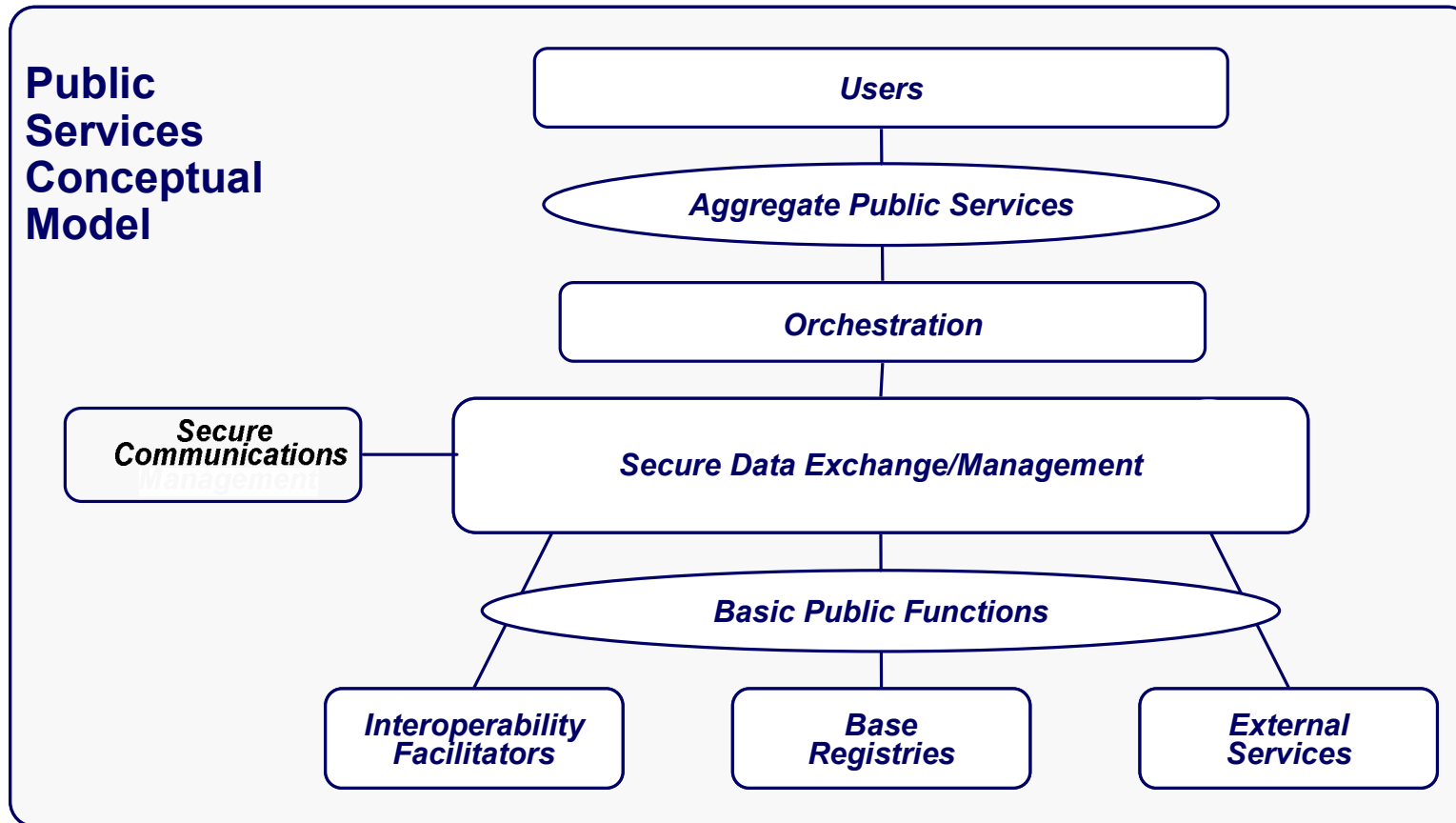
EIF: 12 Underlying principles

- **The first sets the frame for community action in the area of European Public Services**
 - Subsidiarity and Proportionality
- **The next group reflect generic user needs and expectations**
 - User Centricity, Inclusion and Accessibility, Security and Privacy, Multilingualism, Administrative Simplification, Transparency, Preservation of Information
- **The last group provides a foundation for collaboration between public administrations**
 - Openness, Reusability, Technological Neutrality and Adaptability, Effectiveness and Efficiency



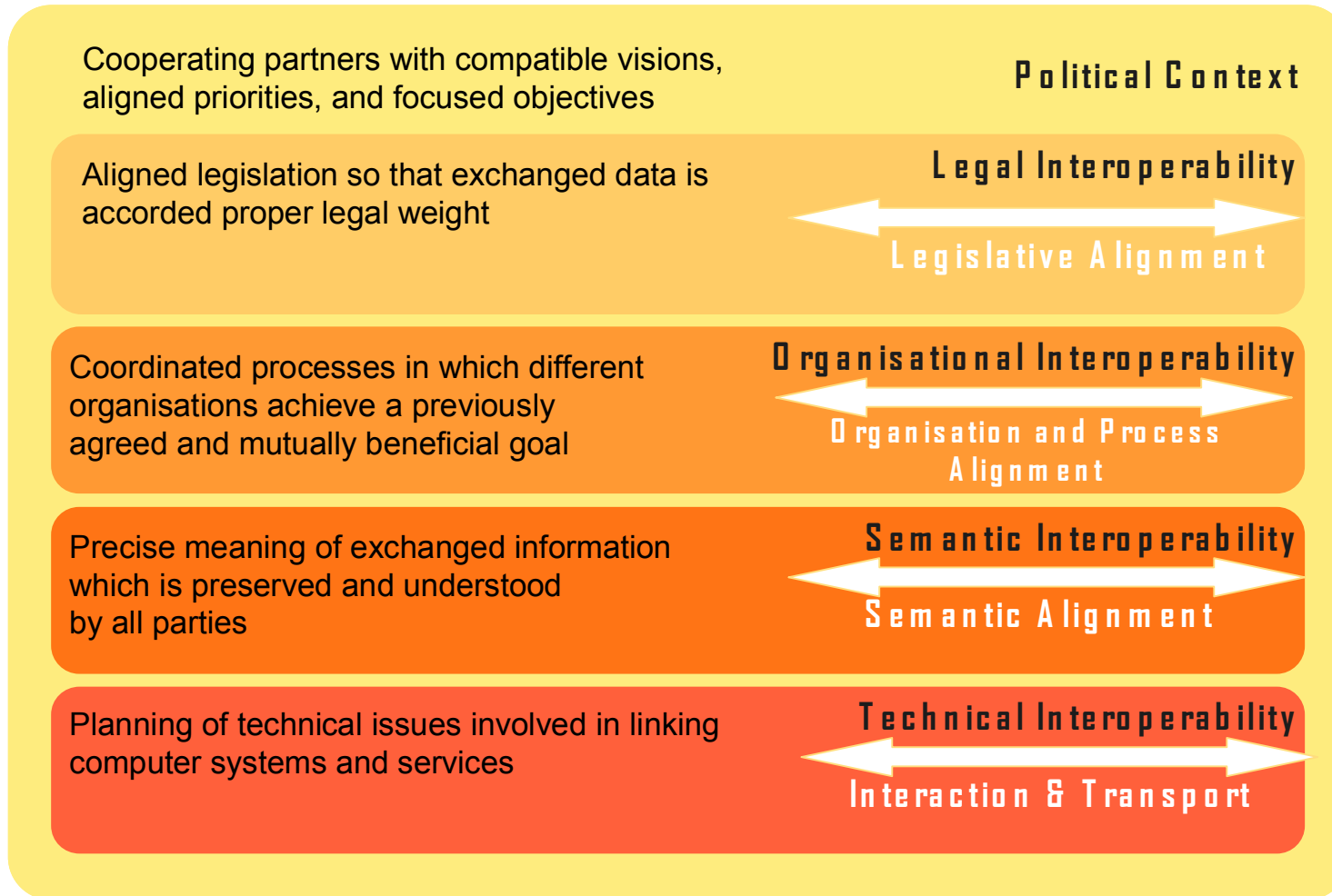


EIF: Public Services Conceptual Model



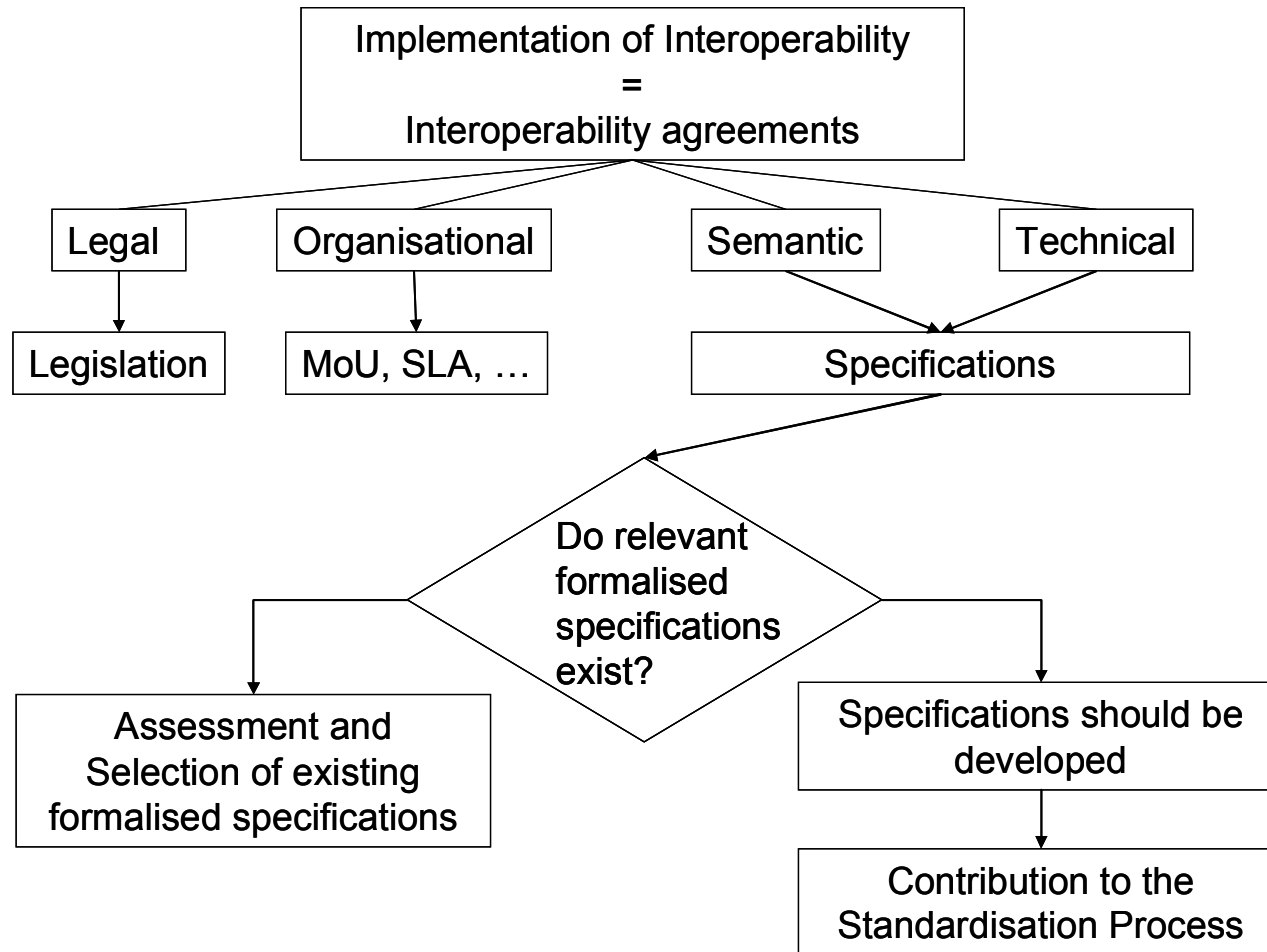


EIF: 4 Interoperability levels





EIF: Interoperability Agreements





- **Objective**
- **Stakeholders**
- **Key principles**
- **Activities and actions**
- **The European Interoperability Strategy**
- **Implementation process**
- **Budget**





The Objective

To support cooperation between European public administrations

- By facilitating efficient and effective cross-border and cross-sectoral interaction
 - Enabling the delivery of electronic public services supporting the implementation of Community policies and activities.

For that purpose, to provide common and shared solutions facilitating interoperability





Stakeholders and beneficiaries

- **Stakeholders**

- European public administrations at all levels
- ICT Community
- Standardisation bodies
- International bodies
- ...

- **Direct beneficiaries**

- European public administrations
 - Commission services
 - Other EU institutions or bodies
 - National administrations
 - Regional and local administrations

- **Indirect beneficiaries**

- Citizens and businesses





Key principles

- **Technological neutrality and adaptability**
- **Openness**
- **Reusability**
- **Privacy and protection of personal data**
- **Security**





Activities

The programme will support and promote:

- Common frameworks
- Common services
- Reusable generic tools
- Assessment of ICT implications of EU legislation through studies, projects and accompanying measures

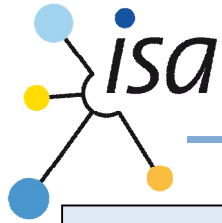




Actions

- **Actions must comply with the requirement specified in the ISA Decision - i.e., inter alia, be**
 - Based on a concrete business case
 - Linked to EU policy initiatives
 - Of cross-border and cross-sector nature
 - Of general interest, meeting common user requirements
- **Priority is given to actions falling with the activity clusters defined by the European Interoperability Strategy**





European Interoperability Strategy

Clusters of activities (envisaged) – Generic Strategic Considerations

Trusted information exchange

- Semantic interoperability
- Information availability and usage
- Trust and privacy
- Catalogue of services

Interoperability architecture

- Interoperability architecture
- Expertise support and methodologies

ICT implications of new legislation

- National and cross-border sector-specific legislation sustainability

Accompanying measures

Inter-operability Awareness

Sharing best practices using Collaboration platforms





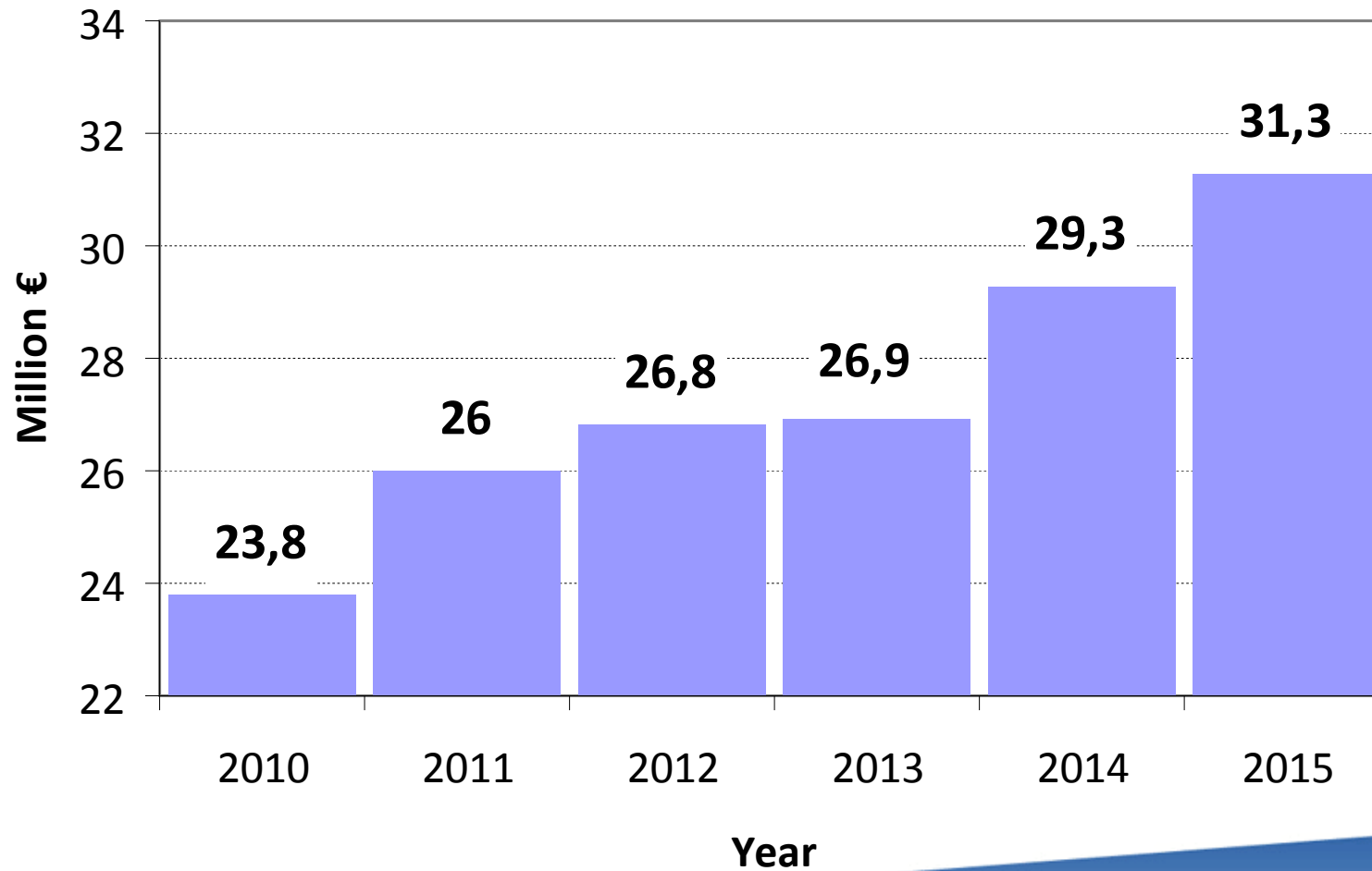
Implementation process

- **Selection of actions**
- **Establishment of the rolling work programme, revised at least once a year**
- **Favourable opinion of the ISA committee**
- **Public procurement**
- **Implementation by the Commission – in cooperation with the Member States**





The Budget: 164.1 Million €





For further information

ISA website: <http://ec.europa.eu/isa>

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Thank you!

