CAMSS

COMMON
ASSESSMENT
METHOD FOR
STANDARDS AND
SPECIFICATIONS

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Standard for Public Code

1. INTRODUCTION

The present document is a summary of the assessment of the **Standard for Public Code**carried out by CAMSS using the CAMSS EIF assessment scenario. The purpose of this scenario is assessing the compliance of a standard or specification with the European Interoperability Framework (EIF)[1].

2. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

The Standard **for Public Code** gives public organizations a model for building their own open source solutions to enable successful future reuse by similar public organizations in other places. It includes guidance for policy makers, city administrators, developers and vendors.

2.1. Interoperability Principles

Interoperability principles are fundamental behavioural aspects that drive interoperability actions. They are relevant to the process of establishing interoperable European public services. They describe the context in which European public services are designed and implemented.

The specification fully supports the principles setting context for EU actions on interoperability:

- **Subsidiarity and proportionality**

    There is no Member State that includes Standard for Public Code in their national catalogue with The National Interoperability Framework (NIF) aligned with at least 4 out of 5 sections of the European Interoperability Framework (EIF) according to the National Interoperability Framework Observatory (NIFO) factsheets.

The specification partially supports the principles setting context for EU actions on interoperability:

- **Openness**
    The Standard for Public Code provides gives public organizations a model for building their open source solutions to enable successful future reuse by similar public organizations in other places. This project is licensed CC-0, which essentially means that the project, along with your contributions is in the public domain in whatever jurisdiction possible, and everyone can do whatever they want with it. Standard for Public Code has a defined and publicly available Process for the Development and approval process of the specification as a recommended standard. The specification is licensed on a Public License Fallback. Even though it is a very recent standard produced in 2019, it has a strong community supporting it with a clear process of development so it can be used in the development of products and services. Standard for Public Code is supported by many public technologists and policy makers that are able to contribute on the development of the standard at the same time all the contributors review those updates.

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[1] https://ec.europa.eu/isa2/eif_en

- **Transparency**

   The Standard for Public Code is a set of criteria that supports public organizations in developing and maintaining software and policy together. Also, The Standard for Public Code gives public organizations a model for building their own open source solutions to enable successful future reuse by similar public organizations in other places. It includes guidance for policy makers, city administrators, developers and vendors.

- **Reusability**

   The Standard for Public Code is a business domain agnostic document that can be reused in a cross-domain way. Anyone developing software or policy for a public purpose can use this standard to work towards higher quality public services that are more cost effective, with less risk and more control. This standard is fully accessible for its consultation, study, implementation or contribution to its development.

- **Technological neutrality and data portability**

   The Standard for Public Code is a set of criteria that supports public organizations in developing and maintaining software and policy together. Anyone developing software or policy for a public purpose can use this standard to work towards higher quality public services that are more cost effective, with less risk and more control, so it can be said that Standard for Public Code is proportionate to the needs of its users. The Standard for Public code aims to provide a set of elements that can help public administrations to build open-source solutions that can be reused across borders and amongst organisations.

The specification does not support the principles related to generic user needs and expectations:

- **User-centricity**

   The scalability and broad character of the specification can make possible the creation and the availability of solutions fostering the reuse and availability of information between administrations and citizens

- **Inclusion and accessibility**

   The specification includes accessibility as one of the aspects to take into account for the development of new solutions and products. Since it is a key aspect for the equal treatment of citizens.

- **Security and privacy**

   The specification aims to be the basis for the development of public solutions that could be reusable across borders. It provides codebases that can be adapted to reach specific business requirements of certain implementations. Security is a key aspect when exchanging information and in this way, the specification states that when developing or implementing public source it should be enabled communication points to communicate regarding security aspects.

- **Multilingualism**
  The Standard for Public Code aims to be a reference resource for making public administration efficient when creating public services and products reusable. Its usage can benefit European Institutions of a common method for the development of software solutions to be deployed all around Europe.

The specification partially supports the foundation principles for cooperation among public administrations:

- **Administrative Simplification**
  The Standard for Public Code is a set of criteria that supports public organizations in developing and maintaining software and policy together, so it can be said that this specification reduces the administrative burden.
- **Preservation of information**
  No enough information has been gathered to determine that the specification impacts positively or negatively to long-term preservations.
- **Assessment of effectiveness and efficiency**
  There are several studies concerning the importance of include open source solutions and software to public administrations and their benefit to administrations, businesses and citizens.

2.2. Interoperability Layers

The interoperability model which is applicable to all digital public services includes:
- Four layers of interoperability: legal, organisational, semantic and technical;
- A cross-cutting component of the four layers, 'integrated public service governance';
- A background layer, 'interoperability governance'.

The Specification supports the implementation of digital public services complying with the EIF interoperability model:

- **Interoperability governance**
  At the time of elaborating this assessment, this specification is not included in any EIRA ABB in the last version of the European Library Of Specifications (ELIS). However, it has been associated to "Organisational Agreeement" of the Organisational view for the on-going version that is going to be published in May 2021.
  There are no Member States recommending Standard for Public Code in their ICT National Catalogues as it is a set of criteria that supports public organizations in developing and maintaining software and policy together. The Standard for Public Code is not included in any Member States' catalogues of recommended specifications.

- **Integrated public service governance & Legal Interoperability**
    No evidences have been found of the specification being included in a formal interoperability agreement between organisations involved in the European public services provision.

- **Organisational interoperability**
    The purpose of Standard for Public Code is not related to the modelling of business processes. The specification defines not only the codebase for the development of reusable solutions but also how the code has to be developed to ensure the maximum standardised method and its possible future reuse by other solutions or initiatives.

- **Semantic Interoperability**
    This document does not define a cross-sector reusable data model, but gives public organizations a model for building their own open source solutions to enable successful future reuse by similar public organizations in other places. The Standard for Public Code gives public organizations a model for building their own open source solutions. Moreover, the standard also addressed the fact that the generated code needs to be published and documented enabling other implementations.

- **Technical interoperability**
    This technical interoperability layer is covered by the core interoperability principle ''Openness''.

3. ASSESSMENT RESULTS

This section presents an overview of the results of the CAMSS assessments for **Standard for Public Code**. The CAMSS "Strength" indicator measures the reliability of the assessment by calculating the number of answered (applicable) criteria. On the other hand, the number of favourable answers and the number of unfavourable ones are used to calculate the "Automated Score" per category and an "Overall Score".

Category	Automated Score	Assessment Strength	# Favourable	# Unfavourable	# Not Applicable
Principle setting the context for EU actions on interoperability	0%	100%	0	1	0
Core interoperability principles	89%	100%	17	2	0
Principles related to generic user needs and expectations	100%	100%	4	0	0
Foundation principles for cooperation among public administrations	100%	67%	2	0	1
Interoperability layers*	52%	95%	11	10	1
Overall Score	70%	95%	26	11	2

The technical interoperability layer is covered by the criteria corresponding to the core interoperability principle ''Openness''.

With a 95% of assessment strength, this assessment can be considered representative of the specification compliance with the EIF principles and recommendations.

The Overall Automated Score of 70% demonstrates that the specification supports the European Interoperability Framework in the domains where it applies.
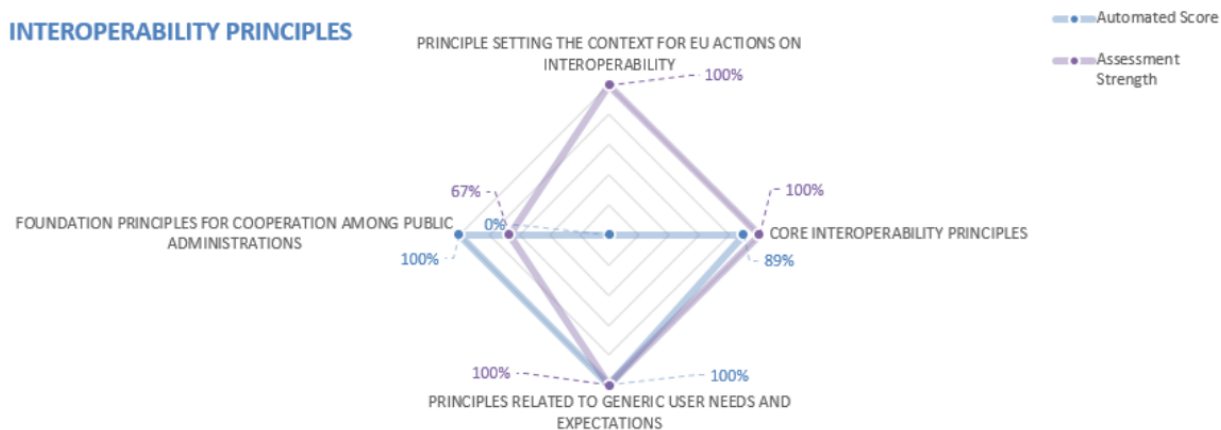

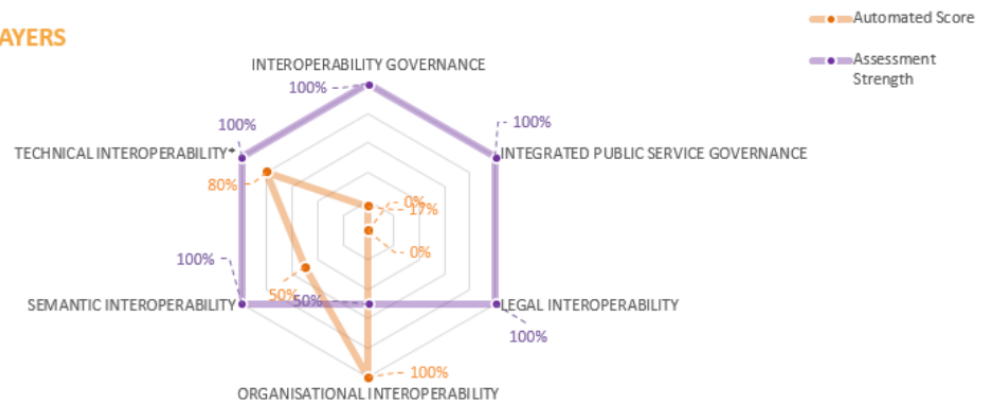**Figure 1 Interoperability principles Results**

INTEROPERABILITY LAYERS

Figure 2 Interoperability layers Results