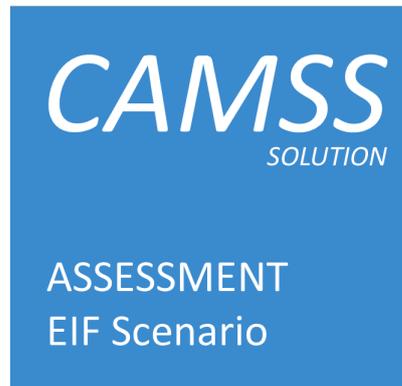


CAMSS Assessment EIF Scenario v5.0.0

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

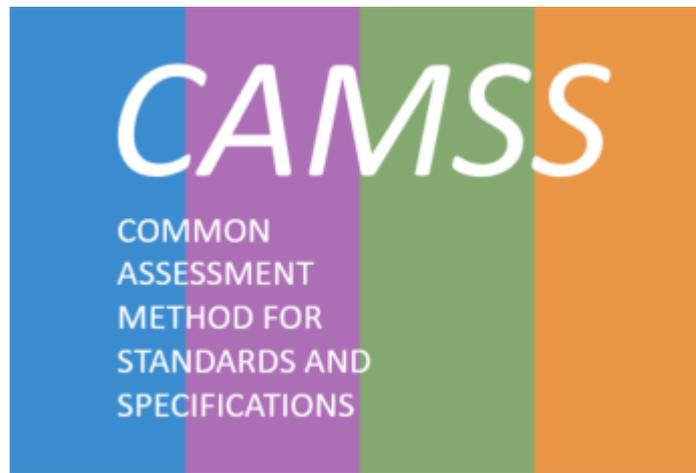
CAMSS Assessment EIF Scenario v5.0.0



Release Date: 31/01/2022

Scenario Version: 5.0.0

INTRODUCTION



EIF Scenario

The European Interoperability Framework (EIF) provides guidance to public administrations on how to improve governance of their interoperability activities, establish cross-organisational relationships, streamline processes supporting end-to-end digital services, and ensure that existing and new legislation do not compromise interoperability efforts.

This CAMSS Scenario allows to assess the compliance of **interoperability specifications** with the EIF. The objective of the obtained assessment is to determine the suitability of the assessed interoperability specification for the delivery of interoperable European public services.

Background

[CAMSS](#) is the European guide for assessing and selecting standards and specifications for an eGovernment project, a reference when building an architecture, and an enabler for justifying the choice of standards and specifications in terms of interoperability needs and requirements. It is fully aligned with the European Standardisation Regulation 1025/2012.

The main objective of CAMSS is achieving interoperability and avoiding vendor lock-in by establishing a neutral and unbiased method for the assessment of technical specifications and standards in the field of ICT. This method will be compliant with Regulation 1025/2012 on European Standardisation.

While ICT solutions have specific characteristics at the political, legal, and organisational levels; semantic and technical interoperability are based mostly on technical specifications or standards. Within the context of the elaboration of their National Interoperability Frameworks, Member States organise the assessment of technical specifications or standards, in order to establish their national recommendations. Deciding on the recommended technical specifications or standards often calls for a resource-intensive and time-consuming assessment. In order to tackle this, the [Digital Europe Programme](#) (DEP) defines an action focused on the development of a common assessment method for standards and specifications (CAMSS).

The purpose of CAMSS is:

- to ensure that assessments of technical ICT specifications or standards and interoperability profiles are performed according to high and consistent standards;

- to ensure that assessments will contribute significantly to the confidence in the interoperability of systems implementing these specifications and profiles;
- to enable the reuse, in whole or in part, of such assessments;
- to continuously improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the assessment process for ICT technical specifications, standards, and interoperability profiles.

The expected benefits of the CAMSS are:

- Ensuring greater transparency throughout the selection of standards in the context of ICT strategies, architectures, and interoperability frameworks. This will be achieved through the establishment of a commonly agreed assessment method, assessment process, and a list of assessment attributes.
- Reducing resource and time requirements and avoiding duplication of efforts. (Partial) sharing of finalised assessments of standards and specifications.
- Allowing easier and faster assessments, and reusing the ones already performed through the creation and maintenance of a library of standards.

Your compliance level of the specification assessed depends on the scores you achieved in each section of the survey. Please see below the survey score conversion table below for guidance.

Section	Compliance Level				
	Ad-hoc	Opportunistic	Essential	Sustainable	Seamless
Principles setting the context for EU Actions on Interoperability	20	40	50	80	90
EIF Core Interoperability Principles	0 to 440	441 to 880	881 to 1320	1321 to 1760	1761 to 2200
EIF Principles Related to generic user needs and expectations	0 to 100	101 to 200	201 to 300	301 to 400	401 to 500
EIF Foundation principles for cooperation among public	0 to 100	101 to 200	201 to 300	301 to 400	401 to 500

administrations

EIF

Interoperability Layers

0 to 220

221 to 440

441 to 660

661 to 880

881 to 1100

The following table shows the 'compliance levels' that a specification can reach depending on the assessment score.

Compliance Level	Description
Ad-hoc	Poor level of conformance with the EIF - The specification does not cover the requirements and recommendations set out by the EIF in this area.
Opportunistic	Fair level of conformance with the EIF - The specification barely covers the requirements and recommendations set out by the European Interoperability Framework in this area.
Essential	Essential level of conformance with the EIF - The specification covers the basic aspects set out in the requirement and recommendations from the European Interoperability Framework.
Sustainable	Good level of conformance with the EIF scenario - The specification covers all the requirements and recommendations set out by the European Interoperability Framework in this area.
Seamless	Leading practice of conformance level with the EIF - The specification fully covers the requirements and recommendations set out by the European Interoperability Framework in this area.

Contact: For any general or technical questions, please send an email to DIGIT-CAMSS@ec.europa.eu. Follow all activities related to the CAMSS on our [CAMSS community page](#).

USER CONSENT

Disclaimer:

By no means will the Interoperability Specification assessment imply any endorsement of the EC to the assessed specification. Likewise, The use of CAMSS Tool implies that the user accepts that the EC is not liable on the assessment nor on any direct or indirect consequence/decision of such assesment.

CAMSS Tools are based on EU Survey, by accepting the CAMSS Privacy Statment the user also accepts EU Survey [Privacy Statement](#) and the [Terms of use](#).

* Please, fill in the mandatory* information to start the assessment

- *I have read and agreed to the following CAMSS Privacy Statement: [here](#)
- I agree to be contacted for evaluation purposes, namely to share my feedback on specific DEP solutions and actions and on the DEP programme and the European Interoperability Framework in general.

This assessment tool is licensed under the [European Union Public License \(EUPL\)](#)

IDENTIFICATION

Information on the information provider

Your Last name

CAMSS Team

Your First Name

Your Position / Role

* Your Organisation

European Commission DG DIGIT

Your Contact phone number

* Would you like to be contacted for evaluation purposes in the context of your assessment? To see how your data is handled, please check again the Privacy statement [here](#)

In case you would like to be contacted, please select "yes" and provide your email.

- Yes
 No

Contact Email

DIGIT-CAMSS@eu.europa.eu

* Where did you learn about CAMSS?

- DEP Programme (DEP website, DEP social media)
 Joinup (e.g., CAMSS Collection, Joinup social media)
 European Commission
 Public Administrations at national, regional or local level
 Standards Developing Organizations (SDOs)
 Other

If you answered "Other" in the previous question, please specify how:

Information on the specification

* Specification type

- Specification
- Standard
- Application Profile
- Family of Specification

* Title of the specification

Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics (NUTS)

* Version of the specification

1.9

* Description of the specification

The Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) is a geographical nomenclature that subdivides the economic territory of the European Union (EU) and other non-EU Member States into regions at three different levels (NUTS 1, NUTS 2 and NUTS 3).

* URL from where the specification is distributed

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/history>

* Name and website of the standard developing/setting organisation (SDO/SSO) of the specification

- W3C (<https://www.w3.org>)
- OASIS (<https://www.oasis-open.org/>)
- IEEE (<https://standards.ieee.org/>)
- ETSI (<https://www.etsi.org/>)
- GS1 (<https://www.gs1.fr/>)
- openEHR (<https://www.openehr.org/>)
- IETF (<https://www.ietf.org/>)
- Other (SDO/SSO)

* In case of Other SDO, please, provide its name:

European Commission (EUROSTAT)

* and, provide its URL:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/main/home>

Contact information/contact person of the SDO

a) for the organisation

b) for the specification submitted

Information on the assessment of the specification

Reason for the submission, the need and intended use for the specification

If any other evaluation of this specification is known, e.g. by member states or European Commission projects, provide a link to this evaluation.

Considerations

Is the functional area of application for the formal specification addressing interoperability and eGovernment?

YES

NO

Additional Info

NUTS addresses interoperability in what respects statistical and geospatial information at European level, and contributes to the development of specific policies.

EIF PRINCIPLES SETTING THE CONTEXT FOR EU ACTIONS ON INTEROPERABILITY

This category is related to the first underlying principle ([UP](#)) of the EIF Subsidiarity and Proportionality (UP1). The basis of this principle is to ensure that the EU Actions are taken or stated to improve national actions or decisions. Specifically, it aims to know if National Interoperability Frameworks are aligned with the EIF.

Please note that some of the questions have a prefilled answer depending on the SDO. To ensure it, please see that these questions include a help message that remarks it.

Subsidiarity and Proportionality

*** A1 - To what extent has the specification been included in a national catalogue from a Member State whose National Interoperability Framework has a high performance on interoperability according to National Interoperability Framework Observatory factsheets?**

EIF Recommendation 1: Ensure that national interoperability frameworks and interoperability strategies are aligned with the EIF and, if needed, tailor and extend them to address the national context and needs.

This criterion assesses if the specifications have been included within the National Catalogues of Specifications of the Member States that are highly aligned with the higher level of performance in terms of interoperability.

The Digital Public Administration Factsheets uses three categories to evaluate the level of National Interoperability frameworks in accordance with the EIF. The three categories are 1. CONCEPTUAL MODEL FOR INTEGRATED PUBLIC SERVICES PROVISION; 2 INTEROPERABILITY LAYERS, and 3. INTEROPERABILITY PRINCIPLES. National Interoperability Frameworks reports can be found here: <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/nifo-national-interoperability-framework-observatory/digital-public-administration-factsheets-2020>

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification has not been included within the catalogue of any Member State.
- The specification has been included within the catalogue of a Member State with a lower performance than stated in the Digital Public Administration Factsheets from the NIFO.
- The specification has been included within the catalogue of a Member State with a middle-lower performance than stated in the Digital Public Administration Factsheets from the NIFO.
- The specification has been included within the catalogue of a Member State with a middle-upper performance than stated in the Digital Public Administration Factsheets from the NIFO.
- The specification has been included within the catalogue of a Member State with a higher performance than stated in the Digital Public Administration Factsheets from the NIFO.

*** Justification**

NUTS is included within a national catalogue of recommended specifications. It belongs to Ireland. The National Interoperability Framework (NIF) of this Member State is partially aligned with the European Interoperability Framework (EIF) according to the National Interoperability Framework Observatory (NIFO) factsheets. There is middle-low performance in the Interoperability Governance, Legal and Organisational layers, and there exist some shortcuts in the Conceptual Model with regards to Internal Information sources and services, Base Registries and the conceptual model, compared to the EU average.

National catalogue Ireland:

<https://data.gov.ie/pages/opendatatechnicalframework#recommended-standards-for-open-data>

NIFO factsheets:

<https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/nifo-national-interoperability-framework-observatory/digital-public-administration-factsheets-2021>

EIF CORE INTEROPERABILITY PRINCIPLES

In this category, elements related to the core interoperability principles (UP) are encompassed, which are: openness (UP 2), transparency (UP3), reusability (UP4), technological neutrality, and data portability (UP5).

Openness

* A2 - Does the specification facilitate the publication of open data?

EIF Recommendation 2: Publish the data you own as open data unless certain restrictions apply

Relates to the ability of the specification to publish data as open data or not.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

The purpose of NUTS is not related to facilitating the publication of open data. Therefore, this criterion is not applicable to this specification.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

* A3 - To what extent do stakeholders have the opportunity to contribute to the development of the specification?

EIF Recommendation 3: Ensure a level playing field for open-source software and demonstrate active and fair consideration of using open source software, taking into account the total cost of ownership of the solution.

Relates to in which measure the different stakeholders that a specification can benefit have the opportunity to participate in the working groups focused on the development of certain specifications.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- There is no information on the working group of the specification.
- The working group is open to participation by any stakeholder but requires registration, fees, and membership approval.
- The working group is open to participation by any stakeholder but requires fees and membership approval.
- The working group is open to participation following a registration process.
- The working group is open to all without specific fees, registration, or other conditions.

* Justification

The EUROSTAT (European Commission) is in charge of maintaining and publishing each of the three NUTS levels. The specification is upgraded by national, regional and local administrations and representatives of the Member States in collaboration with the European Commission. However, contributions are not always available (see EUROSTAT-NUTS latest amendments reference, History of NUTS section, NUTS 2021 XLS

document).

European Parliament reference:

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/99/la-nomenclatura-comun-de-unidades-territoriales-estadisticas-nuts->

EUROSTAT-NUTS latest amendments reference, History of NUTS section, NUTS 2021 XLS document:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/history>

* A4 - To what extent is a public review part of the release lifecycle?

EIF Recommendation 3: Ensure a level playing field for open-source software and demonstrate active and fair consideration of using open source software, taking into account the total cost of ownership of the solution.

A public review consists of the public availability of the specification's draft for stakeholders to provide inputs for the improvement and fix of possible bugs.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- Specification releases do not foresee public reviews.
- Public review is applied to certain releases depending on the involved changes.
- All major releases foresee a public review.
- All major and minor releases foresee a public review but, during which, collected feedback is not publicly visible.
- All major and minor releases foresee a public review during which collected feedback is publicly visible.

* Justification

NUTS releases do not foresee public reviews. Any amendment to the NUTS classification is a Member States' competence (see European Commission reference, Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 document, provision 13). In case of any revision concerning the NUTS classification, the Member State in question has to replace historical data set by time series according to the new classification within a two-years period (see European Commission reference, Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 document, Article 2(5)). EU adoption of the new classification and its duration are subject to a feasibility evaluation.

EUROSTAT reference, History of NUTS section:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/history>

European Commission reference, Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 document, provision 13:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1405939838475&uri=CELEX:32003R1059>

* A5 - Is the specification available with any restrictions related to Fair, Reasonable, and Non-Discriminatory ((F)RAND)?

EIF Recommendation 3: Ensure a level playing field for open-source software and demonstrate active and fair consideration of using open source software, taking into account the total cost of ownership of the solution.

The FRAND basis relates to fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory IPR disclosures.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO

YES

* Justification

The NUTS classification has been developed by a large community within the European Commission (EC) and all the EC patents are available with any restrictions related to (F)RAND.

European Commission reference, Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 document:
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1405939838475&uri=CELEX:32003R1059>

* **A6 - Is the specification licensed on a royalty-free basis?**

EIF Recommendation 3: Ensure a level playing field for open-source software and demonstrate active and fair consideration of using open source software, taking into account the total cost of ownership of the solution.

Additionally to the EIF's recommendation that refers to open-source software it applies to a specification in itself at any interoperability level (legal, organisational, semantic, or technical)

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

The NUTS classification has been developed by a large community within the European Commission (EC) and all the EC patents are available with any restrictions related to royalty-free basis.

EC reference, Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 document:
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1405939838475&uri=CELEX:32003R1059>

* **A7 - To what extent is the specification sufficiently mature for its use in the development of digital solutions/services?**

EIF Recommendation 4: Give preference to open specifications, taking due account of the coverage of functional needs, maturity and market support, and innovation.

Maturity related to the stability of the specification, meaning that it has been evolved enough and mechanisms for its development have been put in place (Change Management processes, monitoring, etc.)

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification has no published releases and no publicly accessible information on its development state.
- The specification is under development without published releases.
- The specification is under development with published preview releases.
- The specification has published major releases but without public documentation on its supporting processes (e.g. change management and release management).
- The specification, in addition to having major releases available, has published documentation on its supporting processes (e.g. change management and release management).

* Justification

NUTS started to be used within the European Union's territory as a reference coding system in 1999, although its use dates back to the 1970's (see EUROSTAT reference, History of NUTS section, 'NUTS 1981 - MUTS 1999' document). This specification has gone through different amendments since 1999, some of these changes resulting from the adhesion of new Member States and the consequent addition of new codes. All the documentation on NUTS releases is publicly available (see EUROSTAT reference, History of NUTS section, NUTS versions documents).

EUROSTAT reference, History of NUTS section, 'NUTS 1981 - MUTS 1999' document:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/history>

EUROSTAT reference, History of NUTS section, NUTS versions documents:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/history>

*** A8 - To what extent has the specification sufficient market acceptance for its use in the development of digital solutions/services?**

EIF Recommendation 4: Give preference to open specifications, taking due account of the coverage of functional needs, maturity and market support, and innovation.

Relates to how the specification is supported by the market, taking as a reference whether or not the specifications are widely used or implemented. There is an exception, and it is when the specification is being used to create innovative solutions.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable - The specification does not have market acceptance because it is directly used to create innovative solutions.
- There is no information about the specification's market uptake.
- The specification has known implementations but not enough to indicate market acceptance.
- The specification has widespread use indicating market acceptance.
- The specification has widespread use and relevant independent reports proving its market acceptance.
- The specification has widespread use, indicating market acceptance.

*** Justification**

NUTS provides a statistical specification to address the needs for data harmonisation in terms of conducting surveys, applying policies and comparing data across the European Union. The specification should not be confused with the Administrative Territorial Unit (ATU) which is another specification representing the subdivisions of a country, mainly focuses on administrative purposes.

EC reference, Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 document:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1405939838475&uri=CELEX:32003R1059>

ATU-Joinup reference, About Administrative territorial unit type:

<https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/eu-semantic-interoperability-catalogue/solution/administrative-territorialunit-type/about>

*** A9 - To what extent has the specification support from at least one community?**

EIF Recommendation 3: Ensure a level playing field for open-source software and demonstrate active and fair consideration of using open source software, taking into account the total cost of ownership of the solution.

Related to whether or not communities are surrounding the specification at any level legal, organisational, semantic, or technical contributions to its enhancement and development.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- There is no community linked to the specification.
- Specification support is available but as part of a closed community requiring registration and possibly fees.
- There is no specific community to support the specification but there are public channels for the exchange of help and knowledge among its users.
- There is a community providing public support linked to the specification but in a best-effort manner.
- There is a community tasked to provide public support linked to the specification and manage its maintenance.

* Justification

Only Member States, in collaboration with the European Commission, are in charge of submitting any amendment on the NUTS classification. Therefore, NUTS has support from several communities which provide public support and manage its maintenance.

European Commission reference, Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 document, Article 5:
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1405939838475&uri=CELEX:32003R1059>

Transparency

* **A10 - To what extent does the specification enable the visibility of administrative procedures, rules data, and services?**

EIF Recommendation 5: Ensure internal visibility and provide external interfaces for European public services.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification hinders visibility.
- The specification neither promotes nor hinders visibility.
- The specification can contribute and promote the visibility of administrations, but it is not its main purpose.
- The specification can enable the visibility of administrations if combined with other specifications.
- The specification actively promotes and supports visibility.

* Justification

The purpose of NUTS is not related to the visibility of administrative procedures, rules data and services. Therefore, this criterion is not applicable to this specification.

EUROSTAT reference, History of NUTS section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/history>

* **A11 - To what extent does the specification scope comprehensibly administrative procedures, rules data, and services?**

EIF Recommendation 5: Ensure internal visibility and provide external interfaces for European public services.

- Not Answered

- Not Applicable
- The specification hinders comprehensibility.
- The specification neither promotes nor hinders comprehensibility.
- The specification can contribute and promote the comprehensibility of administrations, but it is not its main purpose.
- The specification can scope the comprehensibility of administrations if combined with other specifications.
- The specification actively promotes and supports comprehensibility.

* Justification

NUTS can contribute to the comprehensibility of administrative procedures, rules data and services, since this classification narrowly reflects the territorial administrative division of the Member States and supports the availability of data and the capacity to implement national and European policies by using interactive maps like the GISCO's database, which eases the understanding of these divisions.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

GISCO's database reference:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/gisco>

*** A12 - To what extent does the specification enable the exposure of interfaces to access the public administration's services?**

EIF Recommendation 5: Ensure internal visibility and provide external interfaces for European public services.

Relates to ensuring availability of interfaces with internal information systems. As the EIF defines: *Public administrations operate a large number of what are often heterogeneous and disparate information systems in support of their internal processes. Interoperability depends on ensuring the availability of interfaces to these systems and the data they handle. In turn, interoperability facilitates the reuse of systems and data and enables these to be integrated into larger systems.*

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification prevents the exposure of such interfaces.
- The specification neither promotes nor hinders the exposure of such interfaces.
- The specification can contribute to the exposure of interfaces, but it is not its main purpose.
- The specification can enable the exposure of interfaces if combined with other specifications.
- The specification enables exposure of such interfaces.

* Justification

NUTS was conceived for statistical and decision-making purposes. At the time being the specification can contribute to overcome interoperability barriers and enable the exposure of such interfaces. No evidence was found on this regard; however, in future Regulations, the specification may contribute to the exposure of internal information systems within the GEOSTAT initiative.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

EUROSTAT-GISCO reference, GEOSTAT initiative:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/gisco/gisco-activities/integrating-statistics-geospatial-information/geostat-initiative>

*** A13 - To what extent does the specification ensure the protection of personal data managed by Public Administrations?**

EIF Recommendation 5: Ensure internal visibility and provide external interfaces for European public services.

Securing the right to the protection of personal data, by respecting the applicable legal framework for the large volumes of personal data of citizens, held and managed by Public administrations.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification hinders the protection of personal data.
- The specification does not address the protection of personal data but neither prevents it.
- The specification includes certain data protection considerations but without being exhaustive.
- The specification explicitly addresses data protection but without referring to relevant regulations.
- The specification explicitly addresses data protection and its alignment to relevant regulations.

*** Justification**

The purpose of NUTS is not related to the protection of personal data in Public Administrations. Therefore, this criterion is not applicable to this specification.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

Reusability

*** A14 - To what extent is the specification usable beyond the business-specific domain, allowing its usage across business domains?**

EIF Recommendation 6: Reuse and share solutions, and cooperate in the development of joint solutions when implementing European public services.

Relates to the use of the specification beyond a specific business domain. E.g. a specification developed under the eHealth domain that can be used in other domains or not.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification is tied to a specific domain and is restricted from being used in other domains.
- The specification is associated with a specific domain but its use in other domains is difficult.
- The specification is associated with a specific domain but could be partially used in other domains.
- The specification is associated with a specific domain but could be used 'as-is' to other domains.
- The specification is domain-agnostic, designed to be used in any domain.

*** Justification**

NUTS was originally created to be used in a statistical environment and its field of application is not expected to change in the short term. However, NUTS could be used 'as-is' to other domains, in the sense

that territorial divisions are also interesting in other statistical research areas like tourism (see NUTS tourism-application reference), and not only limited to the fields of policy and demography.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

NUTS tourism-application reference:
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0047287520979673>

*** A15 - To what extent is the specification usable beyond the business-specific domain, allowing its implementation across business domains?**

EIF Recommendation 6: Reuse and share solutions, and cooperate in the development of joint solutions when implementing European public services.

Relates to the use of the specification beyond a specific business domain. E.g. a specification developed under the eHealth domain that can be used in other domains or not.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification is tied to a specific domain and is restricted from being implemented in other domains.
- The specification is associated with a specific domain but its implementation in other domains is difficult.
- The specification is associated with a specific domain but could be partially implemented in other domains.
- The specification is associated with a specific domain but could be implemented 'as-is' to other domains.
- The specification is domain-agnostic, designed to be implemented in any domain.

*** Justification**

NUTS was originally created to be used in a statistical environment and its field of application is not expected to change in the short term. However, NUTS could be implemented 'as-is' to other domains, in the sense that territorial divisions are also interesting in other statistical research areas, and not only limited to the fields of policy and demography. At the time being, there is no reference to any implementation use case of the NUTS specification.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

Technological Neutrality and Data Portability

*** A16 - Is the specification technology agnostic?**

EIF Recommendation 8: Do not impose any technological solutions on citizens, businesses, and other administrations that are technology-specific or disproportionate to their real needs

Relates to the dependency of the specification to be implemented without relying on specific technologies or platforms.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO

YES

* Justification

NUTS introduced the ISO 2-letter codes in 1999, a specification designating country codes (for example, BE3 for the Walloon region in Belgium, where BE corresponds to the ISO-2 letter code of Belgium) (see EUROSTAT reference, History of NUTS section, 'NUTS 1981 - MUTS 1999' document). However, the NUTS classification is not dependent on the ISO 2 specification, and the UK code ('UK') is a clear counterexample to the ISO standard ('GB' according to ISO 2). Therefore, NUTS is technology-agnostic.

EUROSTAT reference, History of NUTS section, 'NUTS 1981 - MUTS 1999' document:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/history>

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

* A17 - Is the specification platform agnostic?

EIF Recommendation 8: Do not impose any technological solutions on citizens, businesses, and other administrations that are technology-specific or disproportionate to their real needs

Relates to the dependency of the specification to be implemented without relying on specific technologies or platforms.

- Not Answered
 Not Applicable
 NO
 YES

* Justification

NUTS classification is not dependent on any other specification, operating system or web platform; therefore, NUTS is platform-agnostic.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

* A18 - To what extent does the specification allow for partial implementations?

EIF Recommendation 8: Do not impose any technological solutions on citizens, businesses, and other administrations that are technology-specific or disproportionate to their real needs.

Partial implementations refer to the application of specifications, not in their whole, but part of the requirements or features it defines in the text.

It can also be understood as the implementation of different profiles, which is also related to a certain set of requirements depending on the context of implementation.

- Not Answered
 Not Applicable
 The specification is only meant to be used as a whole.
 The specification could be partially implemented but does not make specific provisions towards this.

The specification could be partially implemented but includes only guidelines towards this rather than sets of requirements.

- The specification explicitly foresees sets of requirements that can be implemented incrementally.
- The specification explicitly foresees sets of requirements that can be implemented incrementally or separately.

* Justification

NUTS is intended to serve as a device to identify administrative zones in the EU and beyond the EU borders. There is no possibility of partial implementation of the specification, as NUTS has a single purpose.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

* **A19 - Does the specification allow customisation?**

EIF Recommendation 8: Do not impose any technological solutions on citizens, businesses, and other administrations that are technology-specific or disproportionate to their real needs.

A clear example of customizations is Core Vocabularies, which define a set of general requirements that could fit in any context and allow for the customization to fit specific business requirements in the implementation.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

NUTS is intended to serve as a device to identify administrative zones in the EU and beyond the EU borders. There is no possibility of tailoring NUTS coding system, nor any kind of authorising process is allowed, as NUTS was conceived for a unique purpose.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

* **A20 - Does the specification allow extension?**

EIF Recommendation 8: Do not impose any technological solutions on citizens, businesses, and other administrations that are technology-specific or disproportionate to their real needs.

A clear example of customizations is Core Vocabularies, which define a set of general requirements that could fit in any context and allow for the customization to fit specific business requirements in the implementation.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

NUTS is intended to serve as a device to identify administrative zones in the EU and non-EU regions. There is no possibility to extend the coding system as NUTS was conceived for a unique purpose.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

*** A21 - To what extent does the specification enable data portability between systems/applications supporting the implementation of European public services?**

EIF Recommendation 9: Ensure data portability, namely that data is easily transferable between systems and applications supporting the implementation and evolution of European public services without unjustified restrictions, if legally possible.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification prevents or does not support data portability.
- The specification neither addresses data portability nor prevents it.
- The specification addresses data portability but without specific provisions to enable it.
- The specification introduces certain aspects that can contribute to enabling data portability.
- The specification explicitly addresses and enables data portability.

*** Justification**

The purpose of NUTS is not related to data portability. Therefore, this criterion is not applicable to this specification.

EUROSTAT reference, History of NUTS section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/history>

*** A22 - To what extent does the specification enable data portability between systems/applications supporting the evolution of European public services?**

EIF Recommendation 9: Ensure data portability, namely that data is easily transferable between systems and applications supporting the implementation and evolution of European public services without unjustified restrictions, if legally possible.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification prevents or does not support data portability.
- The specification neither addresses data portability nor prevents it.
- The specification addresses data portability but without specific provisions to enable it.
- The specification introduces certain aspects that can contribute to enabling data portability.
- The specification explicitly addresses and enables data portability.

*** Justification**

The purpose of NUTS is not related to data portability. Therefore, this criterion is not applicable to this specification.

EUROSTAT reference, History of NUTS section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/history>

EIF PRINCIPLES RELATED TO GENERIC USER NEEDS AND EXPECTATIONS

This category includes all underlying principles from the EIF which are related to user needs. Principles included here are user-centricity (UP6), inclusion and accessibility (UP7), security and privacy (UP8), and multilingualism (UP9).

User-Centricity

*** A23 - To what extent does the specification allow relevant information to be reused when needed?**

EIF Recommendation 13: As far as possible under the legislation in force, ask users of European public services once-only and relevant-only information.

The Once-Only Principle is related to making the operations or transactions between administrations and stakeholders more efficient. It implies avoiding the provision of certain data or information twice or more when this information is already available for public administrations.

Additional and relevant information can be found here: <https://ec.europa.eu/cefdigital/wiki/display/CEFDIGITAL/Once+Only+Principle>

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- Information needs to be provided whenever this is needed.
- There is limited reuse of provided information.
- Provided information is reused, but this is not consistently done.
- Provided information is reused, but not in all scenarios.
- Information is provided once-only and reused as needed.

*** Justification**

The purpose of NUTS is not related to the implementation of the once-only principle. Therefore, this criterion does not apply to this specification.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

Inclusion and Accessibility

*** A24 - To what extent does the specification enable the e-accessibility?**

EIF Recommendation 14: Ensure that all European public services are accessible to all citizens, including persons with disabilities, the elderly, and other disadvantaged groups. For digital public services, public administrations should comply with e-accessibility specifications that are widely recognised at the European or international level.

Examples of specifications addressing e-accessibility are, for instance, WAI-ARIA (<https://www.w3.org/WAI>)

[/standards-guidelines/aria/](#)) included within Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) Overview (<https://www.w3.org/WAI/standards-guidelines/wcag/>).

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification prevents or does not support e-accessibility.
- The specification neither addresses e-accessibility nor prevents it.
- The specification can contribute and promote e-accessibility, but it is not its main purpose.
- The specification can enable e-accessibility if combined with other specifications.
- The specification explicitly addresses and enables e-accessibility.

* Justification

The purpose of NUTS is not related to e-accessibility. Therefore, this criterion does not apply to this specification.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

Security and Privacy

* **A25 - To what extent does the specification enable the secure exchange of data?**

EIF Recommendation 15: Define common security and privacy framework and establish processes for public services to ensure secure and trustworthy data exchange between public administrations and in interactions with citizens and businesses.

Relates to the actions that Public Administrations establish concerning sensitive information for the proper delivery of public services. The different actions imply the reception, classification, and exchange of such information.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification prevents or does not support the secure and trustworthy exchange of data.
- The specification introduces certain aspects that can contribute to enabling the secure exchange of data.
- The specification addresses data security and trustworthy data exchange but does not foresee specific provisions to enable them.
- The specification addresses data security and trustworthy data exchange but specific provisions to enable them are limited.
- The specification explicitly addresses and enables the secure and trustworthy exchange of data.

* Justification

The purpose of NUTS is not related to the secure exchange of data. Therefore, this criterion does not apply to this specification.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

* **A26 - To what extent does the specification enable the secure processing of data?**

EIF Recommendation 15: Define common security and privacy framework and establish processes for public services to ensure secure and trustworthy data exchange between public administrations and in interactions with citizens and businesses.

Relates to the actions that Public Administrations establish concerning sensitive information for the proper delivery of public services. The different actions imply the reception, classification, and exchange of such information.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification prevents or does not support the secure and trustworthy processing of data.
- The specification introduces certain aspects that can contribute to enabling the secure processing of data.
- The specification addresses data security and trustworthy data processing but does not foresee specific provisions to enable them.
- The specification addresses data security and trustworthy data processing but specific provisions to enable them are limited.
- The specification explicitly addresses and enables the secure and trustworthy processing of data.

* Justification

The purpose of NUTS is not related to the secure processing of data. Therefore, this criterion does not apply to this specification.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

Multilingualism

* **A27 - To what extent could the specification be used in a multilingual context?**

EIF Recommendation 16: Use information systems and technical architectures that cater to multilingualism when establishing a European public service. Decide on the level of multilingualism support based on the needs of the expected users.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification cannot be used in a multilingual context.
- The specification could be used in a multilingual context but has no specific provisions to facilitate this.
- The specification foresees limited support for multilingualism.
- The specification foresees support for multilingualism but this is not complete.
- The specification is designed to fully support multilingualism.

* Justification

NUTS could be used in a multilingual context beyond a statistical purpose. The specification could be useful in determining the linguistic and dialectical areas when establishing a specific European public service.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

EIF FOUNDATION PRINCIPLES FOR COOPERATION AMONG PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIONS

This category includes the criteria aiming to evaluate principles related to collaboration amongst public organisations, business, and citizens. This is related to the underlying principles of administrative simplification (UP10), preservation of information (UP11), and assessment of effectiveness and efficiency (UP12).

Administrative Simplification

* A28 - Does the specification simplify the delivery of European public services?

EIF Recommendation 17: Simplify processes and use digital channels whenever appropriate for the delivery of European public services, to respond promptly and with high quality to users' requests and reduce the administrative burden on public administrations, businesses and citizens.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

In the context of the implementation of the persistent URI policy for EU institutions, NUTS contributes to the simplification of delivery of European public services as the NUTS classification allows to link data files (datasets) to a specific region, enhancing data discovery within the EU via HTTP scheme.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

ISA Programme-Joinup reference, 'Revise the NUTS RDF model' document:
<https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/semantic-interoperability-community-semic/document/supporting-implementation-persistent-uri-policy-eu-institutions>

* A29 - Does the specification enable digital service delivery channels?

EIF Recommendation 17: Simplify processes and use digital channels whenever appropriate for the delivery of European public services, to respond promptly and with high quality to users' requests and reduce the administrative burden on public administrations, businesses and citizens.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

The purpose of NUTS is not related to enabling digital service delivery channels. Therefore, this criterion does not apply to this specification.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

Preservation of Information

* A30 - To what extent does the specification enable the long-term preservation of data/information /knowledge (electronic records included)?

EIF Recommendation 18: Formulate a long-term preservation policy for information related to European public services and especially for information that is exchanged across borders.

Relates to the capacity of the specification to contribute to the long-term preservation of information.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification prevents or does not support long-term preservation.
- The specification neither addresses the long-term preservation nor prevents it.
- The specification addresses the long-term preservation of electronic resources (information, data, etc) in a limited manner.
- The specification addresses long-term preservation of electronic resources (information, data, etc), but not in a complete manner.
- The specification explicitly addresses and enables long-term preservation.

* Justification

The purpose of NUTS is not related to enabling the long-term preservation of data, information nor knowledge. Therefore, this criterion does not apply to this specification.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

Assessment of Effectiveness and Efficiency

* A31 - To what extent are there assessments of the specification's effectiveness?

EIF Recommendation 19: Evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of different interoperability solutions and technological options considering user needs, proportionality, and balance between costs and benefits.

Related to the degree to which the specification is effective while using it. There are indirect methods to determine that the specification is effective, for instance then a solution that has an effective performance and uses the specification to deliver the expected service.

Effectiveness: *the extent to which the specifications reach the expected action according to its purpose.*

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- There are no such assessments.

- There are such assessments that indirectly address the specification.
- There are such assessments evaluating digital solutions' effectiveness that involve the specification.
- There are such assessments addressing the specification and its effectiveness together with other specifications.
- There are such assessments directly addressing the specification.

* Justification

There is no evidence of available studies directly assessing the specification's effectiveness. However, there are some use case evaluations submitted by (non-)European administrations where effectiveness is analysed. It is the case of Croatia, which sponsored a study (through the Ekonomski institut, Zagreb) on the implementation of NUTS in its territory (see EconStor Publications reference, NUTS implementation document); and more specifically, on the implementation and suitability of NUTS level 2, which raised a lot of debate at the time of the study.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

EconStor Publications reference, Croatia's NUTS implementation document:
https://www.econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/115958/1/ERSA2003_096.pdf

Ekonomski institut reference, Ivana Rasic document authoring:
<https://www.eizg.hr/about-us/employees/researchers/ivana-rasic-phd/218>

* **A32 - To what extent are there assessments of the specification's efficiency?**

EIF Recommendation 19: Evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of different interoperability solutions and technological options considering user needs, proportionality, and balance between costs and benefits.

Related to the good use of time and resources not wasted unnecessarily by a specification being used. There are indirect methods to determine that the specification is efficient, for instance, a solution delivering a service with an efficient performance that uses the specification.

Efficiency: times and means needed to achieve the results using the specification.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- There are no such assessments.
- There are such assessments that indirectly address the specification.
- There are assessments evaluating digital solutions' efficiency that involve the specification.
- There are such assessments addressing the specification and its efficiency together with other specifications.
- There are such assessments directly addressing the specification.

* Justification

There is no evidence of available studies directly assessing the efficiency of this specification. However, there are some use case evaluations submitted by (non-)European administrations where effectiveness is analysed. It is the case of Scotland, which publicly depicted the implementation process of NUTS and explicitly shows the way in which the specification can be adapted to disparate territories.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

Scotland government reference, Scotland's NUTS implementation document:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/review-nomenclature-units-territorial-statistics-nuts-boundaries/>

EIF INTEROPERABILITY LAYERS

This category is aligned with the related interoperability models described in the EIF and apply to all the public services. It includes six layers: interoperability governance, integrated public service governance, legal interoperability, organisational interoperability, semantic interoperability, and technical interoperability covered by criteria A2 to A10 under the Openness category.

Interoperability Governance

*** A33 - Is the (or could it be) specification mapped to the European Interoperability Architecture (EIRA)?**

EIF Recommendation 20: Ensure holistic governance of interoperability activities across administrative levels and sectors.

The EIRA defines the required capabilities for promoting interoperability as a set of Architecture Building Blocks (ABBs). The association of specification to these ABBs means the capacity to enable Legal, Organisational, Semantic, or Technical aspects needed for the development of interoperable public services. This association can be taken from ELIS the EIRA Library of Interoperability Specifications (ELIS) but also can be established ad-hoc.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

*** Justification**

NUTS is already associated with EIRA ABBs in the EIRA Library Of Specifications (ELIS). More specifically, NUTS can define the interoperability aspects of the Controlled Vocabulary ABB of the EIRA Semantic View.

EIRA Library of Interoperability Specifications (ELIS):

<https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/common-assessment-method-standards-and-specifications-camss/solution/elis/release/v110>

*** A34 - To what extent can the conformance of the specification's implementations be assessed?**

EIF Recommendation 21: Put in place processes to select relevant standards and specifications, evaluate them, monitor their implementation, check compliance and test their interoperability.

Relates to the implementation of the specification being conformant with the requirements established in the text of the specification. There are different methods to ensure the conformance of an implementation: check manually if the implementation meets the requirements in the specification text (if any), use additional methods or resources provided to this purpose or use specific tools provided by the SDO developing the specification.



Not Answered

- Not Applicable
- The specification does not include a definition of conformance.
- The specification defines conformance but not as a set of measurable requirements.
- The specification defines conformance as requirements that can be measured manually.
- The specification defines conformance as requirements with resources to enable automated measurement.
- The specification is complemented by a conformance testing platform to allow testing of implementations.

* Justification

Criteria used to define NUTS codes do exist, but there is not a reference document to this end: 'NUTS 1981- NUTS 1999' and 'REGULATION (EC) No 1059/2003'.

EUROSTAT reference, History of NUTS section, 'NUTS 1981 - NUTS 1999' document, 'Structure of this document' section:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/history>

EUR-LEX reference, REGULATION (EC) No 1059/2003' document:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:02003R1059-20180118&qid=1519136753473>

* **A35 - Is the specification recommended by an European Member State?**

EIF Recommendation 23: Consult relevant catalogues of standards, specifications, and guidelines at the national and EU level, in accordance with your NIF and relevant DIFs, when procuring and developing ICT solutions.

Recommended specifications are these specifications that the Member States provide as examples for the implementation of certain digital public services or for being used when procuring these digital public services or solutions.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

There is only one Member State recommending NUTS in its ICT National Catalogue. This Member State is Ireland.

National catalogue Ireland:

<https://data.gov.ie/pages/opendatatechnicalframework#recommended-standards-for-open-data>

* **A36 - Is the specification selected for its use in an European Cross-border project/initiative?**

EIF Recommendation 23: Consult relevant catalogues of standards, specifications, and guidelines at national and EU level, in accordance with your NIF and relevant DIFs, when procuring and developing ICT solutions.

The European Commission set up a process for the identification and assessment of specifications for its use in the development of IT solutions and also when procuring them. Find here the commission implementing decisions that include the specifications identified by the European Commission: https://ec.europa.eu/growth/single-market/european-standards/ict-standardisation/ict-technical-specifications_en

Additionally, there could be other situations where a specification can be selected for European projects or initiatives out of the scope of the above-mentioned context. These specifications can be considered positively in this assessment.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

The NUTS classification counts for funding projects within the EU, that is the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus and the Cohesion Fund. Besides, the specification RDF model has been revised in 2018, so that it could be mapped to a European Legislation Identifier (ELI), and as a consequence the NUTS classification can be linked to other EU Vocabularies and used in other European cross-border initiatives.

EUR-LEX reference, COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2021/1130:
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32021D1130>

ISA Programme-Joinup reference, 'Revise the NUTS RDF model' document:
<https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/semantic-interoperability-community-semic/document/supporting-implementation-persistent-uri-policy-eu-institutions>

* **A37 - Is the specification included in an open repository/catalogue of standards at national level?**

EIF Recommendation 23: Consult relevant catalogues of standards, specifications, and guidelines at the national and EU level, in accordance with your NIF and relevant DIFs, when procuring and developing ICT solutions.

EIF Recommendation 6: Reuse and share solutions, and cooperate in the development of joint solutions when implementing European public services.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

The specification is included in 1 Member State' catalogue of recommended specifications. This Member State is Ireland.

National catalogue Ireland:
<https://data.gov.ie/pages/opendatatechnicalframework#recommended-standards-for-open-data>

CAMSS List of Standards:
<https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/common-assessment-method-standards-and-specifications-camss/camss-list-standards>

* **A38 - Is the specification included in an open repository/catalogue of standards at European level?**

EIF Recommendation 23: Consult relevant catalogues of standards, specifications, and guidelines at the national and EU level, in accordance with your NIF and relevant DIFs, when procuring and developing ICT solutions.

EIF Recommendation 6: Reuse and share solutions, and cooperate in the development of joint solutions when implementing European public services.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

NUTS is included in the Taxonomies EU Vocabularies repository of standards.

Publications Office, EU Vocabularies repository:
<https://op.europa.eu/en/web/eu-vocabularies/taxonomies>

Legal Interoperability

* **A39 - Is the specification a European Standard?**

EIF Recommendation 27: Ensure that legislation is screened by means of 'interoperability checks', to identify any barriers to interoperability. When drafting legislation to establish a European public service, seek to make it consistent with relevant legislation, perform a 'digital check', and consider data protection requirements.

European Standards are those standards developed by certain organisations dedicated to this purpose. CEN, CENELEC, and ETSI are the principal organisations and all of them are developing their standards under the basis of meeting the requirements established within the European Standardisation Regulation. CEN-CENELEC homepage: <https://www.cencenelec.eu/>

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

NUTS has been developed and deployed by the European Commission; therefore, the specification is a European Standard.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

Organisational Interoperability

* **A40 - Does the specification facilitate the modelling of business processes?**

EIF Recommendation 28: Document your business processes using commonly accepted modelling techniques and agree on how these processes should be aligned to deliver a European public service.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

NUTS designates geographical areas within a legal and institutional framework in which an administrative authority is empowered to take administrative or policy decisions. In this sense, the specification facilitates the modelling of business processes by defining administrative or policy requirements within a legal and institutional framework.

EUR-LEX reference, REGULATION (EC) No 1059/2003:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:02003R1059-20180118&qid=1519136753473>

* **A41 - To what extent does the specification facilitate organisational interoperability agreements?**

EIF Recommendation 29: Clarify and formalise your organisational relationships for establishing and operating European public services.

Relates to specifications' capacities to help and ease the creation and formalisation of Interoperability agreements. E.g. Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs), Services Level Agreements (SLAs).

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- The specification's definition hinders the drafting of such agreements.
- The specification makes no provisions that would facilitate the drafting of such agreements.
- The specification defines certain elements to facilitate such agreements.
- The specification defines most elements to facilitate such agreements.
- The specification explicitly identifies all elements to be used in drafting such agreements.

* Justification

NUTS facilitates organisational interoperability agreements as some of its elements are mappable to other EU Vocabularies elements through the European Legislation Identifier (ELI). However, provisions easing the drafting of such agreements are provided in auxiliary documentation (see ISA Programme-Joinup reference, 'Revise the NUTS RDF model' document).

ISA Programme-Joinup reference, 'Revise the NUTS RDF model' document:

<https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/semantic-interoperability-community-semic/document/supporting-implementation-persistent-uri-policy-eu-institutions>

Semantic Interoperability

* **A42 - Does the specification encourage the creation of communities along with the sharing of their data and results on national platforms?**

EIF Recommendation 32: Support the establishment of sector-specific and cross-sectoral communities that aim to create open information specifications and encourage relevant communities to share their results on national and European platforms.

Relates to specifications that are narrowly related to the data/information being exchanged, its format, and structure. It would allow a common method/mechanism to improve its reuse and exchange removing possible limitations. An example of it could be RDF, which is used to describe information and its metadata using specific syntax and serialisation.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

EUROSTAT (European Commission) ensures the maintenance of the NUTS classification. However, NUTS does not encourage the creation of communities nor does not promote the sharing of data and results in any national platform, except for some (non-)European states that have individually shared their data and results on their respective national platforms (see EconStor Publications reference, Croatia's NUTS implementation document, and Scotland government reference, Scotland's NUTS implementation document).

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Principles and Characteristics section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/principles-and-characteristics>

EconStor Publications reference, Croatia's NUTS implementation document:
https://www.econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/115958/1/ERSA2003_096.pdf

Scotland government reference, Scotland's NUTS implementation document:
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/review-nomenclature-units-territorial-statistics-nuts-boundaries/>

* **A43 - Does the specification encourage the creation of communities along with the sharing of their data and results on European platforms?**

EIF Recommendation 32: Support the establishment of sector-specific and cross-sectoral communities that aim to create open information specifications and encourage relevant communities to share their results on national and European platforms.

Relates to specifications that are narrowly related to the data/information being exchanged, its format, and structure. It would allow a common method/mechanism to improve its reuse and exchange removing possible limitations. An example of it could be RDF, which is used to describe information and its metadata using specific syntax and serialisation.

- Not Answered
- Not Applicable
- NO
- YES

* Justification

EUROSTAT makes available a Linked Open Data section where the European Commission publishes data and all kinds of statistical analysis based on the NUTS classification, encouraging the creation of

communities around the specification at European level.

EUROSTAT reference, NUTS Linked Open Data section:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nuts/linked-open-data>

Useful links

[CAMSS Joinup Page \(https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/common-assessment-method-standards-and-specifications-camss\)](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/common-assessment-method-standards-and-specifications-camss)

[CAMSS Library of Assessments \(https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/common-assessment-method-standards-and-specifications-camss/camss-assessments-library\)](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/common-assessment-method-standards-and-specifications-camss/camss-assessments-library)

[CAMSS Assessment EIF Scenario - User Guide \(https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/common-assessment-method-standards-and-specifications-camss/solution/camss-assessment-eif-scenario/camss-assessment-eif-scenario-quick-user-guide\)](https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/common-assessment-method-standards-and-specifications-camss/solution/camss-assessment-eif-scenario/camss-assessment-eif-scenario-quick-user-guide)

Contact

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CAMSS Assessment EIF Scenario v5.0.0 - Results

CAMSS Assessment Result

Thank you for your contribution.

The score of the specification related to the scenario under which it is being evaluated depends on the scores achieved in each section of the survey. Please see the example below for guidance.

The following table shows the 'compliance levels' that a specification can reach depending on the assessment score.

EIF Scenario Compliance Level Conversion Table

Section	Compliance Level				
	Ad-hoc	Opportunistic	Essential	Sustainable	Seamless
Principles setting the context for EU Actions on Interoperability	20	40	50	80	90
EIF Core Interoperability Principles	0 to 440	441 to 880	881 to 1320	1321 to 1760	1761 to 2200
EIF Principles Related to generic user needs and expectations	0 to 100	101 to 200	201 to 300	301 to 400	401 to 500

EIF Foundation principles for cooperation among public administrations

0 to 100 101 to 200 201 to 300 301 to 400 401 to 500

EIF Interoperability Layers

0 to 220 221 to 440 441 to 660 661 to 880 881 to 1100

The table below expresses the range of the score per section. When used in combination with the table above, the total score can be interpreted. See the example below for guidance.

Section Compliance Conversion Table

Compliance Level	Description
Ad-hoc	Poor level of conformance with the EIF - The specification does not cover the requirements and recommendations set out by the EIF in this area.
Opportunistic	Fair level of conformance with the EIF - The specification barely covers the requirements and recommendations set out by the European Interoperability Framework in this area.
Essential	Essential level of conformance with the EIF - The specification covers the basic aspects set out in the requirement and recommendations from the European Interoperability Framework.
Sustainable	Good level of conformance with the EIF scenario - The specification covers all the requirements and recommendations set out by the European Interoperability Framework in this area.
Seamless	Leading practice of conformance level with the EIF - The specification fully covers the requirements and recommendations set out by the European Interoperability Framework in this area.

Example – How to find the final Compliance Level

Using the score reached after the initial assessment, the interpretation can be made as follows.

1. In the summary table, observe the score for each section, e.g. EIF Core Interoperability Principles has 2200 points.
2. In the middle table – the Section Compliance Conversion Table – see that this number correlates to a column. In our example, the 2200 points of Core Interoperability Principles fall in the EIF Core Interoperability Principles row, and '1761 to 2200' point range, placing it in the column 'Compliance **Seamless**'.

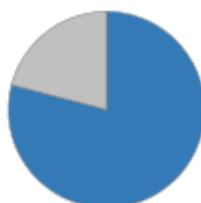
3. Next, in the top table – the EIF Scenario Compliance Level Conversion Table – we see Compliance Level "Seamless", and from its description that the specification for the EIF Core Interoperability Principles 'fully covers the requirements and recommendations set out by the European Interoperability Framework in this area.'

For additional calculation of the assessment strength, please follow the instruction provided in the User Guide, found [here](#).

Summary

Your Score 3400

Maximum Score 4300



Section	Score for this Section	
EIF PRINCIPLES SETTING THE CONTEXT FOR EU ACTIONS ON INTEROPERABILITY	60/100	
EIF CORE INTEROPERABILITY PRINCIPLES	1580/2100	
EIF PRINCIPLES RELATED TO GENERIC USER NEEDS AND EXPECTATIONS	440/500	
EIF FOUNDATION PRINCIPLES FOR COOPERATION AMONG PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIONS	400/500	
EIF INTEROPERABILITY LAYERS	920/1100	

Scores by Question

EIF PRINCIPLES SETTING THE CONTEXT FOR EU ACTIONS ON INTEROPERABILITY

Score for this Section: 60/100

A1 - To what extent has the specification been included in a national catalogue from a Member State whose National Interoperability Framework has a high performance on interoperability according to National Interoperability Framework Observatory factsheets?

Your answer The specification has been included within the catalogue of a Member State with a middle-lower performance than stated in the Digital Public Administration Factsheets from the NIFO.

60 out of 100 points



EIF CORE INTEROPERABILITY PRINCIPLES

Score for this Section: 1580/2100

A2 - Does the specification facilitate the publication of open data?

Your answer Not Applicable

100 out of 100 points



A3 - To what extent do stakeholders have the opportunity to contribute to the development of the specification?

Your answer There is no information on the working group of the specification.

20 out of 100 points



A4 - To what extent is a public review part of the release lifecycle?

Your answer Specification releases do not foresee public reviews.

20 out of 100 points



A5 - Is the specification available with any restrictions related to Fair, Reasonable, and Non-Discriminatory ((F)RAND)?

Your answer YES

100 out of 100 points



A6 - Is the specification licensed on a royalty-free basis?

Your answer YES

100
out of
100
points



A7 - To what extent is the specification sufficiently mature for its use in the development of digital solutions/services?

Your answer The specification, in addition to having major releases available, has published documentation on its supporting processes (e.g. change management and release management).

100
out of
100
points



A8 - To what extent has the specification sufficient market acceptance for its use in the development of digital solutions/services?

Your answer The specification has widespread use, indicating market acceptance.

100
out of
100
points



A9 - To what extent has the specification support from at least one community?

Your answer There is a community tasked to provide public support linked to the specification and manage its maintenance.

100
out of
100
points



A10 - To what extent does the specification enable the visibility of administrative procedures, rules data, and services?

Your answer Not Applicable

100
out of
100
points



A11 - To what extent does the specification scope comprehensibly administrative procedures, rules data, and services?

Your answer The specification can contribute and promote the comprehensibility of administrations, but it is not its main purpose.

60
out of
100
points



A12 - To what extent does the specification enable the exposure of interfaces to access the public administration's services?

Your answer The specification can contribute to the exposure of interfaces, but it is not its main purpose.

60
out of
100
points



A13 - To what extent does the specification ensure the protection of personal data managed by Public Administrations?

Your answer Not Applicable

100
out of
100
points



A14 - To what extent is the specification usable beyond the business-specific domain, allowing its usage across business domains?

Your answer The specification is associated with a specific domain but could be used 'as-is' to other domains.

80
out of
100
points



A15 - To what extent is the specification usable beyond the business-specific domain, allowing its implementation across business domains?

Your answer The specification is associated with a specific domain but could be implemented 'as-is' to other domains.

80
out of
100
points



A16 - Is the specification technology agnostic?

Your answer YES

100
out of
100
points



A17 - Is the specification platform agnostic?

Your answer YES

100
out of
100
points



A18 - To what extent does the specification allow for partial implementations?

Your answer The specification is only meant to be used as a whole.

20
out of
100
points



A19 - Does the specification allow customisation?

Your **✗** NO
answer

20
out of
100
points



A20 - Does the specification allow extension?

Your **✗** NO
answer

20
out of
100
points



A21 - To what extent does the specification enable data portability between systems/applications supporting the implementation of European public services?

Your **✓** Not Applicable
answer

100
out of
100
points



A22 - To what extent does the specification enable data portability between systems/applications supporting the evolution of European public services?

Your **✓** Not Applicable
answer

100
out of
100
points



EIF PRINCIPLES RELATED TO GENERIC USER NEEDS AND EXPECTATIONS

Score for this Section: 440/500

A23 - To what extent does the specification allow relevant information to be reused when needed?

Your **✓** Not Applicable
answer

100
out of
100
points



A24 - To what extent does the specification enable the e-accessibility?

Your **✓** Not Applicable
answer

100
out of
100
points



A25 - To what extent does the specification enable the secure exchange of data?

Your answer Not Applicable

100
out of
100
points



A26 - To what extent does the specification enable the secure processing of data?

Your answer Not Applicable

100
out of
100
points



A27 - To what extent could the specification be used in a multilingual context?

Your answer The specification could be used in a multilingual context but has no specific provisions to facilitate this.

40
out of
100
points



EIF FOUNDATION PRINCIPLES FOR COOPERATION AMONG PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIONS

Score for this Section: 400/500

A28 - Does the specification simplify the delivery of European public services?

Your answer YES

100
out of
100
points



A29 - Does the specification enable digital service delivery channels?

Your answer Not Applicable

100
out of
100
points



A30 - To what extent does the specification enable the long-term preservation of data/information /knowledge (electronic records included)?

Your answer Not Applicable

100
out of
100
points



A31 - To what extent are there assessments of the specification's effectiveness?

Your answer There are such assessments evaluating digital solutions' effectiveness that involve the specification. 60 out of 100 points 

A32 - To what extent are there assessments of the specification's efficiency?

Your answer There are such assessments that indirectly address the specification. 40 out of 100 points 

EIF INTEROPERABILITY LAYERS

Score for this Section: 920/1100

A33 - Is the (or could it be) specification mapped to the European Interoperability Architecture (EIRA)?

Your answer YES 100 out of 100 points 

A34 - To what extent can the conformance of the specification's implementations be assessed?

Your answer The specification defines conformance as requirements that can be measured manually. 60 out of 100 points 

A35 - Is the specification recommended by an European Member State?

Your answer YES 100 out of 100 points 

A36 - Is the specification selected for its use in an European Cross-border project/initiative?

Your answer YES 100 out of 100 points 

A37 - Is the specification included in an open repository/catalogue of standards at national level?

Your answer YES 100 out of 100 points 

A38 - Is the specification included in an open repository/catalogue of standards at European level?

Your answer YES

100
out of
100
points



A39 - Is the specification a European Standard?

Your answer YES

100
out of
100
points



A40 - Does the specification facilitate the modelling of business processes?

Your answer YES

100
out of
100
points



A41 - To what extent does the specification facilitate organisational interoperability agreements?

Your answer The specification makes no provisions that would facilitate the drafting of such agreements.

40
out of
100
points



A42 - Does the specification encourage the creation of communities along with the sharing of their data and results on national platforms?

Your answer NO

20
out of
100
points



A43 - Does the specification encourage the creation of communities along with the sharing of their data and results on European platforms?

Your answer YES

100
out of
100
points



Contact DIGIT-CAMSS@ec.europa.eu

[CAMSS Joinup Page](#)

Useful links [CAMSS Library of Assessments](#)

[CAMSS Assessment EIF Scenario - User Guide](#)

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