isa

*Interoperability Solutions
for European Public Administrations*

JOINING UP GOVERNMENTS

EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Metadata Management Survey Results

Understanding the current state of affairs with regards to Metadata Management in the EU Member States
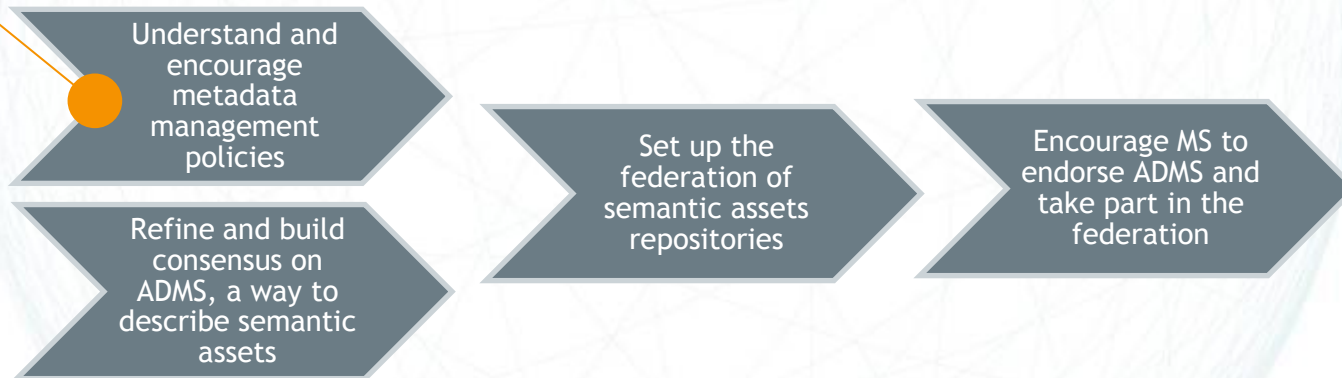
First draft

Context and objectives of the survey

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Context of the survey: metadata management

The survey was conducted in the Context of the semantic methodologies Action (**Action 1.1**) of the **Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations (ISA) Programme**.

Metadata Management Survey

Understand and encourage metadata management policies

Refine and build consensus on ADMS, a way to describe semantic assets

Set up the federation of semantic assets repositories

Encourage MS to endorse ADMS and take part in the federation

The survey was conducted online
http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=MetadataManagement&lang=en

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What is a semantic asset?

A collection of *highly reusable metadata (e.g. xml schemata, generic data models) and reference data (e.g. code lists, taxonomies, dictionaries, vocabularies) that are used for e-Government system development*.

What is metadata management ?

Metadata management refers to the good practice of adopting policies, processes, and systems to plan, perform, evaluate, and improve the use and re-use of semantic assets. It ensures that reference models and reference data are treated as valuable *assets*, stored or documented, easily retrievable, and accessible in a reusable format under an open license.

Objectives of the survey

1 COLLECT

Collect information on metadata management policies, processes, and repositories in the Member States.

2 UNDERSTAND

Understand the current state of affairs with regards to metadata management in the EU Member States. In particular, the existing differences between semantic asset management systems.

3 TARGET MORE EFFECTIVELY

Help the ISA Programme better understand the current situation and needs and more effectively target its initiatives.

4 COMMUNICATE INITIATIVES

Communicate the initiatives of the ISA Programme, solicit comments and identify working group participants

Representatives of **Member States** participating in ISA's Trusted Information Exchange (TIE) cluster

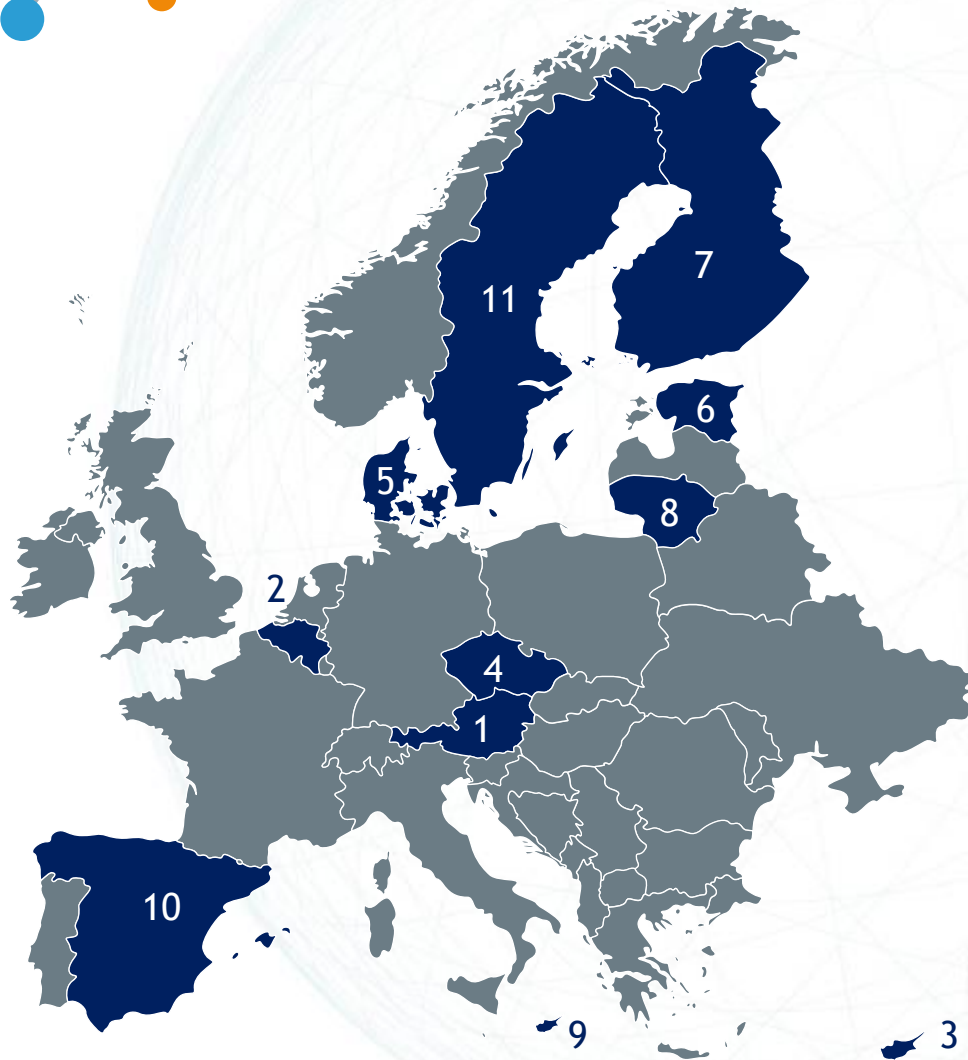… and contact persons identified by the TIE Cluster representatives who work in this area

Results of the survey 2

Number of respondents

A total of **11** **Member** **States** have participated in this survey
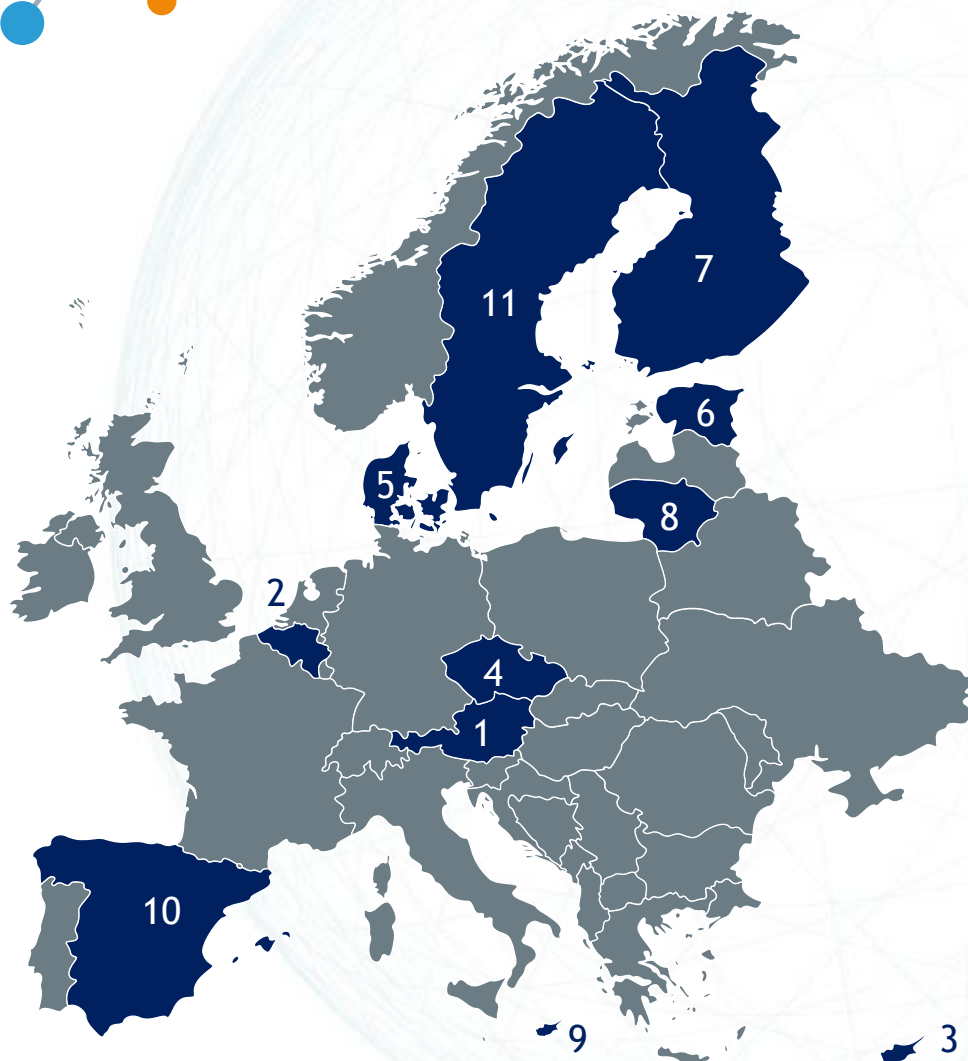
1. Austria
2. Belgium
3. Cyprus
4. Czech Republic
5. Denmark
6. Estonia
7. Finland
8. Lithuania
9. Malta
10. Spain
11. Sweden

Profile of respondents

1. AU - Federal Chancellery
2. BE - Fedict
3. CY - Ministry of Finance
4. CZ - Ministry of the Interior
5. DK - National IT and Telecom Agency
6. EE - Ministry of Economics and Communications
7. FI - Ministry of finance, Public ICT
8. LT - Ministry of the Interior
9. MT - Malta Information Technology Agency - MITA
10. ES - Ministerio de Política Territorial y Administracíon Pública – MPTAP
11. SE - The Swedish eGovernment Delegation

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Metadata Management Maturity Level

★ **Metadata Ignorance**
Reusable metadata + reference data are not documented, mainly because administrations don't consider this exercise important. This results in serious semantic IOP problems within each country as developers use ad hoc data models, metadata, codelists, taxonomies, etc for developing eGov systems.

★★ **Scattered and/or Closed Metadata**
Reusable metadata + reference data may be documented but a) not in a centralised and organized way and/or b) they are not available and accessible as "open metadata" for developers, etc

★★★ **Open Metadata for Humans**
Reusable metadata + reference data are documented, and are made available as "open semantic assets" but are not systematically published in a reusable format (e.g. only available as pdf documents).

★★★★ **Open Reusable Metadata**
Reusable metadata + reference data are centrally documented, they are published as "open semantic assets", in a machine readable format and/or provide an API for computers to access, query and reuse them. Electronic Metadata Management Systems (MMSs) are introduced (e.g. the SEMIC platform, Digitalisér.dk) to support the established metadata architecture and policies.

★★★★★ **Linked Open Metadata**
Semantic Assets are documented using linked data principles and are managed by advanced MMSs.
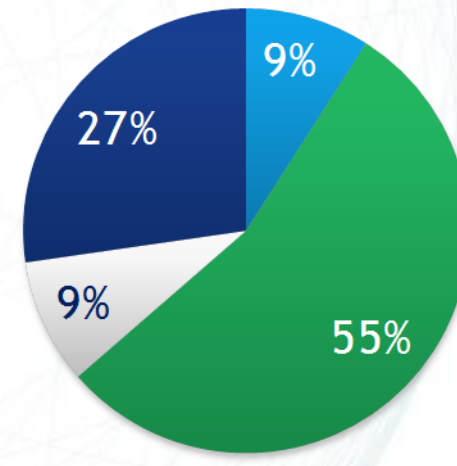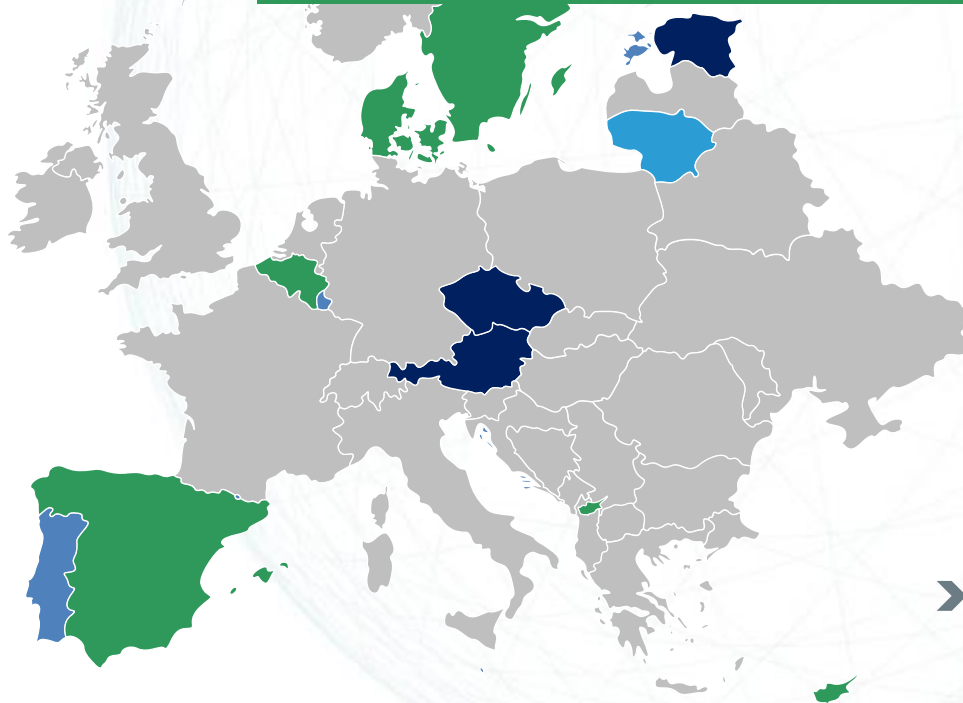
Authored by Vassilios Peristeras

Metadata Management Maturity Level of respondents

55% of the respondents have placed themselves at **level 2 of Metadata Management Maturity**
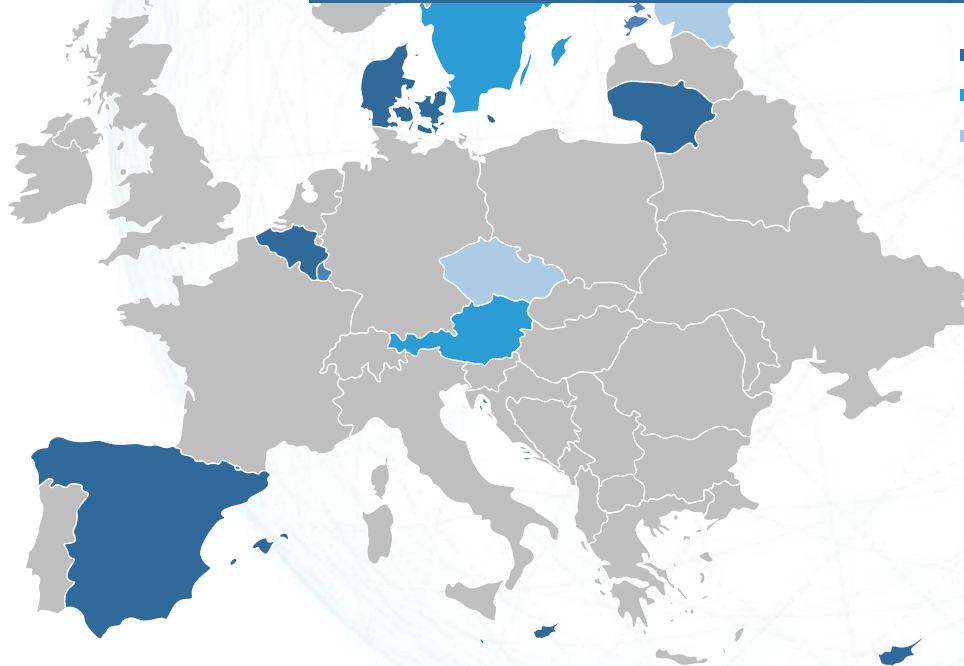

9%

27%

9%

55%

★ Metadata Ignorance

★★ Scattered and/or Closed Metadata

★★★ Open Metadata for Humans
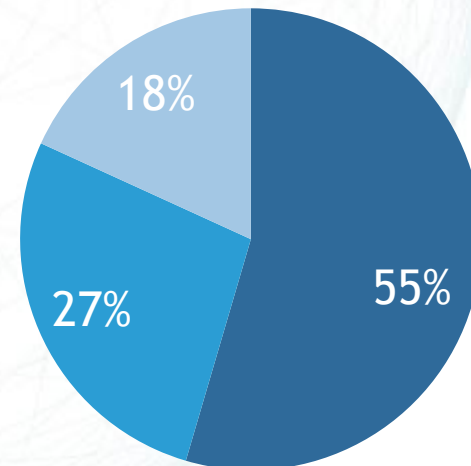
★★★★ Open Reusable Metadata

Is metadata management a common practice?

55% of the respondents indicate that documenting metadata and reference data **is not a common practice** for public administrations in their countries.

■ No, this is not a common practice.
■ Yes, this is a common practice but not enforced;
■ Yes, this practice is enforced by law; it is an official requirement;

18%

27%

55%

Is metadata management a common practice?

CYPRUS

"Although supported in many of the vertical systems that were implemented, Metadata Management was not a common practice as there were no enforced interoperability requirements. The upcoming Data Warehouse project will provide the means of centralizing, organizing, and making metadata available to all developers."

CYPRUS

"The documentation of metadata and reference data has not been a common practice so far, as DITS was implementing vertical projects at the various governmental departments and Ministries. It is now necessary however, for this practice to be implemented, as we are at the stage of initiating horizontal projects, such as the   Government Secure Gateway (CeGG) and the Government Data Warehouse (GDW), mentioned above. It is also of great importance for this practice to be implemented as part of the EU interoperability initiatives, in the EU Programs with the aim of achieving Pan European Services."

MALTA

"The soon to be published National Interoperability Framework will promote the concept of semantic assets including the relevant identification and population of semantic assets."

"There is some documented metadata but much of it is fragmented and local."

DENMARK

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Semantic asset repositories in EU

6 respondent countries have a semantic assets repository

6 countries that have not participated in the survey have semantic assets repository

Respondent countries

AT	No Repository
CZ	ISDP
EE	RIHA
CY	No repository
FI	yhteentoimivuus.fi and ONKI
BE	No repository
DK	Digitaliser.dk and arbejdsgangsbanken.dk
ES	MPTAP
MT	No repository
SE	The Swedish Centre for Terminology Flat terminology repository
LT	No Repository

Other countries

DE	XRepository
EU	Joinup
FR	MDC
UK	GovTalk Code List Management Service
NL	Stelselcatalogus
LV	IVIS portal

Conclusion of the survey 3

Conclusion

Consult the report on existing Semantic Asset Repositories by clicking <u>here</u>

Overall, it seems that Europe is still at the dawn of metadata management but several Member States are already working to close the gap between their current modest level and the one required for them to be effective and efficient in managing this type of assets.

Contact us   DIGIT-SEMIC-TEAM@ec.europa.eu

To know more   http://joinup.ec.europa.eu
ADMS – SEMIC.EU Case Study
Towards Open Government Metadata
Report on existing Semantic Asset Repositories

Get involved

ADMS
ASSET
DESCRIPTION
METADATA
SCHEMA

Join the Asset Description Metadata Schema (ADMS) project on Joinup

CESAR
COMMUNITY OF
EUROPEAN
SEMANTIC ASSETS
REPOSITORIES

Join the Community of European Semantic Assets Repositories (CESAR) on Joinup

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