Factsheet Switzerland

Main interoperability activities

Switzerland has no formal National Interoperability Framework defined. No plans were observed regarding the development of such a framework. However, a number of documents exists addressing interoperability. This factsheet highlights the main elements of these documents.

Summary of the NIF

No NIF has been developed yet for Switzerland.

Alignment NIF/EIF

No NIF has been developed yet for Switzerland.

Other initiatives on interoperability

The main document put forward by the Swiss administration is the *Standards und Architekturen für eGovernment Anwendungen Schweiz* (SAGA.ch) version 6.00. This document pursues interoperability when designing architectures and applications for eGovernment through the usage of technical standards. SAGA.ch exists out of two parts. Part one introduces an architecture model and related interfaces. Part two describes the standards for this architecture model.

SAGA.ch defines standards in the following broad areas: 'Communication protocols', 'File and data formats' and 'Security Standards'. The following classification applies to the standards: 'strongly recommended', 'recommended', 'observation' and 'not recommended'.

The *Architekturübersicht E-Government Schweiz*[1] document is a best practice document describing the business skills for the Swiss authorities required to meet the strategic eGovernment objectives. The focus lays on the business skills required for handling the administrative procedures.

The *Übersicht über die E-Government-Architektur – Produktion*[2] document describes how administrative processes are handled by different administrative bodies and partners while hiding the complexity of inner coordination to the outside.

The *Übersicht über die E-Government-Architektur: Kommunikation*[3] document describes the exchange of data between the different administrations and partners. The document defines an information architecture, the business processes required, and a design pattern for data exchange.

The *Rahmenkonzept zur Beschreibung und Dokumentation von Aufgaben, Leistungen, Prozessen und Zugangsstrukturen der öffentlichen Verwaltung der Schweiz*[4] is a framework for the uniform description

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[1] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0122&documentVersion=1.00

[2] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0124&documentVersion=1.00

[3] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0125&documentVersion=1.00

[4] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0138&documentVersion=1.00

and structured documentation of tasks, benefits, processes and access structures of Swiss pubic administration. The standard is addressed to process responsibles, process managers and business architects.

The *Uebersicht zu Standards im Bereich des Personen Meldewesens*[5] document describes the relationship and the interaction of different standards in the area of citizens-registration as well as the basic processes of data exchange of citizens-registration.

Besides these documents there are several ongoing general initiatives:

- *B1.02 – legal aspects*[6]
- *B1.06 – eGovernment Architecture*[7]
- *HERMES – project management method for Swiss administrations*[8]

There are also multiple initiatives that address legal, process, semantic and technical interoperability in their corresponding domains, for example:

- *Pririsierte Vorhaben* of the eGovernment-Program[9] (from 'small' as for example to make it possible that lost-property offices can work together, to 'large' as data exchange in the domain of taxes)
- *National geodata infrastructure*[10]: among others, development of common data models for all relevant data sets based on a law published in 2008. These are necessary to be able to exchange and integrate concerned data sets (as demonstrated in the corresponding portal).
- *eHealth*[11] : development and refinement of the common eHealth architecture, semantics, standards and define principles how they shall work together. A legal initiative to support this is in preparation.
- *Event Bus Switzerland*[12]: infrastructure for secure data exchange between administrations; implemented and continually extended.
- See also the list of further initiatives[13]

The *cloud strategy*[14] is released for adoption. Measures in that context will be initiatives to promote legal interoperability, organisational interoperability in the context of certification, technical interoperability in the context of cloud access and usage.

The latest initiative is a *legal project* to study the possibility of introducing an *organisation responsible for common infrastructures* that are used across the administrative levels (for example common registers, infrastructure for secure data exchange …), which could give a big push to organisational interoperability.

NIF responsible for Switzerland

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[5] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0105&documentVersion=1.00

[6] http://www.isb.admin.ch/org/rechtliche_grundlagen/index.html?lang=de

[7] http://www.isb.admin.ch/themen/architektur/00183/index.html?lang=de

[8] http://www.isb.admin.ch/themen/methoden/00793/index.html?lang=de

[9] http://www.egovernment.ch/de/umsetzung/katalog_vorhaben.php

[10] http://www.geo.admin.ch/internet/geoportal/de/home/topics/geobasedata/introductionplan.html

[11] http://www.e-health-suisse.ch/umsetzung/00146/00148/index.html?lang=de

[12] http://www.isb.admin.ch/themen/architektur/00183/01368/01370/index.html?lang=de and

http://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/portal/de/index/news/00/00/02.html

[13] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=page&site=/Gremien/Fachgruppen

[14] http://www.isb.admin.ch/themen/architektur/00183/01368/01372/index.html?lang=de