



MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
Finland

# Finnish Act on Information Management Governance in Public Administration (2011)

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# Finnish Act on Information Management Governance in Public Administration



- Content of the law
- Results and achievements
- Next steps

# Act on Information Management Governance in Public Administration (634/2011)



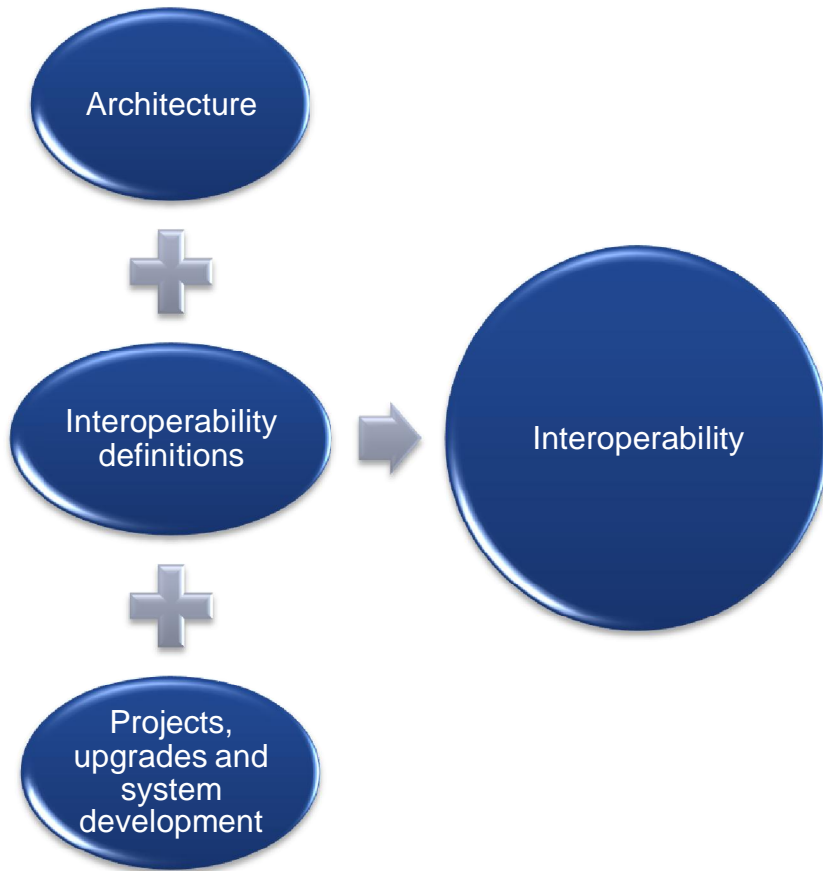
- **Objective**
  - Improve the efficiency in public administration
  - Improve public services and their availability
- **Means**
  - Promote and ensure the interoperability of information systems using enterprise architecture
  - Ministry of Finance reviews ICT projects and purchases over 5 MEUR
  - Ministries have statutory power on information management governance over the whole public administration



# Roles and responsibilities

- The legislation oblige all public administration organizations to develop their architecture.
  - In doing so they must follow and make use of the Public Administration's common Architecture and its elements.
- Ministry of Finance is responsible for developing and maintaining the Public Administration's common Architecture
  - Ministry of Finance is authorized to lay down regulations concerning information, application and technical architecture
- All ministries can define binding legislation regarding interoperability
  - Semantic interoperability has the key role

# Achieving interoperability



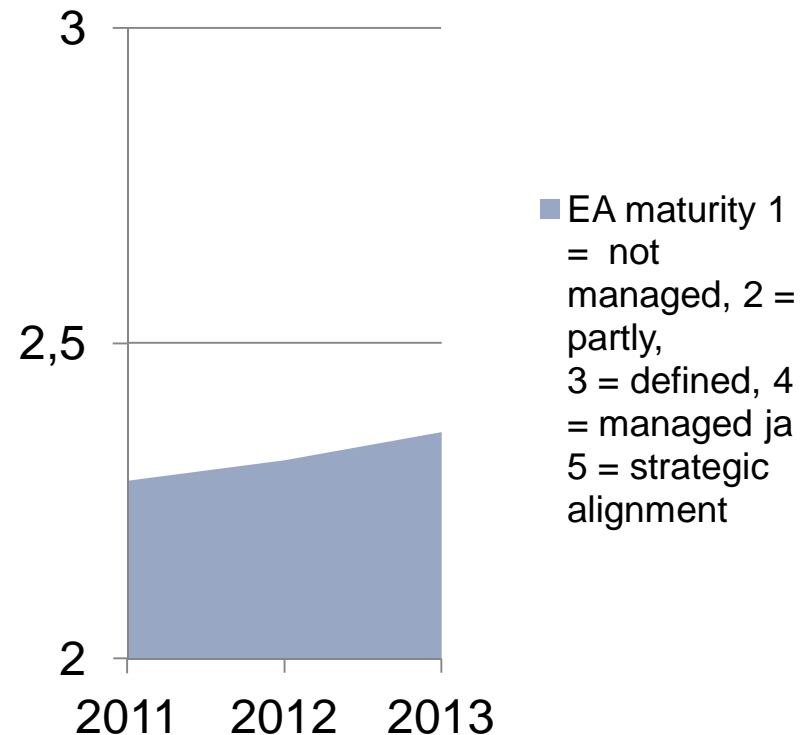
- Public authorities have to define as-is and to-be architectures as part of the strategy work
- Ministries define requirements and common architectures for interoperability
  - Which can be made legally binding
- Development projects must comply and realize these requirements
- Gradually, systems are transformed and integrated

# Results: Enterprise Architecture in the public sector



- Almost 1000 civil servants trained in EA method
- Common framework and method
- EA Governance structure
- Set of reference architectures
- Common tool for EA modeling
- ***Gradual adoption of EA: EA is not a straight forward procedure, it is more like a slow learning process***

## EA maturity development in about 80 state organizations





# Results and achievements

- Enterprise architecture is widely used
  - All large and medium size public sector organizations are working on the enterprise architecture.
- Focus on interoperability
  - Definitions and instructions to interoperability has been published as reference architectures [1] and JHS Recommendations [2]
- Common ICT services delivered
  - Government ICT Centre Valtori started in March 2014 and it provides sector-independent ICT services (like workstations, networks, data centers) for the central government administration
  - Common secure and high availability network for the security officials under construction.
- No binding regulation on ICT solutions yet.

[1] [https://www.avoindata.fi/data/en/dataset?collection\\_type%3DInteroperability%2BTools=&collection\\_type=Interoperability+Tools](https://www.avoindata.fi/data/en/dataset?collection_type%3DInteroperability%2BTools=&collection_type=Interoperability+Tools)

[2] <http://www.jhs-suositukset.fi/web/guest/jhs/recommendations/abstracts>



# Challenges in the interoperability

- Challenges on the legal level
  - The independence of the public authorities is deep in the legislation. The act does not remove this power.
- Challenges on the organizational level
  - Ministry of Finance has the mandate to influence only the ICT governance and purchases. The most essential part, business development, is out of scope.
- Challenges on the semantic level
  - There is no global semantic interoperability: the content of the information depends on the business process. Therefore, the semantic interoperability is governed by specific laws, not by the general law.
  - Typically, new legislation often means also new concepts which complicates semantic interoperability.
- Challenges on the technical level
  - This is the easy part: the domination of the internet technologies is so strong that technical interoperability is no longer an issue
  - Procurement of the common ICT solutions is sometimes difficult due to the competition legislation.





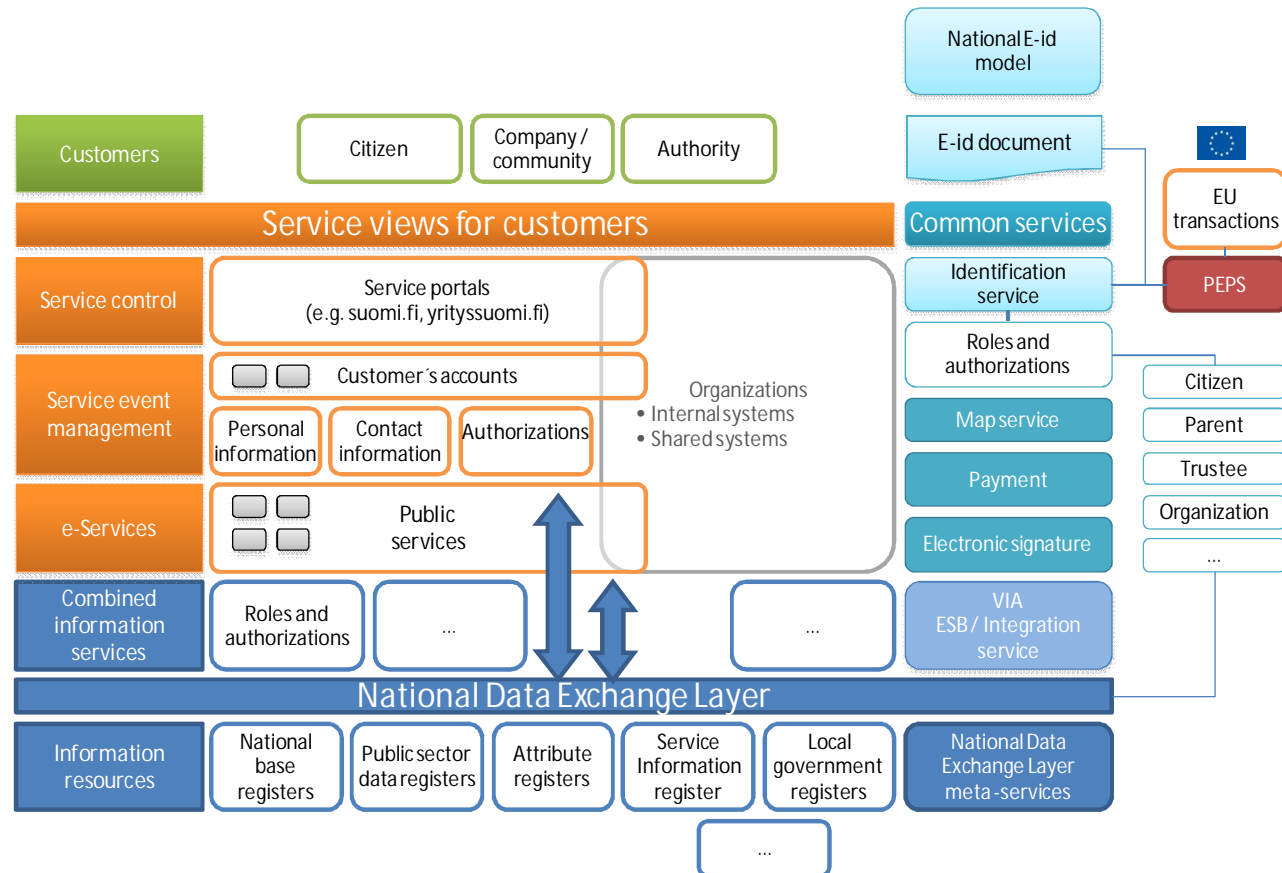
# What is happening next?

- Developing better and stringer reference architectures (logical solutions to a specific problem area)
  - National service bus 2.0 (work in progress)
  - Spatial data (work in progress, based on INSPIRE)
  - Information management (starting)
  - Common ICT services
  - Interface definition for base registers 2.0
- Feasibility study and design of the public administration's meta data service



# National Architecture for Digital Services

- The program started in 2014 and ends 2017
- Creates infrastructure and services for interoperability
- Projects
  - National data exchange layer
  - E-Identification
  - Roles and Authorization
  - Shared service views for citizens, companies and authorities





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Thank You!

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