

ESTONIA

2023 Digital Public Administration factsheets

Annex 1. Selection of Topics: 2023

INTEROPERABILITY & INTEROPERABLE PUBLIC SERVICES



Cross-border interoperability

The Nordic Institute for Interoperability Solutions (NIIS) is an association founded jointly by Estonia and Finland with the aim of ensuring the development and strategic management of X-Road and other cross-border components for eGovernment infrastructure.



Reuse of solutions

The 2030 Digital Agenda defines open innovation and increased reuse of solutions as a goal. In 2023, the government intends to launch a registry of capabilities and functions for the publication and discovery of reusable components in Estonian digital government.

It was agreed to implement the data description standard, to use controlled lists, the funding of artificial intelligence and R&D solutions for language technologies (open-source). In addition, as part of the AI strategy, the focus is on reusable solutions that can be reused by the public and private sectors. RIHAKI, a data management tool, has been developed to simplify data management and ensure compliance with national requirements.

In 2023, the National Data Portal will be ready. The objectives are to publish descriptions of datasets, publish and encourage the reuse of semantic assets (i.e. vocabularies, ontologies), publish information on reuse (including the availability of services, IBTs, data services and open datasets) but also offer knowledge sharing and advice.

INNOVATIVE USE OF TECHNOLOGIES BY THE PUBLIC SECTOR



Artificial Intelligence (AI)

In 2022, the country published its second National Strategy on Artificial Intelligence 2022-2023. The current strategy focuses on five key pillars: public sector, private sector, education and R&D, legislation, and data as an enabler.

Since all areas will benefit from the application of artificial intelligence, it is not practical to select priority areas to be developed first. Rather, today's focus is to support a broad-based approach and thereby give a boost in various areas. We see that the application of artificial intelligence can significantly increase the added value created by companies, improve the functioning of organizations and support data-based decision-making. To date, more than 100 artificial intelligence projects have been implemented in the public sector. Various success stories and best practices surrounding the strategy can be found [here](#).

In 2023, the country will develop new AI strategy for 2024-2025. To support the implementation of privacy enhancing technologies (PETs), the country is working on action-plan to guide its implementation and through that help to preserve privacy and avoid bias in data analysis.



Data spaces and Smart Data Platforms

Based on the [Public Information Act](#), all machine-readable key data must be accessible through the Key Data Gateway. By September 2023, it is planned to merge the Open Data Gateway and the RIHA into the Government Data Portal, which will aim to provide a single point of access to all government held data. Through the data portal, citizens will be able to share their personal data with third parties on a consent basis through the consent service, use the data for research purposes through the data re-use environment, use the X-road data services and in other re-usable ways based on the needs of the re-users. There is an agreement and commitment to implement the data description standard, to ensure data quality through the existence of a process, to provide access to data in a re-usable way and based on the needs of re-users.



Data exchanges with and within public administrations

The [Nordic Institute for Interoperability Solutions \(NIIS\)](#) can be mentioned here as well. Iceland has joined as a partner of NIIS from 2021 and has implemented [X-Road interoperability platform](#) as government data exchange platform. The Population Register Centre of Finland and [the Information System Authority \(RIA\)](#) had already concluded a cooperation agreement to formalise cooperation relating to X-Road and work as a contractual platform for deepening cooperation. The NIIS then took over the X-Road core development from Finland's Population Register Centre and RIA, starting by running the Working Group.