



# NIFO Factsheet – Cyprus

The Cyprus eGIF has been adopted and is expected to be published in the course of 2016. More information can be found on the website of

- The department of information technology services:  
[http://www.mof.gov.cy/mof/DITS/DITS.nsf/index\\_en/index\\_en?OpenDocument](http://www.mof.gov.cy/mof/DITS/DITS.nsf/index_en/index_en?OpenDocument)

## Main interoperability highlights

Cyprus has developed and adopted a NIF (called eGif for eGovernment Interoperability Framework) that is expected to be published in the coming months. In addition, Cyprus has put in place the Digital Strategy for Cyprus<sup>1</sup> that sets out a comprehensive plan (for the period 2012-2020) for the development of information society in Cyprus and the uptake of ICT. Among other objectives, the Digital Strategy is focused on the modernisation of the public sector and provision of public electronic services (objective 2). The Digital Strategy action plan, adopted in September 2014, covers a three year period from 2015 to 2017. The objectives of the plan are to modernise the public sector to operate without paper, simplify processes and save costs and to lower administrative burden for citizens and businesses.

## Summary of the NIF

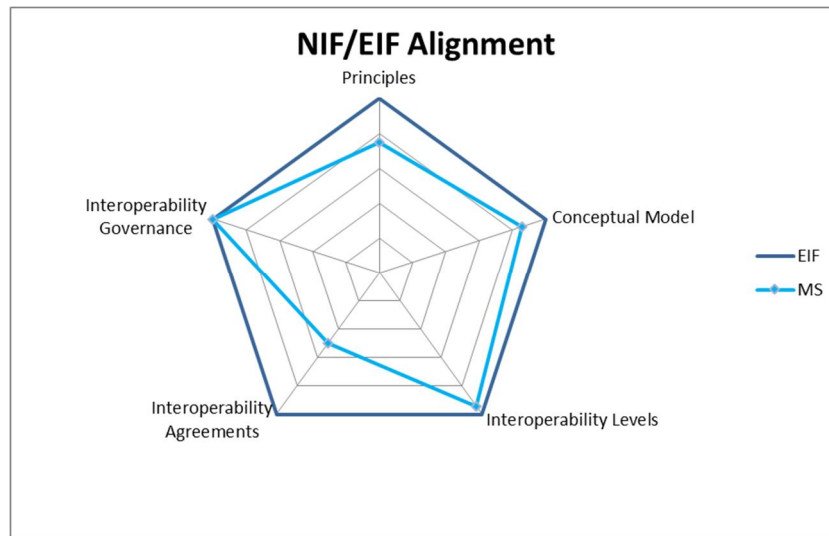
The National Interoperability Framework of Cyprus is called eGIF (eGovernment Interoperability Framework). The NIF covers all interoperability levels as mentioned in the EIF. eGif was drafted in 2013-2014 and is expected to be published in the course of 2016.

## Alignment NIF/EIF

The Cyprus NIF is fully aligned with the EIF on the interoperability governance dimension, very closely aligned on the interoperability levels, conceptual model and principles and fairly aligned on the interoperability agreements.

---

<sup>1</sup> See: [http://www.mcw.gov.cy/mcw/dec/dec.nsf/all/0BACA0B7B7848D2CC22579B500299BFA/\\$file/Digital%20Strategy%20for%20Cyprus-Executive%20summary.pdf?openelement](http://www.mcw.gov.cy/mcw/dec/dec.nsf/all/0BACA0B7B7848D2CC22579B500299BFA/$file/Digital%20Strategy%20for%20Cyprus-Executive%20summary.pdf?openelement)



Eight of the twelve principles mentioned in the EIF are fully aligned in the NIF, transparency and effectiveness & efficiency are partly aligned, preservation of information and subsidiarity and proportionality are not aligned.

The conceptual model is based on a service-oriented architecture and encourages to interconnect loosely coupled service components.

As regards the interoperability levels, the Cypriot eGIF covers all the levels as mentioned by the EIF. Only the change management process are not aligned with the EIF.

For the interoperability agreements, Cyprus encourages public administrations to use open specifications, but does not specifically have a structured, transparent and objective approach to assess and select formalised specifications.

The interoperability governance for the eGIF is the responsibility of the Department of Information Technology Services (DITS) of the Ministry of Finance. As such, it is fully aligned with the EIF.

More detailed information on NIF / EIF alignment is provided on the NIFO Community on JoinUp on the [Compare NIFs](#) page.

## Example of alignment – Interoperability Governance

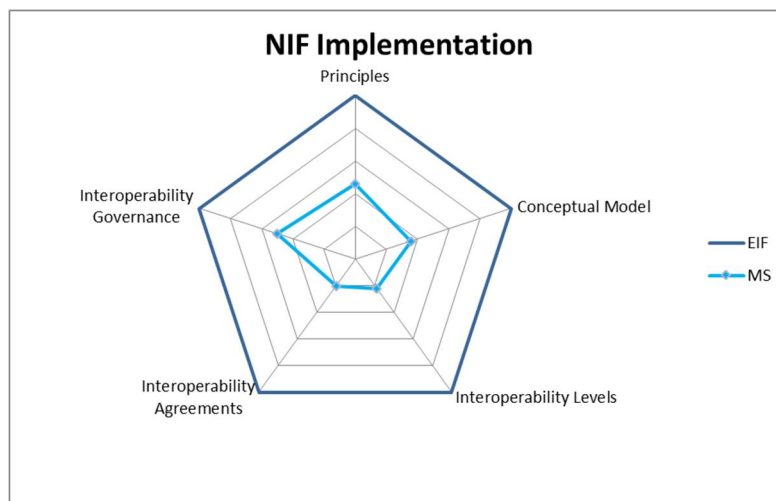
Paragraph 1.6 “eGIF Governance” of the Cypriote eGIF describes the following:

- The responsible body for the management of the National eGovernment Interoperability Framework of the Republic of Cyprus is the Department of Information Technology Services (DITS) of the Ministry of Finance. DITS’s responsibilities as regards the eGIF and interoperability in general include inter alia:
  - o Definition of the interoperability strategy of the Cyprus Government.
  - o Formulation, maintenance and update of the eGIF.
  - o Planning and execution of dissemination and awareness activities regarding the eGIF.
  - o Monitoring of the adoption of the eGIF.
  - o Gathering and evaluation of suggestions for updates and changes to the eGIF.
  - o Monitoring of and participation in EU interoperability initiatives and events.

Paragraph 11.3 of the Cyprus eGIF describes Governance in greater detail.

## Implementation of NIF

Concerning the implementation of the NIF, all categories are covered.



In the principles dimension, implementation examples exist for all principles except for subsidiarity and proportionality and preservation of information.

In the conceptual model dimension, component-based service models and technologies for loosely coupled services are used and promoted through Service Oriented Architecture to be used for all future systems - as a requirement in Tender Documents. Even if this is not the case for a number of systems at the moment, eServices are feasible through Ariadni (the government gateway portal) and web services built between the two systems. Gradually, Ariadni will enable users to access all electronic services (eServices) available by the Government of Cyprus over the Internet. At the moment, approx. 33 eServices are available on the Portal. Using the common reusable components of the platform, deployment of additional eServices in the future is expected to be implemented very fast. Ariadni aims to the full electronic completion of a service,

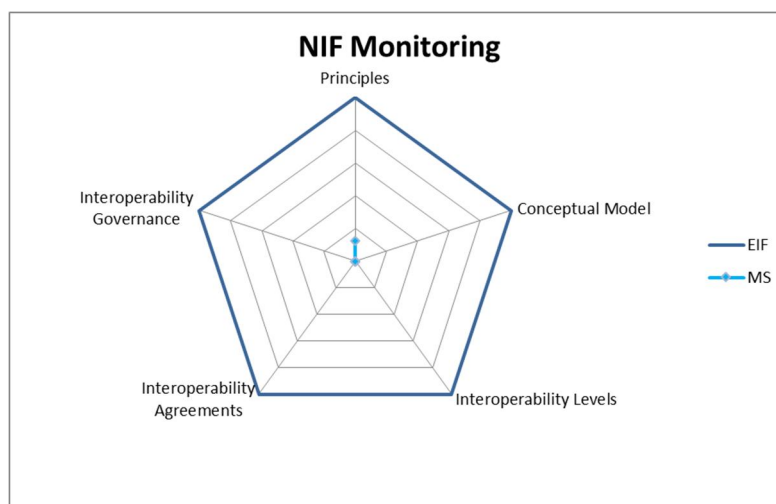
by retrieving required information from the interconnected back-end systems and base registries. The Government Data Warehouse Project is an example where semantic models have been developed.

In the interoperability levels dimension, semantic interoperability elements are supported by the implementation example of the Data Warehouse, technical interoperability is implemented in tenders using the list of standards in annex of the NIF, and legal aspects are supported by the eGovernment law.

For the interoperability agreements dimension, the annexe to the Cyprus NIF is cited as implementation example, and more specifically the method to select technologies and standards.

## Monitoring

Some elements of monitoring were identified, only in the principles category.



User-centricity and openness – with the aspect related to open data - are the 2 principles monitored in Cyprus.

## Other initiatives on interoperability

Together with the Cyprus NIF, the Information Systems Strategy and the Procedures and Standards for implementation will be evaluated and revised<sup>2</sup>, and a Government Security Policy will be drafted.

## NIF responsible contact person for Cyprus

Christina Charalambidou ([CCharalambidou@dits.mof.gov.cy](mailto:CCharalambidou@dits.mof.gov.cy))

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.mof.gov.cy/mof/DITS/DITS.nsf/All/4CD6D67CD1533480C22578F600346A73?OpenDocument>