2016 update.

NIFO Factsheet – Cyprus

The Cyprus eGIF has been adopted and published in February 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

Main interoperability highlights

Cyprus has developed and adopted a NIF (called eGif for eGovernment Interoperability Framework)[1]. In addition, Cyprus has put in place the Digital Strategy for Cyprus[2] 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, to 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 published early February 2016[3].

Alignment NIF/EIF

The Cyprus NIF is fully aligned with the EIF in almost all the criteria and very closely aligned on the interoperability agreements.
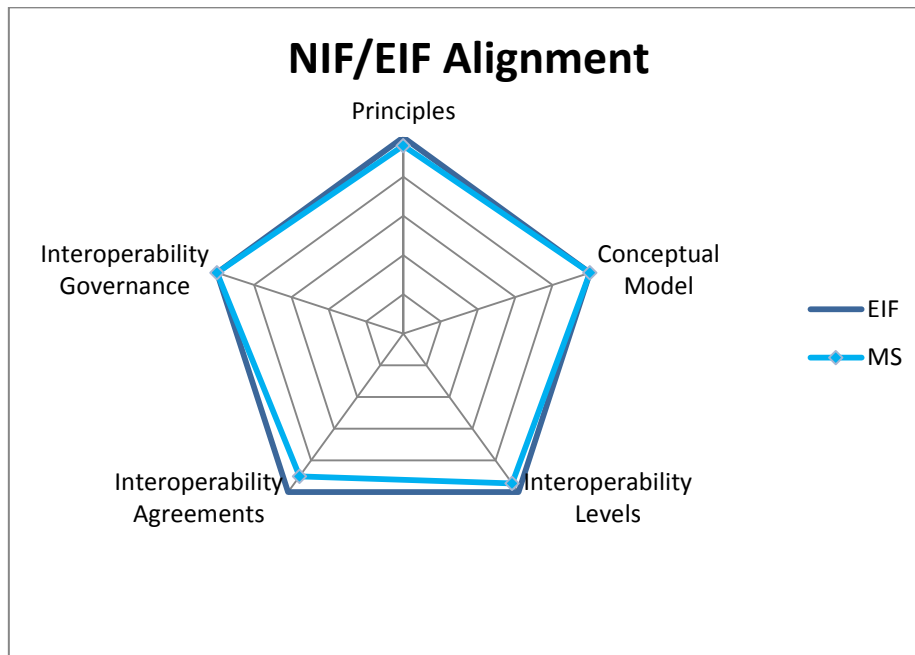
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[1] See here an introductory presentation of eGIF
http://www.mof.gov.cy/mof/dits/dits.nsf/All/E32C799425E64008C2258065003A02C3/$file/04.Cyprus%20eGIF.pptx
[2] See:
http://www.mcw.gov.cy/mcw/dec/dec.nsf/all/0BACA0B7B7848D2CC22579B500299BFA/$file/Digital%20Strategy%20for%20Cyprus-Executive%20summary.pdf?openelement
[3] https://goo.gl/w5m7QD

NIF/EIF Alignment

All the principles mentioned in EIF are fully aligned, except for "Subsidiarity and proportionality" which shows a slightly lower alignment score.

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 is partially aligned.

For the interoperability agreements, Cyprus encourages public administrations to use open 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.

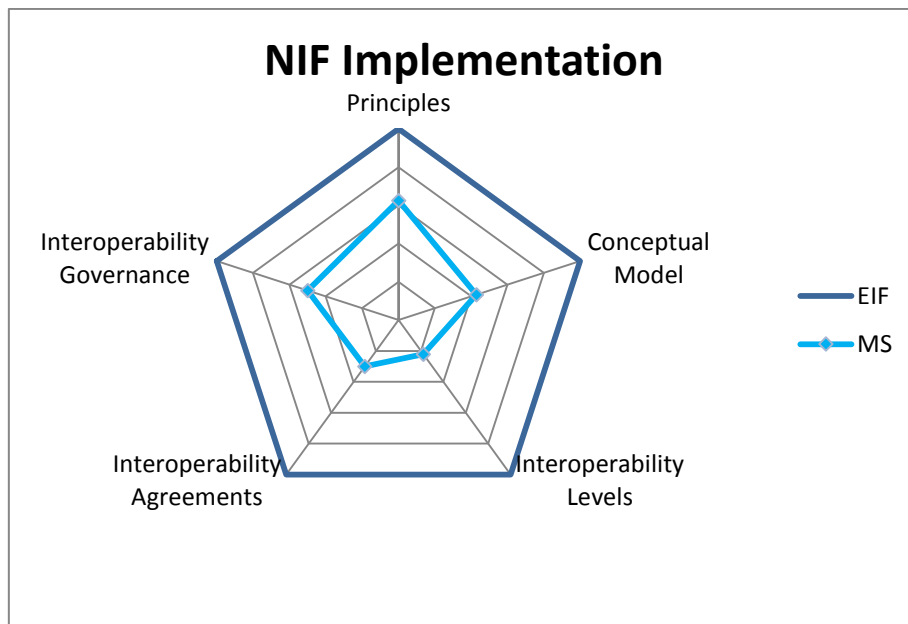**Example of alignment – Interoperability Governance**

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.
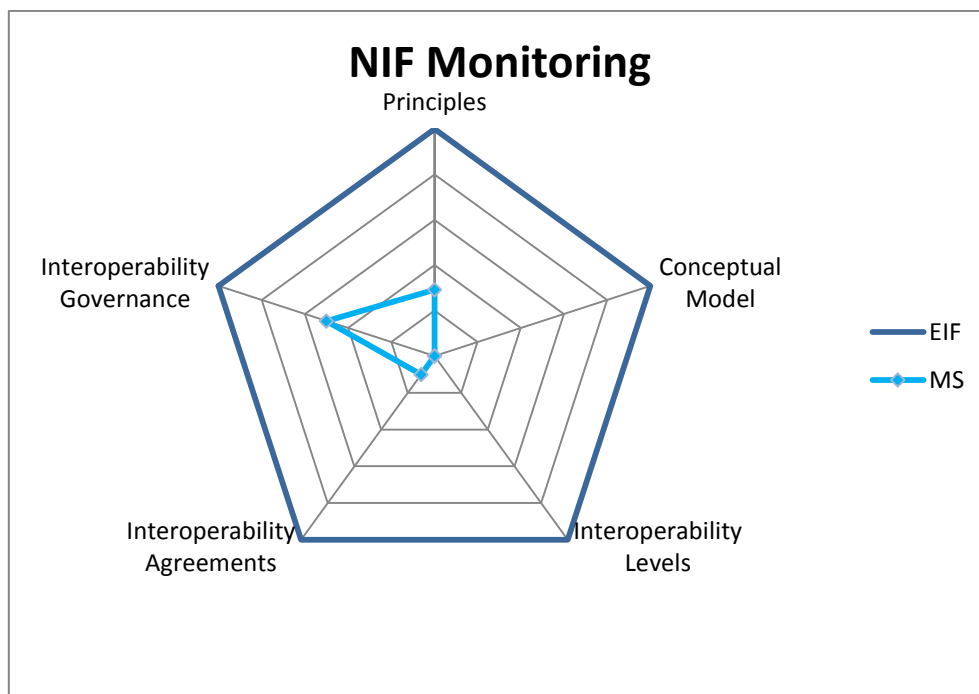
In the conceptual model dimension, component-based service models and technologies for loosely coupled services are used and promoted through Service Oriented Architecture to be used for all future systems - as a requirement in Tender Documents. eServices are feasible through Ariadni (the government gateway portal) and web services built between the two systems.

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, Governance and Agreements categories.

Some of the Principles, the Governance and the Agreements categories are monitored through a dedicated team that has been setup. It consists of eight Information Technology Officers who will meet once or twice a year to assess changes made to the eGIF, based on a tailored method. A form has been prepared for any interested organisation or individual to submit a suggestion. A specific library has also been created on the e-Collaboration Platform, where this team will be able to keep all the Cyprus eGIF information.

Other initiatives on interoperability

The Government of Cyprus is taking action following its commitment in the 2020 E-government Action Plan. On May 2016, the Cabinet approved the delivery target of 87 new online services to be made available by 2017 on Ariadni (today, already 60 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. This strategy places particular emphasis on following priorities: fully integrate the eGovernment landscape in Cyprus by 2020; facilitate the secure exchange of electronic documents among citizens, businesses and official body; strengthen Cyprus citizen participation.

The main objective of the programme is to have a single access point to all eGovernment services. The 87 services shall be developed around the needs of Cyprus citizens putting in place complete electronic administrative procedures (including a system of electronic signature) and accessible via the central portal. Currently, there are 41 applications already available to the Cyprus' residents through Ariadni (the Cyprus gateway portal).

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