

# Semantic building block convergence to support e-government in Europe

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## The Digital Agenda for Europe

"Too many barriers still block the free flow of online services and entertainment across national borders. "





**Cross border services to support eGovernment** 



## Large scale pilots

'The "Large Scale Pilot" projects (LSPs) develop practical solutions tested in real government service cases across Europe. '

SPOCS "Simple Procedures Online for Cross-border Services"

epSOS "European Patients Smart Open Services"

STORK "Secure idenTity acrOss boRders linKed"

PEPPOL "Pan European Public Procurement OnLine

e-CODEX "e-Justice Communication via Online Data EXchange"



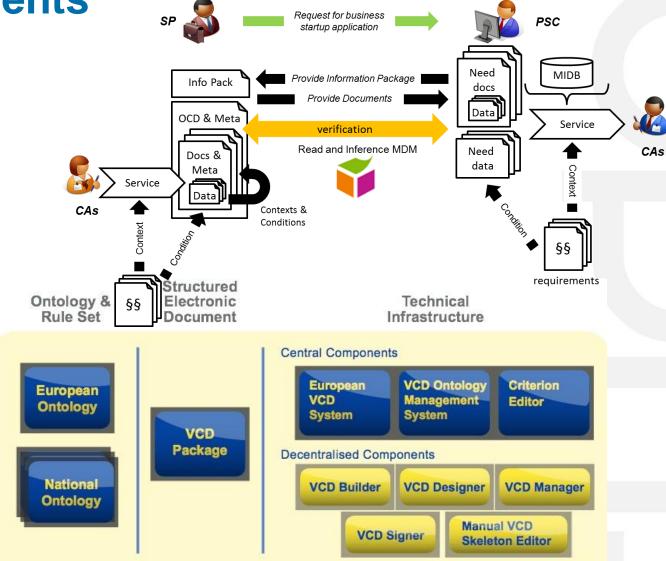








Some equivalent processes and components



08/04/2014

Brought to CEN BII for standardisation.

Ontology files contain

legal domains.

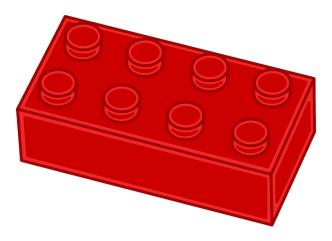
Software to perform the mapping between different legal domains and to create a VCD.

## **Definition of building blocks**

"Building Block (BB): Represents a (potentially re-usable) component of business, IT, or architectural capability that can be combined with other building blocks to deliver architectures and solutions."



developed to be easily re-used in any area of public administration



## The eSens project

#### Electronic Simple European Networked Services

to improve the cross-border access of citizens and businesses to public services in Europe

by provision of interoperable IT solutions

**Project start:** 01/04/2013

**Project Coordinator:** Ministry of

Justice NRW, Germany

**Duation:** 36 months

**Project budget:** 27 m **EU financing:** 13.5 m

Programme: Competitiveness and

innovation framework programme

(CIP), ICT policy support programme



## **Objectives of e-SENS**

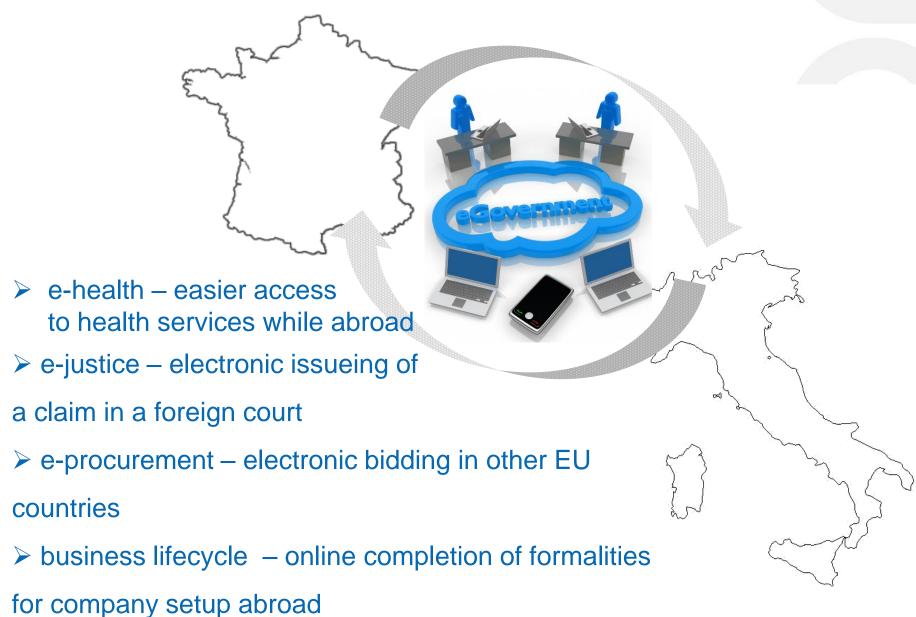


- Consolidates the results of LSP projects
- Improves solutions and develops generic modules

> Extends their usage to additional domains

http://www.esens.eu

#### Pilots in real life scenarios



#### e-SENS tasks

Stock taking

Specifications of consolidated building blocks

Testing and pilot enablement

Piloting

Handover

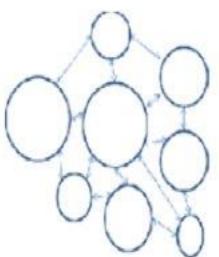
## Why semantics?

#### Inside each LSP

multilingual approach



missing datasets: need to develop new semantic resources



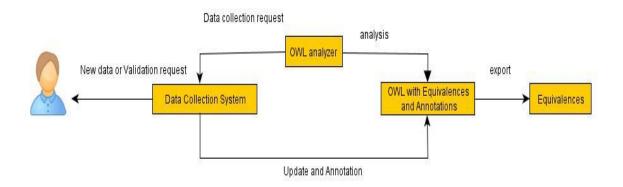
## Why cross domain building blocks?

- depends on the BB
- many experiences not leveraged, many tools that could be reused
- new pilots to come: can we facilitate the set up of new pilots whichever the existing level of interoperability?

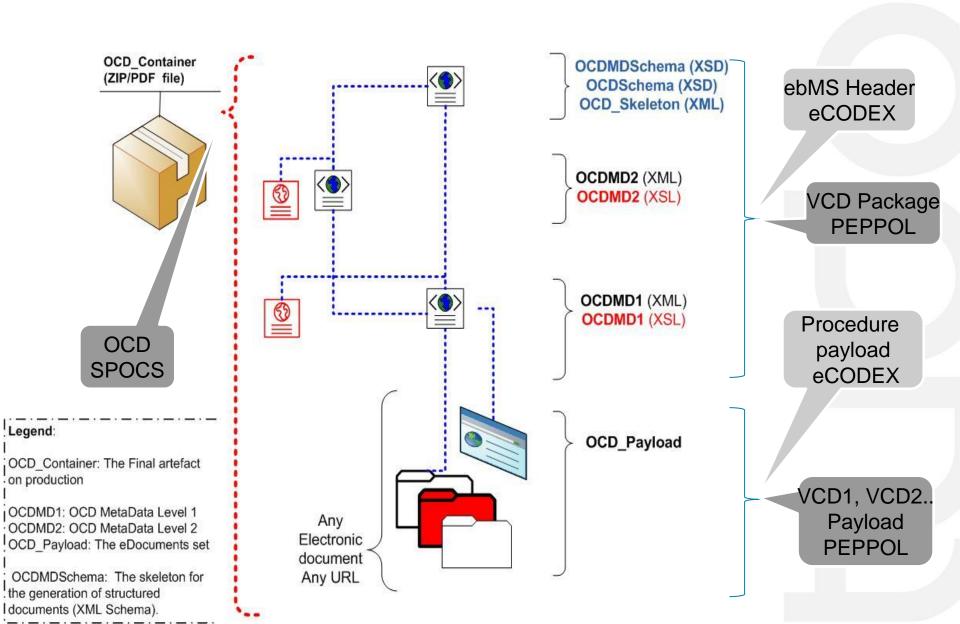


### **Semantics, Processes and Documents**

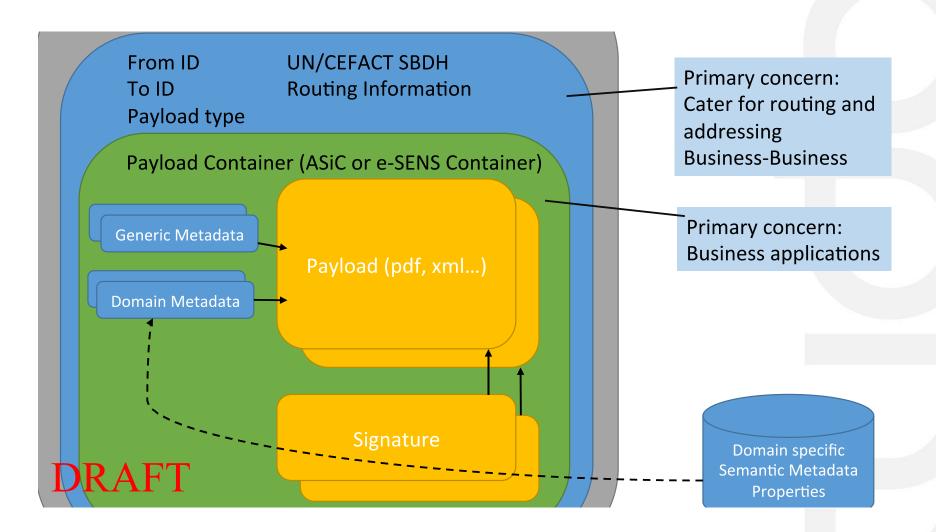
- eDocuments (OCD, VCD, HL7 ...)
- Terminologies
- Ontologies
- Semantic mapping services
- Validation services
- Semantic enrichment services



#### **HBB: eDocument Architecture**

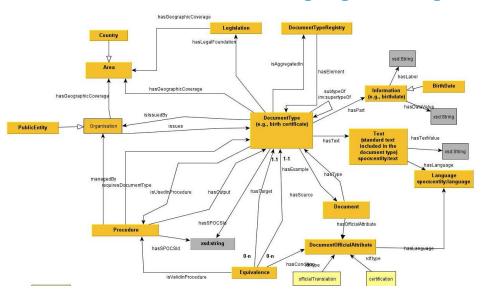


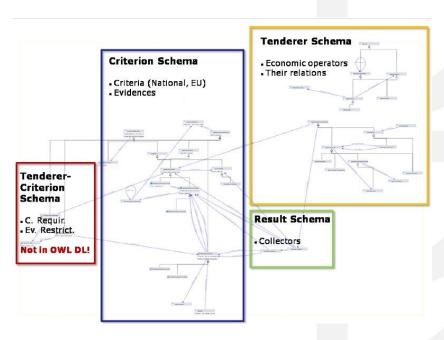
## Towards a common eDocument model based on standards



## **Semantic mapping services**

- Knowledge Organisation Systems: Terminology mapping
- Document equivalence mapping, i.e., acceptance as substitute of another document
  - Asymetric relation
  - In the context of a procedure
  - With or without legal grounding





## **Ontology mapping**

Meta Information

08/04/2014

core:Person Person Various levels of documentation Person LegalPerson Organisation NaturalPerson Person individual Procedure Ontology description vs. Document DocumentType Requirement based mapping Legislation DocumentOfficialAttribute Equivalence exists when a DocumentType is accept spocs:entity:text Main Bussiness Requirements are classified into GROUPS **Group Name** Group Id Provides a description of documents and associated concepts. Describes a document **Document Description** DOC-DESCR. from an abstract point of view. A Document is the primary target for a document mapping. Document types are specific appearances of a document. Document Types relate to a ocument Type DOC-TYP higher level description of a document. Document Types are a means to express equivalence and relations between documents. Application Procedure APP-PRO Describes the application for which the document mapping is required. Includes information about the applicant and the receiver/public authority. Requirements describes the criteria or proofs for which a document needs to be REQ-DESCR Requirement Description provided. A Document may fulfill certain requirements. An application may point to these requirements. Requirements may be stated by an authority before the application. Requirements provide means to execute a mapping between document.

META

Information not related to the business process but required to organize or manage the

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contents from a meta perspective

## Challenges for semantic building blocks

Existing BBs at various levels of maturitymaturity assessment

**Number of implementations** 

eSens pilots requirements vs. LSP requirements

Need to reuse standards as much as possible including ISA Core vocabularies

"everyone is special"

Omnifarious Container for e-Documents OCD Relationship to ICT Strategies in EC/MS (WP3) eDocuments is the basis of interoperable cross-border services. Generic document formats holding payload, metadata, and authentication information allow for domain-independent exchange of eDocuments. Type Generic/ Generic Specific Architecture Framework / Component Specifications This building block represents a multilayered container format for the (cross-border) exchange of eDocuments. The so called Omnifarious Container for eDocuments (OCD) consists of a payload layer, a metadata layer and an authentication layer The payload layer is able to hold any electronic document (arbitrary formats. signed/unsigned, encrypted/unencrypted, ...). The metadata layer contains metadata about the contained documents as well as the entire container. The (optional) authentication layer guarantees authenticity and integrity for the entire container using an advanced electronic signature. Here, a XAdES or PAdES signature is used - depending on the physical implementation of the container (XAdES for ZIP based container and PAdES for PDF based container). In addition, the building block eDocuments provides software modules to create and verify OCD containers. The verification module supports all signature formats as defined by the European Commission Format Decision 2011/130/EU. In addition, support for national and proprietary signature formats (e.g. Lithuanian ADOC format) is achieved through an external verification services mechanism. The signature verification is performed on following levels: On payload level; Verification of payload document signatures (as they are issued by the Member States, i.e. electronic signature, advanced electronic signature and On container level: Verification of the container signature, whereas this signature is used for authentication purposes only. Any legal meaning depends on the document signatures on the payload layer Standards Containers: PDF (ISO 32000-1) and ZIP Metadata: XML schema: VCD schema from PEPPOL Signatures: ETSI TS 101 903 (XAdES), ETSI TS 101 733 (CAdES), ETSI TS 102 778 (PAdES) EUPL, all components are open source Relationship and Couplings To other Generic-/Domain specific BB: To lower level Building Blocks/Components: BB eSignature Standards Framework Related Artifacts and Solution Building Blocks LCM Ownershi SPOCS Test pilot In Use Technical Maturity Business Market Maturity Maturity TBD with WP5 TBD WP3. Evaluation

# Conclusion: critical issues for semantic building blocks



Use standards including ISA Core vocabularies to support the mapping process

Implementation of various types of BBs in pilots

Semantics in the Connecting
Europe Facility Digital
service infrastructures
with various levels of
maturity

Well established DSIs	Europeana Safer Internet
Mature DSI	eIdentification and eSignature eDelivery eInvoicing Open Data
DSIs approaching maturity	Automated translation Cyber security
Broadband	Financial Instruments Technical Assistance