NIFO Factsheet – Switzerland

Switzerland has no formal National Interoperability Framework. Main information on interoperability-related activities carried out by the Swiss government can be found in the following documents:

- Standards und Architekturen für eGovernment Anwendungen Schweiz (SAGA.ch) version 6.oo: http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0014
- Architekturübersicht E-Government Schweiz: http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0122&documentVersion=1.oo
- Übersicht über die E-Government-Architektur – Produktion: http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0124&documentVersion=1.oo
- Übersicht über die E-Government-Architektur: Kommunikation: http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0125&documentVersion=1.oo
- Rahmenkonzept zur Beschreibung und Dokumentation von Aufgaben, Leistungen, Prozessen und Zugangsstrukturen der öffentlichen Verwaltung der Schweiz: http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0105&documentVersion=1.oo
- Uebersicht zu Standards im Bereich des Personen Meldewesens: http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0105&documentVersion=1.oo

Main interoperability highlights

Switzerland has no formal National Interoperability Framework defined. No plans were observed regarding the development of such a framework. However, a number of documents exists addressing interoperability. This factsheet highlights the main elements of these documents.

Summary of the NIF

No NIF has been developed yet for Switzerland.

Alignment NIF/EIF

No NIF has been developed yet for Switzerland.

Other initiatives on interoperability

The main document put forward by the Swiss administration is the *Standards und Architekturen für eGovernment Anwendungen Schweiz* (SAGA.ch) version 6.00[1]. This document pursues in-

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[1] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0014

teroperability when designing architectures and applications for eGovernment through the us-age of technical standards. SAGA.ch consists of two parts. Part one introduces an architecture model and related interfaces. Part two describes the standards for this architecture model.

SAGA.ch defines standards in the following broad areas: 'Communication protocols', 'File and data formats' and 'Security Standards'. The following classification applies to the standards: 'strongly recommended', 'recommended', 'observation' and 'not recommended'.

The *Architekturübersicht E-Government Schweiz*[2] document is a best practice document de-scribing the business skills for the Swiss authorities required to meet the strategic eGovernment objectives. The focus lays on the business skills required for handling the administrative proce-dures.

The *Übersicht über die E-Government-Architektur – Produktion*[3] document describes how ad-ministrative processes are handled by different administrative bodies and partners while hiding the complexity of inner coordination to the outside.

The *Übersicht über die E-Government-Architektur: Kommunikation*[4] document describes the exchange of data between the different administrations and partners. The document defines an information architecture, the business processes required, and a design pattern for data exchange.

The *Rahmenkonzept zur Beschreibung und Dokumentation von Aufgaben, Leistungen, Pro-zessen und Zugangsstrukturen der öffentlichen Verwaltung der Schweiz*[5] is a framework for the uniform description and structured documentation of tasks, benefits, processes and access structures of Swiss pubic administration. The standard is addressed to process responsibles, process managers and business architects.

The *Uebersicht zu Standards im Bereich des Personen Meldewesens*[6] document describes the relationship and the interaction of different standards in the area of citizens-registration as well as the basic processes of data exchange of citizens-registration.

Besides these documents there are several ongoing general initiatives:

- *B1.02 – legal aspects*[7]
- *B1.06 – eGovernment Architecture*[8]
- *HERMES – project management method for Swiss administrations*[9]

There are also multiple initiatives that address legal, process, semantic and technical interop-erability in their corresponding domains, for example:

- *Pririsierte Vorhaben* of the eGovernment-Programme[10] (from 'small' as for example to make it possible that lost-property offices can work together, to 'large' as data ex-change in the domain of taxes)
- *National geodata infrastructure*[11]: among others, development of common data models for all relevant data sets based on a law published in 2008. These are necessary to be able to exchange and integrate concerned data sets (as demonstrated in the corre-sponding portal).

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[2] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0122&documentVersion=1.00
[3] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0124&documentVersion=1.00
[4] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0125&documentVersion=1.00
[5] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0138&documentVersion=1.00
[6] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=dossier&documentNumber=eCH-0105&documentVersion=1.00
[7] http://www.isb.admin.ch/org/rechtliche_grundlagen/index.html?lang=de
[8] http://www.isb.admin.ch/themen/architektur/00183/index.html?lang=de
[9] http://www.isb.admin.ch/themen/methoden/00793/index.html?lang=de
[10] http://www.egovernment.ch/de/umsetzung/katalog_vorhaben.php
[11] http://www.geo.admin.ch/internet/geoportal/de/home/topics/geobasedata/introductionplan.html

- *eHealth*[12] : development and refinement of the common eHealth architecture, semantics, standards and define principles how they shall work together. A legal initiative to support this is in preparation.
- *Event Bus Switzerland*[13]: infrastructure for secure data exchange between administrations; implemented and continually extended.
- See also the list of further initiatives[14]

The *cloud strategy*[15] is released for adoption. Measures in that context will be initiatives to promote legal interoperability, organisational interoperability in the context of certification, technical interoperability in the context of cloud access and usage.

Another initiative is a study on the possibility of introducing an *organisation responsible for common infrastructures* that are used across the administrative levels (for example common registers, infrastructure for secure data exchange …), which could give a big push to organisational interoperability.

At the beginning of May 2014 a pilot version of e-Government Map (E-Government-Landkarte) was launched. The project is primarily aimed at the implementers of e-Government projects in cantons and municipalities. It provides general and specific information on the implementation and deployment of e-government services. Providers of government solutions have a possibility to reference their solutions and products and to present themselves on the map as e-Government stakeholders. Media, research institutions and other interested parties will have easy access to current and visualized information about the e-Government services offered by the public administration in Switzerland. Based on an initial survey in 2013, about 39 government services in 21 cantons and 177 municipalities are described in the pilot version of the e-Government Map, together with technical solutions and their providers. If the pilot phase turns out to be successful, the e-Government Map is expected to be expanded to all other government services and to be actively managed Switzerland-wide as from 2015[16].

As of January 2015, the Swiss open government data pilot portal (http://www.opendata.admin.ch/) contains 1850 datasets that can be re-used for simple evaluations or to develop applications and visual representations. The Swiss Federal Archives and their project partners are operating this central pilot portal providing access to open data from the Swiss authorities ("open government data" or OGD) as part of the "Open Government Data Switzerland" project[17]. Within the scope of this «OGD Switzerland» project, the Federal IT Steering Unit has been developing an OGD strategy for Switzerland. This was adopted by the Federal Council on 16 April 2014. The OGD strategy determines the focus of the Federal Administration's activities in the area of OGD up until 2018 and is binding for the Confederation.

The Swiss federal geodata portal (http://www.geo.admin.ch/internet/geoportal/en/home.html) provides online access to Swiss geographical information and related services from various suppliers. The geoportal is one of the priorities of the Swiss eGovernment program (https://www.news.admin.ch/message/index.html?lang=de&msg-id=57850). The project aims to increase the number of online government services to businesses and citizens, and promote the electronic exchange of information between public administrations.

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[12] http://www.e-health-suisse.ch/umsetzung/00146/00148/index.html?lang=de
[13] http://www.isb.admin.ch/themen/architektur/00183/01368/01370/index.html?lang=de and
http://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/portal/de/index/news/00/00/02.html
[14] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=page&site=/Gremien/Fachgruppen
[15] http://www.isb.admin.ch/themen/architektur/00183/01368/01372/index.html?lang=de
[16] http://www.ech.ch/vechweb/page?p=news&nodeRef=workspace://SpacesStore/634a1b0e-b6d2-494a-9e4e-257d9c28344a

[17] http://www.egovernment.ch/umsetzung/00881/00883/index.html?lang=en

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