BELGIUM
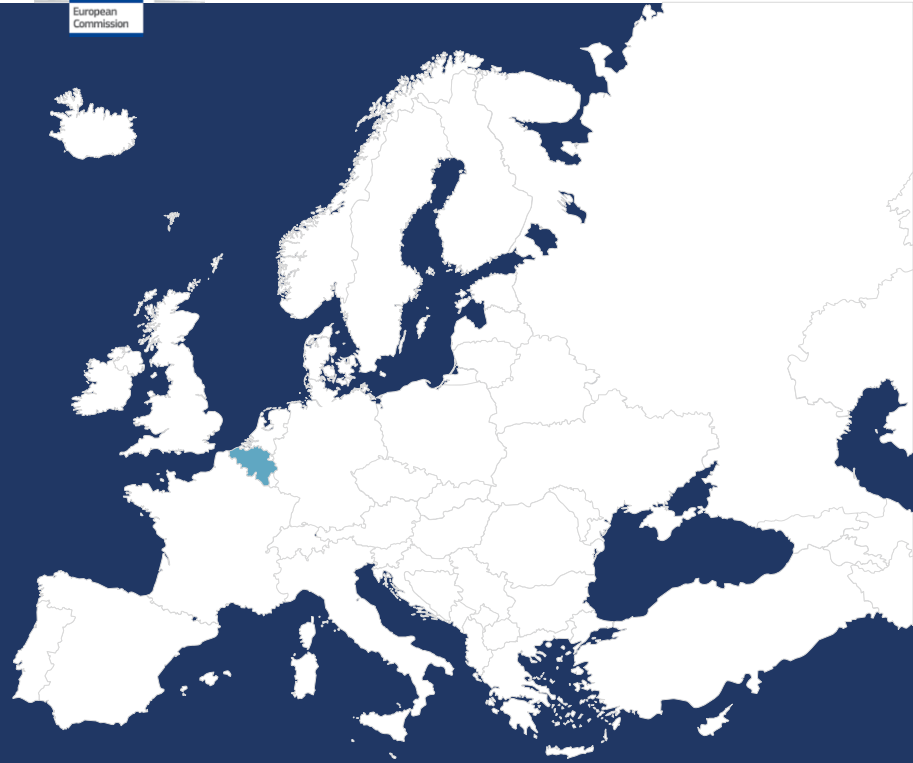
Digital Public Administration Factsheet 2024

Main developments in digital public administrations and interoperability

JULY 2024

HIGHLIGHTS - KEY PROJECTS

- As part of the AI4Belgium project, Belgium launched in December 2023 its open-source AI Assessment Tool (ALTAI) to help organisations to perform a comprehensive assessment of their AI implementation, highlighting areas of strength and areas for improvement. In addition, users receive detailed suggestions and guidance for improving the trustworthiness of their AI systems, enabling them to maintain trust with all stakeholders and offering the opportunity to mitigate the risks associated with AI implementation. Finally, as the tool is open source, it can be hosted and fully controlled by organisations, providing ownership and control over data and assessments.

- mydata.belgium.be is a new platform established in 2023 on the transparency of federal data, enabling all Belgians to find out which federal public service accessed their personal data and to what purpose. The aim is to systematically and easily provide greater transparency about those data, clarifying who has access to what type of data, why and under what legal mandate.

Key figures

10 new initiatives adopted in 2023–2024

Innovative technologies
4

Digital transformation of public administrations
3

Interoperability and data
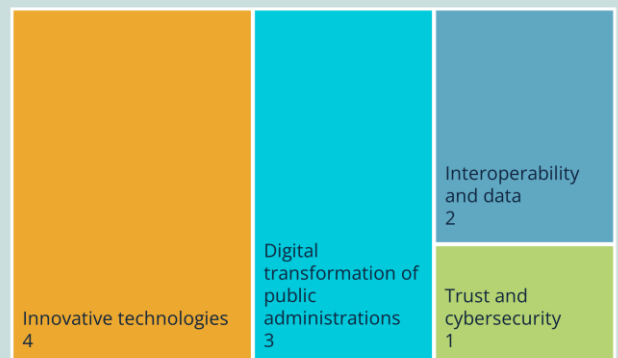2

Trust and cybersecurity
1

Figure 1

Number of initiatives per topic adopted in 2023–2024

Towards the Digital Decade targets set for 2030: DIGITAL PUBLIC SERVICES

eID scheme (≥1)
YES

eHealth records (0–100)
100%

Digital Public Services for Citizens (0–100)
82.3%

Digital Public Services for Businesses (0–100)
92.6%

Source: Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI)

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIONS

- The Action Plan for Administrative Simplification contains the list of projects to be pursued to achieve administrative simplification and digitalisation goals. The list is organised by administrations, strategic areas, target groups and axes, and provides a comprehensive understanding of all ongoing and upcoming projects for the years 2023 and 2024.

- The Tomorrow's Tech Today conference, organised on 7 and 8 February 2024 under the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, focused on sustainable telecommunications and data centres, and digital solutions for a sustainable future. The input collected at the conference will contribute to the Council conclusions in preparation for the Telecom Council on 21 May 2024.

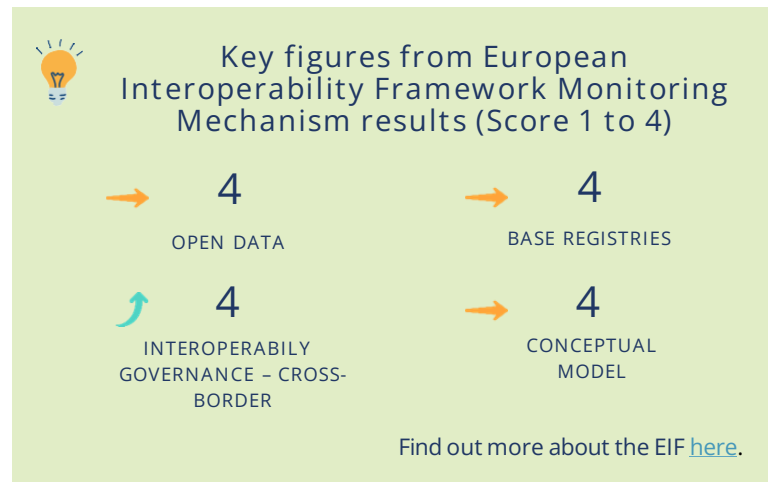## DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF PUBLIC SERVICES

No new initiatives have been reported to date.

TRUST AND CYBERSECURITY

- The federal Secretary of State for Digitalisation announced the creation of a Digital Wallet, in one digital platform, which has been in the test phase since 2023. Belgium intends to be a frontrunner when it comes to the EU Digital Wallet. The idea is to connect the methods, tools and data of all the public sector bodies in Belgium in one Digital Wallet, a one-stop-shop where every Belgian can access his or her eID, driver's license or visa, among others. It will also allow mobile signatures and include the option to request official documents.

INTEROPERABILITY AND DATA

- The Data Governance Act has become applicable since September 2023. Its Chapter II on the reuse, within the Union, of certain categories of data held by public sector bodies concerns data held by public sector bodies which are protected on grounds of a) commercial confidentiality, including business, professional and company secrets; b) statistical confidentiality; c) protection of intellectual property rights of third parties; or d) protection of personal data, insofar as such data fall outside the scope of Directive (EU) 2019/1024.

Key figures from European Interoperability Framework Monitoring Mechanism results (Score 1 to 4)

→ 4	→ 4
OPEN DATA	BASE REGISTRIES
↱ 4	→ 4
INTEROPERABILY GOVERNANCE – CROSS-BORDER	CONCEPTUAL MODEL

Find out more about the EIF here.

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES

- In February 2023, the Secretary of State for Digitalisation decided to launch the Blockchain4Belgium initiative. Through BOSA, Blockchain4Belgium will become a platform for actors from industry, academia, civil society and the various administrations concerned.

- A fine-grained measurement and high-frequency sensor network called Internet of Water Network is being deployed at selected locations across Flanders to measure indicators of water quality from 2023 onwards.

- Through the BeQCI project, Belnet is throwing its weight behind the roll-out of a quantum communications network in Belgium.

- As part of the SmartNation Strategy, BOSA organised in March 2024 a Hackathon on AI. The event focused on three main topics: a) intelligent applications for medical data; b) AI for more accessible and efficient justice; and c) Parliamentary questions.