

Open Source Policy ICELAND



1

General Information

Since 2007, the use of open source software (OSS) in Iceland is an axis to the expansion of the Icelandic information society. Along with the interest to increase efficiency, interoperability and transition into e-services, different policies encouraged public institutions to evaluate OSS for all new software purchases and implementations.

2

Actors



The **Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs** is the body responsible for overseeing the digital transition of the public administration and promoting the use of OSS in Iceland.



Citizens Foundation works on creating open online engagement platforms and advocates for innovation and technology as tools that increase the performance and trust of public organisations

3

Policy and Legal Framework

2007

Policy on Free and Open Source Software

The 2007 policy on OSS highlighted five courses of action, future steps, and ministries to involve for a seamless implementation of OSS, recommending for it to be equally considered when purchasing new software.

2011

Action plan for the introduction of free and open source software by public bodies

The action plan presented the necessary steps for a smooth transition into the use of OSS within public administrations and support to the public bodies who agreed to use and implement OSS.

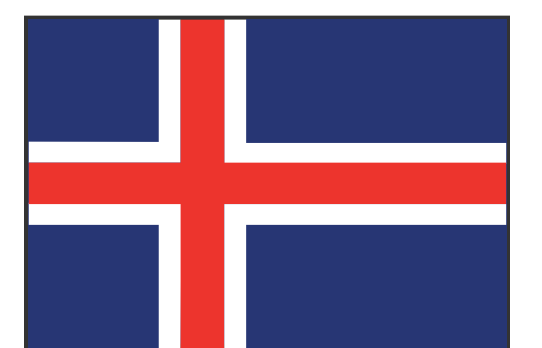
2021

Policy on Digital Public Services

The new Policy on Digital Services lists the use and development of new open source solutions to increase the competitiveness and transparency and innovation of the public sector.

4

Open Source Software Initiatives



Rakning C-19:

The COVID-19 contact tracing mobile application was developed in collaboration with the Icelandic Directorate of Health and the Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management and is installed by over 40% of the population.

Your Priorities:

The web app platform Your Priorities developed by Citizens Foundation provides a stage for citizen participation on urban challenges, constitutional and policy revisions, participatory budgets of municipalities and the presentation and swift discussion on parliamentary bills and resolutions.

Ísland.is:

The public service portal of Iceland was created to become the single location for all communication between government institutions and citizens. The source code of the portal has been publicly shared to promote the development of more government services.

Embla:

Embla is a natural language processing product that serves as a voice assistant application developed with the support of the Icelandic government initiative aimed at integrating the Icelandic language into digital technology.