

NIFO Factsheet – Sweden

The main online sources for interoperability related information for Sweden are

- The Swedish National Interoperability Strategy: <http://www.edelegationen.se/Documents/Vagledning%20mm/Nationell%20strategi%20f%C3%B6r%20interoperabilitet.pdf>
- The website of the eGovernment delegation: <http://www.edelegationen.se/>
- The principles for digital collaboration: <http://www.edelegationen.se/Documents/F%C3%B6rstudier%20och%20rapporter/Principer%20f%C3%B6r%20digital%20samverkan%20v%201%200.pdf?epslanguage=sv>
- The guideline for digital collaboration: <http://www.edelegationen.se/Documents/Vagledning%20mm/V%C3%A4gledning%20f%C3%B6r%20digital%20samverkan%20v2.pdf?epslanguage=sv>

Main interoperability highlights

Sweden has published its National Strategy for Interoperability¹ in February 2013. The website of the eGovernment delegation² provides more information ‘digital collaboration’ including the “guide for digital collaboration”³ and the “principles for digital collaboration”⁴.

Summary of the NIF

The Swedish National Strategy for Interoperability starts from the observation of the current situation and set out the vision and objectives concerning IT management, organisational interoperability, semantic interoperability, technical interoperability and legal interoperability. It concludes with a chapter on the implementation of the strategy. The overall goal of eGovernment in Sweden is summarised as follows: easier living for individuals and businesses, more open management that supports innovation and participation and a higher quality and efficiency in operations.

Alignment NIF/EIF

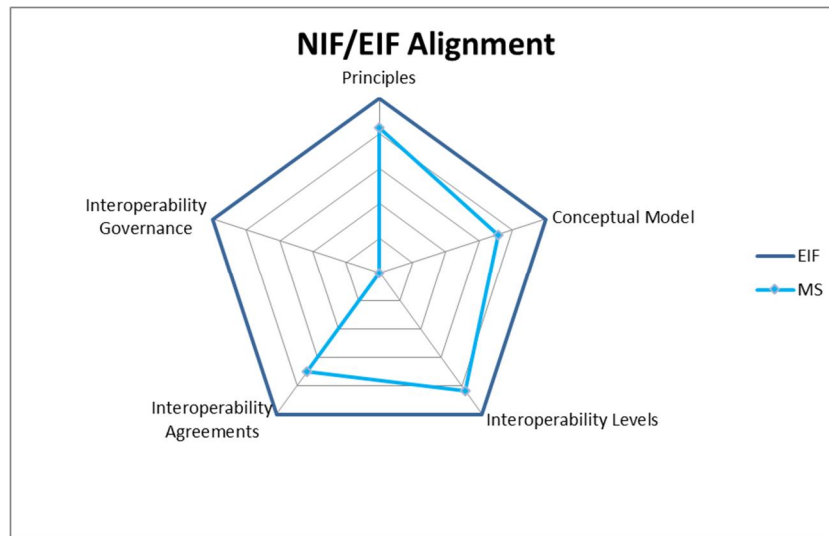
The Swedish NIF is very well aligned with the EIF on the dimensions of the principles, conceptual model, interoperability levels and interoperability agreements. The interoperability governance dimension is not aligned with the EIF.

¹ <http://www.edelegationen.se/Documents/Vagledning%20mm/Nationell%20strategi%20f%C3%B6r%20interoperabilitet.pdf>

² <http://www.edelegationen.se/Stod-och-verktyg/Digital-samverkan/>

³ <http://www.edelegationen.se/Documents/Vagledning%20mm/V%C3%A4gledning%20f%C3%B6r%20digital%20samverkan%20v2.pdf?epslanguage=sv>

⁴ <http://www.edelegationen.se/Documents/F%C3%B6rstudier%20och%20rapporter/Principer%20f%C3%B6r%20digital%20samverkan%20v%201%200.pdf?epslanguage=sv>



Eleven out of twelve of the principles mentioned in the EIF are covered by one or multiple principles from the “Principer för digital samverkan” (principles for digital collaboration). Only the transparency principle is not aligned.

Chapter four of the “Vägledning för digital samverkan” (Guide for digital collaboration) describes the conceptual model used in Sweden. This conceptual model is very well aligned with the EIF. Only the connection of authentic sources is lacking in terms of alignment.

The interoperability levels are also covered by both documents mentioned above, resulting in the (partial) alignment of all criteria in this dimension.

As regards the interoperability agreements, the guide for digital collaboration covers the use of open standards and the Swedish Standards Institute supports standardisation work. However, no structured, transparent and objective approach to assess and select formalised specifications is defined.

The interoperability governance is not established at national level and including all levels of government and sectors as such. The health sector however has a governance framework.

More detailed information on NIF / EIF alignment is provided on the NIFO Community on JoinUp on the [Compare NIFs](#) page.

Example of alignment – EIF Principle: Inclusion and accessibility

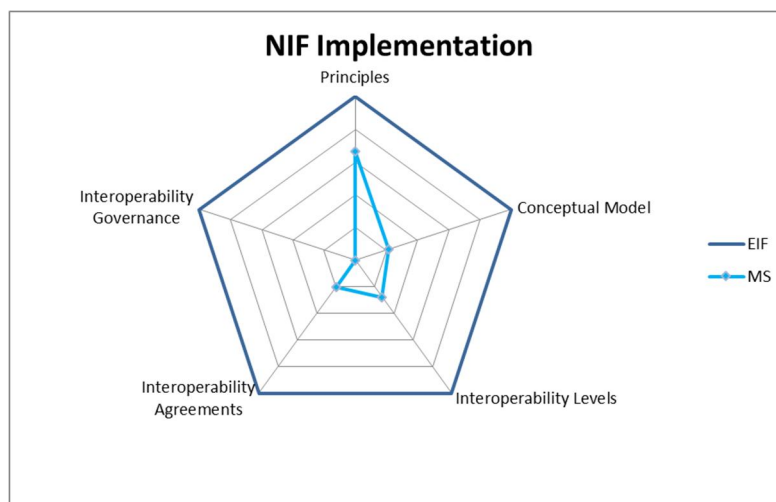
In Sweden, the principles for digital cooperation mention the principle on "Fitting the needs of different groups and individuals".

- The digital experience must be designed so that citizens can control their processes based on their own preferences and their own needs. This includes the perspectives of information, services, processes, etc. For example, opportunities for individualization improved by predefined templates / patterns on websites covering various life situations, such as for retirement, child-birth or after prolonged illness. An important aspect is that e-services need to be designed in a user friendly way, with smooth login, with good help functions and uniform interface, regardless of the agency or their provider. The public sector should take advantage of technologies to support, inform and educate in order to reduce the "digital exclusion". Websites and e-services should be designed to include people with disabilities. For example, users should be offered the opportunity to change the font size, have it read out or become digital assistance. Overall the recommendation in the guidance is based on W3C Content Accessibility Guide (WCAG).
- Help functions and explanations should be available in the five official minority languages, and the most common immigrant languages.

See "Principer för digital samverkan": <http://www.edelegationen.se/Documents/F%c3%b6rstudier%20och%20rapporter/Principer%20f%c3%b6r%20digital%20samverkan%20v%201%200.pdf?epslanguage=sv> and Vägledning för webbutveckling: <http://www.webbriktlinjer.se/>

Implementation NIF

Examples of implementation of the NIF have been identified for the principles, conceptual model and interoperability levels and agreements dimensions.



For the principles dimension, the practical implementation that is provided for administrative simplification and transparency is "Verksamt.se"⁵, a one-stop-shop for businesses or people who want to start a business. There are implementation examples for all the principles, out of which four are large scale.

⁵ <https://www.verksamt.se/>

As regards the conceptual model, different service components are provided such as the National Service Catalogue⁶ and the national secure eMessage service⁷ with a special mention for the national framework for identification⁸ that also serves as example for the access control.

The interoperability levels provide some examples of reuse, sector-specific communities and the usage of the common taxonomy for basic public services.

In the category of interoperability agreements, the budget bill 2016 proposes that digital services should as far as possible be based on open specifications, and the Swedish National Council on ICT Standardisation⁹ actively participates in standardisation work.

Example of implementation – Interoperability Levels: Common Taxonomy

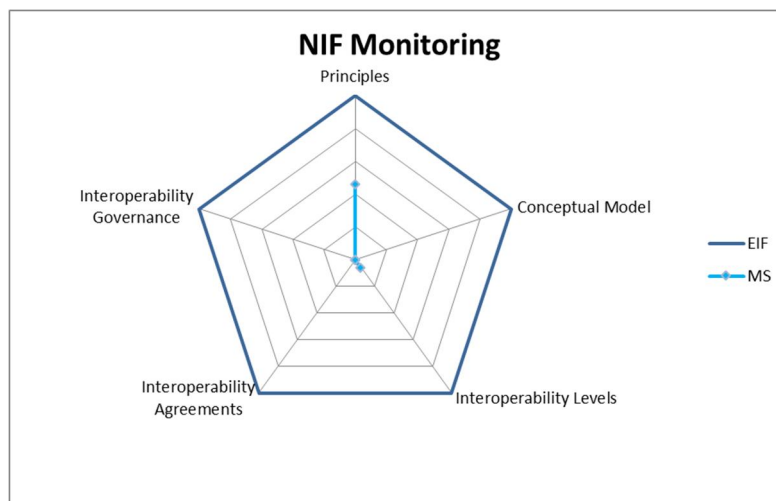
An example of practical application is in a project called Effektiv informationsförsörjning, where information exchange is made through services between local public administrations and central public agencies.

- In the project “The Swedish Companies Registration Office”, The Tax Agency and Statistics Sweden have developed common models and descriptions of concepts and information elements on core business data. Several public agencies have collaborated to develop and agree on a common taxonomy concerning cases (ärenden).

See <https://uppgiftskrav.bolagsverket.se/gu/ConceptModel/288841c9-624f-47bb-a007-9dbd21f2675b.htm>

Monitoring of NIF

Some examples of monitoring of the NIF have been identified mostly for the principles, as well as one for the interoperability levels.



Seven principles out of the twelve are monitored. This is done mostly as part of the monitoring of national legislation and the eGovernment programme.

⁶ <http://tjanster.interoperabilitet.se/tjanste/public/home.seam>

⁷ <http://minameddelanden.se/>

⁸ <http://www.elegnamnden.se/>

⁹ www.sis.se



As regards the organisational interoperability level, change management processes are addressed in the e-delegation programme which is monitored by a programme office.

More information on all the implementation and monitoring examples is provided on the NIFO Community on JoinUp on the [Compare NIFs](#) page.

Other initiatives on interoperability

Oppnadata.se provides access to datasets from the Swedish administration. The portal is currently making about 50 datasets available (<http://opnadata.se/dataset>), which are also accessible via ODIP (<http://data.opendatasupport.eu>), the pan-European single point of access to European datasets.

In March 2014, Sweden launched <http://digitalasverige.se/>, a website to publish data on Sweden's digitisation, for anyone to search, compare and share.

Sweden has established a new National IT standards council¹⁰ to facilitate coordination of IT standards and specifications in the public sector. A catalogue of advised specifications will be published, some work on standards has already been published¹¹. The catalogue will be used in procurement scenarios, both by individual agencies and in central framework agreements.

In order to achieve gradually increasing semantic interoperability, semantic assets will be collected in a catalogue¹². The ambition is to standardise the format of a vocabulary in order to facilitate re-use of both individual items in a vocabulary as well as a vocabulary in its entirety. This requires a harmonised way of making references to semantic assets. Sweden is also looking into the possibilities of mapping other information exchange assets (e.g. WSDL and XML schemas) to vocabularies¹³.

A services catalogue of base registers has been established.¹⁴ The services catalogue contains API information from agencies, municipalities and county councils. The aim is to facilitate an increased reuse of existing information instead of collecting it from businesses and individuals in digital services. The catalogue is in operation¹⁵ and the authorities have begun to register their services. A revision of the directory is scheduled to get a better structure of services and service content.

The Swedish government has appointed a committee to review the legal framework for electronic information exchange. The outcome of this committee will provide input to legal interoperability recommendations. The committee has, among other things, published the following guidance:

- Report on direct access and disclosure of medium for automated processing
- Guidance on electronic originals, copies and transcripts

¹⁰ See: <http://www.edelegationen.se/Stod-och-verktyg/It-standardisering/> and <http://www.sis.se/informationsteknik-kontorsutrustning/it-standardiseringsr%C3%A5det>

¹¹ See: <http://www.sis.se/PageFiles/2604/%C3%84rendef%C3%B6rteckning%20.pdf>

¹² See: <http://www.edelegationen.se/Stod-och-verktyg/Digital-samverkan/>

¹³ See e.g. <http://www.w3.org/TR/sawSDL/>

¹⁴ See: <http://www.edelegationen.se/Stod-och-verktyg/Digital-samverkan/>

¹⁵ <http://tjanster.interoperabilitet.se>



Work is also underway in creating the governance framework for the national interoperability framework and related initiatives. This will require a new organisation, planning for the new organisation has begun. E-delegation has begun an investigation to determine a governance structure for long term management of eGovernment and interoperability.

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