



Overview of sustainability plans of Large Scale Pilots

During recent months, e-SENS has worked to obtain a concise overview of the sustainability plans of previous and ongoing Large-scale Pilots. Deliverable 3.3 summarises these plans and presents a consolidated view of the different sustainability strategies developed by the five large-scale pilot projects. The most important finding in the document is that governance plans are not aligned; governance model statuses range from an implemented model in the case of OpenPEPPOL (a public-private NPO), all the way to eSOS and e-CODEX which are still running and hence have no sustainable governance in place. DG DIGIT under the ISA Programme is a solid partner for some LSPs (e-CODEX, OpenPEPPOL and STORK), where eSOS seems to diverge with the launch of the EXPAND project that is run under DG CONNECT. However, eSOS has no operationally assured legal framework beyond the piloting phase. Today this is based on agreements amongst the ministries of health within eSOS. From an architectural point of view, the solutions designed by the LSPs have partly been developed in isolation, which means that re-use of BBs has been very limited. Only SPOCS and STORK2.0 have re-used BBs (both have re-used e-Signature validation from PEPPOL). However, all LSPs are based on international standards. Therefore re-use is central to e-SENS, i.e. consolidate – improve – extend. The task of ensuring architectural convergence belongs to Work Package 6. Regarding market take-up, PEPPOL is the only LSP to have implemented its components in several countries with increased volumes of transactions. Overall, PEPPOL is by far the most mature LSP in terms of market take-up.

For the next phase, a more diverse range of stakeholders needs to take ownership of the results. From a governance perspective, a flexible multi-level organisation seems to be necessary in order to be able to take on board very different stakeholders. There are many key factors for market take-up. Apart from a flexible multi-level organisation, a common process for life cycle management is recommended. The initial requirements and criteria for a multi-level organisation and life cycle management process are in development under this work package and will be provided in deliverable D3.6.

In the long term the e-SENS building blocks are intended to move from public funding towards self-sustainability, as they are taken up by the market. A point for specific attention is the development of a coherent vision for the consolidation of high-level BBs. At present, the LSPs are working hard to sustain their individual solutions, either through the ISA Programme or through for example the OpenPEPPOL organisation. At the same time, the CEF Work Programme is focusing on the deployment of BBs produced by some of the LSPs. Consequently there is a risk that multiple versions of the same high-level building blocks will be deployed throughout Europe before e-SENS has the chance to consolidate these building blocks. There are two years remaining in which e-SENS and CEF could work out a smooth handover to CEF.