



## Digital Government Strategies: Good Practices

### Austria: ICT Suitability- Impact assessment of legal projects on ICT

The OECD Council adopted on 15 July 2014 the Recommendation on Digital Government Strategies. The Recommendation provides a set of 12 principles structured around 3 pillars. The OECD Secretariat is developing a Digital Government Policy Toolkit to support OECD member countries and non-member adhering countries with the implementation of the Recommendation. This practice was submitted by the government of Austria to be considered as a good practice in the implementation of one or more of the principles contained in the Recommendation.

#### Description of the practice:

<b>Organisation:</b>	Federal Chancellery
<b>Name of the practice:</b>	ICT Suitability- Impact assessment of legal projects on ICT
<b>Principles implemented:</b>	<u>Principle 12</u> – Ensure that general and sector-specific legal and regulatory frameworks allow digital opportunities to be seized.

**Description:** This guide is intended to support legal experts drafting laws when examining whether the draft of the law incorporates ICT relevant regulatory issues and assists you in an ICT-strategic implementation of the project. Concrete questions are asked on possible relevant areas of this draft that should help to identify a need for action and to amend it according to the specifications.

Project management: Federal Chancellery

Project team: Federal Computing Center, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Federal Ministry of Justice, Main Association of the Austrian Social Security Institutions, Constitutional Service, Austrian Association of Municipalities. <https://www.bka.gv.at/DocView.axd?CobId=47411>

#### Results

The need for central interventions during the legislative process from the e-government department decreased considerable because more and more legislative drafts already take the recommendations into account.



## Development

**Design:** April 2010

This project was one of several initiatives to reform the public administration and was called: “E13 – Überprüfung legislativer Vorhaben auf Auswirkungen in Bezug auf die IKT”

The stakeholders involved are described above.

**Testing:** April 2010-December 2011

The guideline was intensively discussed in meetings with legal experts in the period April 2010 until December 2011.

The guideline was checked against the checkpoints used by the legal experts of the e-government department in the Federal Chancellery for commenting new legislative proposals.

**Implementation:** After April 2012

The legal information system (ris.bka.gv.at) was used intensively. Furthermore Mailings and Meetings were necessary during the creation of the guideline.

Resources: Around 30 person days.

**Diffusion and scaling:** April 2012

The key stakeholders are legal experts drafting legislative proposals (civil servants, sub-national governments). They were reached via a circular from the Constitutional Service of the Federal Chancellery (<https://www.bka.gv.at/DocView.axd?CobId=47410> )

The practice has been expanded to other parts and levels of government (see method described above in D.7). The Federal Chancellery informs continually about this guideline and it is published together with other logistic recommendations at: <https://www.bka.gv.at/site/5826/default.aspx>

The biggest challenge is the consideration in the daily practice of all legal experts drafting legislative proposals.

**Partnerships:** Public Sector Organisations

Partners: Federal Computing Center, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Federal Ministry of Justice, Main Association of the Austrian Social Security Institutions, Constitutional Service, Austrian Association of Municipalities

Nature of the partnership: The partnership resulted in a broader ownership of the guideline.



## Digital government toolkit



The dissemination from the renowned Constitutional Service increased the credibility of the initiative.

### Lessons learned

Broad engagement of legal experts from many different organisations also helped in the dissemination of the final guideline.

The guideline can be considered as a central source for legal experts drafting legislative proposals on ICT elements that have to be considered.

Conditions required: The awareness of legal experts that their legislation will have an impact on ICT too.

Additional information: