eID Trends in french eGovernment

Liberty Alliance Workshop
April, 20th 2007
French Ministry of Finance, DGME
Agenda

- What do we have today?
- What are our plans?
- What needs to be solved!
What do we have today?

- (e-)Identity is a very sensitive subject in France
  - Cultural heritage: freedom, independancy… privacy!
  - Big focus on sectorial identifiers (like SSN)
  - Creation of the CNIL in the 70’s
  - Use of an identifier of another public entity needs to be heavily legally approved

- All that means that we have very tight identity silos
  - No way to create a central database with relations between all the identifiers

Diagram:

- User Database Administration 1
- User Database Administration 2
- User Database Administration 3
- User Database Administration 4
- Central User Database
- Unique User Database for all Administrations

CNIL logo

What do we have today?

- But, like every country, we want to:
  - Develop online services for our citizens
  - Improve efficiency of citizen demands treatment
  - Set up a fast, modern and seamless administration

- All that with the respect of the citizen privacy, of course…
What are our plans?

- First, the **front office**: the project
  - This is a:
    - Personalized portal
    - With Liberty SSO
    - With unified messaging system in a dashboard
    - With an e-Safe, storing personal documents and data for future administrative use
What are our plans?

This is on a good way (online in 2008)

But this is only a first step!
What needs to be solved!

1 - Provisioning

- Having a strong and reliable e-Identity for our citizens means that:
  - 1) We know how to securely associate an e-ld mean with a citizen and then deliver it in “good” conditions
  - 2) We know how to (re-)use this e-ld, key for customized online services

- Runs for 2)

- But we are still working on 1):
  - Because every one is “happy” with his own system (“today is not the best, but it is not so bad and it works”)
  - Because “provisioning” process must be centralized; and centralization frightens
  - Because responsibility on 1) is huge: who wants to support the risk/cost?
What needs to be solved!

2 - Attributes

- E-Id is nice, but the real issue is about personal attributes:
  - That is what makes you unique and specific
  - That is what gives you rights and duties
  - That is what allows a good and efficient administration

- But this has to be a win-win deal between the user and the administrations:
  - Better and reliable personal datas for the public bodies needs
  - Better transparency of the use of your datas

- Thus we must focus in the same time on:
  - Personal attributes certification (or “reliabilization”)
  - Transparency on public back-offices
Finally, operational issues appear: how to maintain the system work fine (once built)

- How to ensure an easy and secure process for the recovery of an e-Id mean when it is expired or usurped (digital certificate)?
- How to ensure that my - so critical and useful - personal datas will be well updated when I will move, marry, have children, change job...?

More generally, take care about the “exceptions”: the few percents of cases that cost the major percents of the budget

- The system doesn’t “grant” me access any more
- My profile does not match any case known by the system

We need to be very careful of the connections between Id & e-Id
Thank you!

Wants to know more?

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