



IDV Information No. 5 – September 2017

Project IDV Schweiz

The Identity Network Switzerland project (IDV Schweiz) aims at providing federated identity and authentication services as infrastructure components. IDV Schweiz is a strategic project (SP1) according to the strategic plan of eGovernment Schweiz. The project is conducted by the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO.

Current status

An identity federation broker service, IDV Broker 1.0, was developed in close cooperation with the Federal Administration and the Cantons and is about to be finalised. This service implements the basic requirements as expressed by the involved Cantons (IDV Architecture Board). The IDV interface specification is now publicly released such that identity providers (IdPs) and relying parties (RPs) can start implementing. The technical platform to start the pilot phase is planned to be ready by the first quarter of 2018.

During the course of this year a number of developments have occurred which raised uncertainties regarding the original plans for the pilot phase. On an operational level, cost overruns and budget restrictions led to short term plans being revised. Matters were complicated further by the fact that, on a strategic level, there was little progress towards identifying a sustainable sponsorship for IDV Schweiz.

This all led to the conclusion that the necessary preconditions to start the pilot phase have not yet been met. The intentions remain the same as before: allow IDV Schweiz to be realised as planned while, at the same time, assuring it will be operated by a dedicated service organisation by the end of 2019, when the project is over.

Next steps

Together with the eGovernment Switzerland Programme Office the SECO is working to ensure there will be a sponsoring organisation and allow for a timely start of the pilot. Among others, this is going to demand an active role taken by the Cantons. All this requires some more time and patience, mostly by those who have planned for an early pilot.

In order to allow the pilot phase to start, Cantons will be asked for committing themselves in the sense that the future sponsorship can be assured, and along with it, project investments preserved.

The SECO will provide further information as things progress.

Impressum

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