Benefits of e-Society and e-Government

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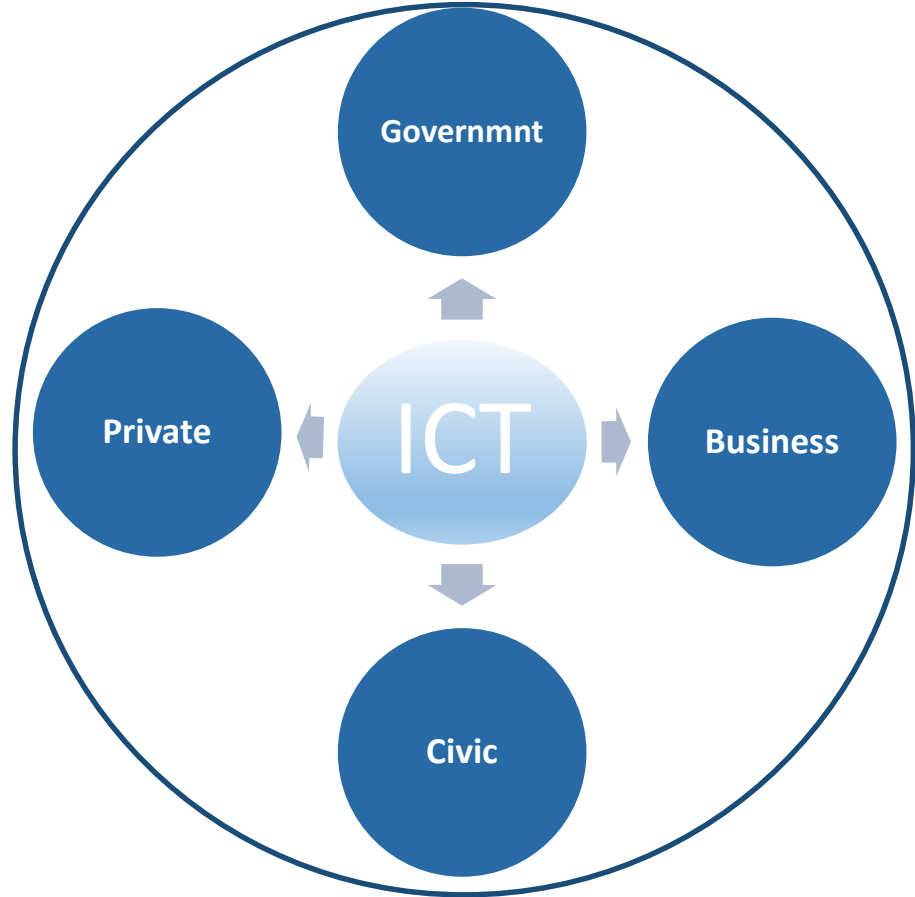
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e-Society

- Digital Society

- Information Society

- Networked society

Society transformed by use of ICT

Role of the Government

- Creation of favourable political and legal environment

- Support to the development of ICT infrastructure

- Implementation of e-Government platform and public e-services

- Encouraging and supporting the use of ICT in society

- Strengthening democracy through ICT

Strategic goals

- Wellbeeing of all members of society – nobody is left behind!

- e-Government as a platform for the whole society, not only for the government

- The benefit of e-government should be seen as an integral gain for all sectors of society (business, public and private sector)

Areas of state intervention

- Modernization of legislation
- Supporting the capacity of private sector to harness the potential of ICT
- Reshaping the interaction between state and citizens
- Raising awareness on the benefits and risks of Information Society

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Policy Principles

- Citizen (customer) orientation
- Measures against digital divide (ID-cards for all)
- Efficient and transparent public sector
- Leading role for private sector, Public-Private Partnership
- e-Democracy/e-participation as an essential component of e-government strategy
- Protection of personal data
- Neutrality concerning technological platforms

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Legal framework

- No need for a full body of specialized legislation

- Trigger laws exist

- Necessary provisions should be in all applicable legislation, to avoid creation of parallel systems

- Adjustment of legislation to changing reality is constantly required

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What is important

- Privacy and cyber security, strong identification of persons using PKI or some other method

- Well designed and secure e-Government architecture

- Cost model and comfort, eServices free of charge

- Trust bulding by business sector, particularly by Internet banking

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Main building blocks of e-Estonia

- Electronic ID

- Digital databases

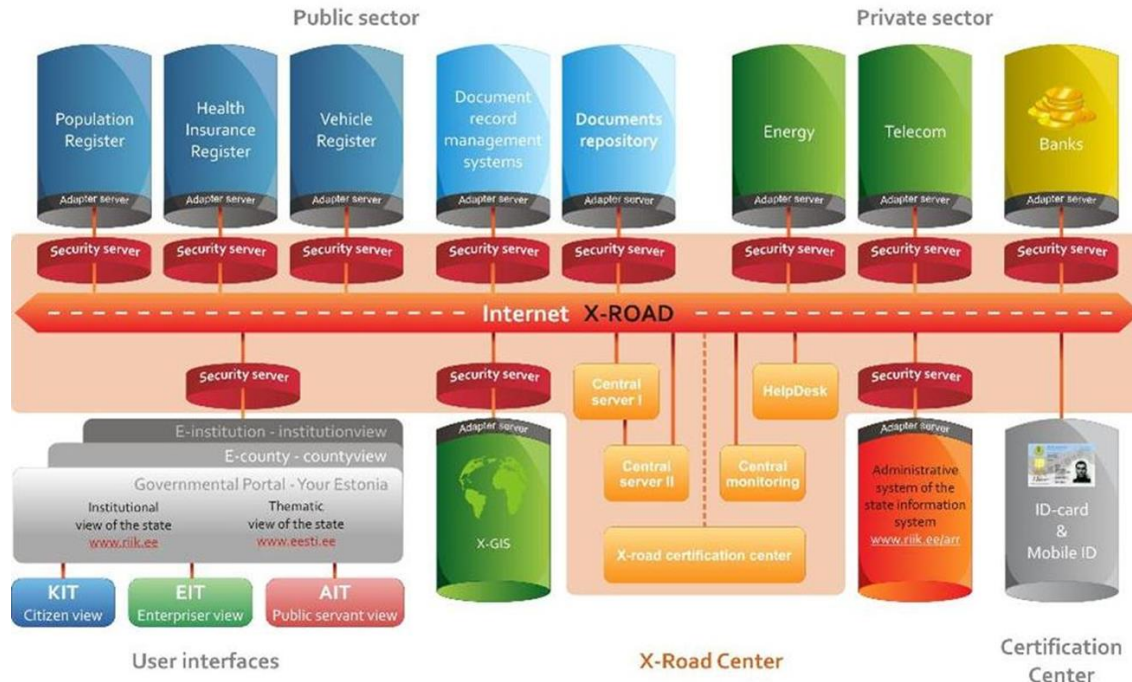- X-road Data Exchange

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Electronic ID Card

- In operation since 2002

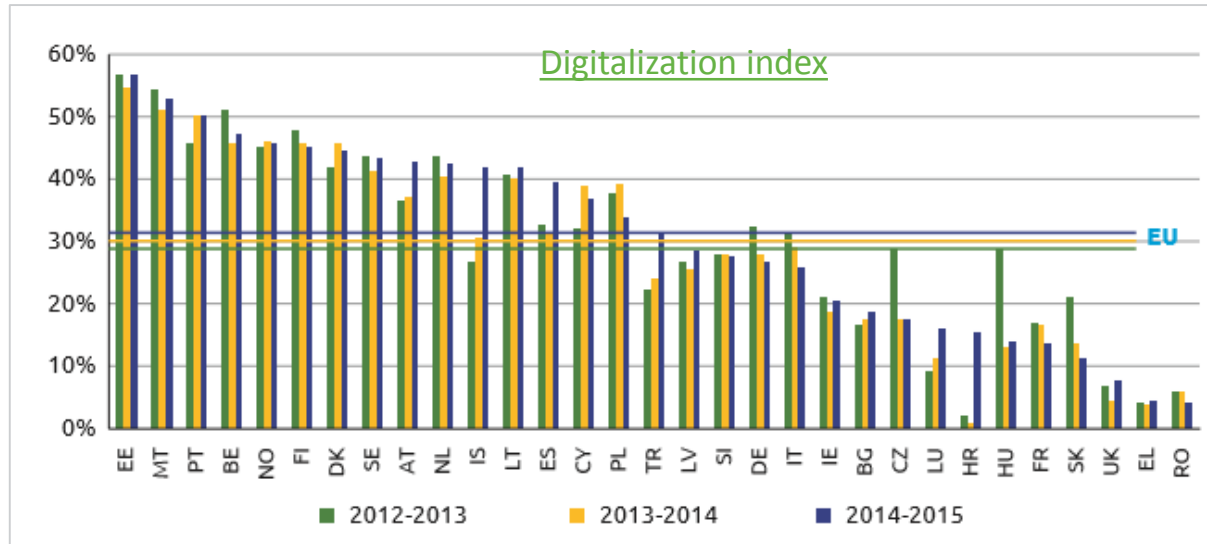- Proof of identity in an electronic environment

X-Road Data Exchange

- X-Road is the data exchange layer that connects the nation's various databases and services, both in the public and private sector.

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e-Government services

- Accessable through portal eesti.ee

- e-Services are registered in the Administration System for the State Information System RIHA
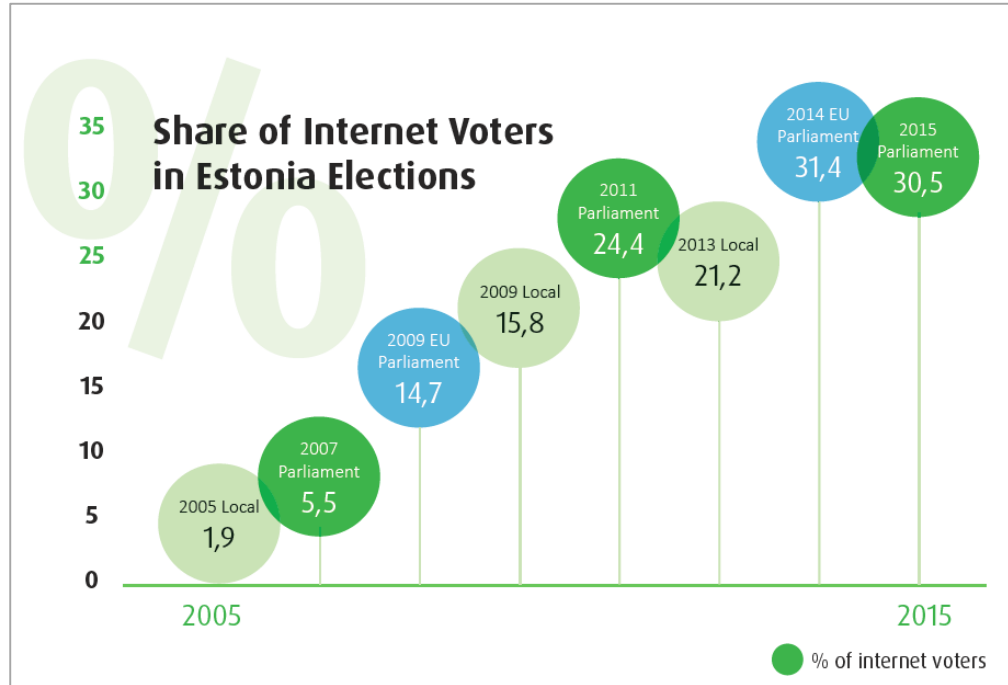

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Digital Signature

- In use since 2002

- Digital signature carries the same legal weight as hand-written signature

- **358 100 257** digital signatures as of 20.03.2017 08:10

- By replacing handwritten documents with digitally signed ones Estonia has saved over 200 million euros

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Internet voting

- Estonia's Internet voting system allows voters to cast their votes from any internet-connected computer, anywhere in the World.

Share of Internet Voters in Estonia Elections

2005 Local 1,9
2007 Parliament 5,5
2009 EU Parliament 14,7
2009 Local 15,8
2011 Parliament 24,4
2013 Local 21,2
2014 EU Parliament 31,4
2015 Parliament 30,5

% of internet voters

Lessons learned

- e-Government is widely **about change management**, technology is the tool but not the aim by itself.

- Coordination and management should be clear with **responsibilities and rights**. This is a pre-condition to e-government development.

- Trust is widely about **privacy protection, data security and stability**.

- e-Government is **not academic undertaking**. Universities can be used in some academic issues but not as the reponsible implementers.

- Impact is mainly in society and it takes time. There are not many cases where good results are reached within a year, mojority of sucess stories need **5-6 years**.

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Benefits of e-Society

- More effective and accountable public sector
- Easy access to public services
- Supportive business environment
- Increased potential for creativity and self realization of citizens

More information about e-Estonia https://e-estonia.com/

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Thank you!

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