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ANNEX 1

**ANNEX**

**CONNECTING EUROPE FACILITY (CEF)  
TRANS-EUROPEAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS  
WORK PROGRAMME 2017**

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

The Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) was established by Regulation (EU) N° 1316/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013<sup>1</sup> (CEF Regulation). It determines the conditions, methods and procedures for providing European Union (EU) financial assistance to trans-European networks in order to support projects of common interest. It also establishes the breakdown of resources to be made available for the period 2014-2020. It covers the sectors of transport, telecommunications and energy.

In accordance with Article 17 of the CEF Regulation, the Commission has to adopt, by means of implementing acts, multiannual and annual work programmes for each of the sectors concerned. In doing so, the Commission must establish the selection and award criteria in line with objectives and priorities laid down in Articles 3 and 4 of the CEF Regulation and in Regulations (EU) No 1315/2013 and (EU) No 347/2013 or in the relevant guidelines for trans-European networks in the area of telecommunications infrastructure.

Guidelines for trans-European networks in the area of telecommunications infrastructure (CEF Telecom guidelines) were adopted on 11 March 2014<sup>2</sup> and cover the specific objectives and priorities as well as eligibility criteria for funding envisaged for broadband networks and digital service infrastructures.

The CEF Telecom guidelines define '*telecommunications infrastructures*' as both broadband networks and digital service infrastructures (DSIs). The latter are composed of '*Core Service Platforms*' – central hubs which enable trans-European connectivity – and '*Generic Services*' which link national infrastructures to the Core Service Platforms. Finally, '*Building Blocks*' are basic DSIs which enable the more complex digital service infrastructures to function properly.

This document constitutes the 2017 Work Programme (WP2017) for CEF Telecommunications (CEF Telecom) digital service infrastructures. It outlines the general objectives and the priorities for actions to be launched in 2017 and explains how these can be tangibly achieved through the selected digital service infrastructure. It defines the scope of the programme as well as the envisaged level of funding, which will take the form of procurement, calls for proposals and other supporting actions.

In addition, it covers also horizontal actions in all areas, as defined in Section 3 of the Annex to the CEF Telecom guidelines, including Technical Assistance for Broadband.

For further information relating to this programme, please refer to the CEF Telecom website at <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/connecting-europe-facility>.

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1316/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing the Connecting Europe Facility, amending Regulation (EU) No 913/2010 and repealing Regulations (EC) No 680/2007 and (EC) No 67/2010.

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) No 283/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 on guidelines for trans-European telecommunications networks and repealing Decision No 1336/97/EC

## 2 CONTEXT, OBJECTIVES AND OVERALL APPROACH

### 2.1 Political Context

The Communication setting out the Digital Single Market Strategy (DSM) for Europe<sup>3</sup> recognizes the importance of CEF Digital Services Infrastructures to meet the needs of businesses and citizens in their cross-border activities. An inclusive e-society, supported among others by e-government services such as eSignature and eProcurement, is identified as key to the maximisation of the growth potential of the European Digital Economy.

CEF DSIs also contribute to the enforcement of cross-border e-commerce rules that will support consumer confidence in online and digital cross-border purchases. As an example the Online Dispute Resolution, whose deployment has started under the previous CEF Work Programme, offers a simple, fast, low cost and online solution to disputes between consumers and traders. Another example is the contribution of the Cyber Security DSI to the reinforcement of trust and security in digital services explicitly addressed in the DSM Communication.

Since the adoption of the DSM communication, the political context has evolved, adding elements to its implementation. The first industry-related initiative<sup>4</sup> of the Digital Single Market package was launched in April 2016 by the European Commission. Its goal is to ensure that Europe is ready to face the challenges posed by the technological developments affecting our digital society and economy. The accompanying Communication on the European Cloud Initiative received strong support from Member States in the Council Conclusions of 26 May 2016. The EU Council conclusions of 28 June 2016 called for a swift and determined progress in the coordination of EU efforts on high performance computing. This requires sustained and coordinated investments from the private and public sectors: CEF has been identified as one of the instruments that can and will be mobilised to achieve this goal.

In particular CEF can support the deployment and use of high performance computing, storage and data management facilities in the frame of Digital Service Infrastructures. For this reason the Commission has proposed in the context of the Multi-annual Financial Framework review to open up CEF to high performance computing (HPC). In a first instance, in 2017, initial support will be given to the exploitation of synergies between the Public Open Data DSI and HPC for cross-border use cases processing open public information datasets through supercomputers. This initial investment is to be seen as first step towards a full coordination of effort between different programmes such as CEF or H2020, but also involving Member States in the development and federation of a large scale European HPC and Big Data service infrastructure facility serving a wide range of different stakeholders. Therefore new, larger scale activities are expected to be included in the following years CEF Work Programmes.

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<sup>3</sup> COM (2015)192 Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 6 May 2015 on A Digital Single Market for Europe

<sup>4</sup> COM (2016)180 Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 19 April 2016 on Digitising European Industry - Reaping the full benefits of a Digital Single Market

Furthermore, on 14 September 2014 the Commission adopted the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulations (EU) No 1316/2013 and (EU) No 283/2014 as regards the promotion of Internet connectivity in local communities<sup>5</sup> - the "Free Wireless Internet Access initiative".

The Free Wireless Internet Access initiative will encourage entities with a public mission such as public authorities and providers of public services to offer free local wireless connectivity in the centres of local public life (e.g. public administrations, libraries, health centres and outdoor public spaces). To this end, it will provide financial incentives in favour of those entities who want to provide free, high capacity local wireless connectivity in public spaces within their jurisdiction or at their sites of service.

The intervention will promote citizens' interest in high capacity internet services thus making a significant contribution to both the take-up of commercial broadband and to public infrastructure development. The initiative will contribute towards digital inclusion, improve coverage in disadvantaged areas, reinforce mobility and promote digital literacy. It will also promote the use of services offered by entities with a public mission.

The initiative will promote citizens' interest in high capacity internet services thus making a significant contribution to both the take-up of commercial broadband and to public infrastructure development. It will contribute towards digital inclusion improve coverage in disadvantaged areas, reinforce mobility and promote digital literacy. It will also promote the use of services offered by entities with a public mission.

The implementation of the Free Wireless Internet Access initiative should start in 2017. This will require the amendment of this work programme or the adoption of a separate work programme dedicated to this initiative.

## **2.2 Objectives, medium-term perspective and expected results**

### *Objectives*

The overall objective of the Connecting Europe Facility is to pursue economic growth and support the completion and functioning of the internal market in support of the competitiveness of the European economy.

CEF Telecom in particular is aimed at pursuing real improvements in daily life for citizens, businesses (including SMEs) and administrations through the deployment of solid trans-EU interoperable infrastructures based on mature technical and organisational solutions. CEF focuses on providing operational services which are ready to be deployed and which will be sustainable and maintained over time. CEF Telecom equally aims at promoting the deployment and modernisation of broadband networks that underpin these internet services by fostering the efficient flow of private and public investments<sup>6</sup>.

### *Expected results and the medium-term perspective*

CEF Telecom, in its part dedicated to the digital services infrastructure deployment, is designed to deploy this infrastructure across the EU, based on mature technical and organisational solutions to support exchanges and collaboration between citizens, businesses and public authorities. CEF Telecom focuses on providing functioning

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<sup>5</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32013R1316> and <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32014R0283>

<sup>6</sup> Financial instruments for Broadband have been included in previous years' workprogrammes

services which are ready to be deployed and which will be maintained over time, as opposed to developing pilots or technologies.

The vision for CEF Telecom is still that by 2020 it will deliver concrete benefits to citizens, businesses and administrations across the EU through mutually reinforcing and complementary digital service infrastructures, including supercomputers, and broadband networks, making the Digital Single Market more effective and contributing to economic growth.

More specifically, this means that consumers will be able to benefit from lower costs, better and quicker access to public services, public data and cultural information in all Member States. The services will be safer, more secure and available in all EU languages, and over time be supported by new faster broadband networks.

For businesses a successful CEF programme will mean more opportunities and better cross border public services. It will become less time-consuming and less costly to interact with public authorities. Transactions will be interoperable, secure and trustworthy across Europe.

For public administrations, CEF Telecom is expected to deliver greater efficiency and reduced transaction costs across the different domains with all Member States participating fully in cross-border activities.

CEF Telecom projects aim to be mutually reinforcing and complementary. There are many potential linkages between the digital services; in particular, Building Blocks such as eIdentification, eAuthentication, eDelivery, eInvoicing or Automated Translation and Cyber-Security enable the proper functioning of all the other DSIs listed in the CEF Telecom guidelines. It has to be noted that several Building Blocks are available following the work done within previous work programmes and can be used by any organisation, being it public or private<sup>78</sup>.

In addition, the exploitation of HPC by the DSIs within CEF share a rationale of inclusion and economic advancement. On one hand easier and widespread access to the internet network will contribute to an easier and more widespread use at local level of online services, including public services. On the other, a better use and processing of data at all levels will lead to digital solutions that will push the economy and the society forward. The DSIs adoption of HPC technologies will allow public sector as well as business and citizens to take full advantage of new services built over supercomputers.

The expected benefits and outcomes and the medium-term perspective are described in more detail for each service in Section 3. Great importance will be attached to the monitoring of performance and evaluation. Member States will need to be closely involved in the monitoring of projects of common interest to ensure quality control and ownership. This will be done through regular performance reviews whereby funding can be discontinued if clear performance targets are not met.

### ***Financial sustainability***

Indications as to the long term sustainability of the DSIs will be provided by the study "Connecting Europe Facility 2014-2020 - Long-Term sustainability of Digital Service

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<sup>7</sup> A full description of the available Building Block is available here <https://ec.europa.eu/cefdigital/wiki/display/CEFDIGITAL/CEF+Digital+Home>

<sup>8</sup> The machine translation service of the eTranslation platform, MT@EC, is currently not available for use by private companies.

Infrastructures" started at the beginning of 2016. Indeed, the purpose of the study is to provide a substantive analysis and assessment of a range of different solutions for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the DSIs, considering four aspects: finance, governance, operations, and IT/Enterprise architecture. The study is divided into two parts. The first focuses on the lifespan of the programme and analyses and assesses the financial sustainability of the DSIs, defined as "the potential of a given DSI to generate revenue and/or benefit from sources of funding other than CEF, so as to become progressively self-standing or reliant on alternative sources of public funding or on a mix of private and public financing". The second part focuses on the post-CEF period and analyses and assesses a range of different solutions for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the DSIs beyond 2020 based on an analysis of the needs and requirements of DSIs in terms of governance, operations, financing and architecture.

Preliminary results show varying scenarios where for some DSIs funding can be reduced as other sources of funding can take over, whereas for others investments will remain necessary in future. The study will be finalised between Q3 and Q4 2017.

### ***Communication***

Digital Services can support the realisation of the Digital Single Market only if deployment is accompanied by widespread uptake and usage.

These three implementation aspects – deployment, uptake and usage – can only take place if supported by adequate communication. On one hand sectorial communities carrying out the deployment should be aware of the funding opportunities and of the benefits conveyed by the solutions offered. On the other, communication should make sure that citizens themselves share the vision of a European and interoperable eco-system of Digital Services. A widespread, effective communication succeeding in the defined goals, can only be achieved if the Commission and Member States join their effort. The Commission is actively promoting the use of the Building Blocks and developing a communication strategy for the CEF Digital Services Infrastructures in the context of the Digital Single Market.

## **2.3 CEF Telecommunications Work Programme 2017**

The CEF Telecom Work Programme 2017 (WP2017 in short) will include actions contributing to projects of common interest in the field of digital service infrastructures (the DSIs) and the Technical Assistance to Broadband.

### **2.3.1 DSIs eligibility criteria and approach**

According to Article 6 of the CEF Telecom Guidelines, actions contributing to projects of common interest in the field of digital service infrastructures must meet all the following criteria in order to be eligible for funding:

- reach sufficient maturity to be deployed, as proven in particular through successful piloting under programmes such as the EU programmes related to innovation and research;
- contribute to EU policies and activities in support of the internal market;
- create European added value and have a strategy, which must be updated when appropriate and the quality of which is to be demonstrated by a feasibility and cost-benefit assessment, together with planning for long-term sustainability, where appropriate through funding sources other than CEF;



- comply with international and/or European *standards* or open specifications and orientations for interoperability, such as the European Interoperability Framework and capitalise on existing solutions.

While for the previous Work Programmes a selection had to be made based on DSI maturity, WP2017 may include all DSIs indicated in the legislation, as the background work carried out in parallel to the CEF programme for those DSIs which were not mature enough has advanced them to an acceptable level of development.

### **2.3.2 Work Programme content overview**

DSIs to be supported by WP2017 are selected according to their implementation needs and considering the goal of an ultimate sustainability of the programme.

The DSIs that will receive funds for additional or continuation of activities in 2017 have already been supported under previous Work Programmes. Some activities launched in 2014, 2015 and 2016 still need to be completed and are funded via budget committed in the respective years. The DSIs for which funding is foreseen in 2017 are:

- Europeana, which is identified as well-established in the CEF Telecom Guidelines. Funding will ensure its continued operation in accordance with the Guidelines.
- Other mature DSIs: eIdentification and eSignature, eDelivery, eInvoicing, Public Open Data, Automated Translation, Cybersecurity, eProcurement, European Platform for the interconnection of European Business Registers (BRIS), eHealth, Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information (EESSI) and the European eJustice portal.

The Safer Internet and the On-line Dispute Resolution DSIs do not require funding in WP2017.

As regards to broadband infrastructure, the support for the Technical Assistance will continue as started in 2016.

### **2.3.3 Indicative budget**

The total estimated funding for the twelve DSIs for 2017 amounts to about EUR 106 million including the 2.44% contribution from EFTA countries. The table below shows the indicative 2017 funding for DSI projects with the split between Core Platforms and Generic Services. Funding for the Broadband Technical Assistance amounts to a total of EUR 0.333 million. More detailed indications regarding the scope and duration of the funding are provided in Section 3.

Budgetary figures given in this work programme are indicative. Unless otherwise stated, final budgets may vary following the evaluation of proposals. The final figures may vary by up to 20% with respect to those indicated in this work programme for the budgeted activities.

**Table 1 Overview of DSI projects and their indicative funding for 2017**

Activity		Indicative funding (Euros)	Type of action	Indicative duration (years)
<b>Well established DSIs</b>				
Europeana	Core Platform	14 million	Procurement	<b>2</b>
	Generic Services	2 million	Call for proposals	<b>1 - 2</b>
<b>DSIs already supported under CEF WP2014, WP2015 and/or WP2016</b>				
eIdentification and eSignature	Core Platform	1.5 million	Procurement	<b>1</b>
	Generic Services	7 million	Call for proposals	<b>1</b>
eDelivery	Core Platform	1 million	Procurement	<b>2</b>
	Generic Services	0.5 million	Call for proposals	<b>1</b>
eInvoicing	Generic Services	10 million	Call for proposals	<b>1</b>
Open Data Portal (including HPC)	Core Platform	4 million	Procurement	<b>3</b>
	Generic Services	6 million	Call for proposals	<b>2 - 3</b>
Automated Translation - eTranslation	Core Platform	1 million	Procurement	<b>3</b>
	Generic Services	6 million	Call for proposals	<b>2</b>
Cyber Security	Generic Services	12 million	Call for proposals	<b>2</b>
eProcurement	Generic Services	4 million	Call for proposals	<b>1</b>
Business Registers Interconnection System – BRIS	Generic Services	2 million	Call for proposals	<b>1.5</b>
eHealth	Core Platform	3 million	Procurement	<b>4</b>
	Generic Services	9 million	Call for proposals	<b>4</b>
Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information – EESSI	Core Platform	3 million	Procurement	<b>2</b>
	Generic Services	17 million	Call for proposals	<b>2</b>
European e-Justice Portal	Generic Services	1.5 million	Call for proposals	<b>2</b>

<b>Programme Support Actions</b>			
Communication	0.12 million	Procurement	
Studies	1.105 million	Procurement	
Maintenance and access to IT tools	0.1 million		
* Broadband Technical Assistance	0.333 million	Procurement	
Projects evaluations and reviews	0.398 million		

Activities marked with \* are financed through the budget line 090301 “Preparing Broadband for public and/or private financing”, while all other activities are financed via the budget line 090303 “Promoting interoperability, sustainable deployment, operation and upgrading of trans-European digital service infrastructures, as well as coordination at European level”.

### **2.3.4 Implementation mechanisms**

In accordance with the CEF Telecom guidelines, actions contributing to projects of common interest in the field of digital service infrastructures will be supported by procurement and/or grants.

The digital service infrastructures’ Core Service Platforms will be implemented primarily by the European Union while Generic Services are to be implemented by the parties connecting to the relevant Core Service Platform.

The Support Facility will coordinate the work of Broadband Technical Assistance contact points regarding the provision of technical assistance services to broadband project promoters. Broadband Technical Assistance contact points will not be financed under this workprogramme.

EU financial support will take the form of:

- procurement, which will yield service contracts, and with the EU covering the totality of the cost and owning the results and the related intellectual property and exploitation rights;
- calls for proposals (grants), whereby the EU provides financial support and the beneficiaries retain control over their results. The CEF Regulation stipulates that EU funding under grants cannot exceed 75 % of the eligible cost of each action;
- procurement to set up the Support Facility for Broadband Technical Assistance (partial financing).

For these instruments, well-established procedures and templates are in place. More information is provided in Sections 3 and 4 below. Detailed information will be provided in the call documentation.

### **3 CONTENT OF THE CALLS FOR 2017**

This section provides an overview of the individual DSIs, setting out what actions are planned in 2017 and the concrete benefits to citizens, businesses and administrations that would be achieved. The DSIs must be seen as essential elements of a well-functioning Digital Single Market (DSM). They provide key services to enable platforms from across Europe to interconnect and to make them accessible and user-friendly and therefore make the DSM work in practice. Attention is paid to highlight whether a DSI constitutes a Building Block and when use is made of existing Building Blocks.

#### **3.1 Access to digital resources of European heritage – Europeana**

##### **3.1.1 Background and rationale**

With only around 10% of Europe's cultural heritage digitised and digitised resources still lacking visibility, especially across national boundaries, more digitised resources of relevance should be brought online, and their cross-border use and take-up actively pursued. Digital resources of European heritage have a big potential to serve as input for the economy of the cultural and creative sector, which accounts for around 4% of EU jobs and GDP.

Launched in 2008 as the common, multilingual access point to digital resources of European heritage, Europeana ([www.europeana.eu](http://www.europeana.eu)) currently provides access to around 53 million objects from some 3,700 institutions across Europe, operating as a multi-sided platform intending to create value for end-users (Europeana Collections), cultural heritage institutions (Europeana Pro) and creative re-use (Europeana Labs). To realise its full potential, the existing infrastructure must be maintained, enhanced and made more visible, allowing more content holders to connect, developing the mechanisms, relationships and processes to distribute improved data, and enforcing standards in interoperability of data, rights and models to foster user engagement and facilitate creative re-use.

On 31 May 2016, the Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council adopted Council Conclusions on the role of Europeana for the digital access, visibility and use of European cultural heritage ('Council Conclusions'). The Council Conclusions express continued support from Member States for Europeana, both from a cultural and a digital innovation perspective, and give renewed political guidance to the mission and priorities of Europeana. They invite the Commission to support the Europeana DSI by a combination of procurement and grants, under which procurement will cover the full cost of the core service platform to ensure its sustainability and grants will support user-oriented projects co-funded by Member States.

On August 2016 the Commission proposed to designate 2018 "European Year of Cultural Heritage". The overall objective of the European Year is to encourage the sharing and appreciation of Europe's cultural heritage, to raise awareness of common history and values, and to reinforce a sense of belonging to a common European space. Given the educational value of cultural heritage, the European Year of Cultural Heritage will be a unique opportunity for Europeana to demonstrate its potential and reach a wider community of users and the general public.

### **3.1.2 Implementation 2017**

#### *3.1.2.1 Baseline*

Current CEF funding supports the Europeana Core Service Platform to establish the Europeana DSI as a sustainable multi-sided platform<sup>9</sup> of cultural heritage material, services and resources for access, distribution and re-use.

As such, Europeana currently connects to more than 50 million items from around 3,700 institutions.

A new version of the Europeana website - Europeana Collections - was launched in January 2016. It offers a number of improved or novel features from thematic collections on music and art history to better search and filters; better, bigger previews; a zoom function for high resolution images and documents; direct play for video and audio and a new download option. In addition, the new Europeana Publishing Framework and accompanying infrastructure makes it easier for cultural organizations to share their collections was published.

Ministries of Culture and cultural institutions from all Member States and Norway have nominated 10 works of art per country in response to Europeana 280, an initiative launched in June 2015 to engage the public and underpin the launch of the Europeana Art History Channel. The Europeana 280 collection brings together famous and lesser-known works, all of which have contributed to European art movements. It is available online and has been the subject of a campaign to engage people across Europe with their art heritage and demonstrate their shared European roots.

#### *3.1.2.2 Actions to be started in 2017*

##### ***Core Service Platform:***

Building on previous work, the Europeana Core Service Platform will continue to operate and upgrade a multi-sided internet platform for digital resources of European heritage.

The platform will provide a multilingual, user-friendly access point to Europe's rich and diverse heritage, customised to the needs and preferences of its main user constituencies: end-users (Europeana Collections), data partners & professionals (Europeana.Pro) and creative re-use (Europeana.Labs).

Through the platform, the actions supported in 2017 will allow cultural heritage institutions to connect and share their collections and metadata across sectors and borders, facilitate the coordination, activities and expansion of the Europeana Network<sup>10</sup>, promote capacity-building among cultural institutions and professionals, as well as cultural and digital innovation.

It will further improve the conditions for re-use and facilitate take-up of digital cultural content and metadata in other sectors, e.g. research, education, tourism or the creative industries.

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<sup>9</sup> A 'multi-sided platform' is one of the prevailing models of the internet economy. Multi-sided platforms create value by facilitating interaction between two or more distinct, but interdependent groups. As such the platform is of value to one group of users only if the other groups of users are also present. (Based on <http://divergence.academy/business-models/what-is-a-multi-sided-platform/>)

<sup>10</sup> The Europeana Network gathers cultural heritage, technology and creative professionals who shape and promote good practices in the world of cultural heritage, support the day-to-day activities of Europeana and advise on its strategy.

Finally, the platform will make all necessary dispositions to host the projects funded under generic services.

In contrast to previous work programmes, support in 2017 aims to cover a minimum duration of two years to allow more stability and sustainability in financial and operational management.

#### ***Generic Services:***

Under the Generic Services, user-oriented projects will be supported with the objective to provide tools for end-users to list personal favourites, share discoveries on social media, upload personal memorabilia, enrich descriptions (crowd-sourcing) and possibly realise concrete examples of re-use of the material accessible through Europeana in other sectors, in particular research, education, creative industries or tourism.

Proposals need to demonstrate a European dimension, through the overarching theme, the targeted audience and/or the participating organisations or the increase in the cross-border use of cultural material by third parties.

#### *3.1.2.3 Building blocks*

Europeana has committed to analyse the use of the Automated Translation Building Block. Contacts have been established between the Europeana Foundation and the Automated Translation Building Block owner using Europeana as a test bed to find ways of improving metadata translation.

#### *3.1.2.4 Benefits and expected outcomes*

The expected outcomes are efficient solutions for the trans-European interoperability and accessibility of digital resources of European heritage, to increase their cross-border visibility, use and take-up, and to help raise awareness of and realise their full economic potential.

Connecting Europe by making its culture available for everyone enables users (whether citizens, students, researchers or cultural/creative entrepreneurs) to find and use relevant material from all across the continent. Standardising and making cultural resources held by Europe's memory organisations internet-friendly and exposing their collections to the wider world offers content creators and developers opportunities to feed on a pan-European wealth of digitised resources in a harmonised way for developing new products and services, adding value to the collections and providing new user experiences, in full compliance with copyright law. Cultural heritage resources represent a significant resource, e.g. for the tourism industry in promoting cultural tourism. Better access to heritage information attracts travellers, increases the length of stay and the related expenditure.

For cultural institutions, participation in Europeana offers networking and innovation opportunities as well as cost savings (on standardisation and interoperability, data storage and transfer, exposure, know-how/cooperation).

#### *3.1.2.5 Benefits and expected outcomes specific to the actions supported in 2017*

As a result of the actions supported in 2017 for the core service platform, the platform will become more user-friendly, by continuously tailoring its services to evolving user needs, presenting the content shared through Europeana in attractive and diverse ways, improving the quality and findability of content and developing semantic and multilingual search functionalities in line with best available practices. Improved

semantic interoperability will allow data partners to connect, share and update their content and metadata in flexible, easy and sustainable way.

The platform will reach out to broaden its sphere of action and coverage, seeking to also include Europe's prestigious cultural institutions and masterpieces and grow the Europeana Network. Through the Network, it will facilitate the development, uptake and consistent use of models, standards and frameworks for sharing content and metadata, the identification of common solutions and good practices, as well as knowledge sharing.

It will encourage the availability of high-quality data ready for re-use, thus facilitating availability of cultural heritage on open platforms and social media and promoting its re-use in new and innovative cross-border online services in sectors such as research, education, tourism or the creative industries.

The actions supported in 2017 under generic services should result in 3-5 concrete examples of tools to improve the end-user experience of Europeana, and/or in 3-5 innovative products or services re-using the material accessible through Europeana across several sectors, from education and research, to tourism and creative industries.

Europeana will contribute to the activities and events taking place during the European Year of Cultural Heritage (2018) in order to maximise its visibility among the general and specialised public, make better known its digital content among potential users, and facilitate the creation of services re-using digital cultural heritage material.

#### *3.1.2.6 Governance, operations and stakeholder involvement*

As a distributed trans-European digital service infrastructure, Europeana is a joint effort by Europe's cultural institutions. The current central services are run by Europeana Foundation in cooperation with a number of domain and thematic aggregators supporting the aggregation of metadata, distribution partners supporting re-use and distribution of Europeana data as well as expert partners supporting work including dissemination, digitisation statistics (ENUMERATE Observatory), audience development and business model innovation.

A number of national aggregators support Europeana in innovating the aggregation infrastructure and improving data quality.

The Recommendation on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation<sup>11</sup> calls upon Member States to contribute to the further development of Europeana. The Member States Expert Group on Digitisation and Digital Preservation<sup>12</sup>, or its follow-up group in the process of constitution in accordance with the Council Conclusions on Europeana adopted on 31 May 2016, provides a forum for involvement of the Member States and their cultural institutions and guidance on Europeana's strategic priorities for annual work programmes<sup>13</sup>. Europeana Foundation reports regularly on its activities and its financial situation to the Expert Group which is chaired by the Commission and meets twice a year.

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<sup>11</sup> OJ L 283, 29.10.2011, p. 39

<sup>12</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32007D0320&from=EN>

<sup>13</sup> Point 29 of the Council conclusions on the role of Europeana for the digital access, visibility and use of European cultural heritage adopted on 31 May 2015.

### 3.1.2.7 Type of financial support

The Europeana Core Service Platform will be funded via procurement/service contract for a minimum duration of two years. Tenders may be submitted by single organisations or by consortia composed of several organisations.

Title:	Access to digital resources of European heritage – Europeana – Core Service Platform
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 14 million
Type of financial support:	Procurement
Indicative duration of the action:	24 months minimum
Indicative call publication date:	Q4 2017

Generic Services will be financed through grants. Proposals may be submitted by consortia composed of a minimum of three organisations based in three different Member States and/or EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme.

Title:	Access to digital resources of European heritage – Europeana – Generic Services
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 2 million
Type of financial support:	Grants – call for proposals
Funding rate:	Up to 75% of the total eligible cost
Consortium composition:	minimum of three organisations three or more eligible countries
Eligible organisations:	any
Indicative duration of the action:	12 -24 months
Indicative call publication date:	June 2017
Indicative call closing date:	November 2017

## 3.2 Electronic identification and authentication – eIdentification and eSignature

### 3.2.1 Background and rationale

Under the heading 'Electronic identification and authentication – eIdentification and eSignature' the WP2014 launched the eIdentification (eID) and eSignature Building Blocks DSIs providing funding for their Core Service Platforms until the end of 2017. The provision of such services can now benefit from the new regulatory framework established by Regulation (EU) 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market and repealing Directive 1999/93/EC (eIDAS Regulation).



## **3.2.2 Implementation 2017**

### *3.2.2.1 Baseline*

#### ***eIdentification***

WP2014 provided for the building of the nodes (connection points) within Member States which are essential to the interoperability framework. Version 1.1 of the technical specifications for the nodes was recently published. WP2015 provided for the connection of Member State public services to the node, thereby enabling cross border transactions compliant with the eIDAS Regulation. WP2016 shifts the focus for connection to the node mainly to private sector entities such as financial institutions and transport.

#### ***eSignature***

WP2016 provides that Generic Services will also support the uptake and use of eSignature DSI amongst public sector entities involved in the establishment and operation of the Points of Single Contact under Directive 2006/123/EC on services in the internal market as well as help public sector entities comply with Regulation EU N°910/2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market (eIDAS Regulation).

Moreover, the objective of the supported action is to ensure the integration of the tools provided by the eSignature DSI by public sector bodies in order to comply with the requirements as set out in the eIDAS Regulation as well as to facilitate the cross-border completion of electronic procedures by companies applying for administrative decisions with public administrations of other Member States. In this respect, the 2016 targets are public and private sector bodies as per the eIDAS Regulation or which act or provide their e-services via the points of single contact under Directive 2006/123/EC on services in the internal market.

### *3.2.2.2 Actions to be started in 2017*

#### ***eIdentification: Core Service Platform***

The core service platform offers services to support Member States at the technical and operational level. In WP2017 these will be extended to support the linkage of attributes in the form of data additional to existing core data to eServices connected to the eIDAS node for operational use. Similarly, the core service platform will facilitate the operational use of mandates and authorities, consistent inter alia with the ISA<sup>2</sup> activities. The WP2017 will also provide technical support and advice, including the maintenance of the reference implementation, in order to complete the provision of a network of nodes across all Member States.

#### ***eIdentification: Generic Services***

Generic Services under WP2017 will offer support for three main types of actions:

- a) the integration of the eID in an existing e-service/system/online platform to enable private and public sector entities (including local administrations) to accept eIDs issued from any Member State. Funding is available to support Member States in enabling attributes, mandates and authorities to be associated with electronic identities for cross-border use through the eIDAS node thus enhancing the service provided to the citizen.

- b) the building of eIDAS nodes for Member States who have needed a long lead-in time to build them. CEF will provide a maximum co-financing of EUR 100,000 per Member State (to include setup of eIDAS node and 1 year of operations);
- c) eIDAS enabled Erasmus Student eCard: the aim is to support the use of eID for students' authentication across borders. This action promotes the uptake and use of the eID DSI amongst public and private sector entities established in the EU and EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme. The objective is also to support the integration of the eID DSI in existing e-service/system/online platforms in higher education sectors (e.g. university) to facilitate the mobility of students in the European Union. Proposals could combine it with the take up of the eDelivery DSI to provide full cross border services for students.

### ***eSignature: Core Services Platform***

Core service platform activities in the WP2017 will help maintain and update the respective software tools previously provided, and ensure that relevant content i.e. tools, support, training materials, best practices, views and news are available for the CEF Digital Single web portal.

Core service platform activities will also provide help and training for national bodies responsible for trusted lists and national Trusted List Scheme Operators to ensure that they can operate services at a permanent and predictable quality level to ensure cross-border accessibility, availability, conformance, and trustworthiness of the national trusted lists into a single European Trust Backbone permanently available to all relying services across EU borders,

Similarly, it will help providers of solutions implementing advanced electronic signatures to rely on the Digital Signature Services (DSS) software library for the creation and validation of e-signatures in compliance with the rules provided for in the eIDAS Regulation.

All the core service platform activities will promote the uptake and speed up of the use of the eSignature DSI amongst both public and private entities established in the EU and EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme.

### ***eSignature: Generic Services***

Generic Services under the WP2017 will help develop systems for Member States and private sector relying on eSignature DSI Building Block (SD-DSS).

#### ***3.2.2.3 Building blocks***

eSignature and eID do not need to use any Building Block.

#### ***3.2.2.4 Benefits and expected outcome***

As a core service, eID provides a platform to support and enhance the provision of eServices including the generic services within CEF. By facilitating the linkage of attributes, mandates and authorities to an eID, all these services receive the added value of being secure in the knowledge of whom they are dealing with and the level of certainty attached to this.

The integration of the eSignature DSI by Trusted List Scheme Operators (TLSOs) and public/private sector bodies will improve the cross-border acceptance of e-signature, boost business mobility and increase e-signatures interoperability.

### 3.2.2.5 *Benefits and expected outcomes specific to the actions supported in 2017*

#### ***eIdentification***

The Core Service Platform will offer to Member States support services to build their eID based services. The eID network has been previously piloted with the STORK project funded under the CIP-ICT Policy Support Programme. In the context of STORK pilots, a number of Member States and associated countries are currently connected to the eID network. The actions of 2017 will enhance the deployment of eIDAS compliant eID nodes, which are replacing the STORK nodes in the existing eID network, and to extend the eID network to countries that did not participate in STORK pilots.

It is expected that Member States will identify the support services that will provide the most potential for cross border use as this will vary between Member States. The potential number of users will grow steadily with the potential to reach tens of thousands in a short time frame. Actions will also support the mobility of millions of Erasmus+ students by supporting the development of an eIDAS enabled Erasmus Student eCard for the secure exchange of information between participating institutions and student access to services in hosting countries.

#### ***eSignature***

The Trusted List manager (TLManager) is a web application for browsing, editing and monitoring Trusted Lists that Member States have to establish, maintain and publish in line with Article 22 of eIDAS Regulation (and related Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2015/1505). Under the WP2017, the TL Manager will continue to be maintained and updated. Concerning the Digital Signature Services (DSS) library, they are used to validate or create eSignatures. Actions in the WP2017 will support solution providers that are already implementing advanced eSignatures to rely on the DSS libraries.

### 3.2.2.6 *Governance, operations and stakeholder involvement*

With regard to the Core Service Platform, the Commission is in charge of the set-up, operation and maintenance work. Governance is provided through the Operational Management Board and the Architecture Management Board. This is also ensured by the eIDAS Expert Working Group and the CEF Telecoms Expert Group, Committee and eID Cooperation Network.

Two DSI technical sub-groups (one on eIdentification and one on eSignature) have been set up involving the relevant eIDAS expert group assisting the Commission in the implementation of the eIDAS Regulation. The aim of these groups is to discuss technical issues relating to the operation of Core Service Platforms for eID and eSignature services.

### 3.2.2.7 *Type of financial support*

The Core Service Platform will be implemented through procurement contracts. Of the available budget, indicatively 0.5 million is expected to be allocated to eSignature CSP.

Title:	eidentification – Core Service Platform
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 1 million
Type of financial support:	procurement – Call for tender

Duration of the action:	12 months
Indicative call publication date:	Q1 2017

Title:	eSignature – Core Service Platform
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 0.5 million
Type of financial support:	procurement – Call for tender
Funding rate:	100%
Duration of the action:	12 months
Indicative call publication date:	Q1 2017

Generic Services will be financed through grants. Proposals may be submitted by consortia consisting of at least 3 entities from one or more Member State(s) and/or EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme. One of the entities should be either a public service or an entity acting on behalf of a public service in order to enable the connection to the node. Of the available budget, indicatively 1 million is expected to be allocated to eSignature proposals, 4 million are expected to be allocated to eID proposal of type *a* and *b* and 2 million to eID proposals of type *c*.

Title:	eidentification and eSignature – Generic Services
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 7 million
Type of financial support:	grants – Call for proposals
Funding rate:	up to 75% of the total eligible cost
Consortium composition:	minimum of three organisations one or more eligible countries
Eligible organisations:	at least one should be a public service or acting on behalf of a public service
Indicative duration of the action:	12 months
Indicative call publication date:	February 2017
Indicative call closing date:	May 2017

### **3.3 Electronic delivery of documents – eDelivery**

#### **3.3.1 Background and rationale**

Under the heading 'Electronic delivery of documents - eDelivery' the WP2014 launched of the eDelivery Building Block DSIs providing funding for the Core Service Platforms of this DSIs until the end of 2017.

The provision of such services can now benefit Regulation (EU) n° 910/2014 of 23 July 2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market and repealing Directive 1999/93/EC (hereinafter eIDAS Regulation) whose trust service chapter, including provisions on electronic registered delivery

services, entered into application as from 1 July 2016. However, the uptake and use of the eDelivery DSI need to be promoted.

### **3.3.2 Implementation 2017**

#### *3.3.2.1 Baseline*

In 2014, CEF Telecom did not foresee support of Generic Services as it only focused on the set up of the Core Service Platform. Generic Services were funded in 2015 to deploy Access Points, while in 2016 the deployment of Service Metadata Publishers was additionally supported.

#### *3.3.2.2 Actions to be started in 2017*

##### ***Core Service Platform:***

The eDelivery Core Service Platform offers sample implementations of the eDelivery software, operations services (composed of managed services, testing services and supporting services) and stakeholder management services. More information about the services provided by the Core Service Platform of eDelivery is available online:

[https://ec.europa.eu/cefdigital/wiki/display/CEFDIGITAL/Service+Offering#serviceoffering-edelivery\\_service\\_offering](https://ec.europa.eu/cefdigital/wiki/display/CEFDIGITAL/Service+Offering#serviceoffering-edelivery_service_offering)

Each service of the Core Service Platform is defined in a Service Offering Document (SOD) and each component in a Component Offering Document (COD).

The additional funding will serve to:

- Reinforce the services provided by the eDelivery Core Service Platform and in particular the testing services composed of connectivity and conformance testing services. Below are a few examples of the additions to the conformance testing service currently in operation:
  - having in mind the convergence towards the e-SENS AS4 Profile in the eProcurement domain, combined conformance testing of dynamic discovery: Service Metadata Locator/ Service Metadata Publisher/ Access Point;
  - having in mind the convergence towards the e-SENS AS4 Profile in the eProcurement domain, conformance testing of multi-protocol Access Points (combination of AS2 – AS4).
- Support the addition of eDelivery in TACHOnet's Messaging Infrastructure which is already in operation across the EU enabling the secure exchange of information among Member States in the mobility and transport domain, including the tachograph regulation. TACHOnet currently connects 40 countries through a central hub managed and hosted by the European Commission. The objective of this activity is to assess the possible use of eDelivery as the Access Points of countries which cannot access the TESTA private network and need to connect to TACHOnet via the internet (a public network). TACHOnet uses TESTA, a private network service operated by the European Commission, but third-countries do not have access to it. This means that they must connect via countries with Testa access, following bilateral agreements.
- Adding the work of e-SENS on eDocuments (<http://www.esens.eu/content/e-documents>) on SBDH (Standard Business Document Header) and ASIC (Open

Document Packaging for signed payloads) to the Core Service Platform of eDelivery. e-SENS used both technical specifications, SBDH and ASiC, to wrap data and documents exchanged in eDelivery Messaging Infrastructures. SBDH is a technical specification of UN/CEFACT that further standardises the information about the data and documents flowing across eDelivery Access Points. SBDH is a header in XML within, or linked with, the documents or data in transit. Consequently, it eases their routing and processing by the receiving business applications. ASiC, a technical specification of ETSI, is a data container that organises a group of files and their digital signatures or seals in a compressed folder. As a result, this specification facilitates the packing of data and documents transmitted by eDelivery Access Points.

### ***Generic Services:***

To promote the uptake and speed up the use of the eDelivery technical specifications amongst both public and private entities established in the EU and EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme, Generic Services will be supported through grants under the 2017 budget with the objective of:

- a. deploying access points and/or operating access points for one year;
- b. deploying Service Metadata Publishers and/or operating Service Metadata Publishers for one year;
- c. upgrade of data exchange solutions (Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS), Open-Source Software (OSS) and other) to support, and therefore fully comply with, the CEF eDelivery standards.

The supported Generic Services should, as much as possible, comply with the requirements set in the eIDAS Regulation to allow their use for the provisioning of electronic registered delivery services, including qualified ones. More generally the supported Generic Services should comply with the requirements set in relation to deployment and/or operation of access points within other sectorial European Regulations (e.g. eInvoicing, transport, environment, energy, health, public e-procurement, justice...).

The overall objective is to increase uptake and use of the eDelivery DSI by supporting the setting up of additional access points and service metadata publishers linking to the EU Core Service Platform. This will support the cross-border exchange of electronic documents between both public and private as well as between such entities and citizens and businesses. Access points and service metadata publishers will be located throughout the Member States and the EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme.

#### ***3.3.2.3 Building blocks***

The eDelivery DSI is a stand-alone Building Block, which is used by other DSIs. Where possible, the eDelivery DSI can be combined particularly with eIdentification and eSignature Building Blocks in a sector specific context. It is agreed policy that where the use of an eDelivery is part of a Sectorial DSI, it should re-use the eDelivery Building Block i.e. its technical specifications.

#### ***3.3.2.4 Benefits and expected outcomes***

The Access Point and Service Metadata Publishers should enable interoperability between the European level and the level of the Member States regardless the standards in use within each of the Member States. In addition, compliance with the requirements

set in the eIDAS Regulation will ensure the legal certainty of the cross-border transmission of documents, as well as giving them a legal value.

### 3.3.2.5 *Benefits and expected outcomes specific to the actions supported in 2017*

The Core Service Platform of CEF eDelivery will have additional resources to reinforce its enabling services and its testing services in particular. A project will be carried out to integrate eDelivery in TACHOnet's Messaging Infrastructure. The technical specifications of eDocuments (SBDH and ASiC) will be transferred from e-SENS to the eDelivery Core Service Platform.

The generic services will support the onboarding of projects that are not a CEF DSI. This will lead to the set-up of 10 to 15 new Access Points and/ or SMPs and the upgrade of a few data exchange solutions.

The new Access Points will allow more public administrations to exchange information (cross-border) in more policy domains. Currently, eDelivery is used in production in three policy domains (eProcurement, eJustice and eHealth) in around 18 Member States or associated countries. The uptake is ongoing in other policy domains including BRIS, ODR and other.

### 3.3.2.6 *Governance, operations and stakeholder involvement*

With regard to the Core Service Platform set up under WP2014, the Commission is in charge of the set-up, operation and maintenance work. Member States play an active role in the implementation and deployment process, in particular to facilitate and accelerate the widespread acceptance and use. Governance and operational management arrangements are in place and consist of representatives of the Member States and the Commission Cooperation with selected representatives from selected business sectors of services is foreseen. To this end, an extended DSI technical sub-group has been set up involving the eIDAS expert group assisting the Commission in the implementation of the eIDAS Regulation together with stakeholders' representatives (such as e-Sens or Open Peppol). Its aim is to discuss technical issues relating to the operation of Core Service Platforms for eDelivery services.

### 3.3.2.7 *Type of financial support*

The Core Service Platform will be implemented through procurement contracts.

Title:	eDelivery – Core Service Platform
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 1 million
Type of financial support:	procurement
Duration of the action:	24 months
Indicative call publication date:	Q2 2017

Generic Services will be financed through grants. Proposals may be submitted by consortia consisting of at least 4 public and/or private entities from one or more Member State(s) and/or EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme.

Title:	eDelivery – Generic Services
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 0.5 million

Type of financial support:	grants – Call for proposals
Funding rate:	up to 75% of the total eligible costs
Consortium composition:	minimum of four organisations One or more eligible countries
Eligible organisations:	any
Indicative duration of the action:	12 months
Indicative call publication date:	May 2017
Indicative call closing date:	September 2017

## 3.4 Electronic Invoicing - eInvoicing

### 3.4.1 Background and rationale

In recent years, the proliferation of eInvoicing standards and syntaxes coexisting in the Member States led to increased complexity in term of cross-border interoperability. In the same time, the take-up of electronic invoices in public administrations is still rather low despite the many benefits offered (savings, simplification, etc.). As a consequence, the Directive 2014/55/EU on electronic invoicing in public procurement (hereby referred to as "eInvoicing Directive") was adopted on 16th April<sup>14</sup>. The Directive calls for the definition of a common European standard for eInvoicing, both at the semantic level and at the syntax level through additional standardisation deliverables which will enhance interoperability. Additionally, it mandates for all contracting authorities and contracting entities to receive and process eInvoices complying with the European standard, starting in November 2018.

In support of the eInvoicing Directive, the Commission requested the drafting of the European standard for eInvoicing in public procurement by the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN). The European Standard is due to be published by the European Commission in May 2017. Due to a delay in the CEN delivery of the standard, the publication date will intervene a few months later.

### 3.4.2 Implementation 2017

#### 3.4.2.1 *Baseline*

For the CEF eInvoicing DSI Building Block, the WP2014 provided the funding of the Core Service Platform until the end of 2017.

Under the Core Service Platform a set of activities has been financed:

- Support to the standardisation activities of the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN), in particular the standardisation process of the semantic data model;
- Support in form of compliance testing for implementers to make sure that their eInvoicing solutions/services are interoperable. To this aim a test infrastructure

<sup>14</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32014L0055>



and services around it are offered to check the compliance of solutions/services. The set-up of the Match-making website (MMWS), which will be made available beginning 2017. It is a service for Public Administrations to prepare for compliance with the eInvoicing Directive, by establishing of partnerships with other European public administrations, as well as service providers and systems integrators;

- Support to the interaction with the stakeholder community, in form of various stakeholder engagement activities.

An envelope of 7 million per year has been made available for Generic Services in WP2015 and WP2016.

#### 3.4.2.2 *Actions to be started in 2017*

The Work Programme 2017 will support Generic Services grants to promote the uptake of compliant eInvoicing solutions by public and private entities, which will facilitate the implementation of the European standard on electronic invoicing and the set of ancillary standardisation deliverables, as mandated by the Directive 2014/55/EU.

With the adoption of the European Standard in 2017, the Member States will have the obligation of receiving and processing electronic invoices, even in countries where the uptake of e-Invoicing is less developed. At the central level (e.g. government level), the obligation is in place as of 2018 – precise date is depending on the availability of the standard. For the sub-central entities, it can be delayed to 2019 at the latest.

In this context, a reinforced support is needed for Member States to ensure their compliance with the Directive. Three types of activities will be supported in the WP2017:

- Activity 1. Foster the uptake of eInvoicing solutions compliant with the European Standard: public entities will be supported for putting in place eInvoicing solutions compliant with the European Standard and its ancillary deliverables;
- Activity 2. Support the update of eInvoicing solutions compliant with the European Standard: to ensure full compatibility of the existing solutions with the European Standard and its ancillary deliverables, solutions providers and public authorities will be supported for updating their eInvoicing solutions accordingly;
- Activity 3. Integration of eDelivery services: all proposals under this section are expected, for the purpose of document delivery, to either directly deploy the eDelivery Building Block, or use eDelivery through a service provider. If eDelivery is not deployed, the beneficiaries must prove the use of eDelivery services through a service provider for cross-border communication as the minimal accepted scope. The specific objectives of this activity are:
  - a. to deploy access points and/or to operate access points for one year;
  - b. to deploy Service Metadata Publishers and/or to operate Service Metadata Publishers for one year;
  - c. to upgrade data exchange solutions (Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS), Open-Source Software (OSS) and other) to support, and therefore fully comply with, the CEF eDelivery standards.

### 3.4.2.3 Building blocks

To support the exchange through one single European infrastructure, solutions are encouraged to make use of the eDelivery Building Block. This can be implemented by including eDelivery into the Generic Service action proposed.

### 3.4.2.4 Benefits and expected outcomes

The objective is to increase uptake and use of the CEF eInvoicing DSI by supporting authorities, especially regional and local authorities, in meeting the requirements of the eInvoicing Directive 2014/55/EU.

An additional benefit is to support service providers to implement the EN into their solutions.

### 3.4.2.5 Benefits and expected outcomes specific to the actions supported in 2017

Beginning 2017, the eInvoicing DSI will launch the match-making website which will allow public administrations to find relevant IT service providers in the field of eInvoicing, based on their specific situation. This website will offer the possibility for public administrations to perform a self-assessment to determine their eInvoicing maturity. It has a potential user base on public buyers side of around 300.000 and on company side of a few hundreds providers which could receive financing. The awareness-raising actions of 2017 will lead to new self-assessments on the match-making website.

In 2017, when the European Standard will be finally available, the deadline for implementation of the Directive will start running. In a year and a half lapse of time, by November 2018 – precise date depending on the availability of the standard, all public administrations should be able to process any type of electronic invoice, received from any supplier, which is compliant with the standard. While the process will be easier for central administrations, this could pose a challenge for regional or local entities.

### 3.4.2.6 Governance, operations and stakeholder involvement

With regard to the Core Service Platform set up under WP2014, Member States are actively involved in the implementation and deployment process, to ease and speed up widespread acceptance and use, while the European Commission is in charge of the operational management of the service. The Multi-stakeholder Forum on eInvoicing is the advisory body to the Commission for this CEF DSI.

### 3.4.2.7 Type of financial support

Generic Services will be financed through grants. Proposals may be submitted by consortia consisting of at least 2 entities from one or several Member States or EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme, which support one of the actions mentioned above. The first activity is targeting local and regional public contracting authorities. The second targets solution providers and procuring authorities who are already using eInvoicing solutions. For the third activity -Integration of eDelivery services- there will be support only if integrated in a proposal for one of the other activities.

Title:	eInvoicing – Generic Services
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 10 million
Type of financial support:	Grants – Call for proposals

Funding rate:	up to 75% of the total eligible costs
Consortium composition:	minimum of two organisations one or more eligible countries
Eligible organisations:	any: please check text above for "targeted" organisations in each of the activities
Indicative duration of the action:	12 months
Indicative call publication date:	June 2017
Indicative call closing date:	November 2017

### **3.5 Access to re-usable public sector information - Public Open Data**

#### **3.5.1 Background and rationale**

Improved access to public sector information is an essential component of the EU strategy for stimulating new business opportunities and addressing societal challenges, including research, with a huge but still underexploited potential for re-use, including at the cross-border and cross-sectoral level. While open data portals exist at national, local and sometimes sectorial or domain-related levels (e.g. for environmental data, spatial information, etc.), cross-border and cross-sectorial synergies can only be achieved through the deployment of an infrastructure at EU level. This infrastructure implements one of the key actions included in the Commission communication on Open Data (COM(2011) 882 of December 2011), underpinning Directive 2003/98/EC and its revision 2013/37/EU on the re-use of public sector information (PSI Directive), which has been transposed by most Member States in 2015 and 2016.

#### **3.5.2 Implementation 2017**

##### *3.5.2.1 Baseline*

The Core Service Platform has been deployed through the development of the European Data Portal, <http://data.europa.eu/europeandataportal>, operational since November 2015, harvesting the metadata of Public Sector Information made available by public data portals across European countries. Currently the portal contains references to around 600.000 datasets from 70 National catalogues in 34 Countries. The portal is also harvesting the metadata of European Union Institutions and bodies disseminated via the EU Open Data Portal. By the end of 2017 the interface will be available in all 24 EU languages and metadata translated from/to all of them.

Activities supporting data production and data uptake have also been executed, in particular releasing training material, guidelines for data producers, a study on Creating Value through Open Data and on Open Data Maturity in Europe. The software code of the portal and all its modules has been made freely available as Open Source Software since the release of Version 1.

Generic Services: the first call for proposals, based on the WP2015, addressed the harmonisation of cross border/cross domain metadata and/or data by participating cities, national regulatory authorities, NGOs and private actors, and led to 2 actions starting from the last quarter of 2016. A second call for proposals, based on the WP2016, was open during the period 12 May – 15 September 2016. It aimed at facilitating the re-use of

datasets from several priority domains generated by different authorities across borders, while addressing both technical and legal issues and focusing at metadata/data production and maintenance. 8 proposals were received with a 20% oversubscription rate. Evaluation will take place mid-October to mid-November 2016.

### 3.5.2.2 *Actions to be started in 2017*

#### ***Core Service Platform***

Work will address, for a period of three years, 2018-2020, the operation and maintenance of the European Data portal, as well as its further development in terms of data harmonisation, geographic and domain coverage as well as provision of improved and extended end user services.

The main tasks to be executed by the actions launched in 2017 will include:

- Operation and maintenance of the European Data portal;
- Provision of further tools for data aggregation and linking, metadata capture/editing and data validation, as well as advanced tools for visualization (e.g. combining data from different sources and typologies), data analysis and other end-user interfaces, making use where available of existing standardised dissemination services<sup>15</sup>;
- Links to extended European<sup>16</sup>, national and local portals and specific open data sets;
- Daily operation and administration of the platform: help desk for users, technical and legal support for data providers and re-users;
- Fostering uptake on data supply, particularly from national and local portals, and public administrations' open data; landscaping Open Data maturity in European countries, so that targeted support material and training can be focused on those that are still in the early stages; partnership- and consensus-building, in particular pro-active work with stakeholders including Member States administrations, user communities and the private sector, and exchanges with the open data community, at the national/regional or cross-border/cross domain level; via physical visits, training and consultancy sessions, online tools and awareness-raising workshops or conferences;
- Fostering uptake on reuse of public data resources. Raising awareness through communication activities addressed to the wider public. Engaging, by way of physical events or in an online form, with the community interested in reusing the published datasets (Public Administrations, SMEs, larger private organisations, etc.), in order to assist them in making the most of the data available through the infrastructure. The topics will include the development of the European Data portal infrastructure, the economic impact of reuse of public data resources and development of sustainable business models for services based on public data resources;

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<sup>15</sup> Such as those required by COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 1089/2010 of 23 November 2010 implementing Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards interoperability of spatial data sets and services and its further amendments

<sup>16</sup> Such as, when not already covered at the National level, the INSPIRE geo-portal: <http://inspire-geoportal.ec.europa.eu/>

- Support interaction with the stakeholder community by organising pan-European events and fora for discussion, as well as through communication activities to the wider public in order to raise awareness about and increase the use made of the infrastructure.

### ***Generic Services***

A new key challenge in relation to Public Open Data, is the exploitation of large scale cross-border and cross-sector public information datasets using supercomputers. This is one of the key element of the Commission communication on European Cloud Initiative (COM(2016) 178) where the user base of the European Open Science Cloud and of the European Data Infrastructure will be widened to the public sector, for example through large-scale pilots involving eGovernment and public sector stakeholders.

New generic services exploiting public data and supercomputers are proposed in WP2017 as a first step to establish a new generation of DSIs supporting the Digital Single Market priorities on supercomputers.

New generic services will address the issue of scalable exploitation of the massive amount of public data available and accessible notably through the European Data Portal. This will be achieved by associating datasets from various public organisations, sectors and countries with the capacity of supercomputers (HPC - High Performance Computers) for achieving new generation of cross-border and intelligent services for citizens, enterprises and supporting decision-making for public authorities.

Cases shall demonstrate the value of combining public data and supercomputing resource for existing public services e.g. in e-Government, e-Health, e-Justice and/or future e.g. in personalised medicine, smart farming / agri-food, environment, smart cities applications. Such services shall where relevant make use of the INSPIRE interoperability framework<sup>17</sup>.

Through this action, innovators can design a new generation of public services exploiting supercomputing facilities and public data to analyse - on-demand - complex combination of large public datasets in relation to e.g. natural resources (e.g. on soil, forest, water, fish stock...), public infrastructures (e.g. congestion levels), atmospheric data, pollution data, agriculture data (e.g. in relation to pesticide or fertilisers) etc. with the overall goal of a better use of public data for citizens, supporting more optimal use of resources for economic actors and helping fact-based decision making for public authorities.

Proposals are expected to:

- identify clear set of cases including the targeted application area and/or cross-areas;
- identify the relevant public sector datasets and ensure seamless access;
- identify/develop and integrate the software for the purpose of the case and adapted to the datasets;
- ensure access to supercomputing resources (including if needed top tier systems with petascale performance) either in-house through partners, and/or contracted (e.g. Cloud) as necessary;
- ensure connectivity between data and computer node;

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<sup>17</sup> <http://inspire.ec.europa.eu/inspire-legislation/26>

- develop business cases to operate the service 24x7 with the necessary support and maintenance;
- communicate on the project's services and output towards users and stakeholders as well as offer relevant training activities and elaborate a sustainability plan;
- ensure that data and associated metadata generated by the supercomputers for the different applications is conformant/interoperable with the standards adopted by the targeted public services, including for seamless upload onto a national/domain related Open Data portal and the European Data portal.

### 3.5.2.3 *Building blocks*

The translation of static content, as well as the real time translation of dynamic content such as search specification, search results, metadata records, etc., will make use whenever available of the appropriate services provided by the eTranslation Building Block. The current version of the Open Data portal makes use of the MT@EC services provided by Commission DG for Translation and the core platform will progressively integrate the full Automated Translation building block capabilities (e.g. on-the-fly translation, use of domain specific translation capabilities) as soon as available.

The authentication of users' identity for the provision of personalised value added services on a voluntary basis (e.g. query search storage, identified provision of feedback and request for support, etc.), as well as for the access to Member States resources for which an identification is required, makes use of the Electronic identification — eID Building Block, exploiting ECAS and national eIDs whenever possible.

### 3.5.2.4 *Benefits and expected outcomes*

The improved availability of harmonised content at the EU level facilitates its cross border and cross domain re-use. Beneficiaries are the private sector, through the development of value added services, the public sector at large including through the combination of public data and supercomputing and administrations at all levels of government, including cities, through the streamlining of the production of interoperable content as well as its re-use and duplication reduction. Citizens will benefit through increased transparency and availability of innovative services, as well as through an expected increase in the efficiency of public services and administrations. Innovation ecosystems of startups can strongly benefit from open data and by using open platforms entrepreneurs can develop apps with high social and economic impact.

### 3.5.2.5 *Benefits and expected outcomes specific to the actions supported in 2017*

The activities launched in 2017 will continue to support a large-scale European Data portal, allowing cross-border and cross-sectorial discovery, and featuring advanced end-user capabilities to maximise the re-use of provided datasets.

The actions supported by this Work Programme will in particular guarantee the continuity of the European Data Portal operation, launched in November 2015 and supported at the moment until end 2017, its further extension both in terms of content coverage and provision of re-usable tools and services for end users. All Member States languages will continue to be supported both in the interface and in the textual content of metadata.

Training and supporting events will address at least 10 Member States each year. Presence will be assured in most important open data conferences and hackathons.

A significant long-term impact on the development of the Digital Single Market for innovative ICT-based services is expected. High value sectors such as geo-location, tourism, transportation, education, marketing and decision support systems will benefit from more abundant, cross-border availability of public open data.

In addition, through the new generic services, new public services will be established harvesting public sector information through supercomputers, further demonstrating the value of open data and opening the path for more exploitation of these dataset across fields, countries and public administrations.

*3.5.2.6 Governance, operations and stakeholder involvement*

Member States are involved through the Public Sector Information group and its subgroup on open data portals, whose members are representatives of Member States and relevant Commission services. The process for the definition of a long term governance model will be linked to the parallel definition of the business model required to guarantee the sustainability of the Open Data platform. The appropriate links with other possible contributing building blocks following the evolution of the CEF programme will also be established.

*3.5.2.7 Type of financial support*

The Core Service Platform will be implemented through procurement contracts.

Title:	Open Data Portal – Core Service Platform
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 4 million
Type of financial support:	procurement
Duration of the action:	36 months
Indicative call publication date:	Q2 2017

Generic Services will be financed through grants. Proposals may be submitted by a single entity or a consortium of entities based in different Member States and/or EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme.

Title:	Open Data Portal – Generic Services
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 6 million
Type of financial support:	grants – Call for proposals
Funding rate:	up to 75% of the total eligible cost, for a maximum of EUR 2.5 million of EC funding for each action
Consortium composition:	one or more organisations one or more eligible countries
Eligible organisations:	any
Indicative duration of the action:	24 – 36 months
Indicative call publication date:	June 2017
Indicative call closing date:	November 2017

## **3.6 Automated Translation - eTranslation**

### **3.6.1 Background and rationale**

The purpose of the Automated Translation (or eTranslation) Building Block is, on one hand, to provide multilingual support to other pan-European DSIs so that citizens, administrations and companies in all EU Member States and EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom Programme can use them in their own language, and, on the other, to offer automated translation services to public administrations to facilitate cross-border information exchange. Automated Translation will contribute to the Digital Single Market by making it possible for citizens, companies and administrations to communicate despite the lack of a common language. This will facilitate mobility of workers, doing business across borders, buying products online from other countries, learning about citizens'/consumers' rights across borders and languages or resolving problems and disputes across borders.

The main objectives of the actions programmed in 2017 are: to continue operating the Core Service Platform; to complete and operate the automated adaptation facility based on the results of the previous work programmes; to continue language resource collection for specific domains; and to introduce processing tools to the core platform and repository. Generic Services will facilitate language resource collection and processing, stimulate porting and integration of the eTranslation platform to online systems requiring multilingual functionality, and they will facilitate integration of processing tools other than machine translation (e.g. terminology extraction and matching).

### **3.6.2 Implementation 2017**

#### *3.6.2.1 Baseline*

The actions arising from work programmes of 2014, 2015 and 2016 will have completed a coordination and networking mechanism of Member States for language resource collection and sound governance of the eTranslation building block. The core platform, based on MT@EC<sup>18</sup> system, has been put in place, scaled up, and work on the automated adaptation facility will have commenced by the time the 2017 WP actions will start. Also, there will be a common repository for language resources and processing tools. A first wave of collaborative projects for generic services will also be operational, facilitating and stimulating language resource collection and integration of CEF eTranslation building block to other CEF DSIs and other relevant online services.

#### *3.6.2.2 Actions to be started in 2017*

##### ***Core Service Platform***

Procurement will be used to purchase machine translation systems and/or services, language processing components and/or services, and processing capacity (e.g. cloud services), for the needs of the expanding core service platform. It will also cover the emerging needs for system maintenance, configuration, adaptation and integration of the automated translation services into external digital services.

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<sup>18</sup> MT@EC [http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/translation/translationresources/machine\\_translation/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/translation/translationresources/machine_translation/index_en.htm)



## ***Generic Services***

Two types of collaborative projects will complete and extend the coverage of generic services arising from the work programme of 2016:

- Collaborative projects for facilitating language resource identification, processing and collecting in the member states (including, for example, anonymization, aggregation, alignment, conversion, provision of metadata, negotiating re-use, dissemination, best practices). Priority will be given to resources in those languages for which not enough data is available in the eTranslation platform to offer good quality services and to resources in the domains relevant for the DSIs, taking into account the demand for addressing the specific language or DSI. Generic resources will also be targeted in order to improve the overall quality of eTranslation for a broader set of text styles and to extend its lexical coverage.
- Reference implementations and showcases for making online services multilingual with existing technology, working on real systems (CEF DSIs and/or national online services and portals related to CEF services) and using the MT@EC (alone or in combination with other/commercial MT systems), applying other language technologies than MT (e.g. for terminology extraction, semantic interoperability). The reference implementations and showcases are expected to become fully functional and integrated within the duration of the project.

### *3.6.2.3 Building blocks*

The use of eDelivery is being analysed for the purpose of secure handling and transmission of confidential content to and from eTranslation and, if necessary, for secure transmission of language resources for eTranslation. This can be implemented by including eDelivery into the proposed generic service actions.

### *3.6.2.4 Benefits and expected outcomes*

The expected benefits are three-fold: i) contribution to the realisation of the Digital Single Market by lowering language barriers; ii) effective roll-out and wider acceptance of pan-European DSIs; iii) boosting of response capacity and efficiency in the translation services public sector, and a higher level of security.

### *3.6.2.5 Benefits and expected outcomes specific to the actions supported in 2017*

eTranslation currently provides generic machine translation services (MT@EC) to and from all EU official languages. MT@EC translated over 12 million pages in 2015 and over 18 million pages in the first 8 months of 2016. Three DSIs (European Data Portal, Open Dispute Resolution and e-Justice) are already connected to the platform. The actions of 2017 will lead to translation capabilities in specific domains and languages and an increase in the number of translated pages.

Concerning the core platform, actions will allow the continuation of operations, the completion of the domain adaptation facility, as well as the addition of new components e.g. commercial machine translation software for "difficult" languages that do not reach sufficient quality with the technology used in the MT@EC platform; processing modules to implement linguistic and semantic interoperability for CEF DSIs.

The generic services will deepen the involvement of Member States in language resources detection, collection and processing, and will result in mature and fully functional reference implementations in areas related to CEF DSIs and integrating

automated translation technology (e.g. MT@EC) with real, existing public online services.

### 3.6.2.6 Governance, operations and stakeholder involvement

Member States will be actively involved in the implementation and deployment process. They are also invited to contribute to the collection of language resources in order to improve the quality of automated translation services for their respective languages. The Commission services will be in charge of the operational management.

The language resources board, set up under the WP2014 and WP2015, constitutes the DSI expert group. It includes representatives from national language competence centres and from stakeholder groups representing existing language resource repositories and the leading users of the relevant DSIs, including Member State administrations. This informal governance body will gradually be extended to encompass appropriate representation of the language industry and language technology experts.

In the course of 2017, the network of stakeholders and contributors of language resources in all EU Member States and in the countries associated to the CEF programme will be broadened to effectively engage important actors beyond the public sector, for example commercial providers, non-profit organisations, and professional organisations in the areas relevant to the DSIs.

### 3.6.2.7 Type of financial support

The Core Service Platform will be implemented through procurement contracts.

Title:	eTranslation – Core Service Platform
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 1 million
Type of financial support:	procurement (using framework contracts)
Duration of the action:	up to 36 months
Indicative call publication date:	there will be several FWCs with different timings, starting from Q2/2017

Generic Services will be financed through grants. Proposals may be submitted by consortia composed by a minimum of two organisations (public or private entities) based in two different Member States and/or EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme. Proposals shall address at least two different EU/CEF languages. The eDelivery deployment can be part of the proposal.

Title:	eTranslation – Generic Services
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 6 million
Type of financial support:	grants – Call for proposals
Funding rate:	up to 75 % of the total eligible cost
Consortium composition:	minimum of two organisations two or more eligible countries
Eligible organisations:	any
Indicative duration of the action:	up to 24 months

Indicative call publication date:	June 2017
Indicative call closing date:	November 2017
Additional information:	two or more EU/CEF languages must be covered by each proposal

## 3.7 Cyber Security

### 3.7.1 Background and rationale

Cybersecurity is a challenge shared by all Member States. An efficient and timely cooperation between public and private stakeholders about risks, vulnerabilities and threats – especially for critical infrastructures – is crucial for providing high levels of cybersecurity in Europe. In times when the occurrence, power, velocity and complexity of attacks are on the rise, the targets of cyber-attacks need to be able to respond early enough to prevent or at least to mitigate attacks on their networks and information systems, as well as for proper recovery and comprehensive follow up.

The overall objective of this Building Block DSI is the establishment and deployment of a core cooperation platform of cooperation mechanisms, along with the increase of the capabilities of national and/or governmental (n/g) Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) and/or Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs), including CERT-EU<sup>19</sup>. This will enhance the EU-wide capability for preparedness, cooperation and information exchange, coordination and response to cyber threats, as defined in the CEF WP2014 preparatory activities. Such mechanisms will be used by Member States on a voluntary basis, in order to strengthen their own capacity building and EU cooperation, involving only those Member States willing to participate. The cooperation mechanisms and the Generic Services will allow for more timely and effective collaboration at a European level. In this way, the Member States will gain a deeper and quicker awareness of ongoing cyber-attacks with an efficient use of available resources, aiming at reducing the potential economic and political damage caused by cyber-attacks.

#### 3.7.1.1 *The specific policy framework*

Many technical and organisational aspects of the DSI were already extensively addressed in prior activities at national and European level and provide for tested and mature technological solutions, as well as experience with regard to the organisational aspects. Examples of relevant cooperation projects include, but are not limited to, the Framework for Information Sharing and Alerting (FISHA) project, the work of ENISA – the European Network and Information Security Agency – (e.g. the European Information Sharing and Alert System – EISAS), the Malware Information Sharing Platform (MISP) or on-going sector-specific initiatives such as the The Distributed ENergy SEcurity Knowledge (DENSEK) project in the electricity sector. In addition, these activities are underpinned by the European Strategy for Cyber Security, including the provisions contained in the Directive<sup>20</sup> on a common high level of Network and Information Security (NIS) across the Union, addressing national capabilities and preparedness, EU-level cooperation, take up of risk management practices and an information sharing

<sup>19</sup> [https://cert.europa.eu/cert/plainedition/en/cert\\_about.html](https://cert.europa.eu/cert/plainedition/en/cert_about.html)

<sup>20</sup> Adoption expected in the course of 2016.

culture in NIS and notification of IT-incidents. The cooperation developed under this DSI will also contribute to the general cooperation between CERTs/ CSIRTs in the Member States.

### **3.7.2 Implementation 2017**

#### *3.7.2.1 Baseline*

The actions of WP2015 had the objective to set up, launch, maintain and operate a cooperation mechanisms between a group of national and/or governmental CERTs/ CSIRTs, as nominated by the Member States, participating on a voluntary basis, in line with the governance structure and requirements established under the WP2014, in order to collect, analyse and share knowledge about vulnerabilities and threats and the use of common procedures and standards to mitigate them.

The actions under the WP2016 were of the type “Generic Services” aiming at allowing willing Member States to develop their national and/or governmental CERTs/CSIRTs local capacities. These are necessary for the interoperability of their own capabilities with the cooperation mechanisms (named “Core Service Platform” in the CEF Regulation) established within WP2015.

#### *3.7.2.2 Actions to be started in 2017*

##### ***Core Service Platform***

No new activity will be started for the Core Service Platform in 2017. Deployment work will continue as planned and financed by previous work programmes.

##### ***Generic Services***

The actions under the WP2017 are meant to reproduce those of the WP2016, in order to serve the countries that were not yet ready to apply for Generic Services under the WP2016 or could not be financed because of lack of funds in the WP2016. They aim at allowing willing Member States to develop their national and/or governmental CERTs/CSIRTs local capacities necessary for the interoperability of their own capabilities with the cooperation mechanisms (Core Service Platform) established within the WP2015.

The specific objective in 2017 is to support Generic Services provided by national and/or governmental CERTs/CSIRTs in all the Member States, building on their interoperability with the EU cooperation mechanisms and their services. The CERTs/CSIRTs will create, maintain or expand national capacities to run a range of cybersecurity services. This includes both activities for increasing preparedness of the CERTs/CSIRTs (e.g. development or acquisition of better tools for analysis, identification, and detection of threats, training, awareness campaigns, services to local agents, among others) and the establishment of access points from the CERTs/CSIRTs to the cooperation mechanisms (e.g. secure devices and software, interfaces, gateways, translation of local tools into common formats, and others).

These Generic Services may include the acquisition and operation of national level cybersecurity IT systems, experimental test-beds, training facilities, joint training courses, cooperation meetings and Europe-wide cybersecurity exercises that will facilitate the cross-border cooperation of CERTs/CSIRTs, as indicated in the WP2015. These may be complemented with very sophisticated toolsets that are specific to the cybersecurity area, like sandboxes, simulation environments, advanced research infrastructures, and secure control rooms. The actions in WP2017 are designed to help

participant Member States to build capacity and reach a state of preparedness that will allow them to participate on an equal footing in the cooperation mechanisms established through the actions in the WP2015. These actions do not intend to provide the totality of the funds needed but rather act as an incentive for Member States to develop their cybersecurity capacity.

#### *3.7.2.3 Building blocks*

The eDelivery Building Block will be proposed as an existing solution for the secure exchange of messages concerning the cooperation mechanisms. Automated Translation and eID are also considered as useful. However, given the specificity and the particular requirements posed by the cybersecurity context, a careful evaluation of Building Blocks must take place, which may be carried by the governance body established in the Preparatory Actions. In case it is decided that the use of Building Blocks is feasible in such a specific cybersecurity environment, the actions called for in this WP may also provide for their implementation by participant countries.

#### *3.7.2.4 Benefits and expected outcomes*

The Generic Services will allow the Member States to limit the economic and political damage of cyber-attacks, while reducing the overall costs of cyber security for individual Member States and for the Union. This will be achieved by the connection of national and/or governmental CERTs/CSIRTs capabilities to the cooperation mechanisms that will allow Member States to be prepared to respond early enough to prevent or at least to mitigate cyber security incidents that may affect their networks and information systems, making European digital networks more secure for their citizens. This may open new avenues for cross European and multidisciplinary methodological and experimental cooperation that include Europe-wide views, perceptions and behaviours leading to higher preparedness and better cybersecurity resilience.

Also, this activity will foster the participant countries to build their own capabilities in cybersecurity and to increase their awareness about their own needs and requirements on a technical and organisational level.

#### *3.7.2.5 Benefits and expected outcomes specific to the actions supported in 2017*

The outputs of these actions will conduce to better maturity levels of involved n/g CERTs/CSIRTs. This involves increased technological capacity, better trained staff, more efficient processes, etc, and will depend on the individual needs of participating n/g CERTs/CSIRTs.

The expected outcomes of such improvements are a better state of preparedness and ability to respond collectively at EU-level to cyber-threats through efficient and effective participation in the cooperation mechanisms implemented via the core service platform.

#### *3.7.2.6 Governance, operations and stakeholder involvement*

The participating Member States will be the owners of the implementation and deployment of the Generic Services funded under this action. The EC and ENISA will be also involved in this process, according to their defined roles under EU law, for instance by providing guidance where needed or channelling and structuring the outreach to the CERT/CSIRT community and other stakeholders. Activities launched in with WP2014 have established a Governance body which is regularly meeting.

### 3.7.2.7 Type of financial support

Generic Services will be financed through grants. Proposals may be submitted by a single n/g CERT/CSIRT or a consortium of n/g CERTs/CSIRTs based in different Member States or EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme. There will be at most one such grant per country, unless there are still funds left once all proposals from different participating countries that are above threshold have been served. Priority will be given to entities that were not financed under WP2016.

Title:	Cyber Security – Generic Services
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 12 million
Type of financial support:	grants – Call for proposals
Funding rate:	up to 75% of the total eligible cost, for a maximum of EUR 1 million each action
Consortium composition:	one or more organisations one or more eligible countries
Eligible organisations:	n/g CERT/CSIRT or sectoral CERTs/CSIRTs. Each applicant must provide a written confirmation from the concerned Member States Ministry that an applicant has been designated as either n/g or sectoral CERT/CSIRT.
Indicative duration of the action:	24 months
Indicative publication:	May 2017
Indicative call closing date:	September 2017
Additional information:	max one proposal per country (unless funds available) Priority given to organisations not benefitting from previous grants under the CEF Telecom Programme for Cybersecurity

## 3.8 Digital Public Procurement – eProcurement

### 3.8.1 Background and rationale

The main idea behind the action of the eProcurement DSI is to foster interoperability in the area of digital public procurement. New activities will be added to the DSI over the coming years until 2020 to achieve interoperability in all areas of procurement with the final goal to complete the Digital Single Market.

#### 3.8.1.1 *The specific policy framework*

The Public Procurement Directives<sup>21</sup> 2014/25/EU, 2014/24/EU and 2014/23/EU adopted on 28 March 2014 require Member States to implement electronic procurement.

The successful implementation of the eProcurement DSI becomes essential to have a cross-border system working at the European level. According to the Directives Member States have to set in place by 2016 **eNotification** for the publication of notices, and **eAccess** for the access of procurement documents; and by 2018 **eSubmission** for the

<sup>21</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2014:094:TOC>

submission of electronic bids. This means that from October 2018 all tender submissions will have to be done electronically. At the same time, contracting authorities will have to use **e-Certis**, a mapping tool for certificates and other documents, when they ask for the documentation necessary to bid. Member States will have to keep the documentation to be retrieved in e-Certis up-to-date from 2016. The electronic European Single Procurement Document (**eESPD**) has been adopted in the beginning of 2016. This sets out the ESPD as the standard document across the EU regarding exclusion and selection criteria in tender procedures. It is a self-declaration, which is to be used as preliminary evidence.

To complete the picture, electronic invoices will have to be accepted by 2020.

### **3.8.2 Implementation 2017**

#### *3.8.2.1 Baseline*

**Core Service Platform:** the CSP provides support in form of compliance testing for implementers to make sure that their eTendering solutions/services are interoperable. To this aim a test infrastructure and services around it are offered to check the compliance of solutions/services. The test infrastructure is currently set up which covers the eESPD. In 2017, the infrastructure will be extended to the eTendering interfaces mentioned below with budget from the WP2016.

**Generic Services:** the first activity which was supported under the CEF eProcurement DSI was to implement the e-Certis interface in 2015. The second activity in 2016 was to support the implementation of the eESPD.

#### *3.8.2.2 Actions to be started in 2017*

##### **Core Service Platform**

Only Generic Services will be supported in 2017. Activities related to the Core Service Platform will continue as planned and financed via previous workprogrammes.

##### **Generic Services**

**Implementation of the eESPD (supported also in WP2016):** the eESPD is a cornerstone towards for the digitisation of the process of verification of certificates and attestations required to economic operators; in this context it supports the implementation of the Once-Only principle in public procurement. The use of the ESPD has been made compulsory by Regulation 2016/7<sup>22</sup>. There are several ways how Member States can use or implement the eESPD<sup>23</sup> and integrate it into their e-procurement systems: for instance, they can use the open source (available at <https://github.com/ESPD/ESPD-Service>) or the ESPD exchange data model (available at <https://github.com/ESPD/ESPD-EDM>) or through the virtual company dossier (VCD). ESPD services implemented in Member States must be able to import and export a interoperable eESPD. It is important to support the take up of the ESPD in Member States as this will foster the integration of the ESPD in the eProcurement systems used in the Member States.

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<sup>22</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/7 of 5 January 2016 establishing the standard form for the European Single Procurement Document Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/7 of 5 January 2016 establishing the standard form for the European Single Procurement Document. To facilitate its take up, an ESPD service is provided by the Commission.

<sup>23</sup> A presentation/questionnaire about this can be found here <https://prezi.com/vfnmxzxo9hwt/the-eespd/>

**Implementation of the e-Certis interface (supported also in WP2016 and 2015):** the e-Certis service<sup>24</sup> provides a web service which allows third parties to retrieve electronically the documentation necessary to bid. Support will be given to private companies and contracting authorities especially central purchasing bodies and pre-qualification services to integrate the eCertis interface in their solutions. An example can be found here <https://prezi.com/vfnmxzxo9hwt/the-eespd/>.

**Implementation of the eTendering interface (new):** The objective of the implementation of the eTendering interface is to allow the interoperability between eProcurement systems during the pre-award phase covering expression of interest, access to tender documents, and tenders submission; in practice the implementation of this solution will allow addressing problems for economic operators due by the existence of multiple eProcurement systems. The specifications for the eTendering interface are the outcome of the eSens large scale pilot. Support will be provided to private companies and contracting authorities especially central purchasing bodies to implement the eTendering interface to make their solution interoperable. All successful participants are expected to join the eTendering interface user group (successor of the eSENS eTendering pilot group).

**Implementation of eDelivery services (new):** For the implementation of the eTendering interface it is mandatory to use the eDelivery Building Block. To use the needed eDelivery service, the applicants can either directly deploy the eDelivery Building Block, or use a compliant eDelivery through a service provider. If eDelivery is not deployed, the beneficiaries must prove the use of eDelivery services compliant with the eDelivery Building Block through a service provider.

Applicants can submit application for CEF funding for one or several or all of the 4 generic services, i.e. eESPD, e-Certis, eTendering interface (combined with eDelivery). In case of oversubscription, priority will be given to funding for eESPD.

In order to maximise the impact of CEF funding, priority will be given to consortia including Central Purchasing Bodies (which are subject to an earlier deadline for the transition to eProcurement, which is April 2017) and prequalification systems.

### *3.8.2.3 Building blocks*

For the action eTendering the use of the eDelivery building block is necessary, because this infrastructure is used to make system to system communication possible.

The use of other building blocks like eID and eSignature is not mandatory to be allowed to participate to the eProcurement call. Nevertheless public and private service providers making use of eID and eSignature have to make sure that their solutions are compliant to the eIDAS regulation as of mid-2018. In those cases they should make use of the building blocks offered under the CEF.

### *3.8.2.4 Benefits and expected outcomes*

**eESPD:** The eESPD has the potential of reducing bureaucracy in public procurement both for contracting authorities and bidders and pave the way for the digitisation of public procurement and the implementation of the once only principle in public procurement. CEF funding should greatly facilitate the take up of the eESPD.

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<sup>24</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/ecertis/>



**e-Certis:** The use of e-Certis in combination with national registers, prequalification services for certificates will help economic operators in cross-border procurement. The implementation of e-Certis will also facilitate the creation of a one-stop shop for information regarding certificates and evidences requested in public procurement.

**eTendering:** The implementation of the eTendering interface by providers of eProcurement services will have a positive impact on the acceptance of eTendering solutions throughout Europe, especially SMEs. While without this interface all SMEs must learn dozens of eTendering solutions, this will allow that they can use their preferred software to access compatible solutions all over Europe.

#### 3.8.2.5 *Benefits and expected outcomes specific to the actions supported in 2017*

The actions included in the 2017 Work Programme will greatly contribute to completing the transition to eProcurement in the MS. In particular, they will facilitate cross-border bidding and contribute to simplify public procurement procedures in the Member States.

#### 3.8.2.6 *Governance, operations and stakeholder involvement*

The European Commission is in charge of the operational management of the services, while the Multi-stakeholder Expert Group on eProcurement (EXEP)<sup>25</sup> is the advisory body to the Commission for this CEF DSI.

#### 3.8.2.7 *Type of financial support*

Generic Services will be financed through grants. Proposals may be submitted by consortia consisting of at least 2 private or public entities from one or several Member State and/or EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom.

Title:	Digital Procurement (eProcurement) – Generic Services
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 4 million
Type of financial support:	grants – Call for proposals
Funding rate:	up to 75% of the total eligible cost
Consortium composition:	two or more organisations one or more countries
Eligible organisations:	any
Indicative duration of the action:	12 months
Indicative call publication date:	May 2017
Indicative call closing date:	September 2017

## 3.9 Business Registers Interconnection System – BRIS

### 3.9.1 Background and rationale

The limited cross-border access to business information results in a risky business environment for consumers and for existing or potential business partners, and reduces legal certainty. Efficient cross-border cooperation between the European business

<sup>25</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetail&groupID=3142>

registers is therefore essential for a smooth functioning of the EU Single Market. The stakeholders impacted are both the public who wish to access cross-border information on companies, and the companies of the EU when carrying out cross-border activities and when involved in cross-border mergers. Furthermore the business registers themselves are impacted by the problem, as they face challenges in communicating with each other for example in respect to cross-border mergers or foreign branches.

Directive 2012/17/EU of the Parliament and the Council of 13 June 2012 requires the establishment of an information system that interconnects the central, commercial and companies registers (also referred to as business registers) of all Member States. The system - named Business Registers Interconnection System (BRIS) - will consist of: a core services platform named European Central Platform (ECP); the Member States business registers; and will use the e-Justice portal as European electronic access point to information on companies.

The BRIS DSI will help to enhance confidence in the single market through transparency and up-to-date information on companies and reduce unnecessary burdens on companies. As such, the project directly contributes to President Juncker's priorities of creating a connected digital single market. This has been confirmed in the Digital Single Market Strategy which mentions "Making the business registers interconnection a reality by 2017" as one of the key actions for the e-Government Action Plan 2016-2020.

### **3.9.2 Implementation 2017**

#### *3.9.2.1 Baseline*

The past three years (2014-2016) were dedicated to (1) designing the high-level architecture for BRIS; (2) establishing the interfaces between the BRIS DSI and the Member States systems as well as the e-Justice portal; (3) piloting the e-Delivery solution for BRIS and (4) setting up the central platform. Integration and deployment activities have started in 2016.

For the interconnection of business registers, the central platform will orchestrate all traffic among the domestic business registers and between the e-Justice Portal and the business registers in the 28 Member States, plus the EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom Programme. As the system needs to go live by Q2 2017, the main integration and deployment work will take place in 2016-2017.

Concerning the central platform the main actions in the first half of 2017 will focus on rolling out the system. The technical tasks will concentrate on finalising the integration of CEF e-Delivery Building Block and testing the software for going live. A technical helpdesk will provide support to the platform users and ensuring effective use of the platform. The Commission will also provide hosting for the necessary environments.

In conjunction with the technical tasks, the Commission will also perform stakeholder engagement, communication and change management activities, playing both a steering and facilitator role. In addition, the Commission will start service administration activities such as the day-to-day administration and operation of the BRIS central services and provision of statistics on the use of the several services.

#### *3.9.2.2 Actions to be started in 2017*

##### ***Core Service Platform***

Only Generic Services will be supported in 2017. Activities related to the Core Service Platform will continue as planned and financed via previous work programmes.

### *Generic Services*

The grants for Generic Services will support the Member States to meet the following main objectives:

- Enabling business registers to support the data model and the standard messages coming from BRIS, which may involve the upgrade of the existing business registers. This is particularly important for Member States that have less sophisticated or technologically outdated business registers;
- Operation and maintenance of access points once in operational mode.

Moreover, all the Generic Services projects under this section are expected, for the purpose of document delivery, to either directly deploy the eDelivery Building Block or use eDelivery through a service provider. If the deployment of the eDelivery is included in the proposal the specific objective of this activity is:

- a) to deploy access points and/or to operate access points;
- b) to deploy Service Metadata Publishers and/or to operate Service Metadata Publishers;
- c) to upgrade data exchange solutions (Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS), Open-Source Software (OSS) and other) to support, and therefore fully comply with, the CEF eDelivery standards.

The Core Service Platform of the eDelivery DSI, set up under WP2014, will make available a testing platform to ensure that the deployment of eDelivery in this sector complies with the technical specifications defined by the eDelivery DSI. The deployment of eDelivery will also contribute to the compliance with the requirements set out in the eIDAS Regulation (Regulation (EU) 910/2014).

#### *3.9.2.3 Building blocks*

BRIS will use the eDelivery Building Block for the information transport infrastructure. This can be implemented by including eDelivery into the generic service action proposed.

The e-Justice portal, which is used by BRIS, also relies on ECAS-STORK for user authentication and so it indirectly integrates the e-Identity Building Block.

After 2017, it will also be assessed whether two other CEF Building Blocks will be used, namely the automated translation (MT@EC) and the eSignature Building Block.

#### *3.9.2.4 Benefits and expected outcomes*

The main expected results of the business registers interconnection are:

- an increase in confidence in the European Single Market by ensuring a safer business environment for consumers, creditors and other business partners;
- a higher degree of legal certainty as to the information in the European business registers;
- an improvement of the performance of public administration regarding cooperation between business registers in Europe in procedures for cross-border mergers, and exchange of relevant information regarding branches and the company.

Other specific expected benefits are:

- improved quality of data in domestic business registers with cross-border coherency;
- digital implementation of cross-border processes;
- increased transparency and easier cross-border access to information on companies;
- increased possibilities for cross-border activities for companies;
- facilitation of increased cross-border competition;
- facilitation of cooperation and communication between registers.

### 3.9.2.5 *Benefits and expected outcomes specific to the actions supported in 2017*

In addition to the benefits and expected outcomes mentioned above, the actions to be supported in 2017 will in particular aim at ensuring smooth and timely roll out of the BRIS Generic Services and a successful start of the operations.

### 3.9.2.6 *Governance, operations and stakeholder involvement*

The BRIS project is a joint effort of the Commission and the Member States. For the Commission, DG JUST is the system owner, with DG DIGIT as solution provider for the central platform. DG JUST will also provide the user interface on the e-Justice portal, which will serve as European access point to company data via the central platform. The Member States will have to connect to the central platform to ensure interoperability and communication with the other registers and the portal. A governance structure has already been put in place, whereby the Commission works with the Member States both at policy level (through the Company Law Expert Group) and at technical level (through a Technical User Group, involving IT experts from the business registers).

### 3.9.2.7 *Type of financial support*

Generic Services will be financed through grants. Proposals may be submitted by a single entity or a consortium of entities based in one or several Member States and/or EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme. Eligible entities are business registers as referred to in Directive 2009/101/EC. The eDelivery deployment can be part of the proposal.

Title:	BRIS (Business Registers Interconnection System) – Generic Services
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 2 million
Type of financial support:	grants – Call for proposals
Funding rate:	up to 75% of the total eligible cost
Consortium composition:	one or more organisations one eligible country
Eligible organisations:	Business Registers as referred to in Directive 2009/101/EC
Indicative duration of the action:	18 months
Indicative call publication date:	February 2017
Indicative call closing date:	May 2017

## 3.10 e-Health

### 3.10.1 Background and rationale

The Directive 2011/24/EU on patients' rights in cross-border healthcare<sup>26</sup> promotes cooperation and the exchange of information among Member States aiming at delivering sustainable eHealth systems and services and providing interoperable applications at European level. The Directive set up the eHealth Network, which is a voluntary network connecting national authorities responsible for eHealth. In 2014, the eHealth Network endorsed starting to work on four eHealth services to receive financing from the CEF: ePrescription and eDispensation, Patient Summary, European Reference Networks, and Patient Registries (not included in this work programme).

The **ePrescription and eDispensation service** (ePrescription or eP) enables patients to receive equivalent medication treatment abroad than they would receive in their home country, by effectively transmitting the ePrescriptions across national borders. The service is defined in the guidelines<sup>27</sup> adopted by the eHealth Network in 2014.

The **Patient Summary service** (PS) provides a health professional an access to the verified key health data of a patient, through a document called Patient Summary. This is invaluable when a citizen needs unplanned care from a health provider in another country. The patient summary service also paves the way to exchange of other relevant electronic health documents. The eHealth Network adopted Guidelines<sup>28</sup> defining the minimum patient summary dataset for electronic exchange in 2013.

The **European Reference Networks (ERN)**<sup>29</sup> will connect designated healthcare providers and centres of expertise in the Member States, in particular in the area of rare, low prevalence and complex diseases and conditions. The clinical IT platform will be the central tool for the joint work on diagnosing, treating and follow-up those patients needing highly specialised care and knowledge, not necessarily available in all EU countries.

The ePrescription and Patient Summary services were piloted in large scale (epSOS<sup>30</sup>/EXPAND<sup>31</sup> and e-SENS<sup>32</sup>). ePrescription, Patient Summary and European Reference Networks received CEF funding from the WP2015, which enabled the start of the work on these services.

The objective of the eHealth DSI is to support Member States in the cross-border exchange of patient data increasing continuity of care, patient safety, their access to highly specialised care and the sustainability of health systems. This DSI will also support developing common identification and authentication measures to facilitate transferability of data in cross-border healthcare.

#### 3.10.1.1 *The specific policy framework*

The Directive on patients' rights in cross-border healthcare calls the eHealth Network to support and facilitate cooperation among Member States in the area of eHealth, which it is doing by defining the priorities in cross-border eHealth and drawing up guidelines in

<sup>26</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2011:088:0045:0065:en:PDF>

<sup>27</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/health/ehealth/docs/eprescription\\_guidelines\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/health/ehealth/docs/eprescription_guidelines_en.pdf)

<sup>28</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/health/ehealth/docs/guidelines\\_patient\\_summary\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/health/ehealth/docs/guidelines_patient_summary_en.pdf)

<sup>29</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/health/ern/policy/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/ern/policy/index_en.htm)

<sup>30</sup> <http://www.epsos.eu/>

<sup>31</sup> <http://www.expandproject.eu/>

<sup>32</sup> <http://www.esens.eu/>

the area of eHealth. These guidelines and other decisions of the Network are the primary reference for the eHealth DSI deployment. These guidelines deal, for the moment, in particular with patient summary dataset and e-prescriptions.

The Directive also provides for cooperation in the specific areas where the economies of scale of coordinated action between all Member States can bring significant added value to national health systems. This is the case for European Reference Networks. The objectives of the Networks set in Article 12 of the Directive include European cooperation on highly specialised healthcare, pooling of knowledge, improvement of diagnosis and care in medical domains where expertise is rare, and helping Member States with insufficient number of patients to provide highly specialised care. ERN will help to provide affordable, high-quality and cost-effective healthcare and to improve these patients' access to the best possible expertise and care available in the EU for their condition. Solid cross-border IT solutions are necessary for coordination of the Networks and for cooperation on patients to clinical problems.

### **3.10.2 Implementation 2017**

#### *3.10.2.1 Baseline*

The development of the **Core Service Platform for ePrescriptions and Patient Summary** started under WP2015. It includes the implementation, operation and support of the core service as well as the maintenance, evolution, operation, change management of OpenNCP software, the support to the National Contact Points for eHealth (NCPeH) and the Open NCP community. The Open NCP technology is a set of software components necessary to run an NCPeH, whereas the OpenNCP community is set of methodologies, tools and people conducting effort on designing, coding, testing and releasing OpenNCP software coordinated by the eHealth DSI governance. This work benefitted greatly from the preparatory work done in epSOS, EXPAND and e-SENS.

Also the development of the **Core Service Platform for the ERN** started under WP2015. This requires implementing IT tools for clinical communication and patient management allowing for secure transmission of patient data, secure communication and information delivery, but also organisation and administrative facilitation of meetings, and learning tool. The communication and collaboration tool was already developed by the Commission (DG SANTE), released for piloting and training by the pilot networks in 2016 and will be fully available for the first ERNs towards the end of 2016. The secure sharing of clinical information will be made available through a CEF financed contract for the first ERNs.

#### ***Generic Services for ePrescriptions and Patient Summary***

Under the WP2015, the first eHealth call for Member States was published for setting up of systems for cross-border exchange of ePrescriptions and Patient Summaries. Specifically, this action aimed at co-funding the establishment of eHealth National Contact Points<sup>33</sup> in the Member States, which is the prerequisite for cross-border exchange. By responding to this call, the Member States made a broad commitment to set up the two services, with 20 Member States asking for funding. Several Member States informed the Commission of their willingness to join in the exchange later.

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<sup>33</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/health/ehealth/docs/ev\\_20151123\\_co01\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/health/ehealth/docs/ev_20151123_co01_en.pdf)

### 3.10.2.2 Actions in 2017

The CEF support in 2017 will build on the commitment by Member States to set up the NCPeH under the eHealth DSI and the core service platform started by the DSI Solution Provider. It is intended to broaden the deployment of ePrescription and Patient Summary services to all Member States and to start a clinical services platform for the European Reference Networks. The immediate objective of the actions on ePrescription and Patient Summary is to continue the work already underway and consolidate a sustainable technical and organizational core infrastructure for both services, providing a solid set of facilities that can be extended gradually.

*Below a distinction is made between the ePrescription and Patient Summary and the European Reference Networks.*

#### **Core Service Platform**

- ***ePrescriptions and Patient Summary***

The activities consist mostly of upkeep and building forth on the services already started under the WP2015. Furthermore, the eHealth DSI<sup>34</sup> governing bodies will continue their activities to guide and orchestrate the building of the EU Cross-Border eHealth Information Services (CBeHIS), as defined in the guidelines and other documents adopted by the eHealth Network, and in specifications issued by the epSOS, EXPAND, and e-SENS projects. The first wave of Member States will start services operation in 2018. All Member States, which received the funding from 2015 CEF eHealth Call, have committed to start service operation by 2020.

An initial audit of the National Contact Point must take place before joining the EU wide exchange called Cross-Border eHealth Information Services (CBeHIS). The test and audit model will be adopted by the eHealth Network. In addition, the terminology used in clinical documents will be enhanced and the guidelines adopted by the eHealth Network updated as necessary. The initial audits will be financed through the core services.

- ***European Reference Networks***

The immediate objective is to complete the activities started under 2015 funding to allow the cross-border interconnection of Reference Networks to exchange clinical data. The ICT platform will consist of modules that will be adapted for the different thematic fields of the ERN. WP2017 actions will continue the building of the ERN IT coordination and clinical cooperation platforms, including training and elearning, and make adjustments according to the Network's needs. Further, the actions concern support services and central service desk, the maintenance and the governance of the infrastructure.

#### **Generic Services**

- ***ePrescriptions and Patient Summary***

The actions under the WP2017 are primarily the expansion of the activities under WP2015 to all Member States capable of setting up the services, testing them, and connecting their National Contact Points for eHealth to the EU CBeHIS. This expansion will enable new Member States to implement, test and operate the

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<sup>34</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/health/ehealth/docs/ev\\_20151123\\_co02\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/health/ehealth/docs/ev_20151123_co02_en.pdf)

NCPeH which will allow them to exchange ePrescription and Patient Summaries. Under WP2015 funding, some Member States were planning to set up only one service. The 2017 WP, or later funding may be an opportunity for those Member States to broaden their services. Member States need carry out interoperability tests to conform to the policies and requirements defined by the eHealth DSI.

- ***European Reference Networks***

Support in the WP2017 is envisaged to ensure adequate and efficient use of the core service platform by the members of the ERNs and beyond. The actions hardware and technical maintenance, software maintenance, local IT support and training and assets located in Member States hosting the European Reference Networks and their members, enabling the connection between them and with the core service platform.

### *3.10.2.3 Benefits and expected outcomes (including EU added value)*

Overall, in line with the objectives of Directive 2011/24, the deployment of eHealth solutions shall increase safety and quality of care throughout the EU, notably by:

- providing accurate and immediate key clinical information needed in an emergency situation abroad, regardless of communication problems between the patient and the health professional;
- ensuring continuity of care across borders both in terms on information and access to medicinal treatment;
- facilitating access to highly specialised knowledge and care for patients suffering from rare and severe diseases; and
- creating a possibility to collect and analyse clinical data across borders to support public health and research.

### *3.10.2.4 Outputs and expected outcomes (including EU added value) of the actions supported in 2017*

Following the oversubscription of CEF call 2015 and taking into account the interest of new countries joining, which were not ready in 2015, funding will be made available through calls for proposals for Member States to perform actions to start exchanging ePrescriptions and Patient Summaries.

The European Reference Networks has been established and have received their basic tools already. The 2017 funding aims at service customized to ERN specialised needs as well as local support to consume the services which has been funded under 2015 CEF call.

### *3.10.2.5 Use of Building blocks*

The Patient Summary and ePrescription services will use two elements from eDelivery building block. Those elements are Dynamic Service Location<sup>35</sup> and Capability lookup. The use of eID and eSignature are currently under analysis.

The use of common building blocks in ERN core services will be analysed. It will at least use ECAS for authentication which includes the use of eID building block.

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<sup>35</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/cefdigital/wiki/display/CEFDIGITAL/eDelivery+solution+description>



The specification of the integration of eID/eSignature with cross border eHealth services will be developed and piloted under the e-SENS project, which is due to end in 2017. Once the pilot will have proved its feasibility and the WP2015 activity to analyse the use of eID and its relation to eIDAS regulation has completed, the integration will occur based on the decision of the eHealth Network engaging National Contact Points to use it.

#### 3.10.2.6 Governance, operations and stakeholder involvement

The governance model<sup>36</sup> of the eHDSI for the PS and eP (eHDSI-PS/eP) was adopted in the eHealth Network in November 2015 and for the European Reference Networks (eHDSI-ERN) in the ERN Board of Member States in [June 2016].

Stakeholders, such as SDOs (CEN, IHTSDO), experts, fora, consortia, representative organisations (patients, professionals) will be engaged through the eHealth stakeholder group, the Joint Action supporting the eHealth Network, other projects and expert groups.

Management decisions with policy relevance for eHDSI-PS/eP will be submitted to the eHealth Network for approval in accordance with the governance model. Other specifications will be governed by the Network or other relevant eHDSI governance bodies.

Management decisions with policy relevance for eHDSI-ERN will be submitted to the ERN Board of Member States for approval. Specifications and guidelines will be governed by the relevant bodies in a governance structure set up by ERN Board of Member State.

Activities to promote the use of the ERN IT platform for research will be coordinated with the efforts carried out by the pan-European ESFRI research infrastructures such as, e.g., ECRIN (European Clinical Research Infrastructures Network) and ELIXIR (European Life-science Infrastructure for Biological Information).

#### 3.10.2.7 Type of financial support

The Core Service Platform will be implemented through procurement contracts.

Title:	eHealth – Core Service Platform
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 3 million
Type of financial support:	procurement
Duration of the action:	48 months
Indicative call publication date:	Q1 2017

Generic Services will be financed through grants and in particular the following applies:

#### **ePrescription and Patient Summary**

Proposals may be submitted by a legal entity from Member State or EEA country, supported by the national authority responsible for eHealth, participating in the CEF Telecom programme.

<sup>36</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/health/ehealth/docs/ev\\_20151123\\_co02\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/health/ehealth/docs/ev_20151123_co02_en.pdf)

CEF financing for the call for proposals for the Generic Services will provide a maximum of co-financing of EUR 1.000.000 per Member State for both services combined, taking into account possible cumulative funding.

Priority will be given to new countries joining the exchange of eP/eD and PS.

Possibility to link to the national infrastructure will be important element of impact criteria.

### European Reference Networks

Proposals may be submitted by the European Reference Networks designated under Directive 2011/24/EU.

Title:	eHealth – Generic Services
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 9 million
Type of financial support:	grants - Call for proposals
Funding rate:	up to 75% of the total eligible costs
Consortium composition:	eP/PS: one organisation only. No consortium allowed.  ERN: European Reference Networks as consortiums designated under Directive 2011/24/EU.
Eligible organisations:	eP/PS: Legal entities supported by the national authority responsible for eHealth  ERN: European Reference Networks as consortiums designated under Directive 2011/24/EU
Indicative duration of the action:	48 months
Indicative call publication date:	May 2017
Indicative call closing date:	September 2017
Additional information:	eP/PS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- maximum co-financing per country is EUR 1 million</li> <li>- Priority will be given to new countries joining the exchange of eP/eD and PS</li> <li>- Possibility to link to the national infrastructure will be important element of impact criteria</li> </ul>

## **3.11 Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information (EESSI) - Integration, qualification and production rollout of national social security systems with EESSI.**

### **3.11.1 Background and rationale**

The main objective of this DSI is to improve the cross border communication between the national social security institutions of 32 countries (EU Member States and Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland), by introducing an electronic communication platform for efficient exchange of information. This platform will:

- Strengthen the protection of the social security rights of mobile citizens by automating at an optimal level the application of EC regulations on social security;
- Enable efficiency in the decision-making process for the actual calculation and payment of social security benefits to citizens who exercise mobility across Europe;
- Allow secure, efficient and verifiable data transfers for the citizens concerned;
- Collect accurate statistical data on social security coordination data exchanges.

The EESSI platform covers the cross-border business processes of all branches of social security such as: accidents at work and occupational disease benefits, family benefits, pension benefits, recovery of benefits and contributions, sickness and healthcare benefits, unemployment benefits, etc.

### **3.11.2 Implementation 2017**

In addition to the several activities started via the WP2016 to be carried out in 2017, additional actions are planned as described below.

For the *Core Service Platform*

- Implementation, integration and testing of new development releases of the main EESSI messaging and information transmission platform composed by a Central Service Node, Access Points and the Reference Implementation of a National Application (RINA) supporting the enforcement of the relevant social security coordination business processes. The Central Service Node is the hub hosting the Directory service of all EESSI social security institutions, orchestrating the exchanges and providing the repository of the business processes (workflows) for all 8 domains of social security coordination. It provides also the statistical data and audit data about the exchanges of the Access Points. The Access Points offer the basis of reliable and secure transport and messaging between Member States as well as the intelligent routing feature (allowing the messages to reach the right destination). RINA is a case management portal offering multiple services such as management of social security coordination cases, enforcing the specific sectorial business processes in an effort to avoid delays, errors and lack of information in processing of social security coordination cases.
- Integration and development of eDelivery eSENS Access Point and integration in RINA as an alternative to the current eDelivery Holodeck transport and messaging layer. This alternative has been requested by several Member States.
- Integration of eID and Automated Translation building blocks in RINA in order to formally identify the users of RINA and, respectively, allow automated translation of comments included by clerks in the Structured Electronic Documents (SEDs).
- Second level IT support activities for the national users (the first line of support is ensured by MS help desk but the specialised support is provided by the EESSI core team from DG EMPL).
- Direct technical support for technical teams in Member States installing and integrating the Access Points and RINA type of software.

- Support for preparation of integration and transition plans coordinated by the EESSI central team.

For the *Generic Services* the WP2016 foresees support to Member States for acquisition of software, hardware, training, installation and integration of EESSI software in the Member States IT national systems at the level of the relevant EESSI Access Points and institutions.

#### *3.11.2.1 Actions to be started in 2017*

Actions supported by the WP2017 will be carried out mainly in 2017-2018, and their main focus will be on:

##### ***Core Service Platform***

- Setting up the second and third level IT support activities for the national users; DG EMPL will set up an extensive IT support activities for specialised assistance for MS help desks. There will be 60-70 Help desk teams in Member States that will need a strong support from EESSI central team.
- Providing direct technical support for Member States technical teams installing and integrating the Access Points and RINA.
- Preparation and delivery of training material and training activities for the Member States.

##### ***Generic Services***

- Consultancy for project management, feasibility studies, assessment studies and deployment related to the EESSI software and overall EESSI implementation at national level;
- Acquisition of hardware required by the EESSI DSI, for example for the installation and connection of the Access Points or the Reference Implementation of a National Application (RINA). This might be servers, networking devices, cabling, etc.;
- Acquisition of infrastructure software licenses necessary for the installation, operation and connection of the EESSI Access Points (currently 59 in total) to the Core platform;
- Installation and configuration of the EESSI Access Points, including non-production environments;
- Activities related to the setting up of the eDelivery conformant access points in Members States as part of National IT Applications;
- Set up and training of the first and second level IT support teams of the EESSI Access Points participating in the EESSI DSI. These support teams will assist MS clerks for using the system. The large group of future users will need a strong first level and second level assistance for starting to use their local implementation of the system;
- Training for users involved in the EESSI cross-border business processes – the numerous clerks using the EESSI system from the approximately 10.000 institutions will need a strong training and continuous refreshing of knowledge in order to use the system in their domain of activity;

- Distribution, installation and configuration, development and deployment of national applications to allow connection to the EESSI core platform and compliance with the cross-border business processes. These national applications can be: a) RINA; b) Applications developed entirely by the Member States; c) applications reusing RINA components; or d) National Gateways;
- Further development and configuration of the software installed in the national data centres that will assist with connecting the Access Points with the national IT systems at the level of the relevant institutions for EESSI-related use;
- Activities related to the business and operational implementation of EESSI in the Member States, such as: local adaptations/additions of the technical guidelines, business local procedures, analysis studies for the data model/procedures implementation, translations of guidelines, user manuals, etc.

### *3.11.2.2 Building blocks*

The EESSI project developed the Access Point and the RINA under the ebMS 3.0 protocol complementing the building blocks eDelivery. During 2017, the EESSI development integrates the eDelivery building block enriching the cross-domain offer proposed to Member States administrations

The EESSI deployment will use Automated Translation and will also include eID building block in RINA by mid-2017.

### *3.11.2.3 Benefits and expected outcomes*

The activities planned for EESSI DSI will contribute in particular to supporting an efficient transition to electronic exchange of data in order to reduce the period of coexistence of digital exchange with the current paper procedures, increase overall efficiency in social security coordination activity and help Member States comply with the provisions and deadlines specified by Regulations (EC) 883/2004<sup>37</sup> and 987/2009<sup>38</sup>.

### *3.11.2.4 Benefits and expected outcomes specific to the actions supported in 2017*

The actions supported in 2017 will allow setting up of the local help desk teams in a majority of MS as well as deployment of 59 Access Points. It is expected the 15-20 MS will use RINA as their main case management portal and the funding will help the integration with their national systems.

### *3.11.2.5 Governance, operations and stakeholder involvement*

The EESSI project is a joint effort of the Commission and the Member States. For the Commission, DG EMPL is the system owner and solution provider for the central platform and reference national application (RINA), while the Administrative Commission for Social Security Coordination and the Technical Commission play the steering role as well as the forums deciding on whether the "system is fit for purpose".

The Member States will have to connect to the Access Points to ensure interoperability and communication with each other and with the Central Service Node. The existing EESSI governance bodies will be reused in the CEF project, whereby the Commission

<sup>37</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1455198038927&uri=CELEX:32004R0883>

<sup>38</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/RO/TXT/?uri=celex:32009R0987>

works with the Member States both at policy level (the Administrative Commission) and at technical level (the Technical Commission).

### 3.11.2.6 Type of financial support

The Core Service Platform will be implemented through procurement contracts.

Title:	Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information (EESSI) - Integration, Qualification and Rollout of national social security systems with EESSI – Core Service Platform
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 3 million (out of a total DG EMPL budget of EUR 30 million over 2 years )
Type of financial support:	procurement
Duration of the action:	24 months
Indicative publication date:	Q1 2017

Generic Services will be financed through grants. Proposals may be submitted by a single entity or a consortium of entities based in one or several Member States and/or EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme. The eDelivery deployment for the purposes of EESSI project can be part of the proposal. Funding will be limited to maximum of EUR 2 million per country, regardless of whether one or several entities from that same country apply.

Title:	Electronic Exchange of Social Security Information (EESSI) - Integration, Qualification and Rollout of national social security systems with EESSI – Generic services
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 17 million
Type of financial support:	grants – Call for proposals
Funding rate:	up to 75% for of the total eligible costs. Funding will be limited to maximum of EUR 2 million per country, regardless of whether one or several entities from that same country apply.
Consortium composition:	one or more organisations one or more eligible countries
Eligible organisations:	any
Indicative duration of the action:	24 months
Indicative publication date:	February 2017
Indicative call closing date:	May 2017

## **3.12 European e-Justice Portal**

### **3.12.1 Background and rationale**

#### *3.12.1.1 The specific policy framework*

In its Communication of May 2008, the European Commission proposed to establish the European e-Justice Portal, to be managed in close cooperation with the Member States. The Portal was launched on 16 July 2010 and has been expanded ever since – today it has approximately 350.000 visitors each month.

The Portal's objective is to contribute to the creation of a European judicial area by leveraging ICT to facilitate access to justice and enable electronic cross-border judicial proceedings and judicial cooperation.

The European e-Justice Portal, at its second stage of development, is expanding from being a provider of information to being a provider of services in the judicial area, in accordance with the Draft Strategy on European e-Justice 2014-2018 and the Multiannual European e-Justice Action Plan 2014-2018 .

The expansion into the services area began in 2014 with the launch of three modules, the Interconnection of Insolvency Registers, Find a Lawyer and Find a Notary, continued in 2015 with launching the European Court Database and will grow stronger in 2016 with opening up access to e-CODEX, and the search of national and European case law based on the European Case Law Identifier (ECLI).

#### *3.12.1.2 The contribution to the Digital Single Market*

Ensuring that our fundamental rights as individuals in the EU and as consumers are upheld in the digital world is at the forefront of the strategy. Consumers have the right to adequate protection of their rights both online and offline, and building confidence and trust in the online world is crucial to the creation and success of the DSM. The strategy proposes developments in a number of justice areas, including company law, consumer redress and improvement of the European e-justice Portal.

### **3.12.2 Implementation 2017**

#### *3.12.2.1 Baseline*

The European e-Justice Portal *core service platform (CSP)* is being actively developed, with a focus on bringing online the e-CODEX module. Work is also underway to prepare a new module for the interconnection of land registers and to align the existing interconnection of insolvency registers with new legislation.

Member State *generic services (GS)* will be created to connect to the existing modules of the CSP, self-funded or funded via CEF Work Programme 2016.

#### *3.12.2.2 Actions to be started in 2017*

##### ***Core Service Platform***

The Core Service Platform for the European e-Justice Portal is not funded from the CEF programme.

Outside the framework of the CEF funding scheme, the CSP will, among others, bring to completion the implementation of the interconnection of land registers module, the extension of the interconnection of insolvency registers module and will ensure operational maintenance for the remaining CSP modules.

### **Generic Services**

New Generic Services (GS) will continue to be developed, expanding the area of coverage of the various CSP modules. This evolution is essential to the usefulness of each service.

The details of the Generic Services depend on the nature of the CSP module to which it has to be connected:

- *Interconnection of Insolvency Registers*: the national insolvency registers have to implement the agreed web service specification necessary for communication with the CSP.

**Eligible organisations**: national public administrations competent for or operating insolvency or commercial registers.

- *European Case Law Identifier (ECLI)*: adoption and implementation of the ECLI standard on national level, and the provision of national case law to the CSP which would allow users to search for and find case law decisions featuring an ECLI identifier and metadata.

Applications aiming at full national adoption of the ECLI standard and establishing an interconnection to the ECLI search engine of the European e-Justice Portal will receive higher priority in comparison to applications offering partial adoption (for example limited to the judicial decisions of a Supreme Court or to prospective adoption of the ECLI standard).

**Eligible organisations**: national, European and international case law publishers or providers.

- *Access to e-CODEX*: the European e-Justice Portal currently participates in two electronic judicial workflows mediated by e-CODEX: the European Order for Payment (EOP) procedure and the European Small Claims (ESC) procedure, with plans to build further workflows using e-CODEX. The *Access to e-CODEX* package is therefore established to support Member States<sup>39</sup> for joining the two pilots already existing in the European e-Justice Portal, but also to participate in upcoming e-CODEX-based electronic judicial workflows addressed in the context of the European e-Justice Portal or associated cross-border initiatives. With regard to the existing workflows, EOP and ESC, priority will be given to the applications that also propose to support sending back replies from the national court(s) via e-CODEX to the users of the European e-Justice Portal.

To achieve implementation for *Access to e-CODEX*, Member States are invited to submit a proposal that covers one or more of the activities below:

activities related to deployment, configuration, testing and operation of an eDelivery platform. This will also contribute to the compliance with the

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<sup>39</sup> Non-EU Member States are excluded from *Access to e-CODEX* since the concerned judicial procedures only exist in the EU Member States.



requirements set out in the eIDAS Regulation (Regulation (EU) 910/2014);

activities related to the deployment, adaptation, configuration, testing and operation of the e-CODEX connector (or of other existing third party software that can fulfil the same role with minimal adaptation) required for fulfilling the tasks mandated by the e-CODEX communication standard as described in the e-CODEX specifications: generation of the necessary evidence of reception, signature validation, message packaging and other relevant tasks;

- one set of activities per judicial workflow for tasks related to the connection of the national case management infrastructure to the eDelivery platform, the generation and consumption of XML, PDF and other types of files mandated by the judicial procedure in a pre-agreed cross-border format (such as the e-CODEX XSDs in the case of the EOP and ESC procedures), end-to-end testing and operation of the system;

With regard to the EOP and ESC workflows, the connection will be considered achieved if and only if, for the judicial workflow(s) included in the proposal, the users of the e-Justice Portal can send to one or more courts in the Member State applying for funding any form linked to the judicial workflow that is meant to be sent from the claimant to the court, receiving evidence of reception. If included in its application, the Member State will also have to prove being able to send back all forms meant to be sent from the court to the claimant. The transmission is to be done using the technologies and standards described above or compatible ones.

**Eligible organisations:** public administrations.

- *Interconnection of Land Registers:* the national land registers and/or cadastres have to implement the required web service specification necessary for communication with the European e-Justice Portal. Certain relevant professional registers (e.g., those for notaries, real estate agents) that will authenticate the professional capacity of users will also have to implement the required authentication mechanism.

**Eligible organisations:** organisations competent for or operating land registers and/or cadastres. Relevant professional registers may also apply to implement the authentication mechanism.

- *European Court Database:* countries have to adapt and/or extend their national databases to implement a mechanism for the automatic import of relevant data (e.g. court details, competences, etc.) to the European Court Database.

**Eligible organisations:** public administrations.

Each Generic Service may comprise up to three types of activities:

- *hook-up:* covers all the activities linked to the development of specific connection software, modifications and adaptations of existing information systems for the purposes of the hook-up. For example: installation and configuration of hardware and software infrastructure, required adaptations in existing software solutions and data sources, deployment of the generic service, local and integration testing, project management, etc.

In duly justified and substantiated cases applications which aim to substantially increase the scope and/or the added value of an in situ generic service may also be considered eligible for evaluation as hook-up activities;

- *operation*: covers operational costs such as hosting, acquisition of certificates or software licenses, technical support, etc.
- *maintenance*: covers any activity required for maintaining the specific connection software and associated configuration in good working order. This includes adaptive maintenance (changing the software to work in a changing infrastructure), corrective maintenance (resolving bugs) and evolutive maintenance (changing the software to adapt to evolving requirements such as changes in the core platform or in the national service).

### 3.12.2.3 Building blocks

As core service platform, the European e-Justice Portal already uses the eSignature, eDelivery and eTranslation Building Block DSIs. Via its reliance on ECAS-STORK for user authentication, the Portal also integrates the eIdentity Building Block DSI. The Building Block DSIs are fundamental to many of the Portal's existing and upcoming services and they will continue to be included to the fullest extent.

The deployment of eDelivery can be included in proposals for *Access to e-CODEX* Generic Services.

### 3.12.2.4 Benefits and expected outcomes

By increasing the number of data or service providers connected to each of the European e-Justice Portal modules, the value of the services offered to citizens, businesses and legal practitioners grows proportionally to the extra coverage. The specific benefits depend on the module in question:

- *Interconnection of Insolvency Registers*: the interconnection of national insolvency registers is key to improving the provision of relevant and timely information to creditors and courts involved and prevent the opening of parallel insolvency proceedings. With this in mind the envisaged actions shall allow Member States to expediently comply with the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2015/848 and interconnect their national insolvency registers via the European e-Justice Portal;
- *European Case Law Identifier (ECLI)*: ECLI offers a solution to a number of practical problems legal professionals and practitioners are confronted with daily when trying to locate case law decisions published by other countries – e.g. lack of familiarity with national numbering schemes, different types of metadata, correlation between legislation and case law, etc. The expected outcome is the implementation of technical solutions allowing easier access to case law on national and European level;
- *Access to e-CODEX*: connecting more Member States to e-CODEX is meant to enlarge the territorial coverage where electronic use of the European Order for Payment and the European Small Claims cross-border legal instruments is possible. Every country that becomes connected via e-CODEX enables its judicial authorities to interact electronically with citizens, business and legal practitioners across the European Union;
- *Interconnection of Land Registers (LRI)*: the project addresses the issue of discrepancy, complexity and multitude of land registration systems by providing

a single access point, established within the e-Justice Portal, for the acquisition of land-related information of participating Member States. Through this access point citizens and professionals will be able to query and retrieve relevant land register information via a single, adaptive, multi-lingual interface.

- *European Court Database (CDB)*: the key benefit of the envisaged actions is a smoother and enhanced process of provision of the country's data to the European Court Database. This would result in the data about courts being constantly up-to-date, avoiding the presentation or use of outdated information in either the European e-Justice Portal or third party service providers relying on this data.

#### *3.12.2.5 Benefits and expected outcomes specific to the actions supported in 2017*

This DSI is established in order to increase the service coverage of the European e-Justice Portal by connecting additional Member State generic services to the existing modules of the European e-Justice Portal. As such, the benefits and outcomes specific to the actions supported in 2017 pertain to increasing the service coverage of the modules included in the DSI in 2017, namely the Interconnection of Insolvency Registers, ECLI, Access to e-CODEX and the Interconnection of Land Registers.

#### *3.12.2.6 Governance, operations and stakeholder involvement*

The European e-Justice Portal is co-managed by the European Commission and the Member States. For the European e-Justice Portal as a whole and for all its modules except *Access to e-CODEX*, the European Commission takes decisions in agreement with the Member States. The governance body for the European e-Justice Portal is the Council e-Justice Working Party, while technical decisions are taken in the e-Justice Expert Group both of which meet a few times a year. Specific expert subgroups are established for a limited duration to coordinate the implementation of some of the Portal's modules when the relevant stakeholders are not part of the e-Justice Experts' Group, or are only a small subset thereof.

In the particular case of the e-CODEX project, the governance is ensured by the Me-CODEX (maintenance of e-CODEX) project until 2018, with a work ongoing in the interim period for a long-term governance model.

The daily operation and maintenance of the core service platform is ensured by DG Justice and Consumers.

#### *3.12.2.7 Type of financial support*

Generic Services will be financed through grants. Proposals may be submitted by a single entity or a consortium of entities based in one or several Member States and/or EEA countries participating in the CEF Telecom programme. Proposals are limited to one or more Generic Services connecting to the same module. The eDelivery deployment can be part of the proposal.

This DSI is established specifically to help increase the service coverage of the European e-Justice Portal, and thus targeted only at applications seeking to develop a technical connection to the European e-Justice Portal in the context of specific modules. Furthermore, it only aims to fund a limited range of activities, i.e., actions looking to connect an otherwise existing system and/or set of data using the specific interfaces mandated by the European e-Justice Portal. It cannot be used to fund the development of the system itself or the collection/production of the data. For all other types of e-Justice projects, whether or not related to the European e-Justice Portal, the appropriate funding

tool is the yearly "Action grants to support national or transnational e-Justice projects" opened by DG Justice and Consumers.

Title:	European e-Justice Portal – Generic Services
Indicative total budget for 2017:	EUR 1,5 million
Type of financial support:	grants – call for proposal
Funding rate:	up to 75% of the total eligible cost
Consortium composition:	one or more organisations one or more eligible countries
Eligible organisations:	Interconnection of Insolvency Registers national public administrations competent for or operating insolvency or commercial registers European Case Law Identifier national, European and international case law publishers or providers Access to e-CODEX public administrations Interconnection of Land Registers organisations competent for or operating land registers and/or cadastres. Relevant professional registers may also apply to implement the authentication mechanism European Court Database public administrations
Indicative duration of the action:	24 months
Indicative call publication date:	February 2017
Indicative call closing date:	May 2017

## **4 IMPLEMENTATION**

### **4.1 Main implementation measures and EU financial contribution**

The different nature and specificities of the DSI detailed in Section 3 require distinctive implementation measures. Each of these will therefore be achieved either through calls for proposals resulting in grant agreements, or through procurement actions as specified in Section 3.

For all measures implemented via calls for proposals, the EU funding is granted in accordance with the principles of co-financing and non-profit for the funded activities in compliance with the European Union Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation<sup>40</sup>. EU grants will be calculated on the basis of eligible costs. Details of eligible costs can be found in the model grant agreement. The financial assistance will respect the 75% maximum co-financing rate limit of the CEF Regulation. Specific eligibility criteria will be specified in the calls for proposals.

### **4.2 Procurement**

Procurement actions will be carried out in compliance with the applicable EU public procurement rules. As per Section 3 of this Work Programme, procurement can be achieved either through direct calls for tenders or by using existing framework contracts.

### **4.3 Calls for proposals for the DSI Generic Services**

#### **4.3.1 General terms and provisions**

Proposals must be submitted by one or more Member States or, with the agreement<sup>41</sup> of the Member States concerned, by international organisations, joint undertakings, or public or private undertakings or bodies established in Member States.

European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA) may also participate<sup>42</sup> in accordance with the conditions laid down in the EEA Agreement. Therefore, even when not explicitly mentioned in the WP text, it is intended that all calls for proposal are opened also to EEA countries based on the Decisions taken by the EEA Joint Committee<sup>43</sup>, with the same rights and obligations as a Member State.

In addition, acceding States and candidate countries benefiting from a pre-accession strategy may participate in the CEF Telecom in accordance with agreements signed with the Union<sup>44</sup>.

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<sup>40</sup> OJ C 323, 30.12.2006, p. 1.

<sup>41</sup> As indicated in Art.9.1 of the CEF Regulation (Regulation (EU) No 1316/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing the Connecting Europe Facility, amending Regulation (EU) No 913/2010 and repealing Regulations (EC) No 680/2007 and (EC) No 67/2010).

<sup>42</sup> According to article 7.2 of Regulation (EU) No 283/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 on guidelines for trans-European networks in the area of telecommunications infrastructures and repealing Decision No 1336/97/EC.

<sup>43</sup> At the moment of writing these are Norway and Iceland.

<sup>44</sup> It is to be noted that at the time of writing no country in this situation has signed any agreement, so their participation is subject to the third countries criteria.

Proposals may be submitted by entities which do not have legal personality under the applicable national law, provided that their representatives have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf and offer a guarantee for the protection of the Union's financial interests equivalent to that offered by legal persons.

Proposals submitted by natural persons will not be eligible.

Where necessary to achieve the objectives of a given project of common interest and where duly motivated, third countries and entities established in third countries may participate in actions contributing to the projects of common interest. They may not receive funding under this Regulation, except where it is indispensable to achieve the objectives of a given project of common interest.

#### **4.3.2 Making a proposal**

Proposals should be submitted in accordance with the procedure defined in the call text. A Guide for Applicants containing full details on how to submit a proposal as well as all of the call documentation and background information pertaining to each call is available on the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency (INEA) website, accessible via the following link: <http://ec.europa.eu/inea/en/connecting-europe-facility/cef-telecom/apply-funding>

#### **4.3.3 Evaluation process**

The evaluation of proposals will be based on the principles of transparency and equal treatment. It will be carried out by the Commission services with the assistance of independent experts. Three sets of criteria (eligibility, award and selection) will be applied to each submitted proposal. The three sets of criteria are described in detail in Annex 2 of this Work Programme).

Only proposals meeting the requirements of the eligibility criteria will be evaluated further.

Each of the eligible proposals will be evaluated against the award criteria, while each individual applicant must demonstrate their financial and operational capacity to carry out the proposed action or work programme.

Proposals responding to a specific DSI as defined in Section 3 of this Work Programme will be evaluated both individually and comparatively. The comparative assessment of proposals will cover all proposals responding to the same DSI Generic Services call.

Proposals that achieve a score greater than or equal to the threshold will be ranked within the objective. These rankings will determine the order of priority for funding. Following evaluation of award criteria, the Commission establishes a Selection Decision taking into account the scores and ranking of the proposals, the programme priorities and the available budget. In case it is specified in the DSI description that *only one proposal per Member State will be selected*, only the proposal with the higher ranking will be selected in case more proposals from a same Member State have passed the threshold. The Selection Decision will include proposals to be invited to prepare the Grant Agreement, a reserve list of proposals to be considered for funding should budget become available, and a list of proposals that are to be rejected either for lack of budget or lack of quality (failure to meet one or more of the award criteria thresholds) or presence of a better proposal for a same Member State in case this is applicable.

The coordinators of all the submitted proposals are informed in writing about the outcome of the evaluation for their proposal.

#### **4.3.4 Selection of independent experts for evaluation and reviews**

The Commission will select independent experts to assist with the evaluation of proposals and with the review of project results as well as for other purposes where specific expertise might be required for implementation of the Programme. Experts are invited to apply using the mechanisms and tools provided for in the H2020 Framework Programme<sup>45</sup> and a list of experts appropriate to the requirements of the CEF Telecom and each individual call area will be established. Experts will be selected from this list on the basis of their ability to perform the tasks assigned to them, taking into account the thematic requirements of the call or project, and with consideration of geographical and gender balance.

#### **4.3.5 Indicative implementation calendar**

The indicative calendar for the implementation of CEF Telecom calls in 2017 is shown in the table below. The Commission expects to issue calls for proposals in accordance with this 2017 Work Programme.

More information about these calls is available on the INEA website via the following link: <http://ec.europa.eu/inea/en/connecting-europe-facility/cef-telecom/apply-funding..>

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Q1	WP published, Call 1 opens
Q2	Call 1 closes
Q2	Call 2 opens
Q3	Call 3 opens
Q3	Call 2 closes
Q2 – Q3	Evaluation Call 1
Q4	Evaluation Call 2
Q4	Info to applicants for Call 1
Q4	Call 3 closes
Q1 2018	Evaluation Call 3
Q1 2018	Info to applicants for Call 2
Q1 2018	Grant Agreements signed for Call 1
Q2 2018	Grant Agreements signed for Call 2
Q2 2018	Info to applicants for Call 3
Q3 2018	Grant Agreements signed for Call 3

<sup>45</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/experts/index.html>

## **5 PROGRAMME SUPPORT ACTIONS**

### **5.1 Studies, communication and other measures**

The legal bases foresee the possibility for studies and programme support actions in the field of broadband and digital service infrastructures aimed at maximising the impact of the EU intervention. Horizontal actions for 2017 will cover costs including preparation, evaluation, monitoring and studies. An amount of funding will be set aside to cover awareness and dissemination as it is crucial to effectively communicate about the value and benefits of CEF.

#### **Studies**

Studies might cover:

- Support to deployment of DSI solutions in specific cases;
- Identification of new technologies with potential to be included in the DSIs deployment;
- Broadband benchmarking and other Broadband relevant activities;
- Synergies with other EU initiatives;
- Support to identification of possible new DSIs and evaluation of their maturity.

The Commission plans to procure via framework contracts and call for tenders indicatively 10 study contracts. The calls for tenders (or use of framework contracts) are indicatively planned to be launched in the second and third calendar quarter of 2017. Indicatively 5 direct new contracts and 5 specific contracts under existing framework contracts will be used.

Total indicative budget: EUR 605 000 from budget line 09 03 03.

- Open Data Portal - The new generic services proposed for 2017 will make use of the existing technology, however the large amount of public information available make the case for scaling up to supercomputers that will be available within 3-5 years. Programme support actions will study pilot use cases for generic services addressing innovative public services and using future pre-exa and exa-scale machines.

The Commission indicatively plans one call for tenders to be launched in the second or third calendar quarter of 2017.

Total indicative budget: EUR 500 000 from budget line 09 03 03.

#### **Communication activities**

The Commission plans to procure via framework contracts and/or call for tenders communication activities to foster deployment, take-up and usage of the Digital Services offered by CEF. Envisaged communication actions will have to build and complement on the already existing ones. Indicatively 1 direct new contract and 1 specific contract under existing framework contracts will be used.

Total indicative budget: EUR 120 000 from budget line 09 03 03.



## **Other**

- Maintenance of the expert management IT tools and the TENtec computerised data information system used in CEF Transport to CEF Telecom involving all stakeholders, providing an interactive beneficiary platform.

Total indicative budget: EUR 100 000 from budget line 09 03 03.

- Support to evaluation and project reviews<sup>46</sup>.

Total indicative budget: EUR 398 303 from budget line 09 03 03.

## **5.2 Broadband Technical Assistance**

Broadband Technical Assistance will provide guidance to potential project promoters on rolling-out high speed broadband. Amongst its activities, Broadband Technical Assistance will promote, and advise on, the use of financial instruments, including those available under CEF. In particular, Broadband Technical Assistance will promote potential voluntary ring-fenced contributions from ESI funds and national budgets to CEF. Thus, Broadband Technical Assistance will contribute to the improvement of the accessibility of EU-level financial instruments, including CEF, in order to maximise the efficiency and impact of public funding. The facility will be implemented in close co-operation with the European Investment Advisory Hub<sup>47</sup> to ensure coherence and efficiency in the use of EU funds.

The Support Facility of Broadband Technical Assistance will coordinate and facilitate the operations of Broadband Technical Assistance contact points designated or recruited out of the ESIF Programmes' for technical assistance and located within existing administrative structures.

The Support Facility for the Broadband Competence Offices<sup>48</sup> network will be partially funded under the present Workprogramme through procurement. An indicative budget of the Support Facility will be EUR 3 million for a contract duration of three to four years, of which the contribution from the CEF Telecom Programme will be up to EUR 1 million. The remainder of the budget, not covered under this Workprogramme, will be provided from Technical Assistance resources available under European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). Indicatively 1 direct new contract and 1 specific contract under existing framework contracts will be used.

Broadband Technical Assistance contact points will not be financed under this Workprogramme.

Total indicative budget: EUR 333 000 from budget line 09 03 01

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<sup>46</sup> In accordance with Article 204 of the Financial Regulation

<sup>47</sup> The European Investment Advisory Hub (EIAH) is one of the windows of the European Fund for Strategic Investments which aims to enhance the environment for investment by addressing the main financial and non-financial obstacles. It provides a single point of entry to a wide range of advisory and technical assistance programmes and initiatives for public and private beneficiaries, provided by high-level experts, as well as cooperation platform to leverage, exchange and disseminate expertise among the EIAH partner institutions and beyond.

<sup>48</sup> As announced in Section 4.5 of the Commission Communication "Connectivity for a Competitive Digital Single Market - Towards a European Gigabit Society", COM(2016) 587 final, 14.9.2016.

## **6 FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information relating to this programme, please refer to the CEF Telecom website at <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/connecting-europe-facility>.

## ANNEXES

### Annex 1 – Call for proposal fiches<sup>49</sup>

- Call identifier: CEF-TC-2017-1
  - Opening date: 10 February 2017 <sup>50</sup>
  - Closing date: 18 May 2017 <sup>51</sup>
  - Indicative budget:
  - Subject area: eID, eSignature, EESSI, BRIS and eJustice Portal
  - Eligibility and admissibility conditions: The conditions are described in Annex 2 to this Work Programme
  - Evaluation criteria, scoring and threshold: The criteria, scoring and threshold are described in Annex 2 to this Work Programme.
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- Call identifier: CEF-TC-2017-2
  - Opening date: 4 May 2017 <sup>52</sup>
  - Closing date: 21 September 2017 <sup>53</sup>
  - Indicative budget:
  - Subject area: eDelivery, Cyber Security, eProcurement (eCertis) and eHealth
  - Eligibility and admissibility conditions: The conditions are described in Annex 2 to this Work Programme
  - Evaluation criteria, scoring and threshold: The criteria, scoring and threshold are described in Annex 2 to this Work Programme.
- 
- Call identifier: CEF-TC-2017-3
  - Opening date: 28 June 2017 <sup>54</sup>
  - Closing date: 28 November 2017 <sup>55</sup>
  - Indicative budget:
  - Subject area: eInvoicing, Open Data Portal, eTranslation and Europeana
  - Eligibility and admissibility conditions: The conditions are described in Annex 2 to this Work Programme
  - Evaluation criteria, scoring and threshold: The criteria, scoring and threshold are described in Annex 2 to this Work Programme.

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<sup>49</sup> Dates are indicative

<sup>50</sup> The Director-General responsible for the call may publish it up to one month prior of after the envisaged date of publication.

<sup>51</sup> The Director-General responsible may delay this deadline by up to two months.

<sup>52</sup> The Director-General responsible for the call may publish it up to one month prior of after the envisaged date of publication.

<sup>53</sup> The Director-General responsible may delay this deadline by up to two months.

<sup>54</sup> The Director-General responsible for the call may publish it up to one month prior of after the envisaged date of publication.

<sup>55</sup> The Director-General responsible may delay this deadline by up to two months.

## **Annex 2 - Evaluation criteria for the Calls for Proposals – Digital Service Infrastructures**

### **Admissibility conditions**

To be considered admissible, a proposal must be:

- Submitted on time: proposals must be submitted by the date and time and through the submission means specified in the relevant call for proposals. Proposals must be submitted only as specified in the call: either electronically or on paper. The call deadline is a deadline for receipt of proposals (in the case of proposals submitted by post or courier services it is the date of sending by applicants).
- Complete: all requested information must be submitted by the call deadline, including the requested administrative data, signature(s) of the applicant(s), all application forms and their respective annexes (if applicable) and any supporting document(s) specified in the call for proposals. Incomplete proposals may be considered as inadmissible.

### **Eligibility criteria**

Proposals will be eligible if they meet the following criteria:

- The proposal must include the agreement of the concerned Member State(s) as indicated in Art.9.1 of the CEF Regulation<sup>56</sup>.
- The composition of the proposing consortium complies with the requirements set out in this Work Programme and call text.
- The proposal is submitted by legal persons as referred to in section 4.3.1.

### **Exclusion criteria**

- Applicants must certify that they are not in any of the situations listed below:
  - i. they are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administered by the courts, have entered into an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;
  - ii. they or persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control over them have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgment of a competent authority of a Member State which has the force of res judicata;
  - iii. they have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authority can justify including by decisions of the EIB and international organisations;

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<sup>56</sup> Regulation (EU) No 1316/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing the Connecting Europe Facility, amending Regulation (EU) No 913/2010 and repealing Regulations (EC) No 680/2007 and (EC) No 67/2010.

- iv. they are not in compliance with their obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which they are established or with those of the country of the contracting authority or those of the country where the contract is to be performed;
- v. they or persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control over them have been the subject of a judgment which has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation, money laundering or any other illegal activity, where such illegal activity is detrimental to the Union's financial interests;
- vi. they are subject to a financial or administrative penalty referred to in Article 109(1) of the Financial Regulation;
- vii. they are subject to a conflict of interests;
- viii. they are guilty of misrepresenting the information required by the contracting authority as a condition of participation in the procurement procedure or have failed to supply that information.

Proposals failing to meet the above criteria are not accepted for further evaluation.

### **Selection criteria**

Applicants must demonstrate their financial and operational capacity to carry out the proposed action.

### **Award criteria**

The proposals will be evaluated on the basis of three criteria: 'Relevance', 'Quality and efficiency of the implementation' and 'Impact', further described below:

#### **Relevance**

- Alignment with the objectives and activities required for the deployment of the Digital Service Infrastructure described in Section 3 and further specified in the call for proposals.
- Alignment and synergies with relevant policies, strategies and activities at European and national level.

#### **Quality and efficiency of the implementation**

- Maturity of the proposed solution (e.g. in terms of contribution towards interoperability, connectivity, sustainable deployment, operation, upgrading of trans-European digital service infrastructures, use of common Building Blocks, coordination at European level) and/or integration with existing components of the DSI.
- Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources.
- Quality and relevant experience of the individual participants and, if more than one beneficiary, of the consortium as a whole (including complementarity, balance).

- Extent to which the proposal demonstrates support from national authorities, industry and NGOs (when relevant).
- Appropriate attention to security, privacy, inclusiveness and accessibility (when relevant).

### **Impact and sustainability**

- Quality of the approach to facilitate wider deployment and take-up of the proposed actions.
- Capability to survive, develop and scale up without European Union funding after the end of the project with a view to achieving long-term sustainability, where appropriate through funding sources other than CEF.

A score will be applied to each of the three award criteria. If a proposal fails to achieve one or more of the threshold scores (see below), feedback will be provided to the consortium on the reason(s) for failure.

Proposals that are outside the scope of the Work Programme objectives will be marked ‘0’ for the Relevance criterion — with the comment ‘out of scope of the call’; they will not be further evaluated.

For each award criterion a score from 0 to 5 points is given (half points possible):

0. The proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.
1. Very poor: The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
2. Not satisfactory: The proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.
3. Good: The proposal addresses the criterion well, but a number of shortcomings are present.
4. Very Good: The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.
5. Excellent: The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

**Scoring:** unless otherwise specified in the call conditions:

For all proposals, each criterion will be scored out of 5. The threshold for individual criteria will be 3. The overall threshold, applying to the sum of the three individual scores, will be 10.

### **Priority order for proposals with the same score**

Unless the call conditions indicate otherwise, the following method will be applied:

At the end of the evaluation by independent experts, all the proposals under evaluation for a same call will be ranked, according to the scores obtained for of each of the award criteria as indicated above.

If necessary, a priority order for proposals which have obtained the same score within a ranked list will be determined. Whether or not such a prioritisation is carried out will depend on the available budget or other conditions set out in the call text. The following approach will be applied successively for every group of *ex aequo* proposals requiring prioritisation, starting with the highest scored group, and continuing in descending order:

- i. Proposals submitted by organisations established in an eligible country which is not otherwise covered by more highly-ranked proposals, will be considered to have the highest priority (geographical coverage).
- ii. The proposals identified under (i), if any, will themselves be prioritised according to the scores they have been awarded for the criterion *relevance*. When these scores are equal, priority will be based on scores for the criterion *impact and sustainability*.

If a distinction still cannot be made, a further prioritisation can be done by considering the overall project portfolio and the creation of positive synergies between projects, or other factors related to the objectives of the call or to CEF in general. These factors will be documented in the evaluation report.

### **Annex 3 – Conformity with the legal base**

The DSI objectives described in Sections 3 and 5 refer to the kind of actions that can be provided for under the CEF Telecom as defined in Article 4 of the CEF Regulation.