

Year		(in KEUR)	KEUR)
2016	Inception, Execution, Operation	200	
2017	Execution, Operation	200	

1.2.13 ANNEX AND REFERENCES

Description	Reference link	Attached document
CPSV-AP	https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/cpsv-ap/home	First release of the Core Public Service Vocabulary application profile

1.3 DATA COMMUNICATION NETWORK SERVICE (TESTA / TESTA NG) (2016.02)

Type of Activity	Common Services
Service in charge	DIGIT.C.4
Associated Services	

1.3.1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The TESTA network was born from a need to consolidate a number of sectorial applications that were being developed in the 90s and early 2000. A study by GARTNER in 2010 confirmed that TESTA stakeholder still see this project as delivering a value added service and should continue.

TESTA-ng, the 4th evolution of the network, is currently in its final phase of rollout after a public call for tender awarded to T-Systems in 2013. sTESTA, the current active configuration, will be decommissioned by Q1 2016.

1.3.2 OBJECTIVES

The TESTA network service is the continuation of an existing action of the ISA Programme. A number of sectorial networks are currently using the TESTA services for their sectorial applications (OLAF, DG MOVE, DG EMPL, DG ESTAT, DG HOME, DG SANTE, CDT, DG MARE, and DG TRADE). The network is also used by the European Institutions and the European agencies. In addition, the TESTA framework is also extensively used by DG HOME for the implementation of the SIS II and VIS networks, by EUROPOL for the implementation of their own dedicated EUROPOL network. DG TAXUD also plans to use the TESTA NG network. Recently also the General Secretariat of the

Council is using the TESTA Framework Contract for the implementation of their Integrated Network for Council Applications (INCA) that includes FADO, the Council Extranet and the Courtesy networks.

TESTA is also used in the context of non-Community projects by Member State administrations or organisations acting on their behalf under certain conditions as described in the TESTA Memorandum of Understanding. One of the most successful non-community programmes is the trans-border police cooperation in the context of the Prüm treaty and the Financial Intelligence Unit network in the context of money laundering.

TESTA is currently focusing on the following objectives:

- (1) **Connectivity:** The provision of a highly available, extendable, flexible and secured communication infrastructure between public administrations in Europe, so that current and future communication needs between these administrations can be covered;
- (2) The consolidation of existing data networks currently spread over different contracts and independently managed by other Institutions or European bodies.
- (3) **Security:** The provisioning of a secured, RESTREINT UE accreditable (if required) communication infrastructure;
- (4) **Support:** Provision of a single support infrastructure that can act as a single entity for trouble shooting, support to sectors and administrations, alert management and reporting;
- (5) **Management:** The overall project management as well as service management and administrative management of the TESTA networking services;
- (6) **Assistance:** The provision of assistance services dedicated to control and audit of the operational networking services.

1.3.3 SCOPE

The objective of TESTA (Trans European Services for Telematics between Administrations) is to exchange electronic data between administrations in Europe in a secure, reliable and efficient way. It is foreseen that both unclassified and classified (if required by) information can be exchanged. It is dedicated to inter-administrative requirements and is providing guaranteed performance levels and security.

Facilitate cooperation between public administrations, create interoperability at the EU level through shared generic solution, consolidating existing parallel networks by providing a secure reliable and flexible building, cost reduction are the main driving forces for the new TESTA new generation call for tenders. In preparation of the TESTA-ng network, a study was carried out to determine the requirements of existing and potential future stakeholders. The main requirements expressed by the TESTA stakeholders were:

- **Network Services:** 77% of the stakeholders expressed the need for new network services e.g. Secure Email, Audio Teleconference (ATC), Video Teleconference (VTC), Collaboration, etc.
- **Internet as a Transport Alternative:** 68% of the stakeholders suggested using the public Internet to improve availability and scalability and especially to lower costs.

- Differentiated Network Services: 58% of the stakeholders (89% of the users) request different combinations of (guaranteed) availability, bandwidth and latency as required for applications interoperability, for audio conferences, video conferences, collaboration, etc.
- Security: 55% of the stakeholders state the current TESTA security levels must be preserved.
- Application security services A2A: 52% of the stakeholders expressed the need for application level security services (A2A), e.g. identification, authentication, authorization (through a service catalogue) certification, logging and non-repudiation.
- Dedicated Network Security must be Kept: 32% of the stakeholders are of the opinion that encryption is sufficient to preserve confidentiality.

These requirements were taken into account in the tendering specifications for TESTA-ng. As a result of a restricted call for tenders procedure, a new Framework Contract has been awarded to T-Systems International GmbH (<http://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:263766-2013:TEXT:EN:HTML>) who submitted the best value for money offer (quality / price). The call for tenders was organised by DG DIGIT but was also opened for other EU Institutions and EU Agencies. In this new Framework Contract, the recurring costs of TESTA-ng will be reduced by 60% compared to the current sTESTA costs.

TESTA-ng will be operated as a fully resilient network always having a look into confidentiality, integrity and availability.

1.3.4 PROBLEM STATEMENT

The current sTESTA Framework Contract ended in September 2013 and was extended until September 2014. The new TESTA-ng Framework Contract has been signed on 12 July 2013. The migration of sTESTA to TESTA-ng is ongoing. Initially it was estimated that the migration of the complete sTESTA network (Security operation centre, central services, all sTESTA connections to all stakeholders including also SIS II, VIS, EUROPOL and Council networks) would last for 18 to 24 months. Due to delays in the awarding process of the TESTA-ng and the delays incurred in rolling out the new project, DIGIT had to do a negotiated procedure with OBS/HP for a 2 years' period (up to September 2016).

1.3.5 EXPECTED BENEFICIARIES AND ANTICIPATED BENEFITS

Beneficiaries	Anticipated benefits
Specific sectors	Ability for sectors and agencies to use a secured trans-European network service for the exchange of data with specific availability or security requirements over a shared quality solution. Prevents proliferation of uncontrolled networks.
Member States' public administrations	Ability for MS administrations to use a secured trans-European network service for the exchange of data with specific availability or security requirements, with EU Institutions, EU agencies and other MS administrations. The provided solution is managed and the access points are under control of the MS administrations.
EU institutes and	Avoids the unnecessary implementation of costly shadow network

agencies	infrastructures.
Non-community programs	TESTA can be used in the context of a non-Community project by Member States administrations or organisations acting on their behalf under certain conditions described in the TESTA Memorandum of understanding. It stimulates the re-usage of an existing infrastructure.
Citizens and enterprises	Citizens and enterprises are out of the scope of the TESTA networking services but are indirectly benefiting due to the protection of the personal data on the level of the network.

1.3.6 RELATED EU ACTIONS / POLICIES

Action / Policy	Description of relation
Eurodac	Council Regulation No 2725/2000 of 11 December 2000 concerning the establishment of 'Eurodac' for the comparison of fingerprints for the effective application of the Dublin Convention. Eurodac Legal Basis
CARE	Council Decision of 30 November 1993 on the creation of a Community database on road accidents CARE Legal Basis
FIDES	COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 2371/2002 of 20 December 2002 on the conservation and sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources under the Common Fisheries Policy FIDES Legal Basis
HOLIS	Council Regulation (EC) No 1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid HOLIS Legal Basis
SIS II	Regulation (EC) No 1987/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 2006 on the establishment, operation and use of the second-generation Schengen Information System (SIS II). SIS II Legal Basis
CECIS	Council Decision 2007/779/EC, Euratom of 8 November 2007 establishing a Community Civil Protection Mechanism. CECIS Legal Basis
SIGL	COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 3030/93 of 12 October 1993 on common rules for imports of certain textile products from third countries. SIGL Legal Basis
Prüm	Council Decision 2008/615/JHA of 23 June 2008 on the stepping up of cross-border cooperation, particularly in combating terrorism and cross-border crime.

FIUNET	Financial Intelligence Network (non-community programme)
VIS	Council Decision 2004/512/EC of 8 June 2004 establishing the Visa Information System (VIS).

1.3.7 ORGANISATIONAL APPROACH

1.3.7.1 Expected stakeholders and their representatives

Stakeholders	Representatives
EU institutions, Member States gov., EEA countries, Candidate countries, EU Agencies	TESTA representatives

1.3.7.2 Communication plan

TESTA-ng strategic objectives are as follows:

- TESTA-ng to act as a trusted service provider which ensures business continuity and a safe and secure transition to the next generation systems.
- TESTA-ng as the only tool to be used for secured exchange of information between the public administrations.

TESTA-ng needs a coherent and adequate communication strategy through which it will inform of its activities, promote its profile and present the value added that it can bring to its members.

The communication strategy will focus on contributing more effectively to:

- Ensuring proper levels of awareness and engagement by Members States, applications owners and high level EC representatives to the programme's initiatives.
- Assuring user's on the capacity of TESTA-ng to deliver high quality results in terms of organization, people, expertise, transparency and process excellence.
 - Providing the users a reliable roadmap and details of the actions and processes that need to be implemented.

- Addressing the different needs and levels of implementation between users / Member States.
- Increasing the trust on TESTA-ng to be able to offer state-of-the-art and high performance, reliable and secure services to the users.
- Raising awareness of the project and its additional services to future relevant stakeholders.
- TESTA-ng incorporating stakeholder's feedback in the design of the implementation strategy and future operations.
- Creating amongst the TESTA-ng users a feeling of belonging to one community.

The main pillars on which the Communication Strategy will be based are the following:

1. TESTA-ng awareness and engagement to the programme's initiatives.
2. Collection of user's feedback.
3. Knowledge management.
4. Promotion of current and future services under TESTA-ng.

Event	Representatives	Frequency of meetings / Absolute dates of meetings?
TESTA workshop	TESTA national experts/EU Institutions/EU Agencies/	2 times a year
TESTA stakeholders	EU Institutions / EU Agencies/ national governments / National, Regional, Local Administrations / European Commission services	On demand
TESTA SAP	EU Member States NSA representatives	On hold up until activation on request

1.3.7.3 Governance approach

The sTESTA / TESTA-ng approach is collaborative: it builds on national efforts to establish national, regional or local administrative networks by forging these to a trans-European network. In this so called domain based approach, every connected domain will have to fulfil the necessary security, performance and organisational requirements in order to obtain a full access to the TESTA network. In addition to the default setup, administrations might decide to implement additional access points and closed user groups or secured network services on the existing TESTA infrastructure. The budgetary impact of such a decision will fall under their responsibility. The TESTA network is controlled and supported by a central support and operation service, responsible for all operational issues, including the security management of encryption devices.

DIGIT C4 responsible for network infrastructure services at the European Commission has the organisational and contractual control over the execution of the TESTA Framework Contract. This organisational approach guarantees the operational and technical sustainability.

1.3.8 TECHNICAL APPROACH

The sTESTA contract ended in Q3 2013. Due to the complexity of the provided services and the multiple communities that are served, a migration period of more than 18 months starting in 2013 was foreseen. During the migration period, the continuity of the current sTESTA services has to be guaranteed. Therefore critical service elements of sTESTA and TESTA-ng will have to coexist. The financing that is required for this parallel operation was already budgeted in previous work programmes.

1.3.9 COSTS AND MILESTONES

1.3.9.1 Breakdown of anticipated costs and related milestones

Phase:	Description of milestones reached or to be reached	Anticipated allocations (KEUR)	Budget line ISA ² / others (specify)	Start date (QX/YYYY)	End date (QX/YYYY)
Operational	Continuation of TESTA-ng Services + Service Evolution	2.500	ISA ²	Q4/2016	Q3/2017

1.3.9.2 Breakdown of ISA² funding per budget year

Budget Year	Phase	Anticipated allocations (in KEUR)	Executed budget (in KEUR)
2016	Operational	2.500	