ICT Impact Assessment Guidelines

Practical tools and guidelines for assessing ICT impacts

ISA² programme
Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations, Businesses and Citizens
Use the ICT Impact Assessment guidelines for assessing, both in qualitative and quantitative terms, the information communication technology (ICT) impacts of the proposed legislative initiatives.

Business needs

In 2017, one-third of the Commission’s proposals accompanied by an Impact Assessment had ICT impacts, often entailing the development of new ICT solutions or the adaptation of existing ones. In our digital world, this proportion is expected to increase further. This means that it is crucial to take advantage of all the opportunities that digital technologies can offer when considering the policy options of a legislative initiative.

This approach paves the way for smooth implementation, improved interoperability, innovation and productivity, while fostering the use of standards reducing costs and removing barriers. For this reason, similar to the EU policy-making process, EU Member States may wish to perform an ICT Impact Assessment when a legislative initiative requires the use of digital technologies.
Solution

The **ICT Impact Assessment guidelines** provide a systematic way of assessing the digital aspects of proposed legislative initiatives. They are fully aligned with the Better Regulation Guidelines and Toolbox of the European Commission.

**Step 1**
Define the scope of the ICT Impact Assessment

**Step 2**
Describe the technical scenarios

**Step 3**
Define the assessment criteria

**Step 4**
Identify the affected stakeholders

**Step 5**
Define the cost and benefit models

**Step 6**
Define the data collection strategy

**Step 7**
Collect and analyse data

**Step 8**
Compare the technical scenarios and make recommendations
Examples of the use of the ICT Impact Assessment guidelines at the European Commission

**Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers**

Feasibility study and cost assessment of the establishment of a centralised European Criminal Record Information System (ECRIS) for Third Country Nationals (TCN).


**Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs**

ICT Impact Assessment and feasibility study on improvements to the Schengen Information System (SIS II) architecture and assessment regarding the inclusion of return decision and entry ban alerts.


**European Anti-Fraud Office and Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers**

ICT Impact Assessment of the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor’s Office Case Management System (EPPO CMS).


**Secretariat-General**

Cost and benefit analysis on the European Citizens’ Initiative (ECI) online collection system.

Top reasons to conduct ICT Impact Assessments

✓ Assessing ICT impacts at an early stage increases the chances of an efficient, effective and timely implementation of the proposed legislation and assures higher quality.

✓ Appropriate ICT solutions can be prepared and existing solutions and building blocks can be reused.

✓ Partners such as IT experts and governance are properly involved in the process of creating legislation.

✓ Resources and the implementation schedule are better planned.

Want to know more?

Consult the ICT Implications Page

Check out Tool #27 of the Better Regulation Toolbox

Contact us

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An action supported by ISA²

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