

Tallinn e-Governance Conference 2017: transfer of knowledge

Tallinn e-Governance Conference is an annual event, where topics globally important for e-governance are discussed. The conference takes place in Estonia, one of the world's pioneers in this field and is organised by the e-Governance Academy.

In 2017 the conference dates are May 30-31. More detailed information is available on the event's website: <http://2017.tallinnconference.ee/>

Central topic of discussions this year will be "Transfer of e-governance knowledge". eGA has 15 years of experience with e-governance implementation around the world and we have learned by experience that:

The only way to achieve meaningful and sustainable long-term results in developing e-governance is through developing the practical skills and experiences of local experts

The conference will explore how countries have managed to build their domestic and regional e-governance know-how over the past years, what are the lessons learned and best practices and what are the ongoing and future projects for developing local and regional centres of excellence.

eGA has work experience in more than 50 countries around the world and a majority of these include a component of local capacity building and sustainability. The need to discuss these in a very practical, hands-on way is the eGA approach. Therefore, also the conference will be a place for practical experience sharing – showing how e-governance works in practice and getting ideas about designing strategies and projects.

I look forward to welcoming you all in Tallinn this spring!

With kind regards,

Arvo Ott
Executive Director
e-Governance Academy

Tallinn e-Governance Conference 2017: transfer of knowledge Annotated Agenda

May 30

The conference will be officially opened by H.E. Mrs Kersti Kaljulaid, President of the Republic of Estonia

Principles of international cooperation for building up national e-governance expertise

Session will discuss and seek answers to the following questions:

1. What are the actions countries can take in order to build up their local expertise in e-governance? Which countries have had the most experience with doing that already and what are the lessons learned?
2. What cooperation models are available to help countries develop their domestic e-governance expertise?
3. What are the possible ways of developing local expertise? Options include:
 - a. setting up local or regional Centres of Excellence (example Mauritius)
 - b. sending local experts for (long-term) training in other countries with a commitment to contribute to their home country after they return
 - c. Developing curricula in local universities
 - d. Organisational measures within the government sector

The session will be moderated by a senior expert from eGA. Panellists include members of ACP governments and senior government IT experts / managers.

Successful e-governance projects already implemented in the ACP region

ACP representatives will present case studies about successes in developing their local capacity and expertise with measurable deliverables. Discussion will help other ACP countries to copy these solutions or develop their own in a tailor-made fashion.

Cape Verde and Mozambique have expressed their interest in presenting their experiences. We remain very open for case studies from other countries to be included.

Cross-border use of e-ID - new possibilities

Existence of an electronic ID is an important precondition for providing e-governance services. The ability to securely electronically identify people is at the centre of any e-governance infrastructure system. Session will examine the newest developments in this field. ACP countries where electronic ID-s do not exist or are only in the early stages of development have the opportunity to leapfrog existing e-ID systems currently in use and adopt the new technologies and approaches in their plans (e.g. mobile ID, etc)

Session will also examine how can electronic ID be used to facilitate cross border movement of people and/or help countries in crisis situations (e.g. refugees or IDPs). Session will include presentations and case studies of IT companies and also representatives of governments, implementing new solutions of e-ID

May 31

The last day of the conference will focus on more concrete approaches and solutions that ACP countries could adopt when designing their e-governance systems and strategies.

Once-only principle

The once-only principle (OOP) is generally regarded as meaning that citizens and businesses should have the right to supply certain standard information only once, because public administration offices take action to internally share this data, so that no additional burden falls on citizens and businesses.

It is an example of a principle which countries could adopt early-on when developing their e-governance systems. OOP has an effect on increasing a country's attractiveness as a destination for Foreign Direct Investments and has a potential of boosting the business climate.

Session will discuss how to reduce the administrative burden and implement OOP. How to break down the still existing legislative, organization and technical barriers which do not allow citizens, public administration itself and businesses to fully benefit from OOP principle?

This workshop aims at searching answers to these questions. Also best show-cases of OOP application from Estonia and elsewhere will be presented.

Boosting civic engagement using technology

The session will examine how can e-participation platforms be used to invite citizens' input to government processes. How and why to involve citizens in decision making processes which affect their lives directly. How to improve government transparency using ICT.

Showcases of innovative technologies for crowdsourcing of ideas and opinions about important topics in a society.

New channels for e-governance

Case studies of mobile e-governance applications from the African region and beyond will be demonstrated. Delegates will have the opportunity to discuss with hands-on practitioners the details of implementing mobile e-governance in local and central government scenarios.

Information and Communications Technologies in the service of Sustainable Development Goals

Panellists will share their views on how ICT-s have been harnessed to meet challenges posed by the 17 SDG-s defined by the United Nations. Which of the 17 Goals can be helped along the most by adoption of modern information and communication technologies in providing public services to citizens of the world.

Organisers encourage participants of ministerial rank to speak at this panel to provide political level guidance.