



*OSOR: The Open Source Observatory and Repository*  
*«The platform and its services»*



*Launch PloneGov Italy*

*Ferrara, September 16th 2008*

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...in a few words

STRATEQO



**IDABC**

stands for:

**I**nteroperable **D**elivery  
of pan-European eGovernment Services  
to Public **A**dministrations,  
**B**usinesses and **C**itizens



*PloneGov*  
*Italy 2008*





## IDABC is a programme of the European Commission:

### Objectives/Activities

- Funding European eGovernment projects in the Commission services (Projects of Common Interest = **PCIs**)
- Supporting the implementation of pan-European services by making available generic services and common tools (Horizontal Actions and Measures = **HAMs**)

Managed by the IDABC unit in Directorate General for Informatics (as of 1 January 2007, formerly in DG ENTR)

IDABC Management Committee **PEGSCO**: Member State representatives discuss and approve the IDABC work programme





## Why does IDABC promote OSS in Public Administrations?

First, it's in the programme's mission!

- The "IDABC Decision" that implemented the IDABC programme requests:
  - The dissemination of Good Practice in OSS
  - The support of reuse and sharing of applications
- The eGovernment Action Plan i2010 puts a strong emphasis on "sharing" eGovernment applications and experiences across borders.  
This calls for new collaborative projects and measures in support of these.





### Second, it makes sense!

- European administrations produce many customised applications to represent their processes.
  - These are similar and can be reused in localised versions.
  - Why should the tax payer pay twice for the same?
- OSS is a key element in interoperability and open standards  
→ freedom of choice, avoid vendor lock in, accessibility
- Development methods and the legal framework of OSS (licences) fit well (better than anything else) to the requirements of cross-border collaboration.
- The openness of the code is likely to lead to higher quality of the software.





## o Public administrations

- o **Reducing costs** for the implementation of IT projects by facilitating sharing and cross-border collaboration
- o Promoting the **reuse** of existing code
- o Transparency and openness promises also improved **interoperability** and **better code**.

## o IT-developers and businesses

- o Publish **activities** and **requirements** of the public sector
- o The collaborative character allows **direct exchange** between public administrations and developers.
- o New **business opportunities** for SMEs may arise.

## o Citizens and Businesses

- o The OSOR will accelerate the availability of platform independent **user-friendly eGovernment** services





- **The objectives are cooperation and sharing**
- **The instrument is a platform to actively support the sharing of**
  - **OSS-based eGovernment applications**
  - **and experiences across Europe**
- **The strategy is to connect EU services and Member State administrations and animate an OSOR community**





## o Information platform

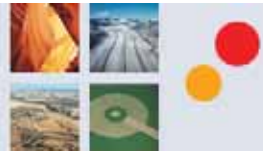
- o Website delivering news around OSS
- o Providing guidance on legal, technical, organisational issues around OSS and collaboration

## o Registry and Repository

- o Facilities for download/uploading and search/retrieval of public sector software
- o Providing visibility for and connect to other European collaboration platforms (-> building a network of federated forges)

## o Platform for collaboration

- o Supporting collaborative cross-border projects (hosting communities)







## Information platform requirements

### Create/update/publish several types of content:

- News, case studies, reports
- Events
- IDABC OSS activities
- Newsletters
- other...

### Tools to manage relationship with users

- Surveys
- Tools for comments on Information Platform items...
- RSS channels and other syndication means





## oRepository requirements

- oRepository as a database of libre software products for Public Administrations
- oProduced in the OSOR CDE, or somewhere else
- oUnique taxonomy
- o“OSOR project/product template” for harmonizing information
- oSpecific list of parameters of performance and user experience





## o CDE requirements

- o Forge-like platform
- o Augmented with some other collaboration means
- o Specific facilities for federation
- o Special consideration to the needs of public administrations
- o Specific requirements identified for three types of users:
  - Visitors (anonymous users, read-only access).
  - Registered users, can be granted access to project resources for helping her development tasks.
  - Project administrators, can access and grant permission to all resources (project management).





- **Operating system: Debian GNU/Linux (stable + security updates + custom improvements)**
- **All software packages are libre software**
- **Most software packages are standard Debian Packages**
- **Most prominent specific software:**
  - Plone3 (information services)
  - GForge (basic repository and CDE)
  - Mailman (mailing lists)
  - Subversion (source code management)



## Next steps: ...work together!

- Involvement of stakeholders: Identify partners -> collect and support projects that want to use the collaborative platform (motivation is the criterion!)
- Towards federation: Discussion about meta-data et al
- Basic taxonomy: further development -> also toward multilingual versions
- Repository: support contributors and users

=> Build OSOR software communities: GIS / Municipalities / ...

» *Join now!*

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**STRATEQO**  **CONSORTIUM**

The logo for STRATEQO CONSORTIUM features the word "STRATEQO" in blue capital letters, followed by a stylized "QO" logo consisting of two overlapping blue shapes with a red and yellow circle above them, and the word "CONSORTIUM" in blue capital letters to the right.