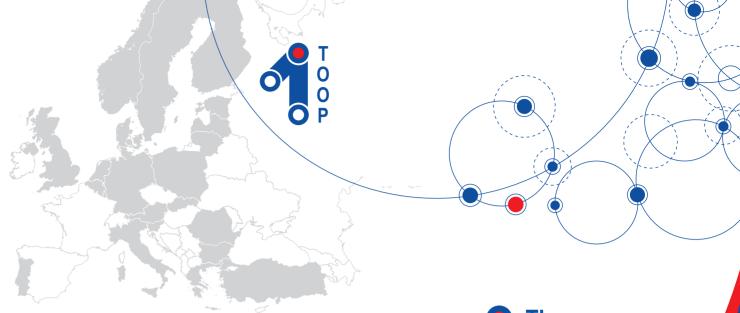**What is the "Once-Only" principle?**

The "Once-Only" principle in the context of the public sector means that citizens and businesses supply diverse data only once to a public administration. Public administrations take actions to internally share these data - also across borders - , so that no additional burden falls on citizens and businesses. The application of this principle needs to be in compliance with the EU data protection legislation. Implementing the "Once-Only" principle across borders contributes towards the efficiency of the Digital Single Market in Europe.

Benefits

○ Businesses will benefit from the solutions developed by TOOP. The key words are: time-savings, lowering administrative burden and reducing costs for businesses, fulfilling legal obligations faster. The shared data between public administrations remain under the control and the consent of the businesses involved.

○ Administrations will benefit through improved service quality and administrative efficiency.

General Facts:

Project: The "Once-Only" Principle Project
Acronym: TOOP
Project coordinator:
Tallinn University of Technology (Estonia)
Participants from: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Slovenia, Slovakia, Turkey

Project Start: 1st January 2017
Duration: 30 months (until June 2019)
Project Budget: 8 Mio. Euro
Funding Programme: Horizon 2020
Project key words: data reuse, public administration innovation, cross-border public services, interconnection, interoperability

More information: www.toop.eu
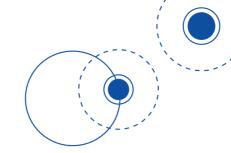
The
Once
Only
Principle

www.toop.eu

PROVIDING DATA ONCE-ONLY

◉ Innovation for public administration

◉ Enhancement of cross-border public e-Services

◉ Reduction of administrative burdens and costs for businesses

WHAT is TOOP?

The "Once-Only" Principle Project was launched by the European Commission in January 2017 and focuses on data from businesses. It is an initiative of about 50 organisations from EU Member States and Associated Countries to explore and demonstrate the "Once-Only" principle across borders with the aim to reduce administrative burden for businesses and public administrations. TOOP will enable better exchange of data or documents of businesses with and between public administrations.

HOW does TOOP do this?

TOOP implements multiple sustainable pilots by using a federated IT architecture on cross-border aspects. Three pilot areas are implemented:
· Cross-border e-Services for Business Mobility,
· Updating Connected Company Data and
· Online Ship and Crew Certificates.

TOOP aims at connecting registries and e-Government architectures in 21 countries across Europe. The solutions will be based on already existing systems in Member States and Associated Countries.

WHY was TOOP created?

TOOP provides the basis for the implementation and wider use of the "Once-Only" principle. In the European "e-Government Action Plan 2016-2020" one of the underlying principles states that public administrations should ensure that citizens and businesses supply the same data only once to a public administration.

From these political documents as well as various empirical studies it follows that one of the major impediments to a well-functioning single European market is the grinding daily friction of procedures and paperwork imposed by the public sector. Often, compliance costs are caused by fairly simple issues, such as proving one's identity and the possession of required or claimed attributes, such as a license or a certificate. This data usually already exists in the public sector, whether in another agency in the same country or in another country. Thus, the "Once-Only" principle (OOP) has become a viable way to reduce the administrative burden throughout the EU Member States and make the Digital Single Market a reality.