e-Governance Conference 2019

e-Governance- Same Goals, Different Roadmaps
21-22 May 2019 in Tallinn, Estonia

Concept Note

Introduction

The key goal of the conference is to help governments learn from different models of digital transformation, presented by top visionaries and practitioners and to develop their use of e-services in a meaningful and future-oriented way. For that, the governments should be capable of designing their digital transformation roadmaps that include key cornerstones for their e-governance solutions, and also keep in mind how future international trends impact the development of governance overall.

The conference will focus on different roadmaps, which governments and regions are implementing to achieve their digital goals, with special attention on aspects of cooperation in the digital transformation process: cross-border, between institutions within a country and between the private and the public sector.

Keynote presentations, parallel sessions on different topics and panel discussions will concentrate on practical aspects of enhancing cooperation in e-governance, looking at different regional approaches, specific case studies as well as technological solutions.

Conference topics

1. Digital transformation goals and roadmaps

While leaders of governments and public administrations agree that digital technologies are disrupting the public sector and impact public administration significantly, the capabilities to respond to digital opportunities have evolved unequally. A digital maturity framework that reflects on how the governments and organisations are embracing these opportunities, covers preparedness of the organisation, processes, innovation and people. The factors influencing digital maturity – strategy, leadership, workforce development, user-centricity and innovation culture – each need to have a separate focus and a specific approach.

2. Cross-border cooperation in e-governance

Cross-border cooperation can support businesses as well as individuals in a whole region, by laying the ground-work for permitting mutual recognition of documents, facilitating cross-border trade and travel, simplifying cross-border transfer of assets, possibilities of cooperation on cyber security, etc.

The presentations and discussions will cover topics like e-identity, harmonisation of standards and the creation of interoperability frameworks that can be used internally in a country or across borders between countries. Additionally, we will discuss how countries can maintain or increase their competitive advantage, but still cooperate with other countries.

There will also be a separate session targeting small countries, addressing how to better cooperate with each other and what the benefits and the challenges specific to small countries implementing e-governance solutions are.

3. Cooperation within the country: regions/cities vs state

Hyper-urbanisation has significantly increased the role of cities in developing and delivering digital services to citizens. The urgency to increase the number of citizen-centric services has been recognised by cities and one of the key success factors is a roadmap coordinated with central governments to fulfil this need. This avoids potential duplication and keeps the government policy framework up to date.

4. Public Private Partnership (PPP) for Innovation

E-government and digital projects are natural candidates for PPP. With increasing complexity and interoperability needs, the early involvement of the private sector has become essential prerequisite for impactful projects. When assessing projects that could be candidates for PPP, one has to ask first: could the private sector finance the capital investment required to design, install, and operate an e-government or ICT project? If so, would that be preferable to the public sector financing and operating the system, thus freeing up public sector resources for projects that have higher social returns? And second: would the private sector with its competences be able to manage and operate the e-government or ICT project, under government supervision or regulation, more efficiently than the government? If so, how can the government get the highest number of competitive bids so that PPPs in e-government and ICT represent best value for money and technical innovation? What and how should be regulated?

Speakers

The conference will be opened by the President of the Republic of Estonia, H.E Ms Kersti Kaljulaid.
The President of Rwanda and Chairman of the Smart Africa Initiative, H.E. Mr Paul Kagame, has also confirmed his participation as a keynote speaker. Additionally, senior political representatives from around the world and leading digital transformation strategists will share their visions and first-hand experience.

Participants

Our audience will be composed of public sector decision-makers from different regions of the world, in charge

of e-governance development at all levels of administration. Ministerial level participation will be strongly encouraged as political leadership is frequently the key for sustainable e-governance development in a country. Additionally, donor organisations and development cooperation agencies shall be invited together with representatives of the business community.

Expo area

The conference will also have an expo area, where the participants can see different e-services and (technical) solutions from Estonian and international companies and organisations.

About the organisers

The e-Governance Academy (eGA) is a think-tank and consultancy organisation founded for the creation and transfer of knowledge and best practice concerning e-governance, e-democracy, national cyber security and the development of open information societies. eGA inspires, trains and advises public sector leaders, officials and stakeholders in using information and communications technology (ICT) to increase government efficiency and transparency and to improve democratic processes.

For a decade, the e-Governance Academy has organised conferences related to electronic tools for governance. The 2019th conference will be the 5th Tallinn e-Governance Conference. Larger events of the past years include:

- **2018**- Tallinn e-Governance Conference 2018 "Governance for Digital Citizens"
- **2017** – e-Partnership conference "Trust in e-Governance in the EU's Eastern Partnership Countries"
- **2017** – Tallinn e-Governance Conference 2016 – "e-Governance in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries
- **2016** – Tallinn e-Governance Conference 2016 – "Impact of e-governance on economic growth and transparency"
- **2015** – Tallinn e-Governance Conference 2015 – "How to organise e-governance?"
- **2014** – Co-organiser (together with the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs) of the Freedom Online
- Coalition's annual conference in 2014
- **2011** – 5th International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance (ICEGOV2011)

See more at **ega.ee/events**