

A New Audit Tool for IT Auditors Worldwide – the Control Space for e-Government Audit Project

by Paweł Banaś, Supreme Audit Office of Poland

The *Control Space for e-Government Audit* project is a tool meant to facilitate audits of e-government. The tool is being developed by several SAIs from the EUROSAT IT Working Group. It is intended to be an “intelligent” internet database of e-government audit reports from various SAIs, from which you can easily access information not only on other SAIs’ reports on e-government audits, but also articles, presentations, methodologies, databases and other materials. The idea is not only to gather interesting resources of information but also to provide them together with basic analysis – for the time being we classify topics, management functions, risk cases and projects’ goals. We hope that it will make it easier to quickly find an interesting piece of information. This database of documents is designed mainly for public auditors working in the e-government area, but everybody who is interested in modern auditing is welcome. At <http://egov.nik.gov.pl/> you will find the tool in its early developed stage and we hope that thanks to SAIs’ input it will more mature soon. You can read more on the project on the website of the Supreme Audit Office of Poland: <http://www.nik.gov.pl/en>. If your SAI has produced an audit report in the area of e-government, please send it to us to include it in the database!

On 15-16 November 2012 a meeting of the project team was held in Warsaw, Poland. The meeting was attended by SAIs of Estonia, the Netherlands, Poland (project leader), Portugal, Russia and Slovakia. On 18 February 2013 in Paris the tool was presented to the EUROSAT Information Technologies Working Group.

If you wish to learn more on the project, please get in touch with Ms Gabriela Beszlej from the Polish SAI (gabriela.beszlej@nik.gov.pl).



The latest analyzed reports:

All reports: 22
Risk cases: 54

UNHEALTHY COMPETITION LINKED WITH LACK OF COORDINATION AND PROCUREMENT IRREGULARITIES. See what may go wrong with the IT public procurement. Check out what is the basis to avoid irregularities or omissions in complying with public procurement legislation. National Audit Office of Finland identified also risks resulting from lack of horizontal coordination.

FI: [The development and use of identification services in public administration](#), risk cases: 3, issued: 2008, added: 2013-03-28

NEEDED: GOOD CONDITIONS BY GOVERNMENT, BETTER STEERING AND CONTROL BY AUTHORITIES. Despite many years’ of work to modernize the IT support within the judiciary, there are still many deficiencies. The Government has not given the authorities good conditions enough to lead the work. The authorities, in their turn, need to improve their steering and control, as well as interact to a much higher degree.

SE: [IT Support in the Judicial Chain](#), risk cases: 3, issued: 2011, added: 2013-03-26

IT-CENTRED MANNER OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION CAN HARM IT INVESTMENTS’ RESULTS. SAI Finland performed a vast review of IT projects in health and social protection. Many interesting findings cover structural problems, as ‘Many separate systems with no future’ and characteristics of poor governance, as ‘No cost monitoring - unclear objectives - arguable usefulness’.

FI: [The implementation of national IT projects in social and health care](#), risk cases: 3, issued: 2011, added: 2013-03-19

INFORMATION SHARE IS CRUCIAL FOR COMPETITIVE HEALTH CARE. Health and social care staff has very limited access to patient information from other care-giving institutions, which may lead to health damage and wrong-treatment. The cooperation between the Government and the municipalities must improve if the investments in better access to common patient information shall get impact in practice.

SE: [Correct information at the right time in healthcare and nursing – collaboration without effect?](#), risk cases: 3, issued: 2011, added: 2013-03-08

IT COST ESTIMATION. Check out what may go wrong with the information technology cost estimation. Results of the US GAO audit can help to identify high risk areas: comprehensiveness of estimations, their documentation, lack of adequacy and inadequate implementation.

US: [Information Technology Cost Estimation Agencies Need to Address Significant Weakness in Policies and Practices](#), risk cases: 4, issued: 2012, added: 2013-02-15

DIFFICULT COORDINATION OF IT PROJECTS. Finish Audit Office analyzed results of poor cooperation between authorities on national and local level in social and health care projects: difficult integration of information systems and poor coordination of the financing information technology projects, including double financing.

FI: [State aid for IT projects in social and health care](#), risk cases: 3, issued: 2011, added: 2013-02-11

AGILE PROJECT APPROACH IN GOVERNMENT PRACTICE. Useful products delivered in a short time are basis for often applauded features of agile project approach. Applied by many private companies, it tends as well to be more and more popular among state administrations. American GAO reviewed set of agile projects and revealed - apart from advantages - a set of commonly occurring problems: poor team work, lack of time and deficit of customers’ trust.

US: [Software Development Effective Practices and Federal Challenges in Applying Agile Methods](#), risk cases: 4, issued: 2012, added: 2013-02-08



State activity

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- general public services 3 - 9
- health 6 - 19
- communication 3 - 6
- defence 4 - 12
- education 3 - 7
- State property 1 - 4
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- research 1 - 1
- justice 3 - 7

Topics

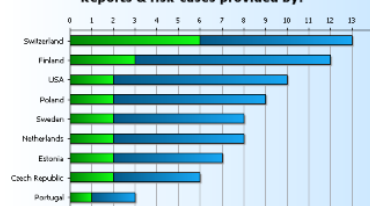
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- infrastructure 2 - 2
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Perspective: efficient office 11 - 28, effective state 12 - 31, useful service 12 - 34

Reports & risk-cases provided by:



[See list of all reports by country](#)

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