



Digital Government Strategies: Good Practices



Czech Republic: Base Registers

The OECD Council adopted on 15 July 2014 the Recommendation on Digital Government Strategies. The Recommendation provides a set of 12 principles structured around 3 pillars. The OECD Secretariat developed a Digital Government Policy Toolkit to support OECD member countries and non-member adhering countries with the implementation of the Recommendation. This practice was submitted by the government of United Kingdom to be considered as a good practice in the implementation of one or more of the principles contained in the Recommendation.

Description of the practice:

Organisation:

Ministry of the Interior

Name of the practice:

Base Registers

Principles implemented:

Principle 1 – Openness, transparency and inclusiveness

Description:

Shared information across public administration – a unique solution to centralize and keep up-to-date most common and widely used information.

Base registers are central information source for information systems of public authorities. In addition basic registers are central hub for interchange of additional information, related to information, stored in base registers – e. g. IS of vehicles, IS of drivers, IS of foreigners etc.

The system of the base registers consists of the Registry of Inhabitants (updated reference data on citizens of Czech Republic, foreigners with residence permit or incomers who were granted asylum here), the Registry of Persons (the reference data about corporations, enterprising individuals or public authorities), the Registry of Territorial Identification, Addresses and Real Estates Property (data on the basic territorial elements, for example territories of the states, regions, municipals or parts of urban areas, plots and streets) and the Registry of Rights and Responsibilities (the data of competency of public administration offices).

Thanks to the base registers system the situation in the Czech Republic has changed in the field of the transparency of using personal data.



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The base Registers concept is based on the need of secure data interchange between thousands of information systems of public administration. When a citizen reports changes in his/her data, it has to be done only once – the rest of public administration gets to know about the reported change “automatically”, and basically has no legal right to request these data again. It is based on European Union’s once-only principle. Thanks to base registers many agenda have been simplified and speeded up, and citizens and businesses have gained profound control over who, when, and why, uses their personal data.

<http://www.szcr.cz/>

Results

Citizens and entrepreneurs can handle requests more quickly at authorities, they do not have to fill in their identification data repeatedly, and at the same time they have an overview of the data that state has about them. These are shared within government and local government. The data are stored in one location from which any changes are automatically updated to other systems. Citizens have the possibility to grant consent to provide data upon request to other natural or legal persons (commercial entities).

Data in the population’s base register has become the basis for the electronic identity that citizens can use for the purposes of electronic communication with the authorities.

The Base registry project is the basis for eGovernment infrastructure.

Development:

Design:

Ministry of Interior for register of Inhabitants and register of rights and duties, Czech statistical Office for Persons register and Czech Cadastral Office for Land and Houses registry, Office for Personal Data Protection.

Testing: -

Implementation:

Tool:

A fundamental step towards the functioning of the system of base registers was the adoption of Act No. 111/2009 Coll., On the base registers and Act No. 227/2009 Coll. at the beginning of 2009 and the creation of the Administration of the Base Registers on 1 January 2010.

Resources:

The acquisition costs are 3 bn CZK (in 2012).



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Diffusion and scaling:

An overwhelming majority of authorities use base registers services automatically through more than 3,5 thousand connected information systems. There has been no major downtime in six years of its operation, and the base registers themselves have made nearly 2 billion transactions.

Partnerships:

Special governmental bodies and National Registries Authority

Lessons learned

Citizens and entrepreneurs can manage their requests to public administration much faster. They do not have to fill in personal details every time, while still having control over data the government keeps about them. If they wish to do so, they can provide their consent, based on which public administration body can share data with third parties, such as other natural or legal persons. Sharing personal data with private bodies is also consent-based.

The government is obliged to inform citizens and businesses about every access made to their data in the base registries. Citizens and businesses can request the extracts from base registries via their “data box” at the central Public administration portal or in person at every public administration contact point or “CzechPOINT” located across the country and at the Czech embassies abroad.

Conditions required:

Compliance with the interoperability principles for successful exchange and reuse of public administration data.

Ensure the use of the “once only” principle.

Formal Evaluation:

The use of base registers is monitored on an ongoing basis and monthly statistics on the number of transactions and connected information systems are published. An Annual Report is prepared every year (e.g. for the past year http://www.szrcr.cz/uploads/Dokumenty/Vyroc_ni_zpra_va_SZR_2017_fin.pdf).

Additional information:

One example of successful Base Register in more detail:

BASE REGISTER OF TERRITORIAL IDENTIFICATION, ADDRESSES AND REAL ESTATES



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Base Register of Territorial Identification, Addresses and Real Estates provides up-to-date core location data on administrative units, buildings, addresses, streets and public spaces, geographic names and election districts, as open data. In addition, RUIAN contains information on various characteristics of real estates, buildings and addresses and ensure remote access to these data (<http://vdp.cuzk.cz>).

The main benefits are flexible reaction on data changes, sharing of data to be more effective and public remote access to the data of RUIAN register.