



# The need and contributions of eGovernment Research for an innovative Europe 2020



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# Need for eGovernment research



Contract no: IST-4-27139

- Vital contribution of the public sector to advance economy and information society
- Yet, role of the public sector in the market and society widely underestimated
- Governments and States duties need to be supported with proper methods and technologies to perform their work effectively and efficiently
  - Criteria and aims differ from private sector business



# Many initiatives for eGov research and implementation in the past



- EC funded a number of projects in the 5th and 6th FP of IST
- OECD and Worldbank investigated eGovernment at international scope
- National strategies to implement eGovernment solutions





# Some findings from the State of Play Analysis of eGovRTD2020

# Key topics of research extracted from the state of play results



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EU level topics (from EC documents)	National level topics (from 23 countries' national strategic documents)
Security and trust	
Harmonization and interoperability	
Understanding individual user needs	
eInclusion/eParticipation	
Socio-economic Inclusion	eProcurement
Access for all to government services	Co-operation between public and private sector
Health	Added value service generating and delivery
Knowledge management	Broadband technology and access
Investment	eLearning
Value chains	Identity management and authentication



# BUT lack of continuation ...



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- Only a few funding options at national level
- eGovernment research currently not in FP 7



# Challenges for eGov research ...

## (1/2)



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- Implementations undergo revisions and careful cost-benefit analyses
- Many investments to modernisation critically assessed for economic value and return on investment
  - Yet, proper means to measure economic value and ROI missing and
  - Public value is not understood well
- A number of initiatives risk being stopped because they have not yet delivered the
  - expected output
  - effect of change and
  - impact to the application context



# Challenges for eGov research ...

## (2/2)

- Current e-government strategies are short-term oriented
  - Yet, e-government investments can often be rationalised only in the context of sustainable strategies to modernise the public sector which reach beyond short- and mid-term plans
- E-government is inherently multidisciplinary
  - Lack proper concepts and methods to manage the diversity and complexity of interrelated influencing factors

# Overcome barriers of modernising governments and the public sector



## Barriers such as:

- Too marked a focus on technical implementations
- One-sided organisational focus
- Too theoretically biased research results
- Shortage of financial budgets of public administration and lack of funding mechanisms for research, and
- Inflexible structures and bureaucracy in the public sector





**Research further needed to overcome the current deficiencies and to be more forward-looking and innovative in its own developments ...**

# E-government research contributions (1/2)



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- Adaptation of new theoretical concepts of traditional disciplines for their applicability in the public sector
  - transferring theories to practice
- Development of new methodical concepts of holistic systems development for e-government
  - Taking into account the special features of the public sector
- Analysing the needs of the public sector through an intense dialogue with the practical field of application of the public sector



# E-government research contributions (2/2)



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- Developing new concepts, frameworks and solutions for the problems and challenges identified
- Executing independent studies to assess and evaluate the impact of e-government projects, and deriving lessons for further projects
- Developing and transferring knowledge, skills and expertise (methods and concepts) to the ICT sector and the fields of application in government





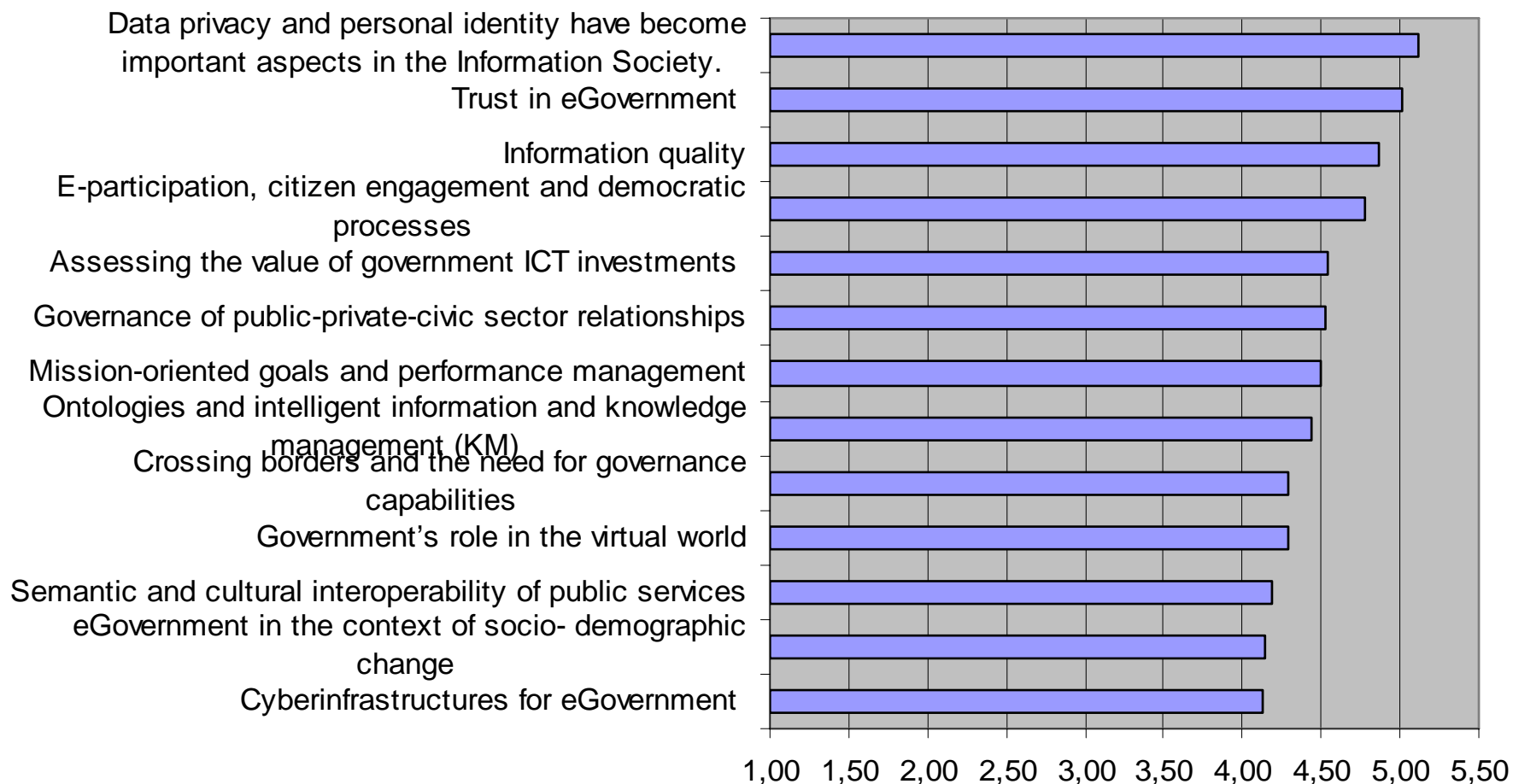
# Research needs for the future

Themes identified in  
eGovRTD2020

# Assessment of 13 research themes via online survey in Jan – Mar 2007



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eGovernet and eGovRTD2020  
vital EC projects  
in bringing back eGovernment to the  
research agenda

Research actions and initiatives  
have to be put back on the funding  
agenda to achieve the visions of  
the knowledge society



Thank you for your attention !

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