



## **Access-eGov**

Assoc. Prof. Tomas Sabol

Tel.: (+421 55) 602 32 59

Fax: (+421 55) 602 32 58

Faculty of Economics

Technical University of Kosice

Letna 9, 042 00 Kosice, SLOVAKIA

[Tomas.Sabol@tuke.sk](mailto:Tomas.Sabol@tuke.sk)

---

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Access to e-Government Services Employing Semantic Technologies**

#### **Access-eGov: Accessible eGovernment embracing the Semantic Web**

Access-eGov (Access to e-Government Services Employing Semantic Technologies) is an IST project partially funded under the IST Programme of FP6 (eGovernment research). A consortium consisting of eleven partners from five countries (Slovakia, Poland, Germany, Greece, and Egypt) led by the Technical University of Kosice will carry out the project between January 2006 and December 2008.

Access-eGov aims at increasing the accessibility of public administration services for citizens and business users by supporting the interoperability among existing electronic and "traditional" government services. For citizens and business users, Access-eGov will provide two basic categories of services. Firstly, Access-eGov will identify -depending on the needs and context situation (location, etc.) of the user- traditional and/or e-government services (if available) relevant to the given life event (of the given citizen) or business episode (in case of businesses). Secondly, once the relevant services have been identified, Access-eGov will generate a "scenario" consisting of elementary government services. In most cases these scenarios will be probably of a "hybrid" nature –i.e. a combination of elementary traditional and e-services- which will lead to a requested outcome (e.g. to get a building permit, register a new company, etc.). Access-eGov will also provide a virtual personal assistant, who will guide the user through the scenario (reminding him/her of deadlines, providing support information, initiating e-services, etc.).

Special attention will be paid to the e-Inclusion criteria to guarantee that Access-eGov will be accessible also to disadvantaged groups of users, for which the system can be considerably beneficial. In this respect, e-ISOTIS will bring in their (web) accessibility expertise.

Access-eGov will also provide services for the public administration, i.e. service providers, and this on all levels: local, regional, national, and

European. As such it will enable the easy introduction of a (new) e-service to the world of e-government interoperability.

3 distinct pilots of the Access-eGov system will be implemented and evaluated in three EU countries. The **Slovakian pilot** will be specified and implemented by the Kosice Self-Government Region and municipality of Michalovce City. This pilot will be focussed on the land-use and -planning and building permit, and aims at making this rather complicated process more transparent, efficient and easier to understand, hence saving time (and thus also money) for citizens and businesses. The **Polish pilot** will be implemented in the Silesia Region in cooperation between the Cities on Internet and City Hall of Gliwice. This pilot will focus on the registration processes of a company. The **German pilot** will be implemented by the State Government of Schleswig-Holstein, which will upgrade and field test an existing good practice, the so-called "Zustaendigkeitsfinder" ("Responsibility Finder"), by introducing a semantic layer (securing semantic interoperability between national and local governments). As a result, the quality of services to citizens and businesses will be improved when they will be looking for a service provided by national and/or local governments.

In addition, the German University in Cairo, thanks to its location in Egypt, will arrange a challenging test case: for example, a person with an Egyptian citizenship searching for e-government services or wanting to obtain a work permit in a EU country. It will include all tasks of an intra-European scenario plus additional challenges of language and cultural differences.

The Project consortium, in addition to the partners mentioned before, includes also the University of Regensburg, Germany; Intersoft, a.s., Slovakia; EMAX S.A., Poland; and e-ISOTIS, Greece.

**END**

For More Information, please contact:

**Access-eGov Project Coordinator:**

Assoc. Prof. Tomas Sabol  
Tel.: (+421 55) 602 32 59  
Fax: (+421 55) 602 32 58  
Faculty of Economics  
Technical University of Kosice  
Letna 9, 042 00 Kosice, SLOVAKIA  
[Tomas.Sabol@tuke.sk](mailto:Tomas.Sabol@tuke.sk)

The Access-eGov project started on 01/01/2006 and will end on 31/12/2008. For extra details, you can also visit the project's website: [www.accessegov.org](http://www.accessegov.org).

Date of release: 24/02/2006

This press release was brought to you by Access-eGov ([www.accessegov.org](http://www.accessegov.org))

---