<IT Architecture Project Name>
Context and Objectives

Version 1.0

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Revision History

Date	Version	Description	Author
25 January 2015	1.2	New	<name>

Table of Contents

Context and Objectives

1. Introduction

*[The introduction of the **Context and Objectives** document provides an overview of the entire document. It includes the purpose, scope, definitions, acronyms, abbreviations, references and overview. Note that a separate **Glossary** is defined to support the IT architecture.]*

1.1 Purpose

This document provides a precise definition of the context, scope and objectives of a new IT architecture project.

[Add additional words if needed to clarify any other aspects to be added.]

1.2 Definitions, Acronyms, and Abbreviations

*[This subsection provides the definitions of all terms, acronyms, and abbreviations required to properly interpret the **Context and Objectives** document. This information may be provided by reference to the project's **Glossary**.]*

1.3 References

*[This subsection provides a complete list of all documents referenced elsewhere in the **Context and Objectives** document. Identify each document by title, report number (if applicable), date, and publishing organization. Specify the sources from which the references can be obtained. This information may be provided by reference to an appendix or to another document.]*

2. Important Business Aspects

The context, scope and objectives of the architecture are defined through the identification of business entities, business activities and business locations involved in the area of interest. Each of these aspects is defined below, along with a context diagram.

*[This section identifies the context, scope and objectives for the architecture effort through the definition of the entities, activities, locations and actors involved in the business area under examination. If the scope is large, the **Context and Objectives** may be defined in a separate document. The **Context and Objectives** are defined as the first step when starting into a new IT architecture project. In addition to the above a **Glossary** is also defined.]*

<entity> –   Identifies the business entities used within the business or system being modelled. Business entities identify significant and persistent pieces of information that are manipulated by business actors and business workers. No structure is attempted at this point, the sole objective being their identification and creation of clear and precise definitions.

<activity> –   Identifies the business activities within the scope of the architecture or project. These functions are defined using business activities, with no structure applied, the sole objective being their identification and clear and precise definition.

<location> –   Identifies the locations at which the business or project has a presence.

<actor> –   Identifies the actors that interact with the architecture or system being modelled. A Business Actor represents a role played in relation to the business by someone or something in the business environment.

<business rule> –   Identifies the rules that the architecture or system being modelled needs to support. A Business Rule is a declaration of policy or a condition that must be satisfied. This section is optional.

<business event> – Identifies the specific events that drive the business or system. A Business Event represents a significant occurrence in the activities of the business that requires immediate action. This section is optional.

3.   Context Diagram

[Define a context diagram that graphically depicts the scope of the system and the included activities, actors, etc.].

4.   Objectives

[This section describes the forces within the business and its environment that shapes the business architecture, which in turn help set the objectives for the architectural effort. These are very important for focusing the architecture effort and bounding architectural decisions and understanding the consequences of those decisions. The objectives of the IT architecture effort may also be defined in terms of focus (e.g., network infrastructure, server consolidation, etc) and the desired definitions or solutions.

*Architectural drivers can be classified into **architectural goals**, which define a desire, and **architectural constraints**, which imply mandatory compliance to a particular condition. Both are largely business driven — they **must** support business goals and drivers.]*