



Virtual Company  
Dossier  
ICT-Architecture  
Strategy

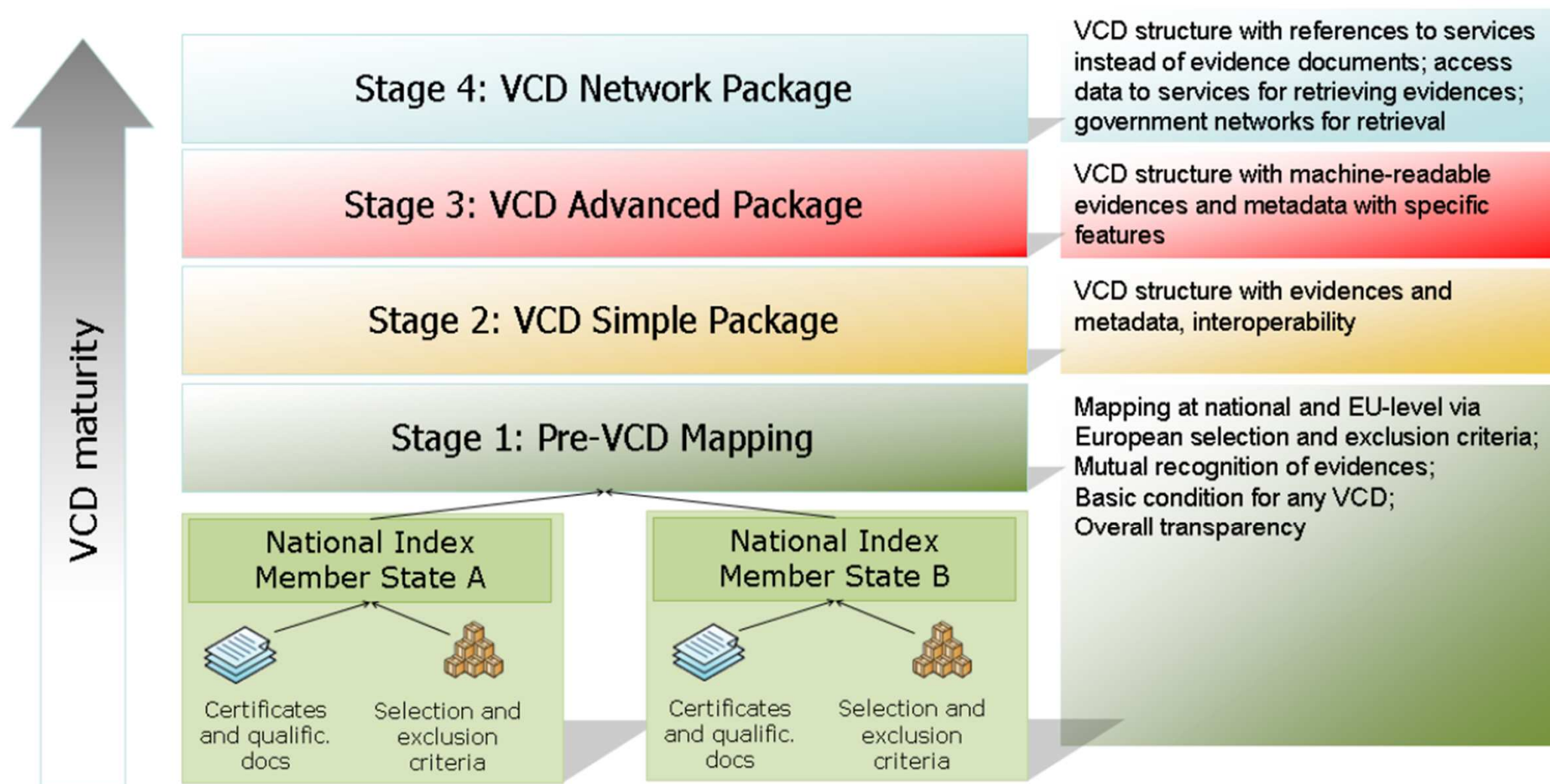
The VCD aims at facilitating EU-wide interoperability in the pre-awarding phase of public procurement:

- ▶▶ Any European company (esp. SMEs) can easily understand qualification criteria from a contracting authority in a different member state (legal interoperability)
- ▶▶ Any European company can compile a Virtual Company Dossier containing tendering information and qualification documents and submit this to the contracting authority (technical, semantic interoperability)
- ▶▶ Any European contracting authority can easily view and validate a Virtual Company Dossier sent from any economic operator of a different Member State (technical, semantic interoperability)

- ▶▶ Supporting Economic Operators and/or Contracting Authorities to **handle attestations in cross-border tendering** procedures
- ▶▶ Paradigm shift from handling of paper documents to the **electronic exchange of information** in order to establish interoperability on the basis of mutual recognition
- ▶▶ Real benefit when the VCD Package is complete and accurate

# ICT Architecture Principles

The staged maturity model:



- ▶▶ Implementation of European and national procurement directives
  - ▶▶ The VCD system will support suppliers in identifying suitable evidences to prove the requested criteria of qualitative selection with respect to different national procurement legislations
  - ▶▶ Mutual recognition: Evidences proving compliance to requested criteria are accepted across borders
  
- ▶▶ Provide a federated IT system with several national VCD systems that can be integrated into existing national procurement systems as well as a central European VCD System

- ▶▶ Develop an electronic document container for collecting and submitting qualification documents using existing standards such as XML and UBL
- ▶▶ Strong link and alignment with CEN Business Interoperability Interfaces for Public eProcurement (CEN/BII)
- ▶▶ Software components widely available as open source software

# eProcurement without borders in Europe

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