TED ESPD Annual Seminar Minutes

Publications Office - ESPD EDM

Meeting Date/Time:	2020-12-03
	10:10 - 13:00

Summary of Meeting Objectives

- Introduce the ESPD Evolution during 2020
- Introduce eCertis evolution

Meeting Agenda

- Introduction
- Online Workspace and documentation
- ESPD Code Lists
- ESPD-EDM & eForms
- ESPD 2020 Evolution
- ESPD-EDM & eCertis/TOOP/CCCEV/ePO
- Validator tool. Maven repository
- eCertis Presentation
- Questions and answers (Q&A)

Introduction

In this introduction were presented ESPD website, the different ESPD version(s) currently available per Member State.

Online Workspace and documentation

In this section the ESPD GitHub Repository and the online documentation were presented:

- **Wiki**: contains general information of ESPD (Introduction, Roadmap, etc.) and links to OUC Meetings' minutes and support materials.
- **Issues:** space to consult and share thoughts, impressions, and discuss possible improvements. Users can access the open issues (on-going, to be implemented) and the closed ones (already implemented, questions).
- **Code:** where users can access all the information related to the different ESPD releases (Online documentation, distribution packages, and release notes).
- **Documentation:** online documentation where users can navigate through the different sections using the Table of Contents.

ESPD Code Lists

This section introduced the key points in having Code List and the change that is going to happen in ESPD. ESPD will reuse, when possible, code lists from EU Vocabularies ensuring the alignment with other projects that uses them, like eForms or eProcurement Ontology.

ESPD-EDM & eForms

This section described the main elements taken into account for the ESPD and eForms alignment, and the objectives

which are (1) Grant interoperability between eForms and the ESPD-EDM, (2) Simplification of data processing, (3) Ease the fulfilment of the ESPD for both the Contracting Authority and the Economic Operator.

For these purposes, there are two main actions: (1) upgrade the UBL version from 2.2 to UBL 2.3 as eForms, (2) Lot Management, changing from 1 ESPD Request and 1 ESPD Response to 1 ESPD Request and 1 ESPD Response per Lot/Group of lots and EO.

ESPD 2020 Evolution

This section presented the evolution of the ESPD during 2020, and included three main points:

- **ESPD Governance:** Diagram showing the process and the actors involved in the process of evolving the ESPD from one version to another.
- **OUC Issues:** The number of issues discussed with the OUC is classified by the impact. The summary is 23 issues in total, 4 postponed due to eCertis deployment, 6 with high impact over ESPD-ADM, 6 with medium impact, and 7 with low impact.
- **Summary of issues to be implemented in the ESPD v3.0.0:** All the issues to be implemented are summarised taking into account the relationship with other aspects like Code list, alignment with eForms, Validator tool, and the Criteria Taxonomy.

ESPD-EDM & eCertis/TOOP/CCCEV/ePO

This section exposed the relation between ESPD, eCertis, TOOP, CCCEV and ePO as well as its interactions, purposes and mutual impact.

Validator tool. Maven repository

This section introduced the different elements used for the validation of the ESPD Request and Response.

Also, was presented the Interoperability Test Bed since it is the ESPD validator and the implementers can use it to ensure that the ESPD Requests and Responses are conformant with the defined rules. Additionally to the validator tools and artefacts, it was presented the Maven repository which allows getting started with the ESPD Exchange data model.

Summary of the changes in ESPD v3.0

In this section was presented the roadmap of ESPD to show where it is and where the new release is planned. Also, the main changes that would happen due to:

- **eForms Alignment**: (1) UBL version alignment, (2) Management of lots (1 ESPD request and 1 ESPD response per lot and EO), (3) Lots identifiers.
- **Criteria Taxonomy changes:** (1) Only Extended version will be kept, (2) The ESPD Request will include only part III and IV (Exclusion Grounds and Selection Criteria).
- **Issues**: 19 issues to be implemented
- **Online Documentation:** Refactoring of the documentation to make it simple in terms of understanding and maintenance. It will include 2 handbooks: (1) the business handbook, which will be focused on providing an overview of ESPD's context and to help policymakers, (add more); (2) The technical handbook that will be focused on providing technical support for the implementation of the ESPD.

eCertis Presentation

This additional presentation described relevant aspects in eCertis as the change from a single to a multi-domain model in eCertis, its proposed logic layout, the National criteria changes and the next steps to perform in its evolution. The exposition was enriched with a brief live tour of the new eCertis interface.

Questions and answers (Q&A)

The questions shown in this section were extracted directly from the Q&A section used for the development of the seminar.

• Would it be possible to access previous releases of the online documentation?

Yes, it is possible to access previous releases documentation through the "Code" Section in GitHub where all the releases are listed in different branches. Users can access the documentation, distribution packages, and release notes.

• Can we still open issues in GitHub?

Yes, the issues can always be opened. However, if they are related to improvements, they will be taken into account for future releases since the list of issues to be implemented in the next release is already closed.

• Can you please clarify the relation between ESPD and eForms on the lot level? ESPD will use the lot identifiers of eForms? But I also heard "one ESPD per lot"?

The purpose of the current release is to be as closer as possible to eForms. That is why ESPD and eForms will use the same identifiers.

Regarding the one ESPD per Lot, it is due to the eForms, as it is done at the lot level, therefore, ESPD will have one ESPD Response per Lot instead of one ESPD Response including all the information.

 Will ESPD Service have a centralized API for creating Requests and Answers? Can you build it into eNotice2 or have it like a stand-alone solution? Will there be a centralized ESPD Service with an API?

There will not be a centralised API for the ESPD since the different countries have linked their national databases to their services and it cannot be done by a centralised API. Finland and France have integrated their ESPD service into the national databases. But, currently, there is not a centralised European API for this.

In the case of Procedure with a lot of Lots it seems to be very hard for EO to fill many ESPD to participate.
 Maybe we can hide this difficult using a unique UX for all Lots and split in multiple ESPD only technically (for XML). What do you think?

It should be the ESPD Service to hide the complexity that a Procedure with a lot of lots will have. The solution to that point would be for the ESPD Service providers to implement user-friendly services.

• Is it still correct that there is no legal requirement to use the ESPD data model as long as the information required by the ESPD regulation is collected?

Yes, there is no legal requirement to use a specific data model, for instance, version 3.0.0.

 Also, there is still no systems where it is required to send an ESPD to (compared to the notices that have to be sent to OP and published in TED)?

Especially the new version of ESPD is designed to work in conjunction with eForms. However, there is no specific information than the ESPD has been designed to be as much aligned with eForms as possible.

Any progress with regards to the various 3rd party systems like "clearing houses" that could verify the legality
of bidders documentation (i.e. using the eCertis system and so on)?

ESPD already provided the option to provide links to different references. However, it is an on-going work together with the SDG, eCertis, ESPD and national databases can link the information in such a way that not only CA can access the information.

Additionally, the CCCEV data model and SDG and eCertis are aligned more closely so they can have this integration.

• We have / will have a link to download all documents of the seminar?

Yes, the link will be in the GitHub Wiki (https://github.com/ESPD/ESPD-EDM/wiki), the Working Group Meetings section.

• Is it mandatory to reference the ESPD library to create the ESPD service?

It is not mandatory, but it is recommended because the ESPD library contains all the different documents used for the implementation of ESPD helping to ensure the quality of the implementations.

• Is there a document where all implemented business rules are described?

Yes, it is in ESPD GitHub, as all the documentation related to the implementation of the ESPD.

• When will be the new version 3 of ESPD from available?

There are no exact dates for the release of the ESPD, it will be out by the beginning of 2021 (Q1).

• Will it be compulsory to use the ESPD version 3 with the new eForms?

The work done during the year is to ensure the alignment of the ESPD to eForms, therefore it is worthy to use both together.

• Till when will it be possible to use the ESPD version 2.1?

It is up to the user, depending on the needs of the systems and so on. However, it MS want to be aligned with eForms they should use the version 3.0.0.