Blockchain in Public Administration

Projects, challenges and potentials

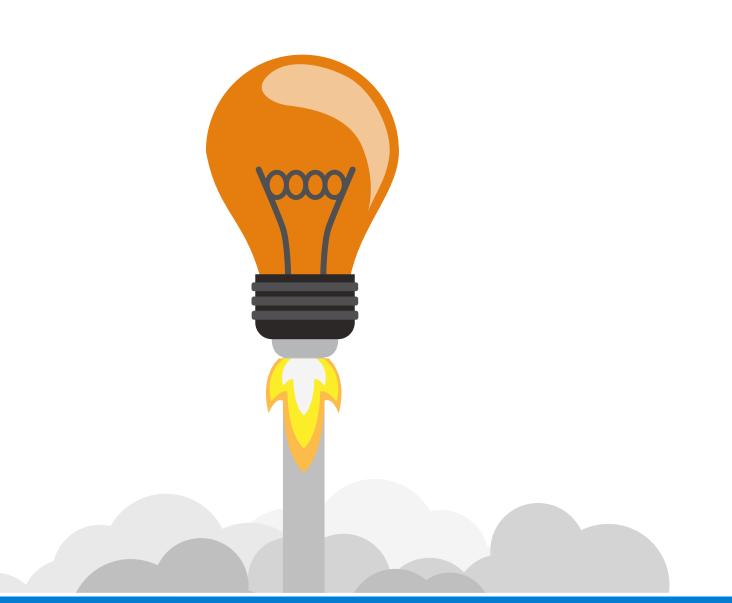
Italy: transforming digital government

Innovation in Public Administration



A different approach

Digitalization should change the way citizens interact with PA. Whenever possible, citizens should not require services but the PA should provide them automatically based on life events.



EU Coordination



At national and EU level, through the European Blockchain Partnership and European Blockchain Observatory, AGID is working at:



- 1. Defining use cases that can have EU-wide target. First Use Case picked up by EC is the Diplome service
- 2. Defining the EU interoperability model
- 3. Development of the EU Self Sovereign Identity model (eSSIF)
- 4. Definition of the EU infrastrutture requirements based on the European Blockchain Service Infrastructure **EBSI**



EU Ecosystem Requirements CENELEC



Government transformation

The digital transformation of government is a key element to the success of the Single Market; helping to remove existing digital barriers and preventing further fragmentation arising in the context of the modernization of public administrations

Standards Landscaping

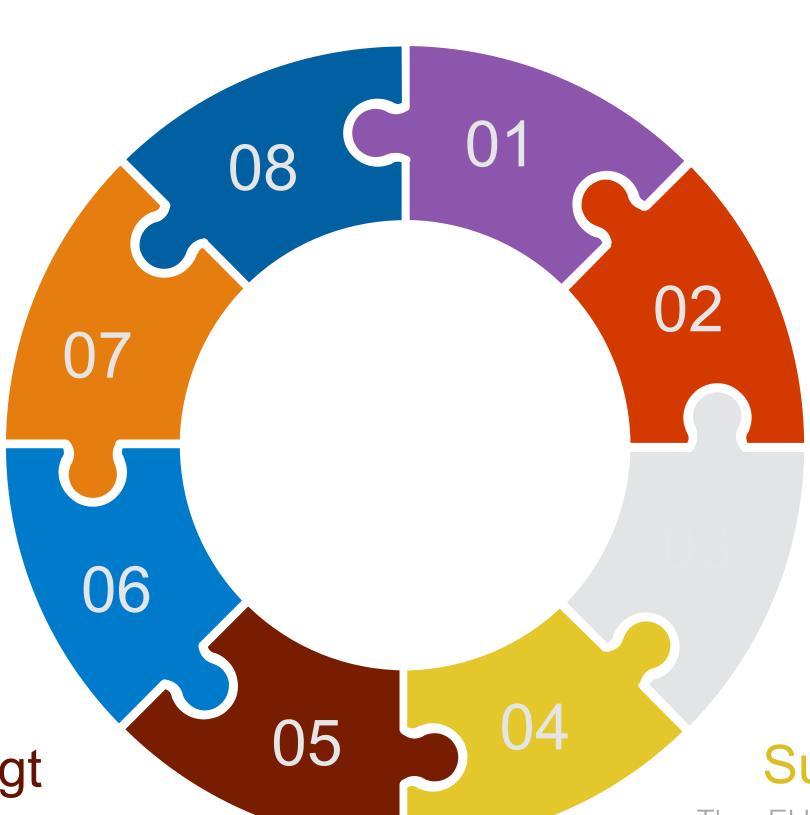
There is a large number of standardization initiatives on DL/Blockchain technologies. At the same time, there is a relative shortage of experts with relevant experience. The combination of both facts requires more coordination and wider participation to deliver timely sound standards.

Privacy and Data Protection

The interplay between the GDPR and DLTs is complex and still under debate. It is key for EU that the GDPR should be kept in mind when moving toward the definition of standards applied to Blockchain/DLT.

Digital Identity and Signature Mgt

EU has developed the Regulation on electronic identification (eIDAS Regulation), to provide a regulatory environment to enable secure and seamless electronic interactions between businesses, citizens and public authorities.



European industrial priorities

Ref. Digitising European Industry initiative (DEI) with the objective to reinforce the EU's competitiveness in digital technologies and ensure that its citizens and businesses can draw the full benefits from digital innovation in the socalled 4th Industrial Revolution

Financial & Tax compliance

Standards on DL/Blockchain technologies should take on board key elements to reduce the administrative burden of compliance with the global and European regulations for financial stability and the compliance of AML & Tax Compliance regulations.

Business cases from research

Both at national level and at European level, several research projects are being funded on Blockchain and DLTs. All these projects will produce a documented output that can be useful for standardization bodies.

Sustainable Development Strategies

The EU Sustainable Development Strategy aims to identify and develop actions to enable the EU to achieve a continuous improvement of quality of life through the creation of sustainable communities able to manage and use resources efficiently

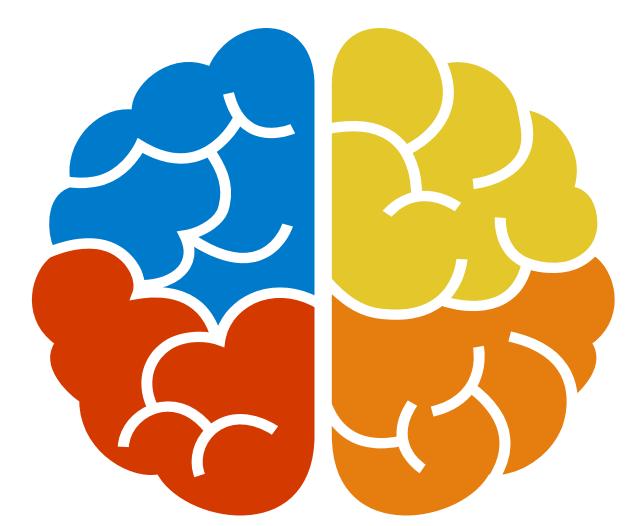
Number of recommendations developed

2 Government transformation

Standards Landscaping

2

3 Privacy and Data Protection



European industrial priorities

3

2 Financial & Tax Compliance

Business cases from research

4

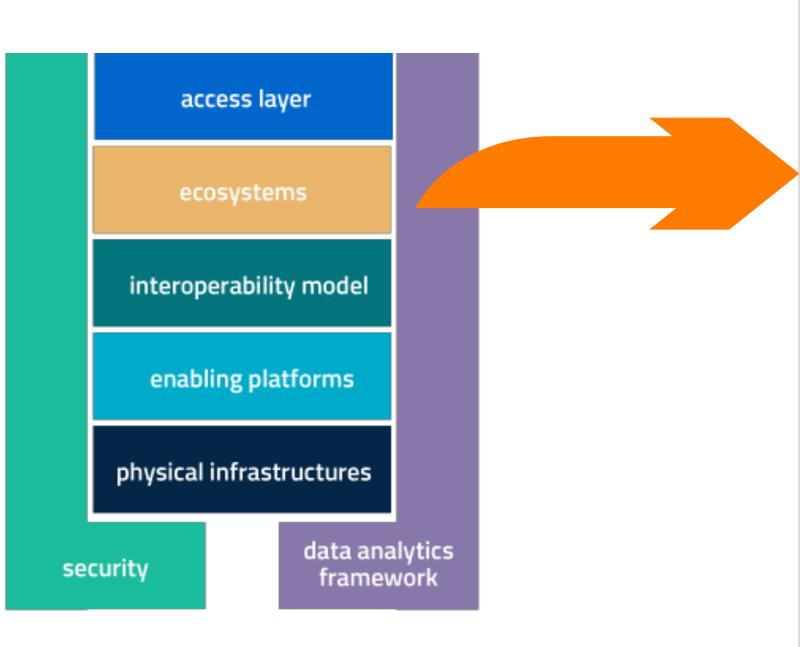
Digital Identity and Signature Mgt

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2 Sustainable Development Strategies

The Italian ICT strategic model

The Italian Three Year Plan for Digital Transformation governs the implementation of the strategy in terms of objectives, actions and expected results





Use cases

INTEROPERABILITY

Document and information sharing among government entities

WELFARE

Notarization of corporate compliancy to worker's health regulations

CULTURE

Proof of ownership and origin of Italian cultural patrimony

SCHOOL & HIGHER EDUCATION

Notarization of study career certificates and cross country attestation

AGRICULTURE AND CUSTOMS

Product lifecycle tracking and custom clearance

ACTORS

AGID

ACTORS

National Welfare Insurance Institute (INAIL) & AGID

ACTORS

Ministry of Culture & AGID

ACTORS

Italian National Academic Recognition Centre (NARIC-CIMEA) & Ministry of Education (MIUR)

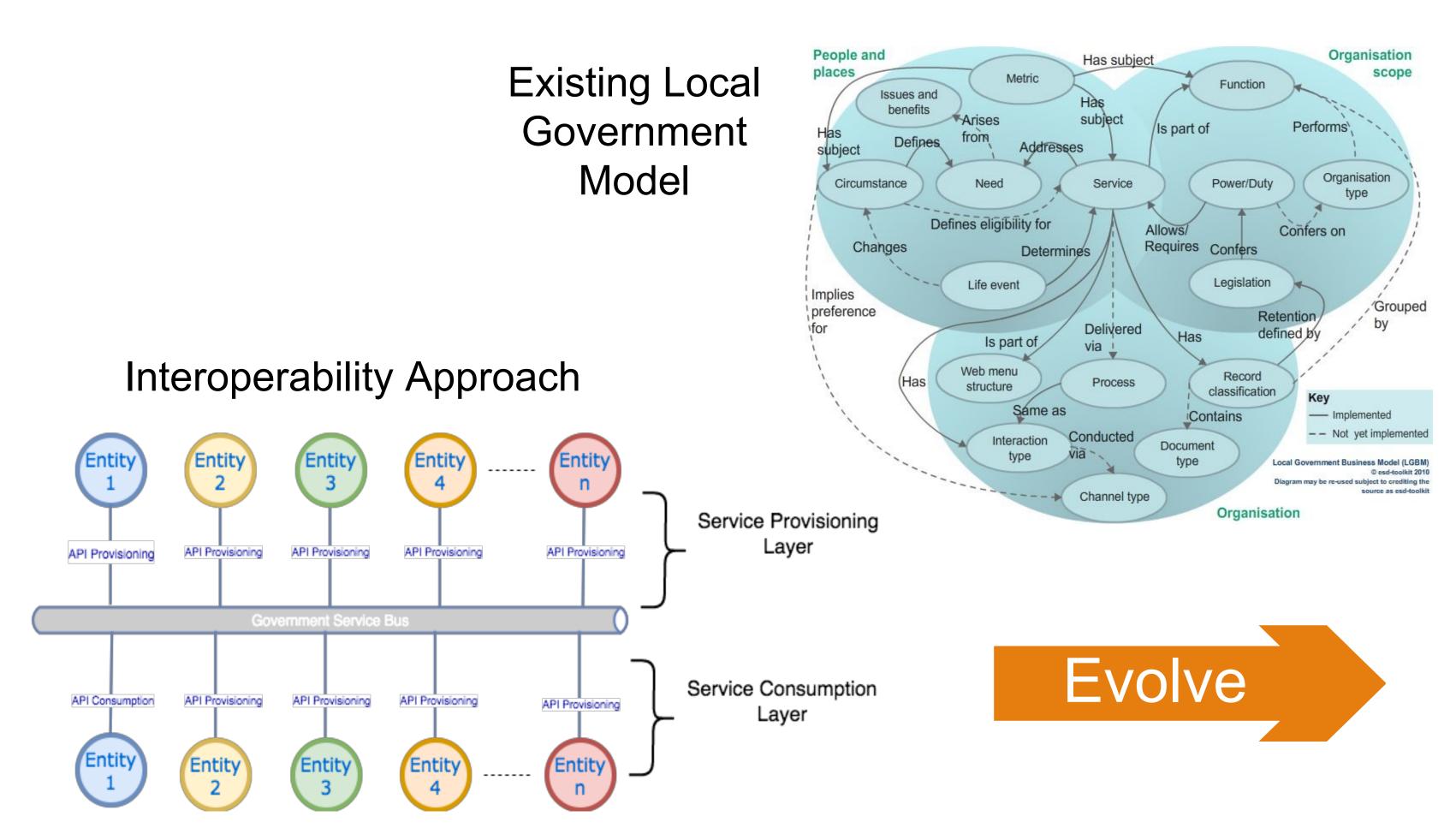
ACTORS

Italian Customs Agency

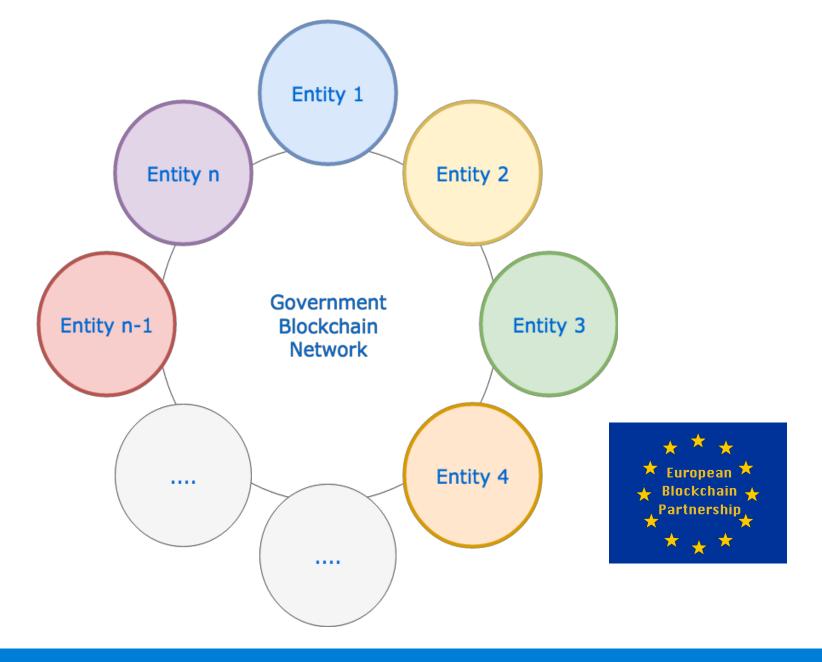




Government Service Model & Interoperability



A blockchain-bases model





Strenghts



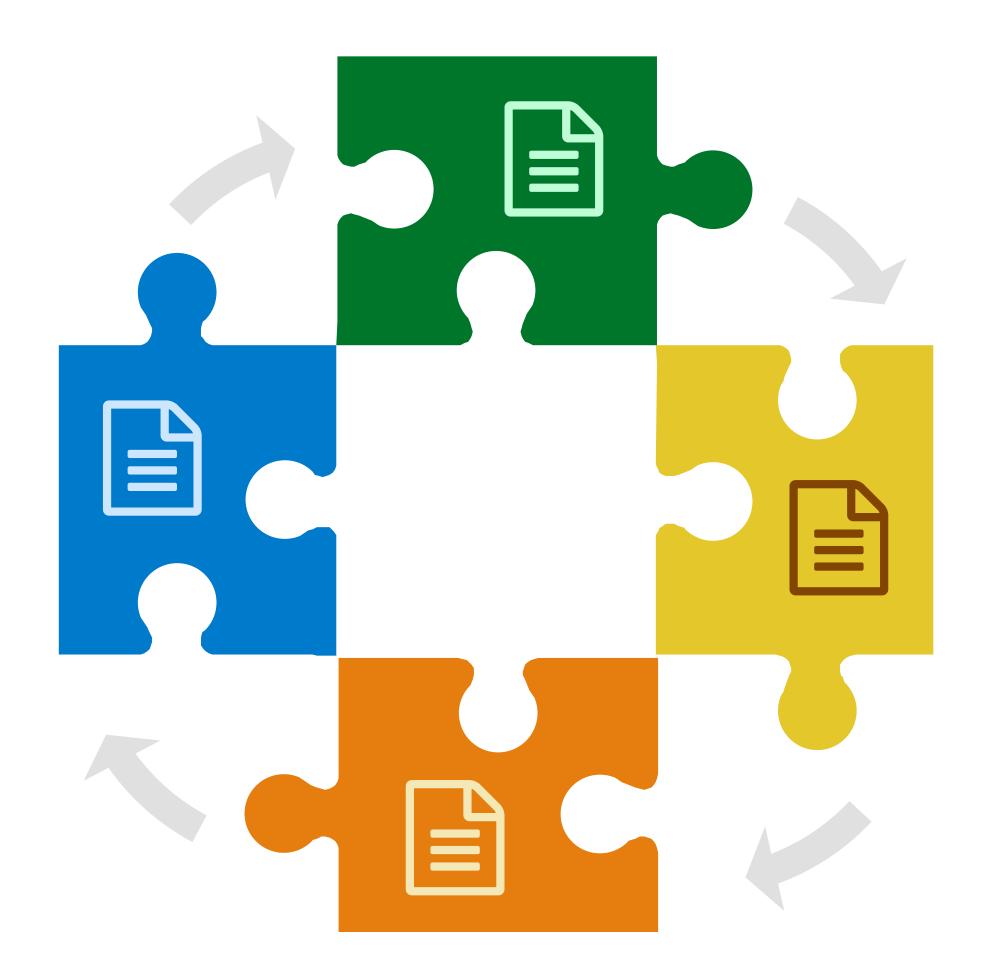
Once Only principle by design

Blockchain technology can guarantee full application of the Once Only Principle



Fully Paperless processes

All processes can be truly digitized and easily accessible from all actors. Citizen will not have to provide such information again to the Administration.



Reduced impact on existing processes



Handling information through the blockchain and drinving Administrative Processes through Smart Contracts will ensure that existing processes won't be changed but only 'guided'

Decentralization



Processes keep being decentralized and each Administration maintains its role and area of competence.

Information is moving, not processes...





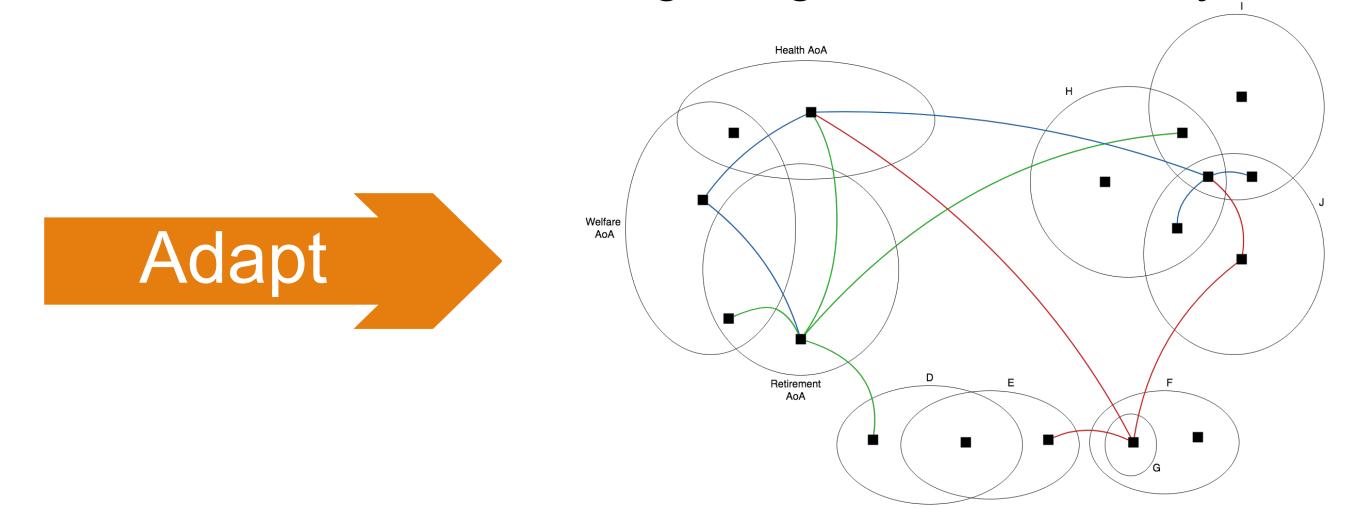
Challenge: The need of a new consensus model

Global consensus in service provisioning is rarely a government requirement and therefore the classic approach of Proof Of Work, Proof Of Stake, and others will not fit the Government Service Blockchain governance model.

A new consensus mechanism is then required to allow any blockchain to work properly in Public Administration services

Distributed Proof of Authority (D-PoA)

allows to have authoritative areas where one or more administrations are responsible for the approval (consensus) on performed transactions, here the Authority is not anymore applied overall but, as the chain itself, its distributed and flexibly adapted to the various authoritative areas constituting the government ecosystem





Diplome Project Student Qualification Certification



The ministries of the 48 countries referring to the European Higher Education Area <u>declared</u>:

[…]

We also urge the adoption of *transparent* procedures for the recognition of qualifications, prior learning and study periods, supported by *interoperable digital solutions*

[...]

To further promote student and graduate mobility, we welcome and support initiatives such as the *digitalisation of the Diploma Supplement*, and commit to support higher education institutions to pursue further student *data exchange* in a *secure*, *machine-readable* and *interoperable* format, in line with data protection legislation.

 $[\ldots]$

We call on the BFUG to take the issue of digitalisation forward in the next working period.

 $[\ldots]$



EHFOWERING EHEA Paris 2018 EUROPE'S YOUTH

Conférence ministérielle européenne pour l'enseignement supérieur





The European Parliament <u>resolution</u> of 25 October 2018 on promoting automatic mutual recognition of diplomas (2018/2838(RSP))

 $[\ldots]$

whereas improving recognition procedures for higher education and upper secondary education diplomas and for the outcomes of learning periods abroad is a *prerequisite* for the establishment of a *European Education Area*

...]

Calls on the Member States to make a political commitment and put in place mechanisms for the *automatic mutual recognition* of higher education and upper secondary education qualifications, as well as the outcomes of learning periods abroad, in line with the objectives of the European Education Area;

 $[\dots]$

Asks Member States to increase transnational cooperation and to make use of **new technologies** in order to increase **efficiency**, reduce **costs**, improve **transparency** and build **trust** to that end, with a view to taking advantage of the educational and job opportunities stemming from the internal market;

...]







What is DiploMe?



Diplome is an open and interoperable layer that leverage the DLT/Blockchain technology to build a transparent and trusted network of student's qualifications.

Diplome supports **automated mutual recognition** of education and professional qualifications, improving efficiency in the recognition process and reducing at the same time costs for citizens and Public Administration.









Main characteristics



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Portability

Complete data interoperability: we defined a common ontology and represented it with JSON format

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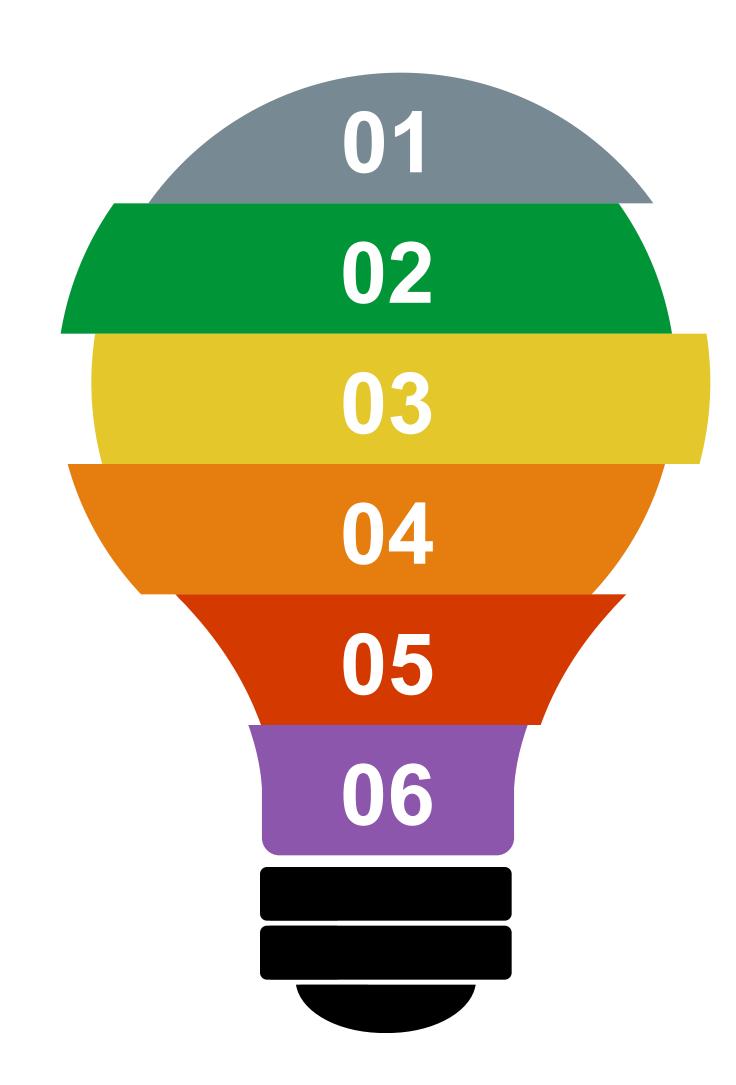
Minimization

On-chain data are only the ones required to provide secure and reliable information about the qualification

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Openness

Once allowed by data owner, information is always presented with a **standardized** approach



Quality

1

All data stored in the chain are provided by certified entities. Informatin source is bound and registered with the data

Security

3

With an innovative approach to data axchange, information stored is **protected** through cross-cryptographic techniques

Control

5

Data owner has **full control** of his own data and is the only player allowed to disclose stored information



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