Using the NORA game to diffuse standards knowledge and use
About ICTU

Government agency founded in 2001

whose mission is to improve
• workprocesses of the authorities
• government services to society
• interactions with citizens

by developing standards-based generic IT solutions

for government authorities
• central government
• provinces
• local councils
• water boards
• and about 1600 other organisations
Dutch Government & Standards Use

Goals of the Cabinet
  • Stimulate the participation of citizens
  • Reduction in the administratieve burden

Crucial for achieving these goals is interoperability between
  • businesses and governments
  • citizens and governments
  • between the governmentbodies themselves

Policy in favour of open standards and open source
Dutch Interoperability Framework
The Netherlands in Open Connection

An action plan for the use of Open Standards and Open Source Software in the public and semi-public sector

• increase interoperability

• decrease dependence on suppliers in the use of IT

• promote a level playing field in the software market
About NORA

- Acronym used for Dutch Government IT Reference Architecture
- Endorsed by the Dutch Cabinet as the standard to be used throughout the public sector
- Describes design principles for IT-infrastructure

For example,

- Users experience uniformity in service provision through the use of standard solutions
- Users are offered related services as a package
Problems with NORA

Too complex for architects

• Too many principles: 10 basic +137 derived

• Too much text (about 300 pages)

• Time consuming

Too complex for other target groups, e.g. executive managers

Two solutions: Simplify NORA and develop NORA Game
NORA game

• Aim

...to better understand information architecture in general and NORA in particular

...to learn how to apply NORA-principles to one's own organisation

...to start a discussion about architectural principles, priorities etc.

...including all kinds of experts

...in an informal setting

...not taking too much time
Four situations

• You don't know anything about NORA: NORA Bingo

• You are familiar with NORA and want to apply NORA within your own organization: The NORA Principle Game

• You want to get arguments for applying the NORA principles: NORA House of Commons

• You want to set priorities within your project: NORA Priority Game

And feel free to use the several parts of the NORA Game in another way!!
The architectural framework
Playing cards
Adapting the framework
Conclusion

• The aims

...to better understand information architecture in general and NORA in particular
...to learn how to apply NORA-principles to one's own organisation
...to start a discussion about architectural principles, priorities etc.
...including all kinds of experts
...in an informal setting
...not taking too much time

• are met

• People react enthousiastically
• Organisations are developping new ways to play the game, e.g. by developping their own playing cards
More information

About ICTU
http://www.ictu.nl

About open standards
https://noiv.nl/service/english/
http://www.open-standaarden.nl/service/english/

About NORA
http://www.e-overheid.nl/images/stories/architectuur/ict%204452%20nora%20maart%202010-eng%20hr.pdf

or mail to hans.goutier@ictu.nl

Hans Goutier

06-07-2010