



FOD Beleid & Ondersteuning

SPF Stratégie & Appui

Insights of an ESPD implementation - case study

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The story so far (1)

- ESPD only allowed above EU thresholds
- Tool: slightly customized version of the EC's ESPD service (EDM 1.0.2)
 - Stand-alone application
 - Optional use – other (non-structured) formats also allowed

The screenshot displays the 'e-Procurement' interface for the 'European Single Procurement Document (ESPD)'. The header includes links for 'Terms of use', 'Data policy CA - EO', 'Cookies', 'Contact', and a language dropdown set to 'English'. Below the header, a breadcrumb trail shows 'Public Procurement > European Single Procurement Document'. The user's role is identified as 'Contracting Authority (CA)' with a view of '(EO)'. A progress bar at the top indicates the current stage: 'Start' (active), followed by 'Procedure', 'Exclusion', 'Selection', and 'Finish'. The main content area is titled 'Part III: Exclusion grounds' and lists 'A: Grounds relating to criminal convictions'. Under this, 'Article 57(1) of Directive 2014/24/EU sets out the following reasons for exclusion' are detailed: 'Participation in a criminal organisation', 'Corruption', and 'Fraud'. Each ground includes a checkbox, a description of the exclusion criteria, and a 'More information' link.

e-Procurement

Terms of use | Data policy CA - EO | Cookies | Contact | English

European Single Procurement Document (ESPD)

Public Procurement > European Single Procurement Document

Role: Contracting Authority (CA) View: (EO)

Start > Procedure > Exclusion > Selection > Finish

Part III: Exclusion grounds

A: Grounds relating to criminal convictions

Article 57(1) of Directive 2014/24/EU sets out the following reasons for exclusion

☒ Participation in a criminal organisation

Has the economic operator itself or any person who is a member of its administrative, management or supervisory body or has powers of representation, decision or control therein been the subject of a conviction by final judgment for participation in a criminal organisation, by a conviction rendered at the most five years ago or in which an exclusion period set out directly in the conviction continues to be applicable? As defined in Article 2 of Council Framework Decision 2008/841/JHA of 24 October 2008 on the fight against organised crime (OJ L 300, 11.11.2008, p. 42).

More information >

☒ Corruption

Has the economic operator itself or any person who is a member of its administrative, management or supervisory body or has powers of representation, decision or control therein been the subject of a conviction by final judgment for corruption, by a conviction rendered at the most five years ago or in which an exclusion period set out directly in the conviction continues to be applicable? As defined in Article 3 of the Convention on the fight against corruption involving officials of the European Communities or officials of Member States of the European Union, OJ C 195, 25.6.1997, p. 1, and in Article 2(1) of Council Framework Decision 2003/568/JHA of 22 July 2003 on combating corruption in the private sector (OJ L 192, 31.7.2003, p. 54). This exclusion ground also includes corruption as defined in the national law of the contracting authority (contracting entity) or the economic operator. "

More information >

☒ Fraud

Has the economic operator itself or any person who is a member of its administrative, management or supervisory body or has powers of representation, decision or control therein been the subject of a conviction by final judgment for fraud, by a conviction rendered at the most five years ago or in which an exclusion period set out directly in the conviction continues to be applicable? Within the meaning of Article 1 of the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests (OJ C 316, 27.11.1995, p. 48).

More information >

The story so far (2)

- 2023: new federal e-Procurement platform
- 2025: integration of ESPD data model 3.3.0
 - Live as of 31/10/2025

The screenshot displays the BO SA e-Procurement platform interface. The top navigation bar includes the BO SA logo, 'e-Procurement', and links for 'Home', 'Bulletin of Tenders', and 'Business cards'. A language selector is set to 'en'. The left sidebar contains a menu with items: Home, Dossiers, My dossiers, Agreements, Purchase Requests, Purchase Orders, Shop, Shop manage..., Org. managem..., Communities, Templates, Approvals, and Data import. The main content area shows a breadcrumb trail: 'Dossiers > EPROC/DEMO_2025-10-23/DUME_UEA/type_B > Procurement > pub01 > ESPD'. The title 'pub01' is followed by a 'PUBLISHED' badge and an 'Update' button. Below this, the 'ESPD request' form is visible, with tabs for 'Exclusion grounds' and 'Selection criteria'. The 'Exclusion grounds' tab is active, showing a section for 'Grounds relating to criminal convictions'. Under this, there is a section for 'Participation in a criminal organisation' with a detailed text description. Below the text is a button labeled 'Information in eCertis »'. At the bottom, there is a question 'Apply this exclusion ground?*' with radio buttons for 'Yes' and 'No'. The 'Yes' option is selected.

Difficulties encountered

- Implementation path quite different from the one for eForms (SDK, metadata-driven forms, extensive validation, ...)
- Validation: a lot of DIY
 - Schematron: requires XML + “coherent” form requires additional logic
- Codelists not always aligned with those in eForms
- Need for translations (descriptions, labels, but also certain codelists (e.g. financial ratios))
- Current EDM allows 'national' adaptations → ← interoperability
- Not always clear what the expected information is for a certain criterion

We appreciate

- Extensive and well-organized documentation
- OP is very responsive and always available for questions
- OUC meetings help to "stay in the loop"

What we feel could be improved

- Align data model and its components with eForms
- Update the regulation and apply a truly universal data model
- Enrich the business handbook with detailed information on criteria
 - E.g. purpose, especially for fields that were added somewhere along the way but cannot be traced back directly to the implementing regulation, ...

Choices made (1)

- JSON instead of XML
- Various tweaks and deviations from EDM
 - Input types, cardinalities, ...

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"specificAverageTurnover": {
  "enabled": true,
  "lotIds": [
    284101,
    284102
  ],
  "yearlyAverageTurnoversPerBusinessDomain": [
    {
      "referenceYear": 2024,
      "numberOfFiscalYears": 3,
      "amount": {
        "code": "EUR",
        "value": 400000
      },
      "businessDomainDescription": [
        {
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          "language": "FR"
        },
        {
          "text": "NL - Business domain 1 - Sed viverra magna quis risus finibus vestibulum. Quisque quis neque vestibulum, blandit lorem facilisis, rhoncus est. Curabitur risus justo, dictum sit amet arcu et, sagittis euismod eros. Vivamus et diam et ante porta vehicula. Quisque quis malesuada lectus, sed imperdiet ex. Nulla in est vitae lorem volutpat pretium.",
          "language": "NL"
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```

Choices made (2)

- Return of the alpha criterion
 - Main request by key-users during demo of initial release candidate
 - Expected to facilitate the adoption of the integrated ESPD service
- CA decides whether the EO...
 - must use the alpha criterion
 - must use the embedded selection criteria
 - can choose between both

General info	Exclusion grounds	Selection criteria
The economic operator declares that it meets all the required selection criteria.*		
☐ Yes ☐ No		

Key features – buyers

- Integrated with publications and invitations to tender
- Intuitive validation
- Support for multiple languages
- Export & import (JSON)
- Automatically generated PDF
 - Added to the procurement documents
- Indicative basic validation of received ESPD responses
 - Missing information
 - Answers that don't meet the requirements or require analysis

Specific yearly turnover

- Requirement 1: business domain description - FR translation is missing
- Requirement 1 financial year 1 (2024): minimum amount is missing
- Requirement 1 financial year 2 (2023): minimum amount is missing

The economic operator's specific yearly turnover in the business area covered by the contract for the number of financial years required in the relevant notice, in the ESPD, the relevant notice or the ESPD is as follows:

Information in eCertis »

Apply this selection criterion?*

☒ Yes ☐ No

This selection criterion applies to the following lots:*

☒ 1 (MDW/20251119/ESPD/DEMO - 1)

☒ 2 (MDW/20251119/ESPD/DEMO - 2)

Description of the requirement

Business domain description (NL)*

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Phasellus pulvinar ut mauris sed tempus. Phasellus imperdiet nisi quis vestibulum finibus. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Vestibulum ante ipsum primis in faucibus orci luctus et ultrices posuere cubilia curae; Duis ut tortor nibh. Nunc purus nisl, lobortis at nisi at, pharetra semper mauris. Suspendisse potenti. Sed viverra magna quis risus finibus vestibulum. Quisque quis neque

717 / 6000

Business domain description (FR)*

Reference year*

2024

Requirement for ...

Financial year

2024

Minimum amount*

Currency*

Euro

inv01

SENT

Dossiers > MDW/20251117/INV_ESPD_OPENED > Procurement > inv01 > Vault

Submissions

Search submissions

Download entire vault

Enterprise name ↑	Submission sent at	Signature(s) found?	ESPD valid/complete	Submission report code
Alens	17/11/2025 12:17 CET	✓	✓	b9935e9c
Bauwens	17/11/2025 12:21 CET	✓	⚠	c869db18
Chabert	17/11/2025 12:25 CET	⚠	⚠	521943ad

Key features – suppliers

- Integrated in the eSubmission flow
- Intuitive validation
 - Missing information
 - Answers that don't meet the requirements or require analysis
- Support for joint submission (ESPD for group members, entities relied upon, subcontractors)
- Automatically generated PDF
 - Added to the tender documents

1a

Identification

1b

Lots

1c

Documents

1d

ESPD

2

Signatures

3

Send

Your submission has not yet been sent and has not been delivered to the contracting authority's vault!

General info

Exclusion grounds

Selection criteria

Grounds relating to criminal convictions

Grounds relating to the payment of taxes or social security contributions

Payment of taxes

Has the economic operator breached its obligations relating to the payment of taxes, both in the country in which it is established and in Member State of the contracting authority or contracting entity if other than the country of establishment?

Information in eCertis >>

Limit value

3.000 Euro

Additional information

Your answer*

☒ Yes ☐ No

Country or member state concerned*

Belgium

Amount concerned*

3.500

Currency*

Euro

Has this breach of obligations been established by means other than a judicial or administrative decision?*

☐ Yes ☐ No

Has the economic operator fulfilled its obligations by paying or entering into a binding arrangement with a view to paying the taxes due (+ interest accrued or fines)?*

☐ Yes ☐ No

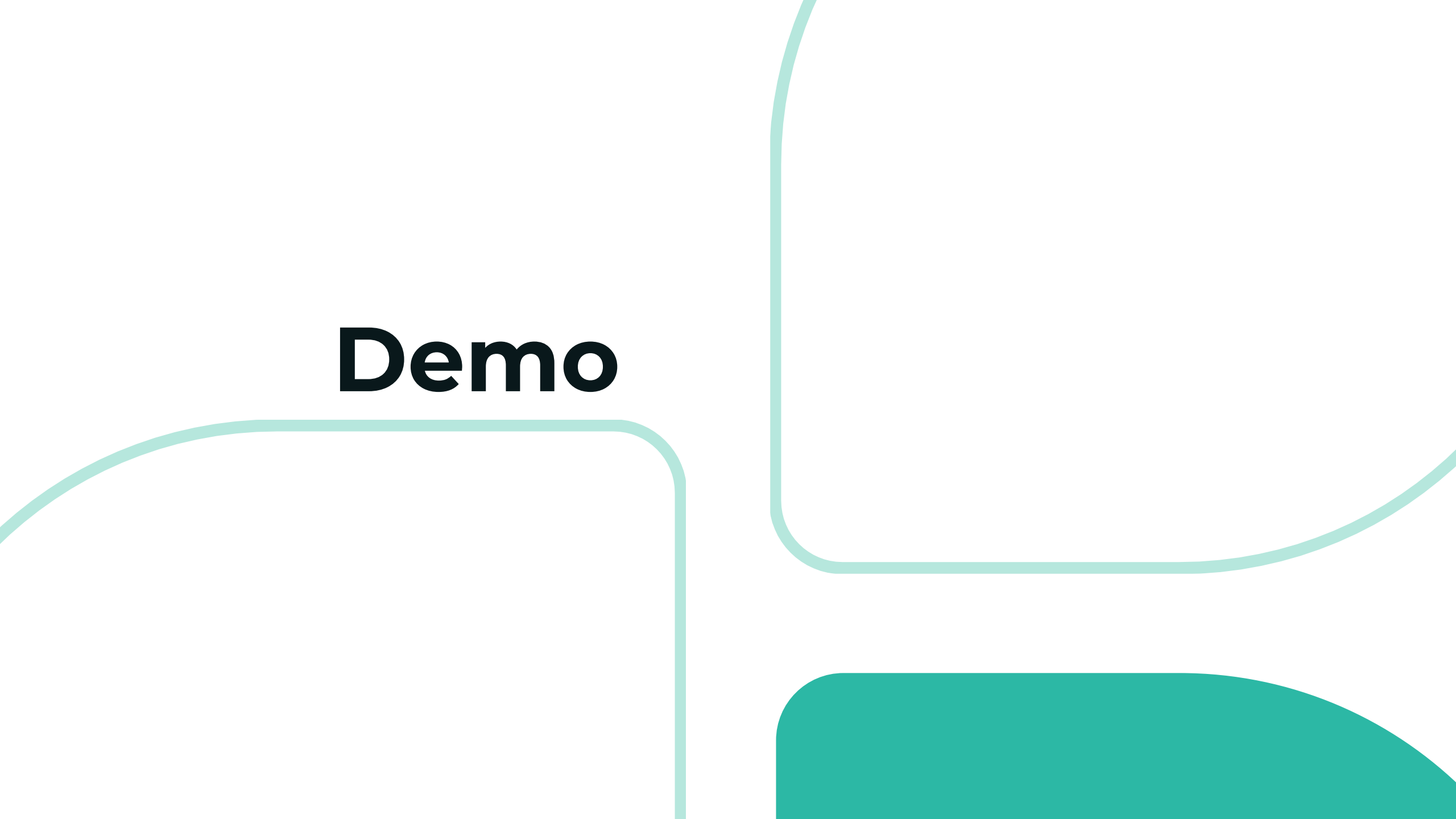
Uptake of the integrated service

- Only live since 31/10/2025!
- Some early figures:
 - +/- 580 publications above the EU threshold
 - 52 of which use the integrated ESPD service,
 - 36 for which the alpha criterion is mandatory
 - 9 for which the embedded selection criteria are mandatory
 - 7 for which the choice is left up to the EO
 - +/- 130 ESPD responses drafted by EO

Goals for 2026 and beyond

- Implement minor improvements based on user feedback
- Improve user-friendliness for EO by implementing OOP
- Improve support for joint submissions
 - limit access for party members to their ESPD only
- (Better) integration with authentic sources
- Align with EDM 4.0 or beyond
 - Support same SC with different requirements per lot
- ESPD as a first step towards semi-automatic evaluation

Demo

The image features a minimalist design with several rounded, overlapping shapes in teal and light green. The word "Demo" is prominently displayed in a bold, dark blue font. The background is a very light, almost white, color. The shapes are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement, with some shapes appearing to be in the foreground and others in the background.