

## ABC4EU Report Summary

Project ID: [312797](#)

Funded under: [FP7-SECURITY](#)

Country: Spain

### Periodic Report Summary 2 - ABC4EU (ABC GATES FOR EUROPE)

Project Context and Objectives:

ABC4EU proposal is addressed to the topic SEC-2012.3.4-6 Enhancing the workflow and functionalities of Automated Border Control (ABC) gates -Integration Project.

The aim of the ABC4EU project is to identify the requirements for an integrated, interoperable and citizen's rights respectful ABC system at EU level, taking account of the experience gained from the previous ABC pilots and projects and future needs derived from the Smart Borders and other EU and national initiatives, all of it while ensuring the protection of citizens' rights, privacy and other related ethical aspects.

This will be finally achieved by the upgrading / amendment (when needed) and integration of already deployed (or deployed in due date) ABC systems in Spain and Portugal, covering all types of borders, i.e. airports, harbours and land borders. The Register Travel Programme (RTP) and the Entry/Exit system (EES) concepts will be specifically tested in the project to assess their feasibility. In ABC4EU especial attention will be paid to legal, social and ethical issues and for dissemination and exploitation. ABC4EU consortium considers that all the research carried out in the project has to be compliant to the laws related to border controls in the European Union and totally respectful to the rights of the European and third country citizens, from the social and ethical point of view.

The project activities are broken down in nine work packages and they will be completed over a period of 42 months. During the first period the ABC4EU project aims at defining a common set of requirements, from the legal, social, ethical and technical perspectives:

- Firstly, by analyzing the up-to-date legal environment regarding Border Control within the European Union focusing on the Schengen agreement and other relevant legislation at the regional level, in individual member States and relevant Third Countries. It will also establish the social, ethical and rights-based concerns regarding modern policies on border management.
- And secondly, establishing a set of common functional requirements for ABC systems from the End User perspective, which will provide a framework for the lifecycle of the project and a baseline towards harmonisation and standardisation. Related to the harmonization of ABC systems in terms of traveller experience, speed up traveller flows and optimize solutions of ABC eGates, several activities were completed providing, as a result, a set of processes, workflows and recommendations for the ABC design.

Project Results:

During the second period of the project (from month 13 to month 36) the activities were focused on WP1 to WP8.

Within WP1, the mappings developed in early deliverables, D1.1 to D1.4, and the methodology first laid out in D1.6 have paved the way and provided a framework for the assessment of WP3, whose results have been published in D1.7 at the end of February. This assesment has identified a number of key issues that will require further analysed in the forthcoming project phases (WP4 to WP6) such as the scarce evidence provided so far of security, financial and convenience gains, and consequently, the need for better tools to assess and credible data, the lack of a specific legal basis for automated border checks, the problem of non-systematic checks for EU citizens and some privacy and data protection issues.

Within the framework of WP2, the main result has been the establishment of D2.7 requirements structure and the lessons learnt through our research and the Technical Boarding Meeting with the Consortium members. Nevertheless, D2.7 was planned to be delivered on Month 18 and has been delayed to M28. Between M18-M24 PwC changed the structure and added some information about data processing and security issues. It has promoted the creation of a new board called EEUAB to facilitate the cooperation among End Users that are not working for the project. Members ATOS and URJC have worked for this PwC proposal.

Within the WP4, the following goals have been achieved:

- Definition at a high level of the different processes that a traveller must undergo when interacting with each subsystem, and which data entities are involved in those processes.
- Identification of the main requirements that an ABC System should address, not only inside the scope of the current project, but also for their consideration in future European R&D projects.
- We have been refining the analysis into more detailed models, studying the system under different perspectives (Business, Data Structures, Functional and Interactivity with travellers).
- Identification of each pilot that will be developed and tested in next WP.

Within WP5, the Technical and Logistical aspects of the Proof of Concept in Lisbon and Spain have been carried out. The architecture of the biometric SW provided by the partners was analysed, in order to be integrated into the enrolment and verification processes. The upgraded ABC System to be deployed in Spain started to be designed and built, with new camera system to support research activities. Activities 5.2 to 5.7 have been developed.

Within WP6, PwC reviewed the structure and content of D6.1, changing the internal structure and expanding each section with relevant information about security and communications requirements. Moreover relevant information from draft D4.5, shared by Indra, was added.

Within the WP7, Dissemination & Exploitation, several tasks regarding Activities 7.1 to 7.6 have been undertaken with the participation of several members of the consortium. They include End User integration working group; User community set-up; Project website creation and updating; Interaction with other WP, production of publications and other material for different media; Project Conference, including 3 mini track seminars; and Exploitation, IPR, and agreements, other legal and regulatory matters.

Within WP8, technical and management meetings took place to monitor the progress of the activities carried out and correct possible [deviations](#). [Partners](#) have also reported every six months the progress of their activities as well as the staff effort employed and other costs. On the other hand, the templates for deliverables, interim reports and project presentations were also elaborated in order to assure the quality of the documents.

Potential Impact:

The final expected results of the ABC4EU project are:

- The need for harmonisation in the design and operational features of an ABC System across the E.U. Border Crossing Points (BCPs) is one of the main goal of the project. The harmonisation and standardisation proposals to be produced by ABC4EU project will include requirements and guidelines for all stakeholders (border guards, infrastructure operators, carriers, travellers, etc).
- Contribute towards extending the usage of fingerprint verification, not only as a complement to facial biometry, but as a fundamental part of an automated or semi-automated border control.
- Development of concepts for broadening the scope of ABC Systems to include Third-Country Nationals (RTP, EES and Integration with other Back-Office systems), who could also benefit from an automated BCP process in terms of flow efficiency, while maintaining the security requirements of the border crossing.
- Definition of the concept for the inclusion of BCPs into an Integrated Border Management System (both at National and EU

level).

List of Websites:

<http://www.abc4eu.eu>

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## Subjects

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