



Development of information security management standard and evaluation instrument, Estonian case

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Agenda

- How to choose standard?
 - Seeba, Mari, Raimundas Matulevičius, and Ilmar Toom. "Development of the Information Security Management System Standard for Public Sector Organisations in Estonia." *Business Information Systems*. 2021.
- How to evaluate the standard compliance level?
 - Seeba, Mari, Sten Mäses, and Raimundas Matulevičius. "Method for Evaluating Information Security Level in Organisations." *Research Challenges in Information Science: 16th International Conference, RCIS 2022, Barcelona, Spain, May 17–20, 2022, Proceedings*. Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2022.
- MUSE why we need method for updating security evaluation tool?
- MASS tool and benchmarks to evaluate security (work in progress)
 - Security level evaluation intermediate results

International Road Transport Union Saku Ölletehase Akt As Operail Ospentos International OÜ AR AGENTUURI AKTSIASELTS ME GROUP BRIDGE OU XOLO DU Altia Englished New Over Lent 2 nel-Giatootmine AS SIHTASUTUS ERAMETSAKESKUS Osaühing KINNISVARABÜROO UUS MAA AS Inbank 4U Logistics OU North Point Management Ltd Cone Centers Bet Lim AS ÜHISTEENUSED Kinnisvarakeskkond OÜ insuskaitseametaihing Utilitas Nasdag CSD SE Eesti filiaal Dreambox Churses Olts LIVIKO MANAFSADANA AS Aktsiaselts Olerex Terminale Ees aktsiaselts A. Le Col QÜ Krediid register nainvestestingute keskus nainvestestingute keskus nainvestestingute keskus aktsiaselts CREDITINFO EEST Coop Plankas iduse Registrit eta in taka kartura iki tattien a Munitsipaalpolitsei Amet Nikaria kange pikatai nese jaran yaka tuta likaria kati tatien kaire Pälts Statistikaanat Rahandusministeerin n Placet Group O Rahapesu Andmebüroo HID CID LITALE WASHE Tartu Vangla g mvaru ePerearstikeski LINNA HARIOUSAMET OÜ Celsius Healthcare entity & Security sking kurskeskus Tallinna Sotsiaa(- ja Tervisholuamet Seministeerium Eesti Töötukassa met Raeanshamehisteeripmi InfotehnoloogiakeskusASUTUS EESTI stipois aliussa Keskkonna- ja Kommuna hing Webwarsotsiaal Haricosejja Noortealeist Tartu Kesklinna Perearstike Eesti Metsa- ja Puidutöösttikaribiit 45 osaühing InterInx Linnavalitsus OU Andmevara Services Ovalitas Akstiliseskus Assilta Balties Ki AKTSIASELTS HER MEYAGI Riigikogu Kantselei ts Fertilitas htasitus Jogeva Haigiaktsiaselts Ortopeei Eesti Maaülikool OsaühingtaiasellssMedisfäär Aktsiaselts SPIN TEK Sihtasutus Kutsekoda OÜ Tartu Linna Polikliinik AS OÜ MarietaSihtasutus Haapsalu Neuroloogiline Renabilitatsioonikeskus Põltsarkasatus Põltsarkasatus MEDEX AS Tamme Frakliffik Vision OÜ OÜ LASERVIAIQPNesti OÜ Seksuaalteryise Klijorkikeskus OÜ

Motivation

- Estonia has 1.33 million inhabitants
- Digital services via data exchange layer X-tee (Estonian instance of X-Road)
 - 3000 digital services
 - 225 million request per month via X-tee
- From 2004 since now Estonian public sector organisations use security framework ISKE
 - based on previous approach of BSI IT Grundscutz
 - BSI ITG changed their approach at 2017

What should be the criterias or requirements of the information security management standard for public sector organisations?

• RQ1: How to find the national states requirements to the ISMS standard?

• RQ2: How to use these requirements when developing the national ISMS standard?

Requirements elicitation



Source: https://ncsi.ega.ee/

- NCSI database
- Cybersecurity strategies and implementation plans of EU countries
 - GR, CZ, LT, ES, BE, FI, SK, HR, FR, LV, PL,
 NL
- Requirements for security standard or guidelines
- Similar requirements aggregation (15 requirements)
- Requirements grouping into modules:
 - National Security module
 - Content Module
 - Assessment Module

Requirements elicitation results

National Security Module

N1 Developer and Jurisdiction

N2 Development financing

N3 Licence conditions

N4 Language

N5 Update Cycle

Content Module

C1 Scope

C2 ISMS Compliance

C3 Basic Controls

C4 Leveled Controls

C5 Risk Management Approach

C6 Technology Dependence

C7 Integrability of local needs

C8 Controls Approach

Assessment Module

A1 Auditability

A2 Certification Schema

Requirements

Req	Requirement	Requirement description	Country Code			
ID						
National security module						
N1	Developer and jurisdiction	Standard should take into account EU and	FI, GR, LT, HR			
		NATO regulations.				
N2	Development financing	It should be possible to influence the devel-	FI, GR, LT			
		opment of the standard by national author-				
NO		ity.	E. I.T.			
N3	Licence conditions	Standard should be freely available to all	FI, LT			
NI 4	Lanauran	national implementer.	DE OD IT IV			
N4	Language	Standard should be available in national	BE, GR, LT, LV			
NE	Hadata avala	language.	BE ES OB HB			
N5	Update cycle	Standards should be improved continu-	BE, ES, GR, HR			
		ously/regularly.				
	nt module					
C1	Scope	Standard should be usable by pub-	BE, CZ, ES, FI, GR,			
		lic/private sector organisations information	LT, LV, PL, SK, HR			
		systems / processes / assets / critical in-				
		frastructure.				
C2	ISMS compliance	Standard should be compliant with interna-	BE, CZ, ES, FI, FR,			
		tionally recognised standards / frameworks	GR, LT, HR			
	Dania controla	/ best practices.	DE 07 E0 EL 0D			
C3	Basic controls	Standard should include basic/minimum	BE, CZ, ES, FI, GR,			
0.4	Laurate di annimata	security controls/measures.	LT, LV, PL, NL, HR			
C4	Leveled controls	It should be possible to implement the stan-	CZ, ES, FI, GR, LT,			
		dard controls/measures depending on the	LV, PL, HR			
C5	Risk management ap-	security level. Standard should include risk management.	BE, CZ, ES, GR, LT,			
05	Risk management ap- proach	Standard should include risk management.	LV, SK, HR			
C6	Technology dependence	Standard should be technology-	PL			
	3, 10,	independent.				
C7	Integrability of local needs	It should be possible to adapt the standard	GR, PL			
		with the national technological needs.				
C8	Controls approach	It should be possible to change the content	FI, GR, LT, PL			
		of the standard by national authority.				
Asses	ssment module					
A1	Auditability	Standard implementations should be audit-	BE, CZ, ES, FI, GR,			
	,	able/assessable.	LV, PL, SK, HR, NL			
A2	Certification Schema	Standard should be certifiable for being in	GR, PL, HR, NL			
		compliance with recognized standards.	,,,			

ISMS standards comparison example

Req	ISO27001	CIS20	BSI ITG					
ID								
	National security module							
N1	International Standardisation	Centre for Internet Security (US	Federal Office for Information Se-					
	Organisation (Switzerland), globally recognised	based non-profit organisation), US industrial, wide adoption	curity (BSI) (Germany), German national EU jurisdiction					
N2	National bodies participate in	Contributors: US agencies,	Publicly reviewed contributions.					
	development and finance ISO. Sale of standards. [25]	commercial partners. Financ- ing: donations, grants, paid programs, product sales [26]	Financing: German Gov.					
N3	User based fee (also to trans- lated versions)	Free for registered users, Creative Commons	Free download					
N4	20+ languages	English, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, Lithuanian, Estonian	German, English					
N5	5 year cycle	No exact rule, expectation is yearly update	Every February 1st					
Conte	nt module							
C1	No limitations	No limitations	No limitations					
C2	Officially compliant with ISO/IEC Management system standards, Management system standards adopted from Annex SL of ISO/IEC Directives, Consolidated ISO Supplement.	ISO 27001, NIST Framework [23]	ISO 27001					
C3	Requirements mandatory, objectives with justified exclusions	User profile Implementation Group (IG) based basic require- ments	Basic protection					
C4	No	Three IG based levels	Standard and High level					
C5	Mandatory. Guidelines: ISO/IEC 27005, ISO 31000	Guidelines: CIS RAM, ISO 27005, NIST SP 800-39, RISK IT (ISACA)	Embedded. Extension: BSI Standard 200-3: Risk Manage- ment					
C6	No	No	User profile based technology modules					
C7	Through risk management, local implementation	Through risk management, local implementation	Through risk management, cen- tral new technical modules devel- opment. Process modules are compliant to German regulations					
C8	Control objectives (14) and controls (114). Related: ISO27000 series (50+ standards). Important: ISO/IEC 27000, ISO/IEC 27002, ISO/IEC 27003, ISO/IEC 27004, ISO/IEC 27005	Security mode: 3 Implementa- tion Groups. Controls (20), sub- controls (171). Related: CIS Controls TM, CIS RAM	Security mode: Basic, Standard, Core. Security catalogue: process and technical modules(5+5), Submodules (94), 1680+ requirements and measures in modules. Related: IT-Grundschutz Compendium; standards BSI 200-1, 200-2,200-3; BSI 100-4					
Asses	Assessment module							
A1	External audit based on ISO 27007	Self-assessment or auditing based on ISO27001 or other standards	External audit					
A2	Based on ISO 27006, ISO 27007, ISO 27008	No	Based on ISO27001 require- ments and BSI methodology					

Estonian Case

Most suitable

Suitable

Suitable with some exceptions

Not suitable

Req	Estonian Requirements	ISO27001	CIS20	BSI ITG
National security module				
N1	Standard should enable the baseline security to fulfil requirements			
	of national and international regulations like GDPR, NIS-directive,			
NO	etc. [17].			
N2	Standard should be flexible enough to add national content, measures or modules [19].			
N3	Standard should be available free of charge [19].			
N4	The standards must transfer Estonian language and culture, i.e.			
	be in correct language, terminologically validated and compiled for			
	Estonians [17, 18]. Correct language and consistent terminology			
	should be used and validated [19].			
N5	Standard should be updated regularly/yearly [19, 17].			
Content module				
C1	Information security should be integrated widely in all type of or-			
	ganisations and their processes [17]. Standard should be extend-			
	able for all public administration and industry organisations [17].			
	Standard should support public sector business processes [19].			
C2	Standard should be based on an European or internationally			
	recognised standards and practices [17, 6]. In case of a trans-			
	lation adoption, the standard should retain the connections with			
	original document sets [19].			
C3	Standard should help optimising risk management by providing			
	predefined measures for typical solutions [19].			
C4	mplementation process should enable levels of implementations			
	- the base implementation and advanced levels based on security			
	requirements [19].			
C5	Standard should use and adopt risk based approach for informa-			
	tion and network security management [17].			
C6	All technologies should be given equal opportunities regardless of			
	the platform [17].			
C7	The obligation to use Estonian based technological solutions.			
	Therefore, the standards must enable and propagate the use of			
-00	X-tee and Estonian public key infrastructure (PKI) solutions. [19]			
C8	Standard should be flexible enough to add national content, mea-			
	sures or modules [19].			
Assessment module				
A1	Standard should allow audit-ability [19].			
A2	-	-	-	-

- Limitations
 - Different detail and maturity level
 - Differences in requirements importance
- Conclusion
 - Reusable requirements to compare standards or guidelines
 - Each country has to do its decision by itself
 - Suggestion to ENISA to develop EU based security standard

Building blocks of security level evaluation

F4SLE- Framework for Security level Evaluation

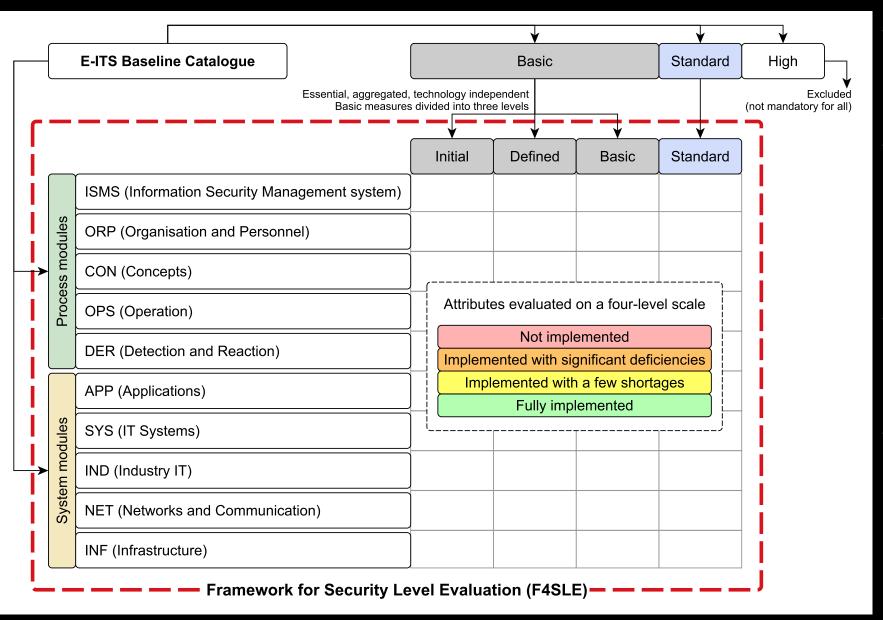
- framework and its principles
- Seeba, M., Mäses, S., Matulevičius, R. (2022). Method for Evaluating Information Security Level in Organisations. In: RCIS 2022. Lecture Notes in Business Information Processing, vol 446. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-05760-1_39
- Content versions http://dx.doi.org/10.23673/re-298; http://dx.doi.org/10.23673/re-372

MUSE - Method for Updating Security Level Evaluation Instruments

- How to update the F4SLE
- process, principles, inputs
- submitted manuscript: Seeba,M., Affia, A.-a.,O., Mäses, S., Matulevičius, R. Create Your Own MUSE: a Method for Updating Security Level Evaluation Instruments

MASS

- tool to use F4SLE
- 2023Master thesis project of Maria Pibilota Murumaa "Designing a tool for security level evaluation framework"
- CHESS mini project
- immidiate results to respondents and sending the aggregated results to central server



INITIAL

The need to deal with information security has been acknowledged and addressed

DEFINED

 Formal processes have been agreed, and the necessary information security supporting documents have been prepared

BASIC

 Practical basic activities have been implemented to manage information security

STANDARD

 There are clear organisational policies and principles.
 Activities are standardised, documented, regular and monitored. There is ongoing monitoring and improvement.

organisation?

Method for Evaluating Information Security Level in Organisations

Mari Seeba¹, Sten Mäses² and Raimundas Matulevičius¹

Requirements for security evaluation framework

cover a wide area of

How to evaluate the level of information security in the

RO1: What are the requirements of the security evaluation RQ2: How to conduct the evaluation of security level?
RQ3: How to use and interpret the results of information security ev

hensive categories should still allow nodifications or additions to the more

plement and understar





- - · For benchmark validation bigger reference group is automated?
 - Benchmark tool and falsification threa · Updating responsibility - clear criterias
 - . Difficulties with interpretation need to know the
 - Generalisation difficultie

Seeba, M., Mäses, S., Matulevičius, R. (2022). Method for Evaluating Information Security Level in Organisations. In: RCIS 2022. Lecture Notes in Business Information Processing, vol 446. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-05760-

Requirements for security evaluation framework

Req. 1: Framework should cover a wide area of security-related topics

- · Procedural and technical measures.
- Comprehensive categories should still allow minor modifications or additions to the more specific topics as the technology evolves.
- Technology independent
- It should be possible to categorise any upcoming security control to an already existing category.

Req. 2: Framework should produce quantifiable and comparable

- Organisation security dynamics observation
- · Evaluation should be based on evidence
- To compare different organisations between each other or against a security benchmark.

Req. 3: Framework should be quick and easy to implement and understand

 While the actual implementation of the security controls might take a long time, the evaluation should be intuitive to follow and take less than 1

Req. 4: Framework should be aligned with a security standard

· Following the standard structure helps to give the measurements a more coherent structure and avoids extra effort done to comply with the

Information Security Evaluation Framework Design

We used the Estonian information security standard (E-ITS) [1] Baseline Catalogue (compliant with ISO27001)

Dimensions of the framework

Ten module groups of E-ITS:

- ISMS, ORP, CON, OPS, DER are procedural,
- INF, NET, SYS, APP, IND are system based technical modules.

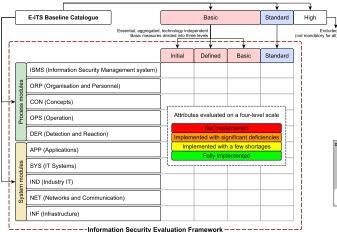
Framework levels

E-ITS measures are ordered Basic, Standard and High. Exclusion of High to include only mandatory part. E-ITS Basic divided into three levels:

1. Initial Level - organisation solves its security ad hoc and on a

Allows the organisation to deal with unknown risks by

need-based 2. Defined Level - formal compliance documentation requirements 3. Basic level - processes taking place Standard level - equals with E-ITS Standard security measures. significantly reducing their potential impact and loss.



Attributes of the Framework

Respondent could find evidence for each attribute implementation status.

Evaluation scale for attributes

Four-level scale

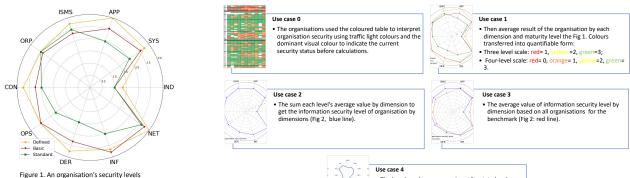
- · quantifies the dynamics of organisation security even in the case of minor changes
- forces the respondent to decide whether the situation is somewhat positive or rather negative.

Example fragment of framework content



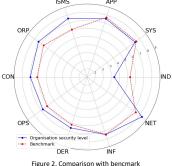
Framework with its full content is available at [2].

Interpretation Use Cases

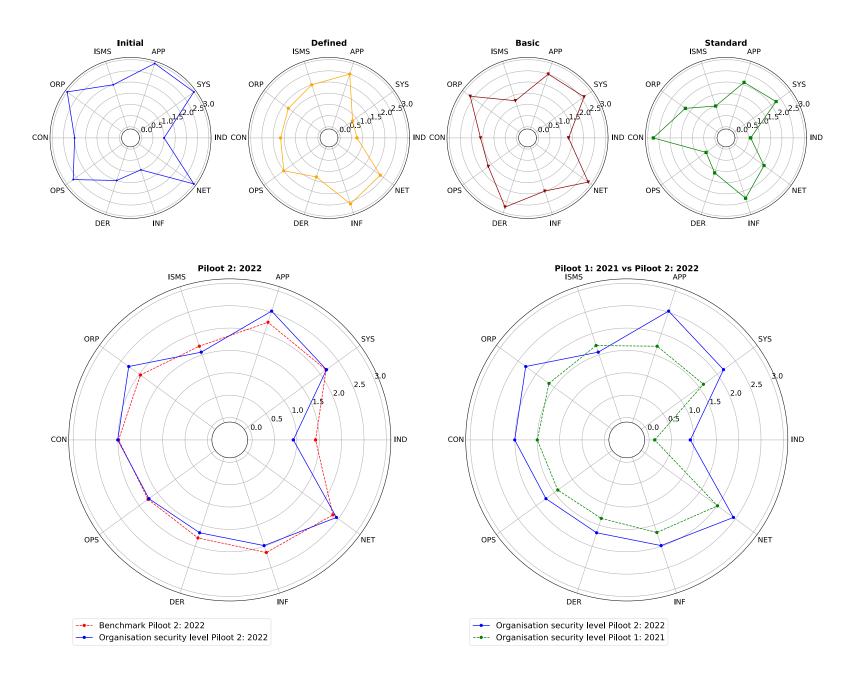


Demonstration and evaluation

· The benchmark usage as an input for state-level political and strategical decisions



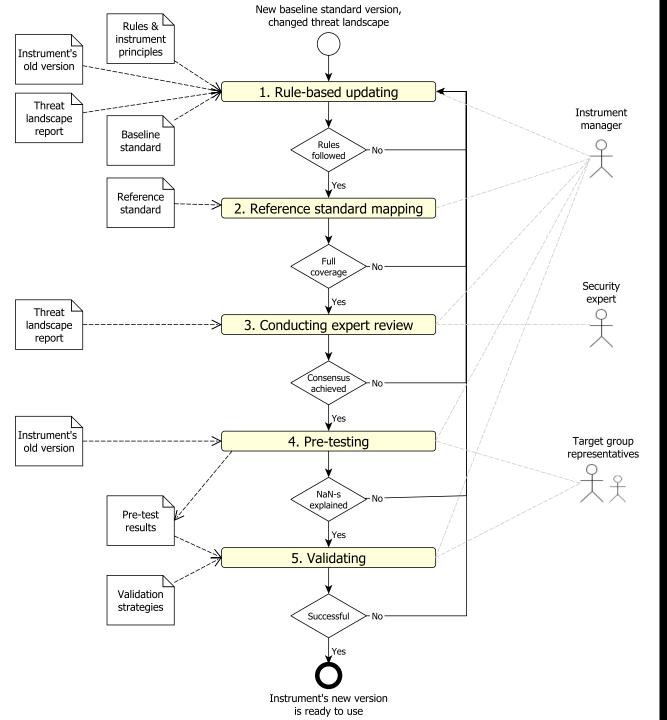
Limitations



How to update security level evaluation instrument attributes in a way that

- results are comparable
- in long-term for all use cases
 - organisation level,
 - benchmark providing,
 - central view?

Method to update security evaluation instrument **MUSE**



- Baseline
 - Source of attributes security controls, principles, regular updateing
 - E-ITS 2022
- Threat landscape report (attributes relevance):
 - ENISA Threat Landscape Report 2022,
 - RIA annyal cybersecurity book (2023 predictions)
- Reference standard
 - fixed scope:
 - ISO27002:2022

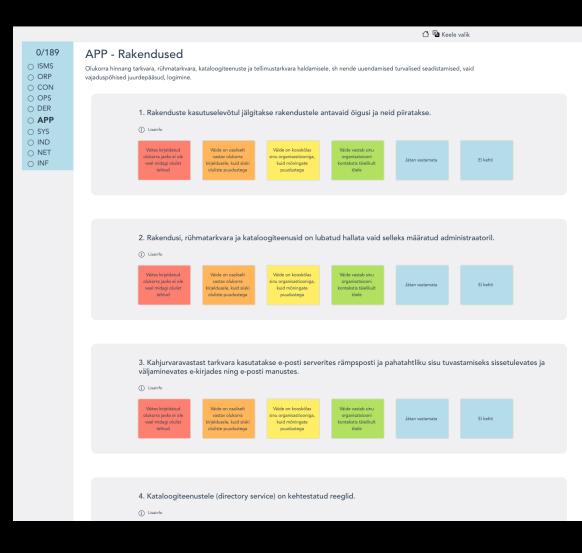
MS Word MS Excel MASS Tool

MASS – web based tool to simplify F4SLE usage

- Privacy principle raw data does not leave from the respondent
- Only aggregated data will be sent to the server
- Immediate results to respondent
- Benchmark creation based on aggregated data

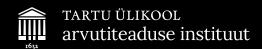
Test environment: https://mass.cloud.ut.ee/test-massui/#/

Production environment: https://mass.cloud.ut.ee/massui/#/



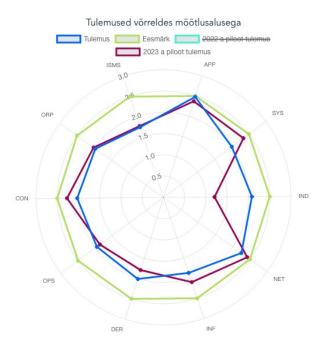






Tulemus

Salvesta detailsed vastused kohalikule Salvesta kokkuvõtte metaandmed kohalikule



< 0.75 ALUSTATUD

Head praktikaid pole rakendatud, riske pole teadvustatud, juhtkond pole initsiatiivi võtnud. Turvetegevused on juhuslikud ja pigem algatatud rohujuure tasandil.

>=0.75 ja <1.5 DEFINEERITUD

Protsessid ja tegevused on alustatud, kui toimuvad ad hoc. Dokumendid on koostatud, kuid osaliselt vananenud või ei vasta tegelikkusele.

>=1.5 ja <2.25 PÕHITURVE

Praktikad toimivad, on dokumenteeritud, ressursid plaanitud, rollid ja kohustused jaotatud. Tegevuste regulaarsus pole veel saavutatud.

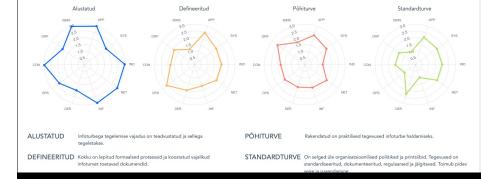
>2.25 STANDARDTURVE

On selged üle organisatsioonilised poliitikad ja printsiibid. Tegevusi seiratakse ja need on jälgitavad, tegevused on standardiseeritud ja dokumenteeritud. Toimub pidev parendamine. Erandeid seiratakse.

- CON Olukorra hinnang asutuse infoturbe aluskontseptsioonidele, mida kõik muud teemavaldkonnad kasutavad, sh varundamiste, arhiveerimiste, arendustööde korraldus, isikuandmete kaitse põhimõtted ja krüptograafiaga seotud protseduurid ning teadlikkus, lisaks ka andmevahetuspartnerite andmevahetuskokkulepped.
- ORP Olukorra hinnang infoturbe korralduslikule poolele, sh arvutite ja muude seadmete kasutamisega seotud reeglid, personalipoliitika, identiteedi- ja pääsuõiguste haldus ning koolitused.
- ISMS Olukorra hinnang infoturbe halduse süsteemi loomisele ja korraldusele asutuses, sh juhtkonna kaasatus, vastutuste jaotus ja ressursside eraldamine, varade kaardistus.
- APP Olukorra hinnang tarkvara, rühmatarkvara, kataloogiteenuste ja tellimustarkvara haldamisele, sh nende uuendamised turvalised seadistamised, vaid vajaduspõhised juurdepääsud, logimine.
- SYS Olukorra hinnang riistvaralisetele lahendustele nagu serverid, arvutid, tahvlid, telefonid, irdandmekandjad, virtualiseerimislahendused ja nende haldamine (sh seadistus ja seire toimimine ning korraldus).

- IND Olukorra hinnang tööpinkide juhtarvutite, sensorite, robotite, labori- ja diagnostikaseadmete, laosüsteemite jms tööstuse IT ja automaatika turvalisele haldamisele (seadistused ja seire) ning ohutusele.
- NET Olukorra hinnang võrgu, võrgukomponentide ja telefoniside haldamisele, arvutivõrgu projektide ajakohasusele, regulaarsele uuendamisele ja vananenud ning ebaturvaliste lahenduste vältimisele (algparoolid ja tootja toeta lahendused).
- INF Olukorra hinnagu hoonete, ruumide, kaabelduste, mobiilsete töökohtade, sõidukite IT lahenduste, sh tarkade majade haldamisele turbe seisukohast. Arvesse võetakse hoonete tuleohutusnõuete täitmist, kaitstavate ruumide erivajadusi ja asukohta ruumiplaneeringus ning nutitaristu lülitamist asutuse ülese turvapoliitika koosseisu.
- DER Olukorra hinnang turvaintsidentide haldusele, seotud tegevustele (sh IT kriminalistika), auditite läbiviimisele ja valmisolek avariidega toimetulemiseks (sh nendega seotud õppused).
- OPS Olukorra hinnang asutuse IT käitamise haldamisele sõltumata konkreetsest riist- või tarkvarast ja võrgus komponendist. Siia kuulub ka pilvteenuste ja kaugtöö haldamise ja dokumenteerimisega seonduv.

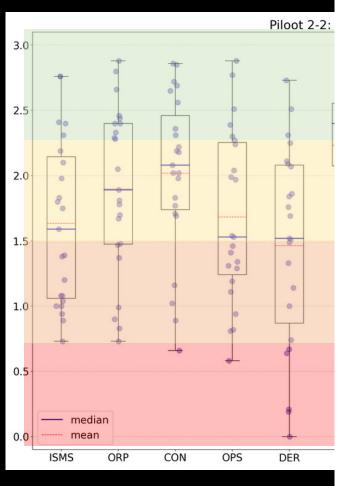
Organisation result

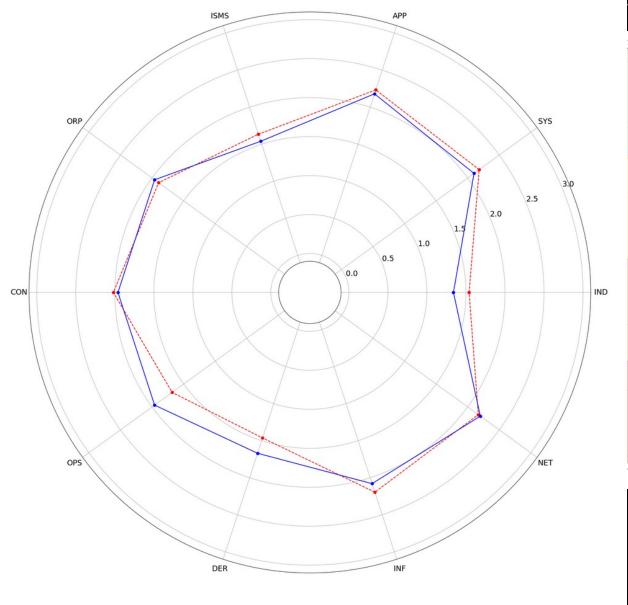


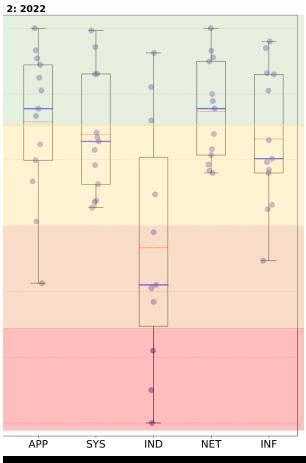
What to do with the results?

- Preparing for audit
 - Input to security implementation plan, priorities
 - Management review input
 - Security dynamics monitoring
 - Understanding the standard
- Partners assessment (sh X-tee teenused)
 - Partner self-assessment / auditor tool
- Central analysis
 - Industry based benchmark
 - Input to plan supporting activities
 - Monitor the changes









---- Benchmark Piloot 2-2: 2023 → Benchmark Piloot 2022

Conclusion

- Requirements of choosing standard
- Implementing requires evaluation
- Evaluation instrument needs updating

Estonian case

