Potential

For European Digital Identity

**Co-funded by
the European Union**

POTENTIAL :
implementing
European Digital
Identity Wallets

POTENTIAL European
Consortium (2023-2025)
Review & Prospects

EDITORIAL

**Anne-Gaëlle Baudouin,
Director of France Titres -
French authority for secured documents**

POTENTIAL is one of the four large-scale pilot projects launched as part of the Digital Europe Programme and of the strategy for the 2030 digital decade. Its aim? To develop and test six everyday use cases on a large scale for tomorrow's Digital Identity Wallet, for use in the EU and in Ukraine. The project meets a growing need for reliable, secure, interoperable identification in an increasingly digital world. Anne-Gaëlle Baudouin, Director of France Titres - the French authority for secured documents, looks back over two years of European work and the milestones to come.

How would you sum up these two years of work?

Between 2023 and 2025, we witnessed an extraordinary level of effort from public and private players to develop a secure, interoperable **common European Digital Identity Wallet model.** To steer this work, the European Commission published an Architecture and Reference Framework (ARF), a common technical approach to ensure compatibility between countries. **The Consortium then worked on six use cases.** It voted on and developed implementation acts, delivered its initial specifications, and organized large-scale testing - first on a national level, then cross-border. The final major project meeting, to be held in Prague in June 2025, marks the end of the pilot... and the beginning of the next phase.

What was the Consortium's greatest achievement?

The greatest achievement has been the quality of European cooperation. A total of 155 public and private partners, from 19 Member States and Ukraine, worked together, despite highly-varied legal, technical and organizational realities. We carried out interoperability testing over a short space of time, with very clear, positive results: for example, during initial testing of presenting digital identification documents, 5AA transactions were completed successfully. Furthermore, the tests that proved inconclusive nevertheless enabled us to develop our solutions further to be able to complete the following tests. This shows that a common framework is not just possible, but also realistic.

What's planned post-POTENTIAL?

POTENTIAL comes to an end mid-2025, but that's only a milestone. **The project has given us a test infrastructure, practical tools and proven methodology.** These assets will help drive what is to come: other Europe-wide pilot projects are planned for autumn and will continue to pave the way for rolling out European Digital Identity Wallets in 2026 and 2027, in line with the eIDAS 2.0 Regulation.

The ambition remains the same: **to enable European citizens to access public and private services online, everywhere in Europe, in a simple, secure way that respects their privacy.** In this new phase, where citizens, individual and institutional users will be actively involved, the aim is to deliver easy-to-use, functional European Digital Identity Wallets.

[1] The eIDAS Regulation facilitates secure cross-border transactions by establishing a framework for digital identity and authentication. It aims to create confidence in electronic interactions and promote seamless digital services in the EU.

AT A GLANCE
POTENTIAL is…

19 countries involved

18 EU Member States + Ukraine, all united around a common goal: to test the Digital Identity Wallet's everyday uses.

155 partner institutions

Authorities, Ministries, service providers, digital players… both public and private.

a30 month project

POTENTIAL was launched in July 2023 and will end in September 2025.

3900+ Interoperability testing

Test campaigns were carried out remotely and on site in several EU cities to validate that different use cases worked and were interoperable.

Key dates

14 December 2022 - Successful applicant
The European Commission selected the POTENTIAL Consortium for its European Digital Identity Wallet.

July 2023 - Launch in Paris
First Board of Beneficiaries meeting, which launched the project and brought together 174 participants from 20 different countries.

29-30 April 2024 - Board of Beneficiaries in Athens
Second Board of Beneficiaries meeting to review the situation and tailor the Consortium's work.

May 2024 - First remote tests
130 participants, 7 weeks of testing (6 May to 23 June) with the other pilot projects to validate the first interoperability protocols.

3-4 February 2025 - First cross-border tests in peer-to-peer mode in Warsaw
159 tests carried out between 15 national wallets and 20 services.

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26-27 May 2025 - Interoperability testing in Vilnius
Over 1,300 tests were carried out between 34 public and private entities, 249 cross-border compatibility results.

June 2025 - Board of Beneficiaries in Prague
Third and final Board of Beneficiaries meeting.

End 2026
Obligation for EU Member States to offer their citizens a Digital Identity Wallet.

End 2027
Obligation for private companies to recognize their customers' Digital Identity Wallets.

STANDARDIZING, TESTING, DOCUMENTING:
POTENTIAL's key missions

Before rolling out everyday uses, POTENTIAL first of all created the technical conditions to ensure they would be feasible. The project players developed common architecture, establishing European standards, then tested various scenarios under conditions that were close to reality.

1 Creating a common base

From the moment it was launched, POTENTIAL was rooted in the **eIDAS 2 Regulation,** by helping draft the Architecture and Reference Framework (ARF). This common technical framework ensures cross-Europe security, interoperability and trust.

The Consortium built on this to implement **EUDI Wallet Reference Implementation,** based on scalable architecture and reusable components.

To support testing, a collaborative environment was created: the **Playground**. This space, open to everyone (public and private players), is used to test the interoperability of digital identity solutions and those of service providers, to integrate simulated interfaces (stubs) and to provide field feedback useful for updating standards.

Example
A first interoperability testing event, held in Warsaw in February 2025, validated technical connections between 15 Digital Identity Wallets from 14 countries and service providers.

2 Testing everyday use cases

Alongside the technical work, POTENTIAL teams developed 6 use cases. Once the groundwork had been completed, POTENTIAL simulated realistic digital identity use scenarios by rolling out six use cases. Aim: to ensure that exchanges were seamless, secure and compatible between applications and services for the future European Digital Identity Wallet.

The six use cases developed and tested by POTENTIAL:
- Connect to online governmental procedures and services (eGov)
- Bank account opening
- Sim / eSIM card registration
- Mobile driving licence (mDL)
- Qualified eSignature (QES)
- ePrescription

Example
Over 1,000 transactions related to these uses were successfully tested between public and private partners from 14 different countries in Vilnius, in May 2025.

Discover the 6 use cases in detail

GLOSSARY
of key terms

Implementing Act
An implementing act is a **non-legislative act laying down detailed rules** allowing the uniform implementation of legally binding Union acts.

ARF - Architecture and Reference Framework
Technical framework defined by the European Commission to ensure that wallets developed by the different countries are interoperable. It formalizes the common exchange, identification and security rules.

Board of Beneficiaries
Three on-site meetings with all beneficiaries during the project, **PCC (Project Coordination Committee), WPL (Work Package Leads) and UCL (Use Case Leads).** These meetings, POTENTIAL's largest gatherings, are organized as events and focus on reporting, exchange between partners and discussion with external players (European Commission, eID sector) on project developments and cross-border testing of the six use cases.

eIDAS 2.0
European regulation adopted in 2024 governing digital identity across the European Union. It requires that each Member State offer its citizens a Digital Identity Wallet by end 2026, and that private players recognize said wallets by end 2027. It also provides for a certification framework and common standards for wallets.

Interoperability
The ability for wallets and services to interact together, irrespective of the countries or the providers involved. Through this, a citizen can, for example, use a wallet developed in one country to access an online service in another.

Interop Event / Hackathon
Events (held remotely or on site) bringing together technical teams from several countries to test wallet interoperability and troubleshoot any issues. Examples: the Warsaw event (February 2025) and the remote event held in May-June 2024.

Playground
Controlled testing environment, used by technical teams to ensure that wallets and services interact correctly before being rolled out.

Digital Identity Wallet
Secure, State app installed on smartphones (iOS or Android), that allows citizens to prove their identity, share identification documents (e.g.: driving licence, diplomas, insurance certificate, etc.) and to access public and private online services securely and reliably (e.g.: the official France Identité app in France).
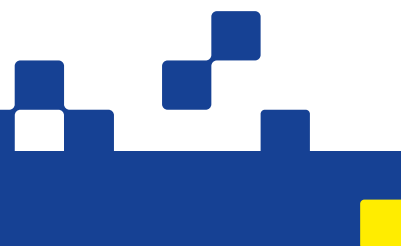
OFFICIAL SITE

www.digital-identity-wallet.eu

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