

# Blockchain in the public sector in Sweden

BLING project 2019-06-17 Göteborg.



# Agenda

- Overview of Swedish public sector - Ministry of Infrastructure and Agency for Digital Development.
- General on blockchain in Swedish public sector.
- Some of the cases.
- Some thoughts/observations.

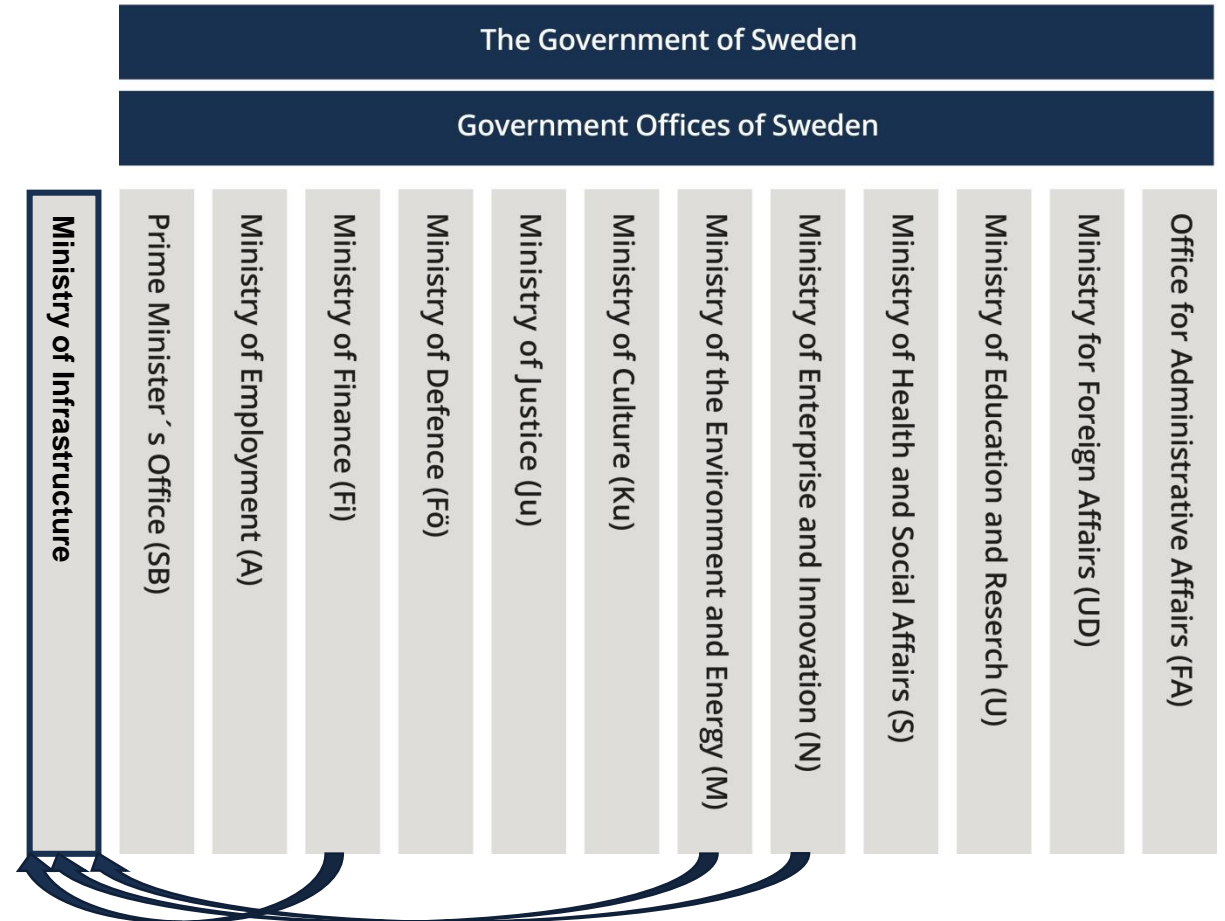
# Overview of the Swedish public sector - Ministry of Infrastructure – Digital development

Decentralised, Delegated, Strong Agencies.



# Organisation

- The Government Offices is the Government's headquarters
- The Government Offices is headed by the Prime Minister
- 4 800 officials, of whom 200 are politically appointed\*



Source: Swedish Government Offices Yearbook 2017

# Ministry of Infrastructure

## Infrastrukturdepartementet



## Goals Parliament

An innovative and collaborative government administration that is legally secure and efficient, has well-developed quality, service and accessibility and thereby contributes to Sweden's development and effective EU work

Sweden should be the best in the world to make use of the possibilities of digitalization

## Goals Government

An easier everyday life for citizens

Opener administration that supports innovation and participation

Higher quality and efficiency in the administration

## Government orientation 2015-2018

Digital should be the first choice in the public administration's activities and in contacts with private individuals and companies

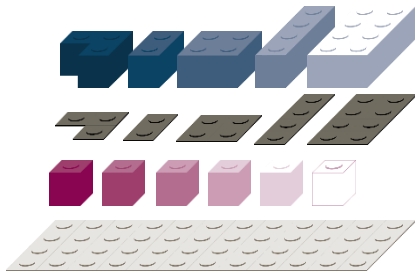


**Digital  
first**



# Priority areas last term

National digital infrastructure



Digital maturity



Digital innovation capability



Legal support for digital development



A new agency – Agency for Digital Government (DIGG)

# Agency for Digital Government (DIGG)





- Started 1 September 2018
- Residence in Sundsvall
- Director-general Anna Eriksson



Anna Eriksson

## Main tasks

- coordinate and support the digitalization of the public administration
- responsible for the common digital infrastructure
- assist the government with a basis for the development of the area
- follow up and analyze the digitalization of the public administration

# Ideas on orientation for this term (2019-2022)



Identified a **need to improve capabilities** within the public administration in order to face the challenges ahead and to reach our goals (ongoing work)

**More efficient**



Make the administration more efficient (re-use)



Explore and use innovative digital solutions

**Safer**



Provide secure and transparent digital service



Collaborate digitally based on user needs

**More open**

**Easier**



Steer and lead the digital transformation

**More effective**



# Blockchain in the Swedish Public Sector



# General

- No specific blockchain law and no proposal for it. Some changes in laws when it comes to crypto – AML.
- No blockchain specific program or course at the university level.
- Quite a lot of research through RISE, Vinnova (Innovation Agency) and some in academia (tech focused).
- A ISO standardisation national mirroring in SIS TK 614 "Blockchain" where the Swedish Tax Agency is a member.
- Swedish network for blockchain/DLTs in public sector.
- There is work on a draft for a national blockchain strategy but nothing is decided yet.

# European Blockchain Partnership

- Strong Swedish delegation in the work on the European Blockchain Services Infrastructure and in the use case groups.
- *Policy group* (Ministry of Infrastructure)
- *Technical group* (Lantmäteriet, RISE)
- *Self Sovereign Identity* (SUNET, the Swedish Companies Registration Office)
- *Notarisation of documents* (the Swedish Enforcement Agency and the Tax Agency)
- *Diplomas* (RISE)

# Some national projects

- The Swedish Tax Agency has been testing blockchain to digitize receipts, for the process of special income tax on non-residents, power of attorney.
- The Swedish Public Employment Service are testing blockchain to verify that a person is still actively seeking work and for paying out the benefit.



# Some national projects

- Förnyelselabbet and Sollentuna municipality are testing a blockchain on the process of getting asylum in Sweden.
- The Swedish Custom Services are part of a DG TAXUD project using a blockchain for exchange of data in the area of excise duties.

# Some national (innovation) projects

- Stockholm County Council has been looking at using blockchain for sharing health data.
- Lantmäteriet did test a blockchain for improving the real estate transfer process.

# Some (my own) thoughts/observations

- Dependency on consultants.
- Different approaches – a way to digitize, a solution to create uniqueness, a solution to improve a process.
- Lots of interest och testing but still no live and running solution that uses a blockchain.

# Some (my own) thoughts/observations

- Governance and very close co-operation between public and private sector is highly difficult..
- The agencies area of operations and change of balance: From being a recipient to an active party from the beginning of a process. Where does the public sector mandate start and end?
- Legal difficulties:  
Specific laws – old, unclear or restrictive.  
General laws such as Public Access to information and secrecy act, GDPR and eIDAS.

# Some (my own) thoughts/observations

- Fundamental questions such as identity and economic models.
- Data in och and connecting physical world to data
- Creating an “ecosystem”. Blockchain as the system or part of the system?
- Procurement.
- Do we really need a blockchain for this?

# Thank you

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