

eInvoicing Public Meeting  
Brussels, 19 June 2008



# **CEN WORKSHOP eInvoicing Phase 2 Taskgroup 4 Intermediary Report**

Friso de Jong, Chairman Task Group 4  
Adrian Mueller, Expert Task Group 4



# Task Group 4:

## Emerging technologies and business processes

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## Task Group 4: The people



- Expert: Adrian Mueller (Dr. Otto Mueller Consulting)
- Chair: Friso de Jong (Platform ELFA)
- Members: Anders Grangard (GS 1 International), Hubert Hohenstein (TecCom GmbH), Wolfgang Eckert (Deutsche Post), Francis Berthomieu (Orange FT Group), Otto Mueller (Dr. Otto Mueller Consulting), Klaus Foerderer (GS1 Germany), Andrea Caccia (Innovery), Peter Potgieser (ABN Amro), Erwann Revolt (Orange FT Group)

## Task Group 4: The main objectives



Main objectives are based on the CEN/ISSS Phase II business case:

(source:[http://www.cen.eu/cenorm/businessdomains/businessdomains/iss/activity/einvoicing\\_2.asp](http://www.cen.eu/cenorm/businessdomains/businessdomains/iss/activity/einvoicing_2.asp))

- *Implementation of compliant electronic invoice systems in using emerging technologies and business processes; this will include issues such as:*
  - *assessment of business processes, i.e. b-2-b trading platforms.*
- *Identification of new and emerging technologies with potential impact on electronic invoices and related business processes*



# The main objectives put in context

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# Task Group 4: main objectives in context



## 1. The CEN/ISSS eInvoice Phase II business case:

(source:[http://www.cen.eu/cenorm/businessdomains/businessdomains/iss/activity/einvoicing\\_2.asp](http://www.cen.eu/cenorm/businessdomains/businessdomains/iss/activity/einvoicing_2.asp))

*‘The objective (..) is to help to fill gaps in standardization [red: interoperability] for the use of electronic invoice processes, to identify the various practices in member states, to integrate the emerging technical and practical solutions into effective best practices, and to define and disseminate these best practices for e-invoices in close coordination and cooperation with private industry, solution providers and public administration.’*

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## Task Group 4: main objectives in context



### 2. Commission decision setting up a Expert Group on eInvoicing:

(source:[ec.europa.eu/internal\\_market/payments/einvoicing/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/payments/einvoicing/index_en.htm))

*‘Its tasks should be to identify business requirements (4) and responsibilities for the execution of specific work, as well as to steer the creation — by the end of 2009 — of a European e-Invoicing Framework to establish a common conceptual structure to support the provision of e-Invoicing services in an open and interoperable manner across Europe.’*

*‘(4) eInvoicing business requirements represent the characteristics that eInvoice services should match in order to satisfy the stakeholders’ business needs and goals, enabling the processes of the entire financial and supply chains. They are expressed in terms of high level process flows, eInvoice information and standard message structure.’*

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## Task Group 4: main objectives in context



### 3. Objectives in the Europe i2010 statement:

(source:[http://www.cen.eu/cenorm/businessdomains/businessdomains/iss/activity/einvoicing\\_2.asp](http://www.cen.eu/cenorm/businessdomains/businessdomains/iss/activity/einvoicing_2.asp))

*'In summary, to launch the i2010 agenda on raising investment in research and innovation the Commission will:[..]*

*Define e-business policies aiming to remove technological, organizational and legal barriers to ICT adoption with a focus on SMEs.[..]*

*The Commission will support these efforts using a limited set of high profile demonstrators to test technical, legal and organizational solutions.'*

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## Task Group 4: main objectives in context



Conclusions on the main objectives of Task Group 4 and its context:

- Both organizational and technical aspects
- Link with legal aspects on eInvoicing: fiscal and trade law compliance
- Creating results with spill over effect towards SEPA, EEIF, i2010
- Definitely synergy with other CEN/ISSS eInvoice Phase II task groups
- But also: careful not to enter into the domains of these task groups

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Q: How is Task Group 4 to meet its  
main objectives?

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# A: By focussing on expected end results



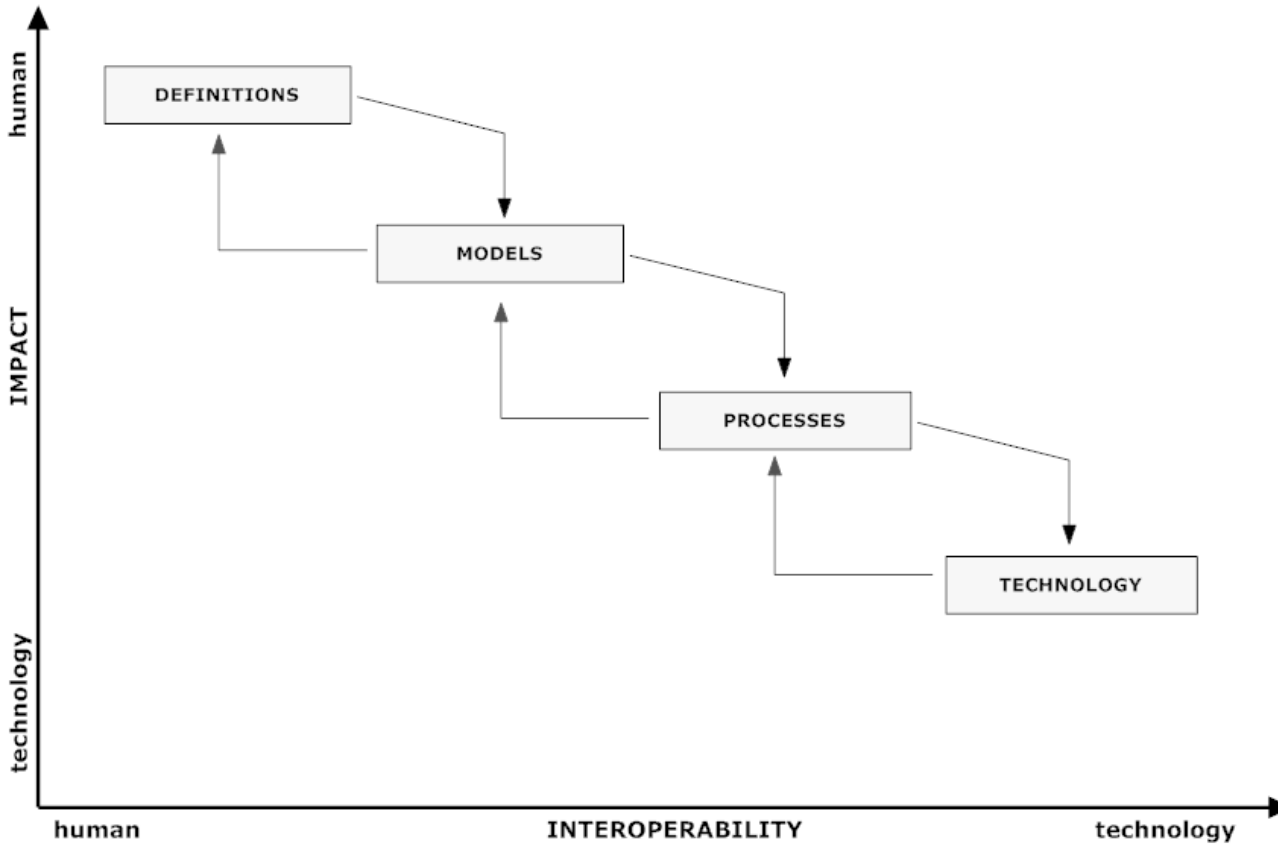
- Recommendations to amend Phase I eInvoicing CWA's (15582, 15576, ...)
- Document containing set of definitions on eInvoicing
- Document containing an implementation guideline for 'compliant electronic invoice systems in using emerging technologies and business processes'
- Document containing possible recommendations for update of the VAT directive or national laws



# The main objectives, context and focus on end result demands for a 'model/framework'

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# Model or framework of Task Group 4



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# Framework step 1: Definitions



- No standardised set of -technology neutral- definitions is available
- Such a set could on its own already create -at least: semantic- interoperability
- A set of definitions could be derived from legal, technical, organisational and common practice inputs:
  - EU Directives
  - Phase I CWA's
  - UN/CEFACT
  - UBL, NES, XAF, XBRL, IDABC (EC programme) eProcurement
  - But also: common usages and best practices

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## Framework step 2: Models



- Broadly defined and technology neutral definitions open the possibility that eInvoicing is performed using different model (and even combinations of them).
- Without being 'wrong' or 'right'!
- Usage of eInvoicing could encompass models like:
  - Seller direct (example: web-portal at seller's side)
  - Buyer direct (example: selfbilling)
  - Consolidator (example: 'mywebportal')
  - Four corner (example: sender>bank>bank>receiver)
  - Invoice processing (example: scanning and workflow)
  - Direct processing (example: sending signed invoices using eMail)

## Framework step 3: Processes



- Broadly defined and technology neutral definitions and then the several models, give a glance at the processes on eInvoicing
- An additional set of processes needs to be added to those already identified in the Phase I CWA's. Such as:
  - Disputing
  - Downloading
  - Print
  - Consenting
  - Presenting
  - Factoring
  - And so on..

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# Framework step 4: Technology

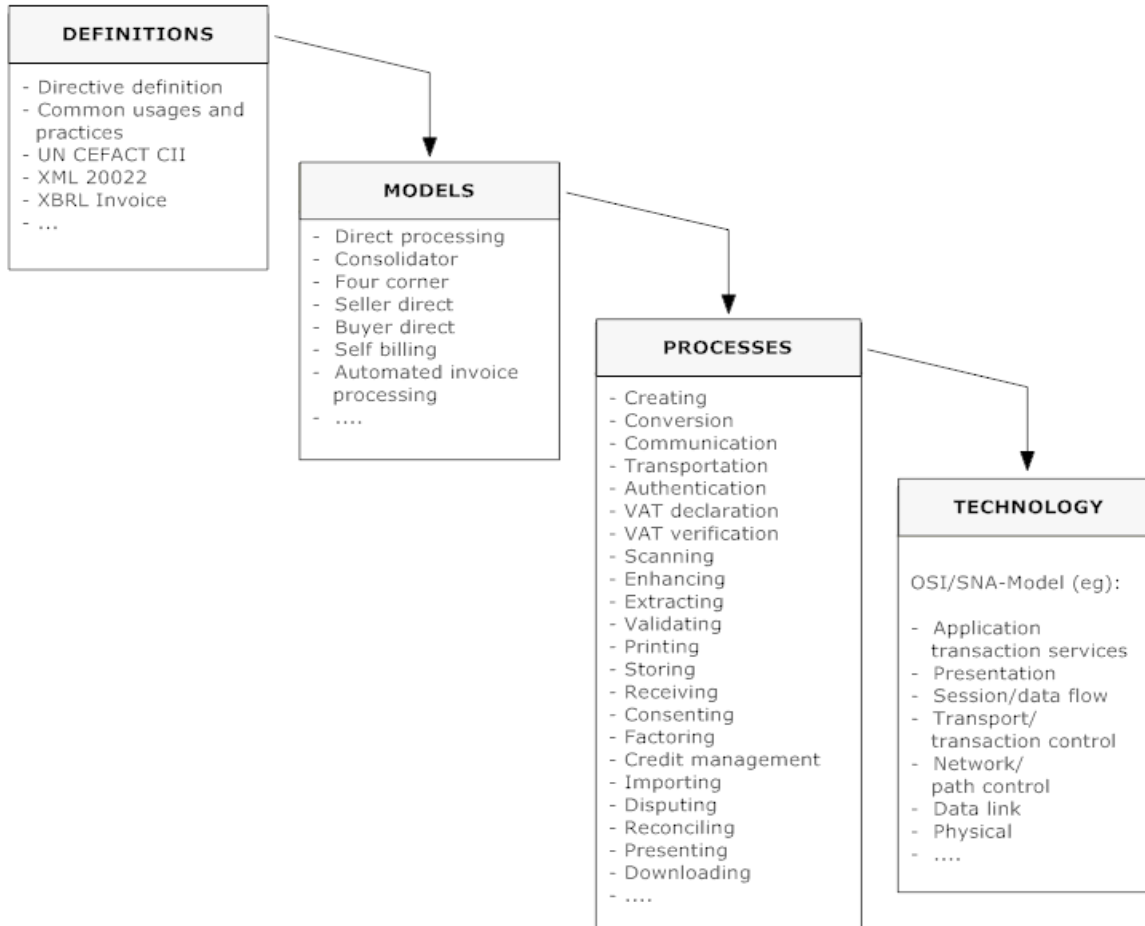


- Technology enables processes enables models influences definitions
- Therefore several aspects of technology have an impact on the processes.
- But what the actual impact is, depends on the nature of this technology. Even better: on the layer where its manifests itself:
  - Architecture (e.g. ebXML)
  - Transmission (e.g. EDIINT AS2)
  - Display (e.g. AJAX)
  - ...

*And this is how it looks in the model>>*

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# Model or framework of Task Group 4



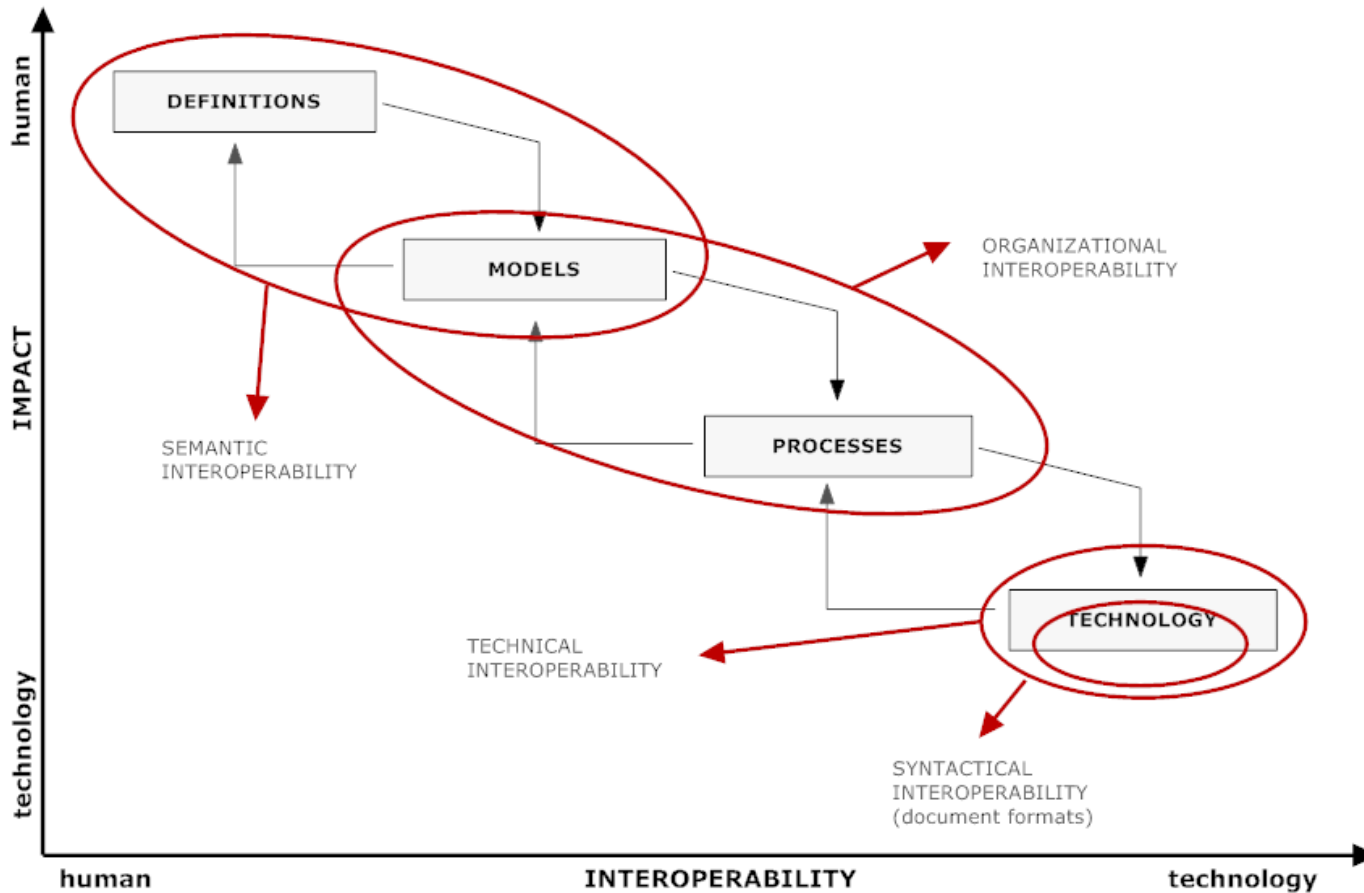
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# Q: How does this framework relate to interoperability issues on eInvoicing\*?

(\*in the Phase II business case, Commission Decision, i2010 declaration, EU Directive)

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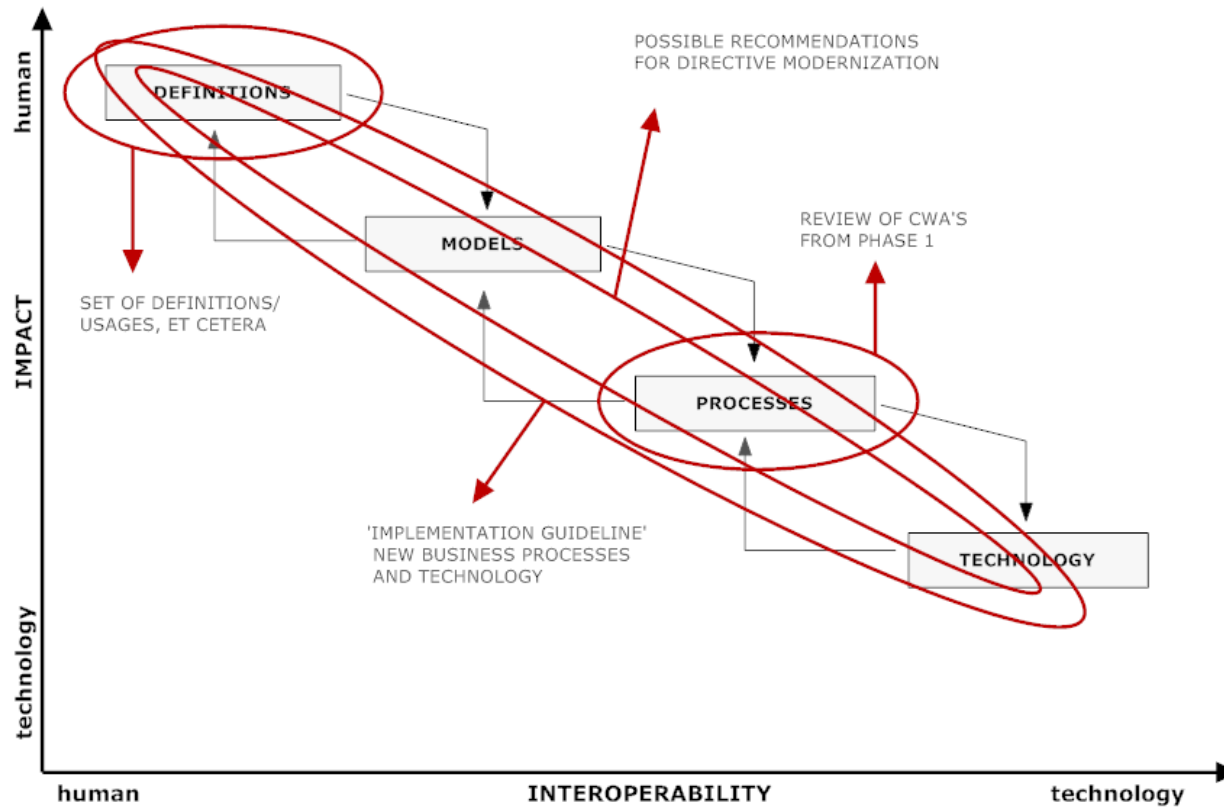
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# Q: How does this framework relate to the expected end results?

(\*in the Phase II business case, Commission Decision, i2010 declaration, EU Directive)

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LINK BETWEEN 'GUIDELINE MODEL' AND 'EXPECTED TASK GROUP 4 END RESULTS'

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# Why are we speaking of new business processes?

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# Example Step 3: New business processes [1]



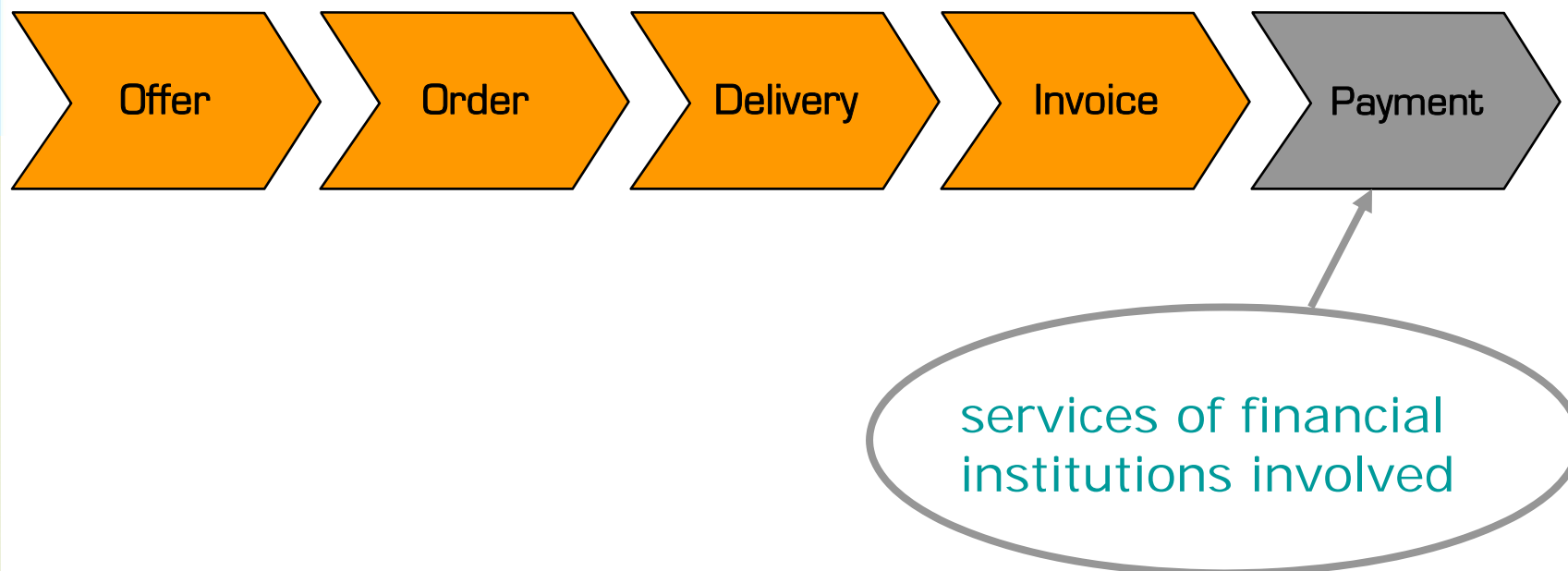
Simplified High Level view of a transaction:



## Example Step 3: New business processes [2]



Traditional process:

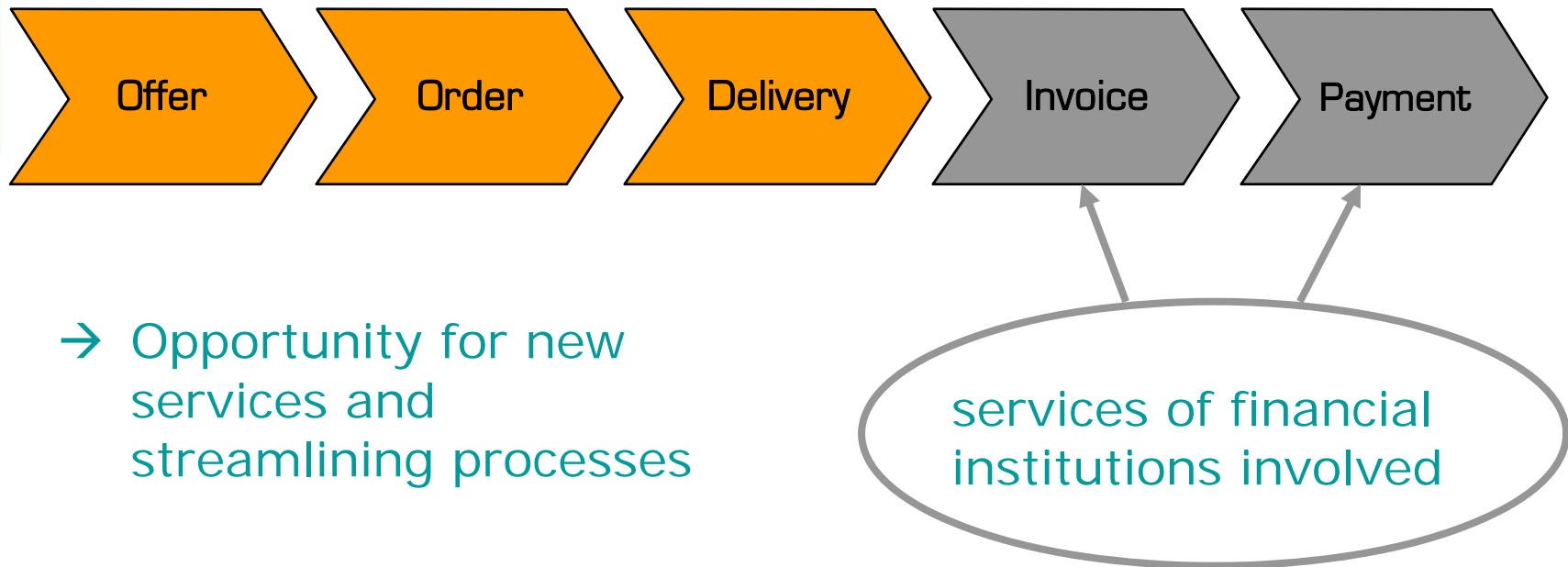


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## Example Step 3: New business processes [3]



Now becomes an automated process:



→ Opportunity for new services and streamlining processes

# Work done/ongoing - Overview:



- Preparatory/supportive
  - Several matrices
  - Inventory of technologies
- Review CWA 15582 “eInvoice Reference Model for EU VAT purposes specification”
- Review of CWA 15576 “Recommendation to allow coded identifiers as an alternative to the current unstructured clear text identifications”
- Best Practices Procedures to CWA 15576
- Collecting definitions on eInvoicing

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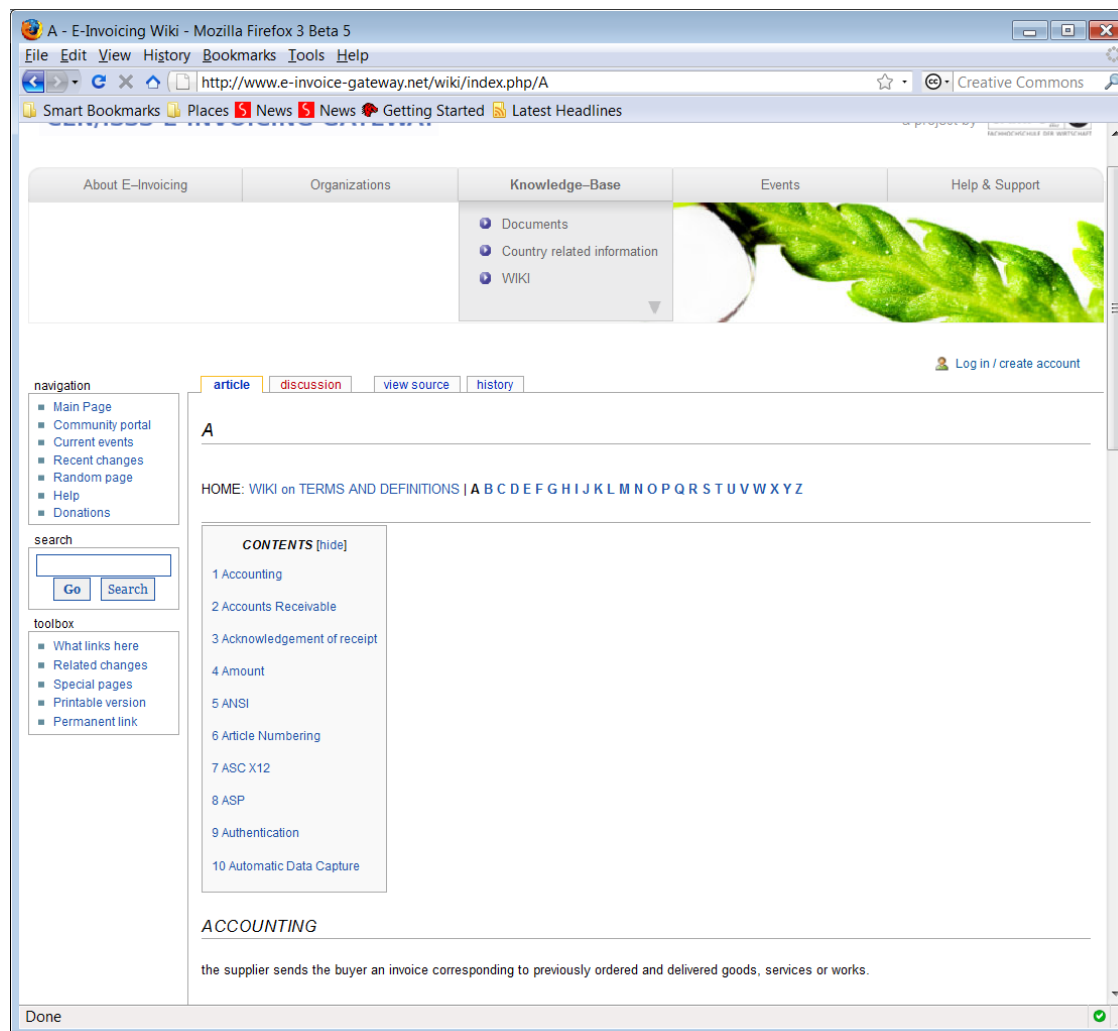
# Work done/ongoing – Example & Synergies



- Review CWA 15582 showed that several basic terms in eInvoicing are not defined sharply. Even the term eInvoicing itself.  
→ Direct connection to the set of definitions
  
- Cooperation with TG1:  
Collected Definitions will be/are published on the eInvoicing WIKI  
→ Ideal Tool for communication with the public

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# eInvoicing WIKI for definitions



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Thanks for the attention

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