



**INFORMATION SYSTEMS
AND INNOVATION GROUP**

Department of Management

Getting identity policy right

Edgar A. Whitley



The Identity Project

an assessment of the UK Identity
Cards Bill and its implications



GLOBAL CHALLENGES FOR IDENTITY POLICIES

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TECHNOLOGY, WORK AND GLOBALIZATION



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Security of system

“ We recognise that the more we share information, the more important it is that people are confident that their personal data is kept safe and secure. This Government has an excellent track record of strengthening individuals’ right to privacy...



'We've lost the disc containing every child's name and address'

e-identity in the UK

- “ General Election 2010: a new Coalition government
 - . Scraps National Identity Scheme
 - . Destroys National Identity Register
 - . Sets up *Identity Assurance* Programme based in the Cabinet Office

Identity management

- “ Principally serves the interests of the owner of the database, for example the Government
 - . Suggests data sharing and database consolidation

Identity assurance

- “ A consumer-led concept, a process that meets an important consumer need *without necessarily providing any spin-off benefits to the owner of any database*
- “ Sir James Crosby: Challenges and opportunities in identity assurance, March 2008

“ UK identity policy must now align with the policy commitments of supporting privacy and citizen empowerment

- . UK identity policy will not be based around a government held register of identities

Leveraging AADHAR in the Telecom Sector



Availability of Proof of Identity / Proof of Address documents in the Indian population

09/04/2012

“ The objectives of inclusion and security can be mutually exclusive at times. Greater security demands stronger subscriber verification measures. Subscribers are verified using know your customer (KYC) documentation, which requires submission of a proof of identify (POI) and proof of address (POA).

“ Individuals lacking these documents get excluded from telecom services or resort to providing fake documents to get access to services. The use of improper identity documentation for telecom connections is common and has been widely reported in the press.

An important consumer need:
Full participation in social,
political and economic life of a
country

“ Legal identity is recognition by the state that the individual exists and is therefore afforded these various rights and responsibilities

Benefits of legal identity

“ Benefit from the rights and protections that are bestowed by the state

- . Education
- . Healthcare
- . Social security
- . Voting
- . Banking and credit
- . Property titles and inheritance

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- . *Legal access to telecom services*

Legal requirements

“ The child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality and, as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents Article 7.1

- . United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

“ Plan International estimates that 51 million children a year are not registered at birth

- . Limited realisation of value of registration
- . Centralised registration
- . Costs of registration
- . Costs of resolving ‘late registrations’
- . Uneven distribution of non-registration

“ For Shaheeda, a young girl from Dhaka, Bangladesh; early parental pressure to get married was an inevitable reality. But a birth certificate which showed she was just 15 years old saved her from getting married too young. She is one of the 40 million people who have benefited in several ways from the universal birth registration campaign, Count Every Child, launched by Plan International in 2005.

Civil Registration in practice

“ Jamaica

- . Birth registration 89% of under 5s
- . Lack of birth certificate excludes individual from high school

Identity policy

- “ Needs to be done right to address issues of exclusion
- “ Primary focus should be the needs of the citizen
- “ If done badly, economic and political consequences