

The Future of SAP S/4HANA in the Public Sector



Sopra Steria has many years of experience in public sector assignments and are fathroughout the project towards S/4HANA, from strategy development to continuous optimization following successful implementation, and attach great importance to a realistic and neutral perspective on feasibility, risk minimization, costs and benefits, so that you can achieve your objectives in a sustainable manner.

Today, cloud computing is increasingly gaining momentum in the business world which is of no surprise to us; cloud computing helps large enterprises achieve increased speed, performance, security and reliability. SAP is a world-renowned software and service provider; they provide enterprise application software. Due to the recent shift in ERP workload to the public cloud, SAP has introduced SAP S/4HANA, the new generation of intelligent ERP.

About SAP S/4HANA

SAP S/4HANA is an integrated and intelligent ERP system that runs on the SAP HANA database. It has been tagged as the biggest update to SAP's ERP strategy in over 20 years. It helps businesses to effectively perform day-to-day activities such as procure-to-pay, request for service, order-to-cash, etc. and it also features the new SAP Fiori user interface experience

3 Options are to be considered for S/4HANA implantation:

- S/4HANA public cloud: That version is the simpler and standardized version of S/4HANA. Only few customizations are available on the backend. That version implied quarterly automatic upgrades. The advantages of that version a drastic reduction of the operating cost and a continuous innovation leaded by the upgrades.
- S/4HANA multi-tenant edition: That version give more access to the customizations and gives some enhancement points in the backend. Automatic upgrades are executed semi-annually.
- S/4 HANA can also be installed in your own data center or at a cloud provider (AWS, Microsoft Azure, ...). This option gives you the possibility to fully manage your SAP landscape in a more flexible way, but with bigger operating costs.

All these options can be easily integrated with SAP SAAS (Hybris, Fieldglass, Concur, Success Factors, ...)



SAP S/4HANA in the Public Sector



How can Sopra Steria help or assist you ?

Many users of SAP's Business Suite are currently wondering about the transition to S/4HANA, such as:

At what changes and costs will I be faced?

In realistic terms, what advantages will this transition to S/4 HANA bring me?

What is the preferable option to between greenfield and brownfield?

How do I proceed to migrate without business interruption and to ensure proper integration into the existant application landscape?

What are the key success factors of a transfer project and how can I minimize the risks of such projets?

A lot of questions have been asked about the future of SAP S/4HANA especially in the public sector, such as; what are the merits of transitioning to S/4HANA? Also, what is the financial cost attached to this transition? Which is the most accurate transition approach? What impact will it have, will it be disruptive?

Some features of the On-Premise SAP S/4HANA Public Sector include:

- Operative uniformity between the SAP S/4HANA and SAP ERP applications.
- Improved Data model for budgets
- Maximization of codes
- SAP Fiori applications to enhance the user experience of the public sector using the SAP S/4HANA
- Availability of funds and grants management fields for analysis and reports

The question being frequently asked is whether organizations in the public sector should adopt the S/4HANA, fact is, quite several enterprises in the public sector are working on complex finance and accounting structures, therefore transforming to SAP S/4HANA is the ideal move.

The great news is; SAP ERP users have until 2025 to switch to S/4HANA. While 2025 might feel like a long time from now, it is advisable for companies to gradually start the transitioning process. Enterprises have two basic options while switching. The first is called the Greenfield approach which can be utilized when the organization decides to re-implement SAP from scratch (mandatory for the SAP cloud versions). The second is the Brownfield approach which involves the organization converting from SAP to S/4HANA. For this approach there are many tools available for free (on ERP, S/4 HANA and SAP Support Portal) like:

- SAP Readiness Check for SAP S/4 HANA, self service from SAP Support Portal
- Check your SAP code with ABAP test Cockpit
- Custom code Fiori App (requires a S/4 HANA 1809 or higher)
- Simplification Item Checks (ABAP program)

The benefits of SAP S/4HANA

Public Sectors can take advantage of this innovative technology to meet the increasing demand of clients and improve the quality of customer services. SAP S/4HANA can also be employed to strengthen finance teams. Also, S/4HANA machine learning and predictive analysis can be used to observe, improve and control the overall performance of the organization.

You can smoothly run your IT management with S/4HANA to improve drive efficiency and establish business continuity. S/4HANA can also help you protect your information assets by detecting business threats and eliminate them hence enhancing enterprise security.

The S/4HANA database solutions are the best way to store data in real-time. It also offers real-time analysis of given data. This way, company procedures can be reformed with intelligent automation. Better and faster decisions are guaranteed with embedded analytics and digital assistants.

The new SAP S/4HANA innovation will deliver updated and excellent services to the public sector hereby improving customer experience and satisfaction. Use HANA as a vehicle for new service delivery in the areas of proximity and citizen participation (e. g. e-government), quality of life improvement and transport (e. g. real-time measurement and control of traffic flows) or safety and environment (e. g. through intelligent street lighting management).



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