

## EPIF Business Models

### July 2022

<i>Business Model</i>	<i>Description</i>
Three-Party Card Network Schemes	Issuance of payments on behalf of cardholders and acquiring of payments on behalf of merchants. Operates in a “closed-loop”, whereby three-party schemes have access to information at both ends of the card transaction.
E-Money Providers	Issuance of electronic money
E-Payment Gateways	Financial Institution enabling an online transaction. It links merchants with card networks and payment processors for payment processing. A PSP provides a merchant account and payment gateway for the collection and management of payments. A Payment Gateway is a software behind credit card transactions between a merchant and their customer.
Money Transfer Operators	Provision of global remittance services involving a worldwide network of agents, ATMs and electronic channels and a large range of smaller institutions that specialise in sending funds across particular migration corridors or via digital channels.
Acquirers	Financial Institution that processes card or alternative payments on behalf of a retail clients (merchants, marketplaces, payment facilitators). Acquirers exchange funds with issuing banks on behalf of the merchant via the payment scheme, and pays the merchant for its daily payment activity's net balance - that is, gross sales minus reversals, interchange fees (for cards only), and acquirer fees. An acquirer may also provide merchants with the necessary equipment, for example payment terminals, so that merchants can accept payments from account holders
Digital Wallets	Software, an electronic device, or an online service that enables individuals or businesses to make transactions electronically. It stores the payment information of users for different payment modes on various websites, along with other items such as gift coupons and driver's licenses.
FX Payment Providers and Operators	Processes payments involving the conversion of money from one currency to another, between a business and their suppliers.
Payment Processing Services	Processors offer payment processing services to other parties in the financial eco system. For example card issuers can decide to process the payments in house or outsource the backend processing to third parties (processors). Then the issuer still has the contract with the cardholder

	and manages the sales and marketing processes and pays the processor a processing fee to process the backend processes. The same applies to acquirers, who typically use processors for various things, e.g. connecting with the schemes
Independent Card Issuers	Issuance of payment cards to consumers or companies, which can be used to make purchases from merchants. In most cases issuers offer other services to their cardholders, such as a credit facility or insurance services.
Payment Initiators	Service providers who can execute a payment transaction on the behalf of a customer. Payment initiation is one of the services established under PSD2. Its aim is to simplify the initiation of account-to-account payments. It allows Third Party Providers (TPPs) access to the bank accounts to initiate a payment or to retrieve account information. Payers must consent prior to a TPP initiating a payment on his/her behalf
Account Information Service Providers	Account information service providers (AISPs) are services that provide consolidated information on one or more payment accounts held by a payment service user with one or more other payment service providers.
Collecting PSPs	Collecting PSPs collect the sales revenue from the payers (through the different payment methods) and pays merchant out within a established timeline (D+X).