



Share-PSI 2.0

Deliverable 4.1

3rd Call for Participation

**Open Data Priorities and Engagement,
Timișoara 16 – 17 March 2015**

**Share-PSI 2.0
Standards for Open Data and Public
Sector Information**

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Executive Summary

This is the call for participation for the Timișoara workshop. Originally planned to focus on selection of data sets, the topic has been expanded to broaden its appeal and to more closely match the scope of the W3C Data on the Web Best Practice Working Group.

Timișoara Workshop: Open Data Priorities and Engagement

Call For Participation

In 2013, the G8 published its Open Data Charter. This built on earlier work, including the Shakespeare Review of Public Sector Information and both emphasised the need for

...a clear, visible, auditable plan for publishing data as quickly as possible, defined both by bottom-up market demand and by top-down strategic thinking, overcoming institutional and technical obstacles with a twin-track process which combines speed to market with improvement of quality:

1. an 'early even if imperfect' track that is very broad and very aggressively driven, and
2. a 'National Core Reference Data' high-quality track which begins immediately but narrowly;

and then moving things from Track 1 to Track 2 as quickly as we can do reliably and to a high standard. 'Quickly' should be set out by government through publicly committed target dates.

This need for a clear plan was highlighted again at the first Share-PSI 2.0 workshop in Samos. In that workshop, Uses of Open Data Within Government for Innovation and Efficiency, the importance of a strategic plan with high level endorsement and support was repeatedly made very clear.

But ... budgets are tight and becoming ever tighter. How can PSI provision be prioritised? How do you rank national core reference data in importance? Is it a question of making a decision at the top or of responding to demand from elsewhere?

Again referring to the first Share-PSI 2.0 workshop, we heard experiences of both approaches from the Czech republic. Priorities need to be set through dialogue between all stakeholders.

Workshop Aims

To help define Best Practice and available methods for:

- assessing the priority order for releasing datasets;
- making high quality reference datasets available;
- making available data that may be incomplete or imperfect in such a way that it is valuable to reusers but that does not put a heavy burden of liability on providers;
- receiving and acting on feedback from the user community.

Workshop Topics

Topics for the latest Share-PSI 2.0 workshop include, but are not limited to:

- how different organisations, public and private, have identified and prioritised their data sets;
- examples where datasets have been crowdsourced to circumvent reluctance to publish the official version and the impact this is having;
- how PSI providers have collected and responded to demand for specific datasets;
- how users of data have communicated with providers and whether the providers feel that their efforts are worthwhile.

In short, this workshop is about the relationship between data owners and data reusers, whether those reusers are from other parts of the same organisation or external to it. The focus is on the public sector but, as ever, there are many lessons that can be learned from the private, research and cultural heritage sectors which are equally welcome.

Workshop Style

The workshop is hosted by West University of Timișoara, Romania, and follows directly on from a full weekend hackathon being organised at the same venue.



As with the Share-PSI 2.0 event in Lisbon in December 2014, the majority of the two days of the workshop will be devoted to small groups meeting to discuss particular themes. Session leaders are asked to facilitate a discussion, not give a presentation. See the Sunlight Foundation's Tips & Tricks page/video for more. In addition to the planned sessions, there will also be an opportunity to propose ad hoc discussions on the day (bar camp sessions).

The style will therefore be highly interactive discussions where participants can talk about ideas and possible solutions to common problems. Up to 5 sessions will be running at any one time.

In addition, there will be two plenary sessions that will include a small number of presentations of high quality work and some keynote talks

Participation

The Share-PSI 2.0 partners invite position papers describing methods for selection of high priority datasets for publication, including engagement with the broader stakeholder community.

There are several ways in which you can participate:

Lead a session. This entails facilitating a discussion. It may begin with a very short set up presentation but 90% of the time should be allocated for discussion. Proposals should not be academic papers but descriptions of the discussion you would like to lead and the experiences you have to offer. These are expected to be 1 or 2 pages in length.

Give a plenary talk. Longer papers, up to a maximum of 5 pages in length, are invited for consideration as the basis of a plenary presentation of which no more than 3 are expected to be presented at the workshop.

If you would like to attend but do not wish to lead a session or give a plenary presentation, please outline your interest in a short position paper. The intention is to make sure that participants have an active interest in the area, and that the workshop will benefit from their presence.

Subject to capacity, general registration will be open in the weeks prior to the event.

Session proposals and plenary papers will be subject to review by the Programme Committee. Closely related session papers will be grouped together so that authors of selected papers will need to decide ahead of time who will actually lead the session, which is likely to last approximately one hour.

Anyone present at the workshop may propose a **bar camp session**. Ideas can be submitted at any time before or during the workshop. There's no Programme Committee review - people vote with their feet on the day!

Submission guidelines

Papers should be submitted in a non-proprietary format (HTML, PDF, ePub etc.) via e-mail to group-share-psi@w3.org no later than the deadline. If you already subscribe to any W3C mailing lists you'll be able to post to that address, if not, please send your submission to Phil Archer. Please include an abstract of the paper in your e-mail. Note that the archive for this e-mail address is visible to Share-PSI partners and W3C Team only.

Submissions by more than one author are welcome; however only the coordinating author (as indicated in the submission) of the selected paper will be invited to take part in the Share-PSI workshop. Additional authors will be able to attend the workshop only if space allows. All selected contributions and associated slides will be published in the Share-PSI 2.0 Web site after the announcement of results under a ccBy licence.

Call for collocation

The Share-PSI 2.0 partners encourage other groups to propose sessions and perhaps hold face to face meetings in Timișoara around the time of the workshop in March 2015.

The Timișoara workshop, with its highly interactive format across multiple tracks is a perfect place to boost your project's dissemination activities.

Venue

The venue for the workshop is the West University of Timișoara Blvd. V. Parvan 4, Timisoara 300223, Timis, Romania. See the Practical Info page for more details.

Questions? Please contact Phil Archer, Share-PSI 2.0 coordinator and W3C Data Activity Lead.

Commentary

The call for participation for Timișoara follows the same format as previous occasions to give an introduction and practical advice on how to participate. The crucial sections are the aims and the topics.

The Description of Work stipulates that the third Share-PSI 2.0 workshop will have a theme of 'Identifying datasets for publication.' However, as detailed in D7.1, this is out of scope for the W3C Data on the Web Best Practices Working Group which is the primary multiplier for the project's outputs. The working group focus is closely aligned with that of Share-PSI which itself has an objective of reaching consensus of technical standards. Therefore, in addition to 'assessing the priority order for releasing datasets,' the scope of the Timișoara workshop covers:

- making high quality reference datasets available;
- making available data that may be incomplete or imperfect in such a way that it is valuable to reusers but that does not put a heavy burden of liability on providers;
- receiving and acting on feedback from the user community.

The first of these is likely to focus on technical publication methods such as '5 Star Linked Data' and the provision of metadata for CSV files using W3C's emerging standard in this area¹ The second is designed to elicit experience of providing metadata that effectively describes data, however incomplete it may be. The third bullet is broad enough to cover simple aspects such as ensuring that any CAPTCHA mechanism is accessible to all users through to publishing datasets using a Git repository so that changes are automatically tracked.

Timing

The call for participation is already online at a persistent URL that is consistent with the other workshops². At the time of writing it is not yet linked from the rest of the project Web site but will be in time to be announced in Lisbon. Present promotional activity is centred on generating any further interest in the Lisbon event and partners are keen that promotion of Timișoara shouldn't confuse that message.

¹ <http://www.w3.org/2013/csvw/>

² <https://www.w3.org/2013/share-psi/workshop/Timisoara/>