



Smart Cities Marketplace Initiative within the Citizen Focus Action Cluster:

“Citizen Control of Personal Data”

Notes from the Second Workshop, April 14th, 2021.

The slides from the presentations will be found on the Smart Cities MarketPlace website once restructuring is complete, but at the moment, they can be found at:

<https://www.datavaults.eu/material/liaisons-relevant-links/citizen-control-of-personal-data-initiative-citizen-focus-action-cluster/>

Short introduction. Shaun Topham. DataVaults project. Initiative Lead.

A very brief overview of what the initiative was trying to achieve for the benefit of newcomers- **Aim of initiative:** The purpose of the “Citizen Control of Personal Data” initiative within the Marketplace can be summed up as helping to build the conditions and relationships, whereby the citizen will be willing to share personal data with a city and with other actors in the data economy.

Presentation of the Auroral.eu project. Justina Bieliauskaite, “Architecture for Unified Regional and Open digital ecosystems for Smart Communities and wider Rural Areas Large scale application.”

Justina also covered the role of the European Digital SMEs Alliance and its representation of over 20,000 Digital SMEs across Europe. (Their involvement will be valuable in the future, as platform being developed can also value an input of personal data)

After the presentation, questions were asked regarding demonstration activity, but this is still to start. There will be open calls covering topics including energy, health, tourism, mobility and farming.

Attention was brought to the overlap with what the “Small Giants” initiative is trying to do with the MarketPlace.

Presentation of recently published Digitranscope Project Book: “The Governance of Digitally-transformed Society”, along with its relevance to the Data Governance Act.

Marina Micheli, EU JRC

Deciding on a governance model will be vital for smart cities deploying platforms.



Discussion following the presentation covered:

What are any early indications for showing how citizens are feeling about sharing their personal data- what their preferences are, even if on a small scale?

The response was that there is not so much information published which was available during the study. A reference was made to a Eurobarometer study (link is below). This covered a willingness to share in relation to it being in the wider public interest. Roughly 60% to 70% were willing to share where it was shown it was for the wider public good. Issues of trust have been examined by the OpenData Institute for example. But generally, there are few sources at the moment and so no real answer.

There was a discussion as to whether work carried out from the perspective of social inclusion – accessibility-digital skills etc had been included. The response being that it is future work and that the main focus of the study had been from a policy focus. Attention was drawn to a large survey capability led by G20 with access to some 2 million workers and being fully GDPR compliant and so it was to be investigated as to how results may be made more widely available to be able to better understand different aspects covering demography, skill sets of citizens etc. Given that all cities are different, the granularity coming out of being able to gather feedback from large dial-up exercises can help focus the development of individual smart communities and a less homogenous approach.

A further question on surveys available, covered the aspect of whether there was anything covering the issue of providing compensation in some form to citizens, for sharing their personal data.

The response being that this was an important point. At the time of the study, the topic of remuneration for sharing data was not included as it was still not widespread in the literature available. But it is an interesting model because it can be seen as rebalancing existing models in which on the one hand a more individualistic approach is being taken, focussing on single citizens and their use of data, whilst the focus currently has been more on looking at more collective use of data. Looking at it as singular approach was regarded by “GoodData” as not being sustainable and so did not fit within the policy documents scrutinised. (The DataVaults approach is to enhance the more collective approach with further personal data)

A final question referred to the fourth model shown in the slides. This model covered people sharing data in a safe way, within a platform framework. The question was, in this model, is there any distinction made between for example, creating the platform as an open-source community and so there are no managers etc compared with a company establishing and managing the platform? Was this observed?

The response was that in regard to the fourth abstract model, this aspect was taken into consideration. It did throw up some extra challenges as there are potential conflicts of interest to resolve with potential differing aims emerging as a new economic eco-system is created. There is some information arising from a study on “MyData” which can be shared.



“Links with the evolving Smart Cities Standards” John Ketchell. He represents ANEC (voice of consumers in Europe) at the Sector Forum of the three European Standardization Organizations (CEN, CENELEC and ETSI) on Smart Sustainable Cities & Communities (SF-SSCC).

This was a general overview of what standards and standard making processes should be of interest to the initiative and the first step in determining how best we can feed into the standards making process, which John will lead.

Next Steps, including **setting up smaller groups**, covering topics such as Legal/Ethics, Governance, Standards, Urban Data Platforms and others, in order to feed into and from other aspects of the Smart Cities MarketPlace and other initiatives and projects.

Graham Colclough sent his apologies for not being able to present the “Urban Data Platforms” initiative but will do so at a forthcoming workshop.

Dialogue from the “chat” during the meeting

Survey

Yury Glikman, Fraunhofer, Germany. “DataVaults launched a wide multilingual survey that will explore the citizens’ perspective on personal data sharing, investigating their expectations, needs and concerns. You are very welcome to participate and share the link in your community: <https://www.datavaults.eu/citizens-perspective-on-data-sharing-survey/>

We can have a session of a future workshop to share the results.

Papers.

Marina Micheli, JRC, Italy. This is the link to the paper with the four models:

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2053951720948087>

This is the Eurobarometer about citizens attitudes toward data sharing, mentioned earlier

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_383

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 9th, 10.00 to 11.30 CET.

Contact: Shaun.Topham@eu-forum.org