Give your organisation the ability to analyse, share, manage and use data in real time at the right time, with CEF Context Broker.

Most businesses and public administrations are rich in data, but few have mastered the art of using it to analyse what’s happening in their organisation.

A local municipality might record population data, along with information about traffic management, waste, and air quality. Typically, everything would sit in separate systems.

Bringing that data together in the right way with the right context can produce richer insights about that local community, helping citizens and administrations make informed decisions.

Harnessing the power of data

The CEF Context Broker is an API that can integrate data from multiple systems, creating a holistic view of information.

By providing the layer that describes each type of data, the Context Broker makes it possible to create an interface that makes it easy for anyone to view and interpret big data.

Using the Context Broker, organisations can monitor their metrics in real time through live updates. You can share the context information you choose with third parties, enabling process improvements and innovation across the whole data value chain.

How it works

The CEF Context Broker is built using FIWARE NGSI specifications that enable applications to provide real-time updates and access to information that contextualises data being displayed. Typical examples might include updates, queries and notifications.

The core platform also provides governments with a sandbox environment, allowing them to test the use of real-time data.
Get started with help from CEF

Through the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), the European Commission offers a range of services to support public and private sector entities that want to implement Context Broker, at no cost.

- **Software**: Orion Context Broker and Cygnus are available as reference implementation
- **Testing services**: Developers can use our sandbox environment to test connectivity and conformance
- **Supporting Services**: Our service desk and training packages are available to help your team throughout and beyond implementation
- **Stakeholder Management Services**: Get access to a range of knowledge articles, events, and webinars.
- **Context Broker Developers Community**: Connect with other developers and share your knowledge and experience in building applications with Context Broker

6 reasons to use Context Broker

1. Help your organisation make more informed decisions, in less time
2. Develop and deliver smart applications in a shorter time frame with out-of-the-box specifications and support material
3. Benefit from lessons learnt and time already spent by other organisations on the same challenge
4. Enable the creation and growth of data ecosystems modelled on the same standards
5. Avoid ‘vendor lock in’ with open source data models and interfaces
6. Be compliant with the EU standard for context information management

How we comply with European Standards

CEF Context Broker is fully compatible with the Context Information Management API standard set by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI).

The standard was drafted in April 2018 by the Industry Specification Group (ISG) using FIWARE NGSI as a candidate.

Find out more: ec.europa.eu/cefdigital/CB