

Facilitating interoperable data sharing, the new Data Spaces Support Centre is now launched

Industry players, researchers, corporates, and associations join forces to operationalise the European Strategy for Data

BRUSSELS, Belgium, October 12, 2022 – 12 significant partners¹ were recently awarded to set-up and operate the Data Spaces Support Centre. The Data Spaces Support Centre will facilitate common data spaces in different sectors that collectively create an interoperable data sharing environment.

Coordinator **Boris Otto, Fraunhofer Institute for Software and Systems Engineering (ISST)** highlights: “The Data Spaces Support Centre is key for a successful implementation of the European data strategy as it provides guidance to emerging and growing data space initiatives from various sectors across Europe. Interoperability based on open standards ensures trusted exchange and sharing of data and data sovereignty within and across data spaces.”

Funded by the European Commission as part of the Digital Europe Program, the project is scheduled to set-up and run the Data Spaces Support Centre. It includes a consortium of the leading associations and knowledge centres in the domain of data spaces, with a broad membership, an extensive network, national hubs, open-source communities, and data space pioneers.

The Support Centre explores the needs of the data spaces initiatives, including common requirements, and best practises. It delivers the Data Spaces Blueprint, composed of common building blocks in business, legal, operational, technical, and societal aspects. With a user-centric approach and cooperatively with all stakeholders, the Blueprint continuously evolves. It drives adoption through support activities, a platform and web portal for knowledge and asset sharing, a help desk, toolboxes, and active engagement with all stakeholders.

The Support Centre will support the Data Innovation Board to propose guidelines for common European data spaces, such as cross-sectoral data sharing standards, requirements for security and access procedures.

The project will enable data reuse and secondary use within and across sectors, fully respecting EU values and contributing to the European economy and society. It will further enable and create appropriate conditions for setting up an open data ecosystem characterised by interoperability and mutual trust between participants and creating value out of data.

¹ BDVA, Big Data Value Association, Capgemini Belgium NV, FIWARE Foundation, Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e.V., Gaia-X the European Association for Data and Cloud AISBL, IDSA, International Data Spaces e. V., National University of Ireland Galway, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven), MyData Global, Nederlandse Organisatie voor Toegepast Natuurwetenschappelijk Onderzoek TNO, Sitra, Teknologian tutkimuskeskus VTT Oy