



City of
Amsterdam



B2G data sharing in cities: series of 5 workshops

from **Wednesday 5 May to 7 July 2021 (10:00-11:30 CET)**

Subject: Informal series of workshops on how cities and regions can further develop Business-to-Government (B2G) data sharing

1. Wednesday 05/05/2021 10:00 - 11:30: Get started with B2G Data Sharing
2. Wednesday 19/05/2021 10:00 - 11:30: Use cases in cities #1
3. Wednesday 09/06/2021 10:00 - 11:30: Use cases in cities #2
4. Wednesday 23/06/2021 10:00 - 11:30: Perspectives from the business sector
5. Wednesday 07/07/2021 10:00 - 11:30: Conclusions and recommendations

On the initiative of Amsterdam and Florence, both signatories of the Living.in.eu movement, supported by Eurocities and the European Commission, a series of workshops is organised to reflect on opportunities for upscaling B2G data sharing practices in cities and regions across Europe.

In a series of 5 online workshops, as part of the Living-in.eu movement, building on the findings of the report of the High Level Expert Group (HLEG) on Business-to-Government (B2G) data sharing and earlier workshops¹, we wish to invite **city experts and programme managers experienced with B2G data sharing and setting up data partnerships**.

The purpose of this series of events is to **explore opportunities for upscaling B2G data sharing**. This may encompass both already existing and future use cases for data sharing. Using the approach of multi-stakeholder governance, the workshops will provide opportunities to discuss how cities and the European Commission can cooperate in achieving more data sharing. Another topic to discuss is how to combine data collection between cities, other governments and businesses in the EU both for specific use cases and across sectors.

The workshops will allow cities to:

- Exchange technical, legal, governance and capacity related experiences and approaches for data sharing and develop interoperable models for data sharing;
- Discuss between cities and the European Commission how to improve B2G data sharing with attention to both legal and technical issues;
- Launch concrete collaborations for fostering data sharing;

¹ People, data, cities – Eurocities citizen data principles in action <https://eurocities.eu/latest/data-people-cities-eurocities-citizen-data-principles-in-action/> and EC workshops: <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/events/data-driven-communities-fostering-local-data-ecosystem-sustainability>

- Discover whether there is a need for further cooperation on the topic, in particular in the context of the various sub-groups of the Living-in.eu community

Background information

Cities and regions have an ever-increasing need for accessing data: for designing new policies, managing traffic, zoning and planning, crowd management, enforcement of regulations and laying out new energy grids. For the implementation of the Green Deal such data is particularly essential. Better quality and real-time data can improve urban planning, support local decisions and result in more user-friendly services. Local governments could make use of already available business data in an effort to gather and use data more effectively.

European cooperation on data sharing is essential for a joint approach in the Digital Single Market, preventing separate national or local approaches and allowing SMEs and the wider business sector to share data with ease, both within the business sector and with governments. Data sharing will be of interest to businesses more so when they have the opportunity to share data with governments across Europe and vice versa, instead of sharing data per city.

Meanwhile, interoperability and data sharing is high on the European Commission's agenda as part of shaping a European data market. With the EU Data Strategy that foresees the creation of so-called data spaces, the Digital Services Act, the Data Governance Act and the future Data Act, there are opportunities at the EU level to improve access to data for the public good. With a new framework for data altruism set out in the Data Governance Act, B2G data sharing is a major opportunity for governments to gain access to (non-personal) data for public interest.

The Data Governance act encourages data sharing opportunities by focusing on trust and intermediaries. Through the Digital Europe Programme the Commission is planning on supporting setting up data spaces. Also, the European Commission has launched a Support Center for Data Sharing² and will launch a call for proposals before summer on a number of sectoral data spaces, including one for 'climate-neutral and smart communities'. Finally, the HLEG report on B2G Data Sharing³ and the JRC Digitranscope report⁴ already set out needed developments.

The reports show that European cooperation on the issue of data sharing can take shape amongst others by developing an infrastructure for improved data sharing, encompassing both technical and legal aspects. Cities and other levels of government can make use of existing solutions for B2G data sharing and develop ways for upscaling already operational tools⁵. Cities that have already developed B2G data sharing can share experiences with other cities and develop a common European

² <https://eudatasharing.eu/homepage>

³ <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/good-practices-b2g-data-sharing>

⁴ <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/publication/eur-scientific-and-technical-research-reports/digitranscope-governance-digitally-transformed-society>

⁵ <https://zenodo.org/record/3967044#>

approach, through working on interoperable tools for data sharing, for example on specific themes such as road management, crowd management or green energy districts. Another possibility is to develop common European access points, either cross-sectoral or for specific use cases.

While cities and communities may have achieved tangible results in their own context, they need to act together to increase impact and allow a stronger control over the final solutions chosen. The Living-in.eu movement will provide a framework for developing such joint initiatives and preparing their future implementation on a larger scale.