# Top reasons to use Core Vocabularies

✔ **Development of new systems:** The Core Vocabularies can be used as a default starting point for designing the conceptual and logical data models in newly developed information systems.

✔ **Information exchange between systems:** The Core Vocabularies can become the basis of a context specific data model used to exchange data among existing information systems.

✔ **Data integration:** The Core Vocabularies can be used to integrate data that comes from disparate data sources and create a data mashup.

✔ **Open data publishing:** The Core Vocabularies can be used as the foundation of a common export format for data in base registries like cadastres, business registers and service portals.

## Want to know more?

### Get started

joinup.ec.europa.eu/community/semic/og_page/core-vocabularies

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# An action supported by ISA²

This action is supported by the European Commission's ISA² programme. ISA² is a EUR 131 million programme supporting the modernisation of public administrations in Europe through the development of eGovernment solutions. More than 20 solutions are already available, with more to come soon. All solutions are open source and available free of charge to any interested public administration in Europe.

## More on the programme

ec.europa.eu/isa2

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# Core Vocabularies
## Simplified, reusable and extensible data models

**ISA² programme**
Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations, Businesses and Citizens

ISA²

## Reuse and extend the Core Vocabularies to attain semantic harmonisation in information exchange.

## Business need

The exchange of information in the context of European public services, such as the provision of data from base registries in interoperable open formats, is challenging and comes with many **semantic interoperability conflicts**. Such conflicts are caused by discrepancies in the interpretation of administrative procedures and legislation, **the lack of commonly agreed data models,** the **absence of universal reference data,** etc.

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Core Vocabularies capture the core characteristics of data.

## Solutions

The Core Vocabularies are **simplified, reusable and extensible data models that capture the fundamental characteristics of an entity in a context-neutral way.** So far, the following Core Vocabularies are available:

**CORE PERSON VOCABULARY**
The **Core Person Vocabulary** captures the fundamental characteristics of a person such as the name, the gender and the date of birth.
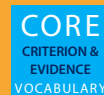
**CORE LOCATION VOCABULARY**
The **Core Location Vocabulary** captures the fundamental characteristics of a location, represented as an address, a geographic name or a geometry.

**CORE BUSINESS VOCABULARY**
The **Core Business Vocabulary** captures the fundamental characteristics of a legal entity, e.g. its identifier and activities, which is created through a formal registration process, typically in a national or regional register.

**CORE PUBLIC SERVICE VOCABULARY**
The **Core Public Service Vocabulary** captures the fundamental characteristics of a service offered by public administration such as the title and description of the service, the outputs it generates, and the formal framework or rules under which the service is delivered.

**CORE CRITERION & EVIDENCE VOCABULARY**
The **Core Criterion & Evidence Vocabulary** describes the principles and means that a private entity must fulfil in order to be qualified to perform public services, including concepts such as the type and weight of a criterion, its requirements and evidences that can be used to prove that a requirement is fulfilled.

**CORE PUBLIC ORGANISATION VOCABULARY**
The **Core Public Organization Vocabulary** captures the fundamental characteristics of public organisations in the European Union, e.g. the contact point, the address, the organisation unit, etc.

## Users on Core Vocabularies

- **Trentino region:** "*As part of its journey towards increasing the semantic interoperability of its information, the Autonomous province of Trento in Italy has set up a close collaboration between the Consortium of municipalities. The goal is to pilot the use of the Core Vocabularies through several initiatives: mapping Trentino's institutional web site information structure to the Core Vocabularies and creating a new draft Core Vocabulary for public events are two examples. One of the main benefits of the Core Public Event Vocabulary is to include the municipalities as important agents for promoting social and touristic events with relevant local information involving small entities such as associations, local civil society representatives, volunteering etc.*"

  Francesca Gleria, Provincia autonoma di Trento with Consorzio dei Comuni Trentini

- **Flemish Government:** "*The interoperability programme in the Region of Flanders in Belgium, 'Open Standards for Linked Organisations' (OSLO[2]) is re-using and extending the ISA CORE vocabularies: Person, Business, Public Organisation, Location and Public Service (data. vlaanderen.be). The core vocabularies are a valuable starting point for 'Informatie Vlaanderen' because they capture the fundamental characteristics of a number of interesting concepts that have been identified as very important for e-government in Flanders.*"

  Raf Buyle, Informatie Vlaanderen

## Core Vocabularies Handbook

A handbook was created to describe **how the e-Government Core Vocabularies can be used** by public administrations to attain a minimum level of semantic interoperability for e-Government systems. You can download the handbook here.