Web-COSI
Web Communities for
Statistics for Social Innovation

INCREASING TRUST IN COLLECTIVELY
GENERATED STATISTICS

OECD

Using Technology to Engage Citizens with Well-being Statistics
Workshop 1: Perspectives from Civil Society
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Web-COSI project
Web COmmunities for Statistics for Social Innovation

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Web COmmunities for Statistics for Social Innovation

Is a two-year CA project (1/2014 -12/2015) funded by the EC-DG CONNECT, FP7 Work Programme 2013 within the call CAPS - Collective Awareness Platforms for Sustainability and Social Innovation:

"to stimulate and support the emergence of innovative ICT based platforms for grassroots Social Innovation, providing societally, environmentally and economically sustainable approaches and solutions to tackle societal challenges. Such collective intelligence platforms will include collective decision-making tools and innovation mechanisms allowing and encouraging individual and community creativity, participation and situational awareness"

➢ In this context the general objective of Web-COSI is using Web 2.0 technologies to foster the engagement of citizens and society at large in the area of new measures of societal progress and well-being

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Capitalizes on the last 10 years characterized by two revolutions for the world of research and beyond:

- The Internet explosion that has radically changed the way in which information is produced and shared. Interactivity is contributing to change the roles of producers and users of data, increasing awareness and bringing to consider a bottom up approach for the construction of statistics (Big Data, Open Data, crowd sourced data)

- The "GDP & Beyond" debate that has dominated the scene of statistical and economic research for the new measurement of well-being, societal progress and sustainability. During the years a global movement arose, involving a multiplicity of actors - civil society organizations, social entrepreneurs, consumers, workers, citizens and society at large - willing to give voice for the set up of new indicators to go beyond GDP

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The specific objective of Web-COSI is to implement Web 2.0 applications for collecting, producing and visualizing locally generated information and data empowering the usage of crowd sourced data

➢ The final aim is to contribute for a better integration and complementarity of official and non-official statistics, with increasing trust in collectively generated statistics

Web-COSI is based on a four-partner Consortium led by Istat (the Italian National Institute of Statistics) with the partnership of OECD and two young NGOs: Lunaria – a civil society organization (www.lunaria.it) and i-genius – a social entrepreneur community (www.i-genius.uk)

A Consortium so structured, working together, naturally bridges the top-down and bottom-up approaches for the reshape of statistics beyond GDP

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Web-COSI work plan envisages a number of activities to reach its objectives

1. mapping of beyond GDP existing digital initiatives, distilling the best practices for the communities involvement (carried out by NSIs, civil society organizations, social entrepreneurs, …)

   ➢ set up of an interactive crowd-sourced map
   ➢ the conduction of a survey addressed to NSIs on Web2.0 initiatives carried out and planned

2. empowering the engagement of communities creating critical mass through

   ➢ blogs, on line discussions, webinars, news letters,..
   ➢ target citizens campaigns, data visualisation competitions, 'youth initiatives',....
   ➢ the set up of a European Wikiprogress University Programme
   ➢ the organization of face 2 face open events : 5 workshops, 4 focus groups and a final conference

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3. the development of a Wiki of progress statistics on the Wikiprogress platform

> ➢ a tool for the collection of civil society grass root locally generated non-official data to integrate with official data

4. the delivery of 5 stocktaking and reporting documents alongside Policy briefs

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Web-COSI works networking with European and abroad initiatives. In particular, to create synergies with other EU FP7 and CAPS projects and with Eurostat on-going initiatives

Web-COSI is supported by an Advisory Board, chaired by Mr Enrico Giovannini

The outputs released by Web-COSI at this stage are:

➢ 2 on line discussions organized by OECD on Wikiprogress platform
 -Engaging citizens in well-being and progress statistics (April 2014)
 -Making data more accessible for society at large (June 2014)

➢ 1 webinar organized by Lunaria
 -Civil society engagement in well-being statistics: good practices from Italy (June 2014)

➢ the first release of the Beta version of Wikiprogress data portal at http://wikiprogressdata.org/

➢ the delivery of the Report on "Mapping initiatives and best practice: the results of citizen dialogue on well-being and societal progress"

Todays workshop on

<p style="text-align:center; color:red;">Using Technology to Engage Citizens with Well-being Statistics in the Perspectives from Civil Society</p>

represents an important momentum for Web-COSI to discuss about the use of technology to engage citizens with well-being statistics

Today we will learn a lot about experiences from civil society organizations

The discussion will help to understand the potentiality and the limitations of the use of technology to engage citizens with well-being statistics

➢ In Web 2.0 era as the power of online communities grows ever stronger institutions of diverse type and scope cannot ignore their centrality for the definition of better statistics (new data, real time data,..)

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Web-COSI activities aim to impact

-encouraging communities to share, collaborate and make use of data and information beyond GDP at local and global level

-contributing to create a critical mass on the importance on the usage of non-official sources as an opportunity to catch

-pushing to create consensus, also at political level, to support research fostering partnerships among NSIs, the academia, civil society organizations and communities at large

-paving the way for future research needs identifying the open issues for the exploitation of crowd sourced data (validation, quality framework, sampling issues, integration/complementarity with official data)

-contributing to increase awareness that citizens can give their voice for the construction of better statistics beyond GDP to set up better policies for a better quality of life

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THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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