

European Data Portal

Landscaping Questionnaire – Overview

Third edition 2017

Bulgaria

June 2017

2 Pan-European Open Data Maturity Landscaping Questionnaire

2.1 Information on the respondent

Q	Background information	
1.1	Country:	Bulgaria
1.2	Organization:	State e-Government Agency (SEGA)
1.3	Name:	Alexander Yolovski
1.4	Position:	Deputy Chairperson of SEGA
1.5	Email:	ayolovski@e-gov.bg

2.2 Presence of (Open) Data policy

2.2.1 (Open) Data Policy

Q2.1. Is there an (Open) Data policy in your country?

Yes

Title of the Open Data Policy:

The policy has been included in the Access to Public Information Act and the Ordinance on the standard terms and conditions for public sector information reuse and its publishing in an open format, containing specific provisions regarding publishing and reuse of public information in an open format. The Act and the Ordinance settle the social relationships regarding the right of access to public information, as well as the reuse of the public sector information.

Details:

The changes obliged all public sector organizations to publish prioritized public information in an open format on the Open Data Portal. Public organizations are obliged to elaborate publication schedules on an annual basis, to open pro-actively data sets in machine-readable format with priority and to upload those to the Open Data Governmental Portal. The Act and the secondary legislation settle the public information reuse in open format and data licenses.

URL for access to the policy document:

<https://www.e-gov.bg/bg/94>

- Access to Public Information Act;
- Ordinance on the standard terms and conditions of public sector information reuse and its open format publishing;
- Decision No. 103 of the Council of Ministers (CoM) dated 17 February 2015 on approving the List of data sets by priority area to be published in open format;
- Decision No. 214 of the Council of Ministers dated 25 March 2016 on approving the List of data sets by priority area to be published in open format;
- Decision No. 897 of the Council of Ministers dated 21 October 2016 on amending and supplementing of Decision No. 214 of the CoM dated 25 March 2016

<http://www.strategy.bg/StrategicDocuments/View.aspx?Id=892>

- Strategy for Development of Electronic Governance in the Republic of Bulgaria 2014-2020
- Road Map for the implementation of the Strategy for Development of Electronic Governance in the Republic of Bulgaria for the period of 2016-2020

<http://www.strategy.bg/StrategicDocuments/View.aspx?lang=bg-BG&Id=891>

- Strategy for Development of the State Administration 2014-2020; да се сложи тук линк
- Road Map for the implementation of the Strategy for Development of the State Administration 2015-2020;

Second Action Plan of the Republic of Bulgaria under the “Open Government Partnership”: <http://www.strategy.bg/Articles/View.aspx?lang=bg-BG&categoryId=&Id=15&y=&m=&d>

Third Action Plan of the Republic of Bulgaria under the “Open Government Partnership”: <http://www.strategy.bg/PublicConsultations/View.aspx?lang=bg-BG&Id=2130>

National Reform Program of the Republic of Bulgaria: <http://www.strategy.bg/StrategicDocuments/View.aspx?lang=bg-BG&Id=762>

Digital Bulgaria 2020 Draft:

<https://www.mtitc.government.bg/bg/informacionni-tehnologii/politiki/cifrova-bulgariya>

Open data: <http://www.strategy.bg/Publications/View.aspx?lang=bg-BG&categoryId=&Id=192&y=2015&m=7&d=>

Q2.2A. Are there policies supporting the re-use of Public Sector Information (within public administration, by the private sector)?

Yes

Q2.2B. Is your Open Data Policy the same as your Public Sector Information Policy?

Yes

Q2.2C. Was the (Open) Data policy in your country updated since April 2016?

Yes

Establishing a State Electronic Governance Agency (SEGA), which, pursuant to the amendments to the Electronic Governance Act shall issue guidance and support the administrations in defining the structure and content of the datasets intended for publishing to the open data portal according to Access to Public Information Act. Ordinance on the standard terms and conditions of public sector information reuse and its open format publishing has also been published in the State Gazette.

Q2.3A. Is there a national (Open) Data portal in your country?

Yes

The National Open Data Portal has been operational since 2014. More than 2,200 sets of data from over 50 public sector institutions have been published. Over 428 administrations have their profiles created. <http://opendata.government.bg/>

Q2.3B. Are there also regional, local portals?

No

Profiles of district and municipal administrations have been created, all being uploaded onto the Open Data Portal, not published separately.

Q2.4. Can all the different Public Sector Data Holders (ministries, departments, etc.) upload data themselves to the portal?

Yes

Holders of public sector data have their own registrations and access to the portal and upload data sets independently, according to a predefined publication schedule, which is publicly available. The process is being coordinated and managed by the Administration of the Council of Ministers. The head of the administration shall appoint an Administrator of the profile of the respective administration. They send a name and email, then AMC creates a user name and password as well as the administration profile itself.

Data are updated through an on-line form. The obligation entered into force as amended by the Access to Public Information Act of 13.09.2016.

Guidelines for data publishing have been provided on <http://opendata.government.bg/>
<http://www.strategy.bg/FileHandler.ashx?fileId=7339>

Q2.5. To what extent is the data uploaded automatically?

100 % 90-99% 75-89% 50-74% 25-49% <25%

A tool for automatic open format data upload from a local server to the Portal was created Administrators have difficulty installing and using it, so they upload the data manually.

Q2.6. What is the frequency in collecting the data from the relevant public sector data holders?

Daily Weekly Monthly Less frequently
 Not standardized Not applicable All of the above

Q2.7A. Is there a pre-defined approach to ensure the datasets are up-to-date?

Yes

The frequency of updates depends on the dataset. Some datasets do not require frequent updates, as they do not change frequently. Others are updated on a daily basis or once a week. Pursuant to Art. 21, para. 1 of the Ordinance on the re-use of public sector information and its publication in open data format in relation to provision of information for reuse, the public sector organization shall indicate the date on which the information provided shall be considered up to date. Instructions have also been given to public sector organizations to include in the name of the data set the date on which it is updated.

Q2.7B. Has your approach on how to open data changed since mid-2016?

Yes

Amendments have been made to the Access to Public Information Act, pursuant to which data shall be open in compliance with it, however, this is not applicable as at the current moment. Changes to the electronic version of the National Open Data Portal are pending, with view to introducing this functionality. The project, under which the new electronic version is to be released, has been approved under the Operational Program "Good Governance" and will be completed in mid-2018.

Currently, data opening is carried out through the Council of Ministers Decision.

Q2.8. Are there priority domains for the release of data?

Yes

By Decision No. 103 of the Council of Ministers of 2015 and No. 214 of 2016 lists containing a total of 428 datasets of priority areas were approved and published in an open format on the Open Data Portal in 2015 and 2016. Promulgation of a new list is pending, which will contain 161 new data sets to be open in 2017.

The priority areas include education, health, transport and infrastructure, environment, statistics, crime, food, economy, culture, justice, regional development, ICT, labor and social policy, tourism, finance, government accountability and democracy.

Q2.9. Are these priority domains the same as the ones identified previously?

Yes

Q2.10. Is Open Data used in decision making (i.e. are public administrations making use of the data as evidence to be included in evidence based policy making)?

Yes

The priority services to be included in the first stage of the large-scale Electronic Government project in Bulgaria have been determined on the basis of processing open data taking into account the use of services and accessibility.

The open data are used in developing various strategic documents and reports.

For Local Policies - National Statistical Institute data on registers for health establishments, schools, etc.

Examples:

The Energy Regulatory Commission is a state regulator in 4 sectors in Bulgaria - electricity,

heating, gas and drinking water supply. As a regulator the Commission makes use of public information (open) data from the National Statistical Institute, for example - the number of inhabitants of certain settlements; Information on inflation in the country; Household incomes per region. This information is important for the pricing of water supply-related services and the preparation of business plans on part of water operators. When laws are to be coined and introduced, data from the archives of the Cadastre Agency, the Registry Agency, the Public Procurement Agency should be used.

Daily bulletin on air quality in the country

Payments to **SEBRA** (Electronic budget payments system) and other payments to the Bulgarian National Bank (BNB)

“Municipality Debts” Register

Using open data will create innovative services, new computing and mobile applications, it will improve business performance, create new jobs, increase publicity for the administration, improve analytical processes, and increase transparency.

Q2.11. Have there been national or regional events (e.g. hackathon, events) held annually to promote Open Data and PSI re-use (organised by whichever organisation or group)?
 Small countries: Austria; Malta; Luxembourg; Cyprus; Estonia; Latvia; Slovenia; Lithuania; Croatia; Ireland; Slovakia; Finland; Denmark and Bulgaria

Yes, less than 2
 Yes, between 2 and 3
 Yes, more than 3
 No

1. Conference “Data Invites - a year after”, venue - Council of Ministers CoM of the Republic of Bulgaria, May 10th, 2016.
2. Access to Information program, venue: National Press Club of BTA on 26.04.2016
3. Open Data Forum, held on 14.10.2016 at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.
4. Students Seminar on: “Open Data: What those are and how they can be used”, Higher School of Insurance and Finance, 30 November 2016.
5. Seminar on the future of the platform for automatic translation into the official EU languages on 18.03.2016 with the participation of MTITC.

Q2.12. Who organises most events? (rank the 4 options with 1 being the most, 4 being the least)

National public administrations	1
Local administrations (cities and regions)	4
Civil society/not for profit	2
Private sector	3
I don't know	

Q2.13. Is there a national strategy in terms of Open Data for the next five years?

Yes

The Strategic and Operational objectives, related to the Open Data Initiative, are included in the Strategy for the Government Administration Development 2014-2020 and the Road map for the Implementation of the Strategy for the Government Administration Development 2015 - 2020. Designation of a national center, a central executive body responsible for the methodology and standards for collecting, storing, structuring and using information from public organizations and institutions.

Introducing the Open Data Approach across the administration. The sequence regarding data

opening will be based on the needs of society set out in a special road-map.
 Dual guarantee of information security and provision of public ownership of source codes and rights to use operational, technical and technological systems for collecting, maintaining, processing and providing public information.
 Creating a unified information environment in the field of open access to scientific information.

<http://www.strategy.bg/StrategicDocuments/View.aspx?lang=bg-BG&Id=891>

2.2.2 Extent of Coordination at National Level

Q2.14. Do you have national guidelines on the publication of Public Sector Information?

Yes

National guidelines refer to standards, formats, licenses, frequency of update and renewals; Update and automation time-frame, data sets and their priority.

Ordinance on the standard terms and conditions of public sector information reuse and its open format publishing: <https://www.e-gov.bg/bg/94>

Technical guidelines for public open format public information publishing have been provided on the Open Data Portal <http://opendata.government.bg/>

<http://www.strategy.bg/FileHandler.ashx?fileId=7339>

Q2.15. Do cities or regional governments run their own Open Data initiatives (e.g. dedicated data policies, portals, etc.)?

Yes No Not applicable

Q2.16. Would you describe the number of city/regional Open Data initiatives in your country as very few / some / many initiatives?

Very Few Some Many
 Not applicable

Local initiatives include trainings, forums and seminars.

Q2.17A. Are city/regional portals and datasets integrated into the national Open Data portal?

Yes

Q2.17B. If yes, how many portals are integrated?

Few Some Many All

Datasets exist, provided by regions, municipalities and specialized territorial administrations that are being updated on the Open Data Portal. Currently, these include 46 data sets, whereas further 67 data sets are to be added. More than 240 profiles are available on the Open Data Portal of the Republic of Bulgaria with open data to be used by the local administration.

Q2.18. Are all your data initiatives coordinated at the national level?

Yes No

All initiatives targeting the administrations are coordinated at a national level. Initiatives organized by the NGO sector and the business are not coordinated at a national level, but in the majority of the cases the responsible administrations are invited in their roles of lecturers and

co-organizers.

Q2.19. Is there a possibility for private companies and NGOs to share their datasets on the national portal?

Yes

2.2.3 Licensing Norms

Q2.20. Is **all data** available on the portal free of charge?

Yes

Q2.21. What proportion of the data available on the portal is open licensed (i.e. open licence included in the metadata)?

100 % 90-99% 75-89% 50-74% 25-49% <25%

Not applicable

Q2.22. Is there a national data policy that provides or stimulates the use of a standard licence (or suite of licences, for example Creative Commons licences)?

Yes

Pursuant to the Ordinance on the standard conditions for the re-use of public sector information and its publication in an open format, the information is provided under conditions complying with the standard terms of the annexes to the Ordinance. The standard terms are analogous to the CC0 (Public domain) and the other CC standards. Standard terms and conditions for providing information containing commercial and manufacturing secrets have been developed. A basic standard for state bodies is the standard under Appendix 1 to the Ordinance, which is analogous to CC0.

Q2.23. Does your country recommend the use of Creative Commons for publishing Open Data?

Yes

Yes, this is mandatory and has been envisaged in the Ordinance on the standard terms and conditions of public sector information reuse and its open format publishing.

2.3 Use of Open Data

Q3.1. How many unique visitors¹ go to your Portal every month?

The average number per month is: 3 125 unique visitors and 14 400 views

Q3.2. Is your national Open Data portal accessible via a specific API²?

Yes

Q3.3A. What is the typical profile of your visitors?

Mostly private sector

Mostly public sector

¹ Unique visitors refer to the number of distinct individuals requesting pages from the website during a given period, regardless of how often they visit. Visits refer to the number of times a site is visited, no matter how many visitors make up those visits. When an individual goes to a website on Tuesday, then again on Wednesday, this is recorded as two visits from one visitor source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unique_visitor#cite_note-Marketing_Metrics-1

² Application Programming Interface

- Mostly citizens
- A bit of everything, no clear dominant group
- I don't know

Q3.3B. What percentage of your visitors is **foreign**?

- 9 %

Q3.3C. What proportion of traffic towards the portal is generated **by API** (i.e. Machine traffic)?

- 15 %

Q3.3D. What are the top ten users/stakeholders of your portal (to the best of your knowledge)?

- I don't know
- Indicated in the table below

Top 10 users / stakeholders	Name of the user / stakeholder
1 Central Administrations	The National Open Data Portal still does not have a visitor / stakeholder registration functionality, this is to be made available with its next version to be released.
2 Municipal Administrations	
3 District Administrations	
4 Media	
5 NGOs	
6 Business sector	
7 Scientific Institutions	
8 Citizens	
9	
10	

Q3.4. Which datasets are most often consulted? Please check the appropriate boxes from the 14 domains identified by the G8 as shown in **Error! Reference source not found..**

- Companies (business register)
- Crime and Justice (crime statistics, safety)
- Earth observation (meteorological/weather, agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting)
- Education (schools; performance of schools, digital skills)
- Energy and environment (pollution levels, energy consumption)
- Finance and contracts (transaction spend, contracts let, call for tender, future tenders, local budget, national budget (planned and spent))
- Geospatial (topography, postcodes, national maps, local maps)
- Global development (aid, food security, extractives, land)
- Government accountability and democracy (Government contact points, election results, legislation and statutes, salaries (pay scales), hospitality/gifts)
- Health (Prescription data, performance data)
- Science and research (Genome data, research and educational activity, experiment results)
- Statistics (national Statistics, Census, infrastructure, wealth, skills)
- Social mobility and welfare (Housing, health insurance and unemployment benefits)
- Transport and infrastructure (Public transport timetables, access points broadband penetration)
- I don't know

Q3.5. What are the **top five domains**, 1 being the **most consulted**?

- I don't know
- Indicated in the table below

Top Domains	Title of the domain from the Error! Reference source not found.
1	Finance and contracts
2	Government accountability and democracy
3	Social mobility and welfare
4	Crime and Justice
5	Education

Q3.6. What datasets are **most** often **downloaded**?

- I don't know
 Indicated in the table below

Top Datasets	Title of the dataset
1	Information on the payments via the Electronic Budget Payment System (EBRA)
2	Trade Register
3	Job Vacancies
4	Results from the national external school tests
5	Register of state aid paid
6	"Municipality Debts" Register
7	Register of New Regional Roads Maintenance Plans by 2020
8	Accommodation and food establishments
9	List of verified persons
10	List of Contractors under Public Procurement Contracts

Q3.7. What are the **least consulted** domains, 1 being the least consulted?

- I don't know
 Indicated in the table below

Lowest Domains	Title of the domain from the Error! Reference source not found.
1	Science and research
2	Global development
3	Earth observation
4	Health
5	Transport and infrastructure

Q3.8. What are the **least downloaded** datasets, 1 being the least downloaded?

- I don't know
 Indicated in the table below

Lowest Datasets	Title of the dataset
1	A register of people practicing unconventional methods of promoting individual health
2	Register of independent medical and diagnostic laboratories
3	Register of municipal enterprises
4	List of licensed appraisers
5	Register of guarantees of origin of renewable energy sources

Q3.9. What do you believe are the main reasons explaining the popularity?

I don't know

Indicated in the box below

- *Could you explain why the most downloaded datasets/domains are most popular?*

Payment information in the Electronic Budget Payments System and the Trade Register is used for data search by and about the businesses.

Job vacancy data and search are used by unemployed to find jobs. The information is updated on a daily basis.

School data (exam results) are widely used by parents to select and enroll their children at school.

The popularity of the area is mainly due to the fact that the data are free and that those are presented to their fullest.

The development of the cyber-security policy in Bulgaria and the implementation of the cyber-security strategy add up to the need for open data use.

- *Could you explain why the least downloaded datasets/domains are less popular?*

There is little interest in data that cannot be used for commercial or information purposes.

Certain data are looked up or downloaded the least, since those are not yet used in applications and products; Furthermore, citizens and businesses are not sufficiently well informed about the availability of this data in an open format and those data can be used for free.

Q3.10. What actions are you planning at national level to increase up-take of the data?

No actions are planned

Indicated in the box below

Establishing working groups on open data related to specific issues, such groups including officials and external experts; Holding hackathons and other events; Providing training to governmental officials on the methods and means of collection and use of open data.

Conducting a series of events, including high-level events - by the Deputy Prime Minister in charge of the Administrative Reform; Information campaigns.

Conducting discussions;

Developing technical rules and guidelines;

Developing a strategic plan under the economic growth initiative;

Developing education and training practices;

Trainings related to APIA, Ordinance on standard terms and conditions for re-use of information in the public sector and its open format publication.

Trainings to Non-governmental organizations.

Annual prioritization of the data to be published in an open format as set out in the Access to Public Information Act.

Elaborating a new portal featuring additional functionalities.

Q3.11A. Would you be willing to share further information on traffic statistics and high level profiles of your portal's users?

Yes

Q3.11B. If yes, are you the relevant contact point to collect this information?

Yes (no need to provide details again)

No (please indicate the contact details below)

Organisation:	Administration of the Council of Ministers
Name:	Nusha Ivanova
Position:	Expert
Email:	n.ivanova@government.bg

Q3.12. Did you see any changes in the re-use of data since mid-2016?

Yes

Q3.13. Do you conduct specific activities to support the re-use of Open Data?

Yes

Work with non-governmental organizations with view to encouraging them to re-use the information from the open data portal.

Q3.14. Did you launch any specific communication activities to promote your Portal or Open Data in general?

Yes

A campaign has been envisaged to be run in 2017, aiming at promoting the open data initiative among the central administration and across the country.

Q3.15. Do your public administrations re-use open datasets published by other administrations?

Yes

Payment Information in the Electronic Budget Payments System, Trade Register, List of contractors under public procurement contracts and a number of other registers. The information provided by those registers is used by the administration to avoid its repeated collection from the business and the public.

Q3.16. Is understanding the re-use of Open Data something that matters in your public administration?

Yes, very much Yes, somewhat
 Yes, but it's not our current focus No, not at all

Q3.17. Have you conducted activities to measure the re-use of Open Data in your country since mid-2016?

Yes

Pursuant to Art. 41a, para. 1 of the Access to Public Information Act the various Administrations shall introduce "Internal rules for the order and the organization for providing information for re-use", according to which a register shall be kept of the application requests submitted regarding the re-use information. A report on the submitted applications for re-use of information, which is part of the annual reports under Art. 2, para. 1 of the Administration Act shall be elaborated each year.

Q3.18. Are you planning to conduct activities to measure the re-use of Open Data in your country in the upcoming year?

Yes No

A report on the submitted applications for re-use of information, which is part of the annual reports under Art. 2, para. 1 of the Administration Act shall be elaborated each year by the Administrations.

2.4 Impact of Open Data

2.4.1 Political Impact

Q4.1. Since June 2015, have you launched any activities to monitor the political impact of Open Data?

Yes No

Surveying, case studies, interviews and researches

Q4.2. Has Open Data had a low/medium/high impact on increasing government efficiency and effectiveness?

Low Medium High
 I don't know

State agencies should no longer require data from other departments when data are published on the Open Data Portal.

Officials shall use open data to develop policies, analyzes, and assessments.

The development of open data in Bulgaria leads to increased administrative responsibility and accountability, improved public information disclosure mechanisms regarding open source and reused information, and therefore facilitates the use of public data by citizens and the businesses.

Easy and free access to public information. Transparency and comparability of data. Fast response capabilities for Policymaking and Decision Making.

Q4.3. Has Open Data had a low/medium/high impact on increasing transparency and accountability in the country?

Low Medium High
 I don't know

Transparency:

Citizens and the businesses now have access to data they were previously required to request specifically. The deadline for processing requests for information under the Access to Public Information Act is 14 days, while access to open data is immediate.

Accountability:

Open election data were made use during debates on the changes to the Electoral Code, held by civilian advocates of electronic voting in favor of the Bulgarians abroad.

2.4.2 Social Impact

Q4.4. Has Open Data had a low/medium/high impact on environmental sustainability in the country?

- Low Medium High
 I don't know

The Environment Executive Agency (EEA) with the MOEW elaborates air quality bulletins for the country on a daily basis. It contains information on the levels of some basic air quality characteristics pursuant to the national and the European legislation. On the basis of this information, the competent administrative authorities make operational decisions on reducing the level of atmospheric air pollution.

It is on the basis of these data that the Municipality of Sofia has adopted the Program for the Improvement of Ambient Air Quality in the period from 2015 to 2020. envisaging measures on limiting the high levels of fine dust particles, which are the main pollutant of Sofia.

<http://eea.government.bg/airq/bulletin.jsp>

Q4.5. Has Open Data had a low/medium/high on increasing the inclusion of marginalized groups³ in policy making and accessing government services?

- Low Medium High
 I don't know

On the basis of an open data analysis, the Strategy for Educational Integration of Children and Students from Ethnic Minorities (2015-2020) and its Action Plan were elaborated.

<http://www.mon.bg/?go=page&pageId=74&subpageId=143>

2.4.3 Economic Impact

Q4.6. Have there been macro-economic studies assessing the market value of Open Data (i.e. estimating the euro value of Open Data in your country) since 2015?

- Yes No
 I don't know

Q4.7. Have there been studies on assessing better service delivery for users of public services since 2015?

- Yes No
 I don't know

[Survey card on the level of satisfaction of users with the offered statistical information products and services](#)

Q4.8. Are there any additional studies on the impact of Open Data in your country since 2015 that you would like to share with the research team?

- Yes No
 I don't know

Q4.9. What kind of funding model⁴ has been developed when setting up the portal?

³ Inclusion of marginalised groups describes the process in which individuals or entire communities of people that were blocked from politics, various rights, opportunities and resources previously, are now able to participate in society.

⁴ **Profit Maximizing** is aimed at selling data for a high price to increase public sector's profit. **Cost recovery** is aimed at selling data to get the costs of releasing data back. **Marginal / Zero Cost Model** is aimed at providing data for the costs of processing the data request only or is free of charge.

Profit Maximizing

Average Cost/Cost Recovery

Marginal Cost (Zero Cost) Model

I don't know

The rationale for the cost model is that data collection and processing is part of the responsibilities of the officials and that those costs are covered by public funds. Therefore, the access to the data is free of charge except when further processing is required.

2.5 Best Practices

Q5.1. Best Practice 1: publishing best practice

Best Practice 1: publishing best practice	
Title	Trade Register
Organisation publishing data	Registry Agency
Domain of the best practice	<p>Please select out of this list, which domain the best practice is part of</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Companies (business register)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Crime and Justice (crime statistics, safety)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Earth observation (meteorological/weather, agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education (schools; performance of schools, digital skills)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Energy and environment (pollution levels, energy consumption)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Finance and contracts (transaction spend, contracts let, call for tender, future tenders, local budget, national budget (planned and spent))</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Geospatial (topography, postcodes, national maps, local maps)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Global development (aid, food security, extractives, land)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Government accountability and democracy (Government contact points, election results, legislation and statutes, salaries (pay scales), hospitality/gifts)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Health (Prescription data, performance data)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Science and research (Genome data, research and educational activity, experiment results)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Statistics (national Statistics, Census, infrastructure, wealth, skills)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Social mobility and welfare (Housing, health insurance and unemployment benefits)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Transport and infrastructure (Public transport timetables, access points broadband penetration)</p>
Short description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>How does the organisation publish data?</i> <p>The Trade Register is a unified and centralized electronic database, managed by the information system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Why did you choose this example as a best practice?</i> <p>The Trade Register provides information to everyone about the legal status and good standing of traders, facilitates business-launching activities in Bulgaria, limits corruption-related practices, enhances trade security and encourages the use of electronic services in the trade.</p>
Key Benefits:	<p>Was the main benefit</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Political, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic, <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental, <input type="checkbox"/> Other? Check the appropriate box.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Could you describe the impact of this best practice?</i> <p>The Register shall provide free of charge access to the court, the state authorities, the local government authorities and local administration, as well as the persons entrusted with the performance of a public function, organizations providing public services, including banks, who will have access to the entire database of the Trade Register and the BULSTAT Register. In this way, one-off data collection is enhanced.</p> <p>The Trade Register is public, accessible to all citizens free of charge.</p>

	The principle of making the information publicly available is of fundamental importance to the registration procedure. The Registry Agency is obliged to ensure unobstructed and free of charge access to the applications as well as the attached documents in the Trade Register information system as required pursuant to the legislation.
URL to the best practice	http://www.brra.bg/

Q5.2. Best Practice 2: show-casing the re-use made of Open Data

Best Practice 2: show-casing the re-use made of Open Data	
Title	Datasets for job vacancies
Organisation responsible for the best practice	Employment Agency
Domain of the best practice	<p>Please select out of this list, which domain the best practice is part of</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Companies (business register)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Crime and Justice (crime statistics, safety)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Earth observation (meteorological/weather, agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education (schools; performance of schools, digital skills)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Energy and environment (pollution levels, energy consumption)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Finance and contracts (transaction spend, contracts let, call for tender, future tenders, local budget, national budget (planned and spent))</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Geospatial (topography, postcodes, national maps, local maps)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Global development (aid, food security, extractives, land)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Government accountability and democracy (Government contact points, election results, legislation and statutes, salaries (pay scales), hospitality/gifts)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Health (Prescription data, performance data)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Science and research (Genome data, research and educational activity, experiment results)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Statistics (national Statistics, Census, infrastructure, wealth, skills)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social mobility and welfare (Housing, health insurance and unemployment benefits)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Transport and infrastructure (Public transport timetables, access points broadband penetration)</p>
Short description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How does the organisation publish data?</i> <p>Data are published and updated on a regular bases in *.xml format.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Why did you choose this example as a best practice?</i> <p>This is an example of well-structured and useful dataset.</p>
Key Benefits:	<p>Was the main benefit</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Political, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic, <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental, <input type="checkbox"/> Other? Check the appropriate box.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Could you describe the impact of this best practice?</i> <p>The data are easy to read and well structured and used by economists and analysts to assess government employment policy: (http://www.zaetost.info/0/pure_data.html). They are also made use of by anyone looking for jobs.</p>
URL to the best	https://www.az.government.bg/bg/ejobs/view_prl/

practice	
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Best Practice 3: show-casing the re-use made of Open Data	
Title	The Integrated Information System of the State Administration (EISDA) - Administrative Register
Organisation responsible for the best practice	The Administration with the Council of Ministers
Domain of the best practice	Please select out of this list, which domain the best practice is part of <input type="checkbox"/> Companies (business register) <input type="checkbox"/> Crime and Justice (crime statistics, safety) <input type="checkbox"/> Earth observation (meteorological/weather, agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting) <input type="checkbox"/> Education (schools; performance of schools, digital skills) <input type="checkbox"/> Energy and environment (pollution levels, energy consumption) <input type="checkbox"/> Finance and contracts (transaction spend, contracts let, call for tender, future tenders, local budget, national budget (planned and spent)) <input type="checkbox"/> Geospatial (topography, postcodes, national maps, local maps) <input type="checkbox"/> Global development (aid, food security, extractives, land) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government accountability and democracy (Government contact points, election results, legislation and statutes, salaries (pay scales), hospitality/gifts) <input type="checkbox"/> Health (Prescription data, performance data) <input type="checkbox"/> Science and research (Genome data, research and educational activity, experiment results) <input type="checkbox"/> Statistics (national Statistics, Census, infrastructure, wealth, skills) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social mobility and welfare (Housing, health insurance and unemployment benefits) <input type="checkbox"/> Transport and infrastructure (Public transport timetables, access points broadband penetration)
Short description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>How does the organisation publish data?</i> It is an information system that includes information about Administrative structures and executive authorities, Administrative services and regimes and job vacancies available with the state administration. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Why did you choose this example as a best practice?</i> IISDA (State Administration Integrated Information System) is the basis for implementing policies in the field of public administration and human resources management on the basis of current and objective status data.
Key Benefits:	Was the main benefit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic, <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental, <input type="checkbox"/> Other? Check the appropriate box. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Could you describe the impact of this best practice?</i> IISDA (State Administration Integrated Information System) allows one-off data input, which can be migrated to any systems that might request the data. The data can also be used by through any other channels for information provision - the Single Portal for Access to Electronic Administrative Services, Specialized Portals, Information Boards, Kiosks, Mobile Portals. This provides the ability to automatically update the information on these pages
URL to the best practice	http://iisda.government.bg/

Best Practice 4: show-casing the re-use made of Open Data	
Title	Daily bulletin on air quality across the country
Organisation responsible for the best practice	Executive Agency on Environment
Domain of the best practice	Please select out of this list, which domain the best practice is part of <input type="checkbox"/> Companies (business register) <input type="checkbox"/> Crime and Justice (crime statistics, safety) <input type="checkbox"/> Earth observation (meteorological/weather, agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting) <input type="checkbox"/> Education (schools; performance of schools, digital skills) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy and environment (pollution levels, energy consumption) <input type="checkbox"/> Finance and contracts (transaction spend, contracts let, call for tender, future tenders, local budget, national budget (planned and spent)) <input type="checkbox"/> Geospatial (topography, postcodes, national maps, local maps) <input type="checkbox"/> Global development (aid, food security, extractives, land) <input type="checkbox"/> Government accountability and democracy (Government contact points, election results, legislation and statutes, salaries (pay scales), hospitality/gifts) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health (Prescription data, performance data) <input type="checkbox"/> Science and research (Genome data, research and educational activity, experiment results) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statistics (national Statistics, Census, infrastructure, wealth, skills) <input type="checkbox"/> Social mobility and welfare (Housing, health insurance and unemployment benefits) <input type="checkbox"/> Transport and infrastructure (Public transport timetables, access points broadband penetration)
Short description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How does the organisation publish data?</i> In the form of files, tables, charts, etc. • <i>Why did you choose this example as a best practice?</i> The daily bulletin contains information on the levels of some basic air quality characteristics pursuant to the national and the European legislation: Fine dust particles (FDP10), sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and ozone. Only exceeded rates registered and deviating from the norms of those atmospheric pollutants are published. The awareness of citizens and local administrations is raised.
Key Benefits:	Was the main benefit <input type="checkbox"/> Political, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social, <input type="checkbox"/> Economic, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental, <input type="checkbox"/> Other? Check the appropriate box. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Could you describe the impact of this best practice?</i> In case of exceeding some basic indicators characterizing the quality of the atmospheric air, local administrations take prompt preventive measures to protect the health of citizens.
URL to the best practice	http://eea.government.bg/airq/bulletin.jsp

2.6 Barriers to Further Implementing Open Data

Q6.1a. Which barriers exist for further publication of Open Data in your country? Please check the boxes that apply.

Which barriers apply?	Main challenges faced for the <u>publication</u> of datasets?	Activities planned to overcome those barriers?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	The structural changes to have occurred in the last year, regarding the change of the contact authority by the state of open data. This has resulted in a slight slowdown in the pace of implementation of the open data policy, which is currently overcome.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legal	Legislative controversies exist regarding the functions performed by SEGA under the Access to Public Information Act and as to who, at the current moment, shall maintain the National Portal for Open Data. The portal is currently with the Administration of the Council of Ministers, who perform the updates. It is then expected, pursuant to the law, to be migrate to the servers of SEGA which shall take over the functions related to its maintenance and administration.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technical	Technical issues related to automaticity exchange of data with administrations that maintain and collect information. Bring the data in compliance with the technical requirements for publishing open data. Lack of information security standards in place, resulting in reduced trust towards the domain. The format of some administrative registers does not meet the requirements for open data publishing. Converting those into an appropriate format requires time and resources as well a qualified staff for this purpose. This issue has been solved for some of the archives, by having introduced electronic registers with the ability to retrieve information in a machine-readable format, but it is still an issue with the remaining archives. Issues are expected to be resolved after launching the new version of the National Open Data Portal.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Financial	Lack of funds to create registers and information systems with the local administration leads to the impossibility of publishing data in an open format which would be important to local communities.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could you describe what the other barriers are to publish more data? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Barriers and their overcoming are subject to applicable laws. Organizations use different datasets and it is necessary to ensure their interoperability.

Q6.1b. What was done in 2016 to address these barriers?

Which barriers	What was done in 2016 to address barriers for the publication of
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apply?	datasets?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	SEGA was founded, which, within the framework of its mandate given in accordance with the National Strategy for the Development of Electronic Governance in the Republic of Bulgaria 2014-2020 and the Electronic Governance Act, performs functions related to electronic registers and open data under the Access to Public Information Act .
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legal	An Ordinance on the standard terms and conditions for public sector information reuse and its publishing in an open format has been approved, containing specific provisions regarding publishing and reuse of public information in an open format. A new Decision of the Council of Ministers has been prepared to adopt a list of data sets by priority area, to be published in 2017 in an open format on the Open Data Portal, which will contain 161 new datasets.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technical	A project has been launched to update the National Open Data Portal and to develop the API as well as the application-program interfaces for data holders.
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Q6.2a. Which barriers exist for further use of Open Data in your country? These barriers can apply to any type of third parties as well as governments themselves. Please check the boxes that apply.

Which barriers apply?	Main challenges faced for the <u>re-use</u> of datasets?	Activities planned to overcome those barriers?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Little Awareness	Open data is a new concept for Bulgaria and few consumers are aware of their benefits. Insufficient understanding and grasp on the part of citizens and organizations, regarding the functioning of the national portal and access to the data provided.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> Low Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could you describe what the barriers are to re-use Open Data looking at availability? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legal	There are data that, pursuant to third laws, are accessible upon payment of fee and the access to them is strictly regulated and available only for administrations, such access being granted through the network infrastructure of the state administration, strictly following the requirements on confidentiality and security.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technical	The low quality of some data sets limits their larger scale use. Synchronizing the information provided to the databases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could you describe what the barriers are to re-use Open Data looking at the financial aspect? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could you describe what other barriers exist that prevent re-use? 	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Q6.2b. What was done in 2016 to address these barriers?

Which barriers apply?	What was done in 2016 to address barriers for the re-use of datasets?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	SEGA has been founded.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legal	Updated legal framework
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technical	A project for updating the National Open Data Portal has been launched.
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

2.7 Portal features

2.7.1 Usability of the portal

Q7.1. Does your national Open Data portal offer a *feedback mechanism* on datasets?

Yes

- *If yes,*
 - *How does this feedback mechanism work?*
Contact email has been provided to connect to the portal administrators.
 - *Is it possible to provide feedback per dataset?*
Yes, upon particular query.

Q7.2. Does your national Open Data portal offer the possibility to *contribute* to datasets?

Yes

It is possible to display graphically specified parameters from the data sets as well as through conversion into standardized formats.

Q7.3. Does your national Open Data portal offer the possibility to *download* datasets?

Yes

Q7.4. Does your national Open Data portal offer the possibility to *access* datasets?

Yes

Q7.5. Do you provide a newsletter?

Yes

There is a "News and Information" section, which currently contains only the main documents related to the initiative.

Q7.6. Do you offer the possibility for users to tailor automated messages they could receive on the availability of new data (RSS feeds, ATON feeds, etc)

Yes No

2.7.2 Re-usability of the portal

Q7.7. Does your national Open Data portal offer the possibility to download all datasets *at once* (in bulk, with one click)?

Yes No

Q7.8. Assessment of percentage of the data that is machine readable.

- ≥90%
 70-89%
 50-69%
 40-49%
 25-39%
 <25%
 0%

Q7.9. Does your national Open Data portal offer the possibility to *search on file format*?

- Yes

Q7.10. Does your national Open Data portal include the possibility to request datasets?

- Yes

Q7.11. Does your national Open Data portal include a news section?

- Yes

Q7.12. Does your national Open Data portal include examples of the re-use of Open Data?

- Yes

2.7.3 Spread of data across domains

Q7.13. Does your national Open Data portal offer the possibility to *search per data domain*?

- Yes

Q7.14. Does your national Open Data portal distinguish between more than 10 data domains?

- Yes

Q7.15. Does your national Open Data portal include datasets from more than five data publishers (departments, institutions)?

- Yes

Q7.16. Has your national Open Data portal been updated since mid-2016?

- Yes
 No

Q7.17. Do you plan to update your national Open Data portal in the next 12 months?

- Yes

It is planned to build a new portal featuring better technological capabilities as well as to upload an automated data update tool

2.8 Pilot indicators

You are invited to respond to the questions in this section on a **voluntary** basis. The data collected will be used in the Insight Report to provide further illustrations of

2.8.1 The DCAT-Application Profile

Q8.1. Are you aware of the [DCAT-Application Profile](#) for metadata standards?

- Yes, very well
 Yes, a little,
 No

Q8.2. Are you planning on using the DCAT-Application Profile for the metadata on your national data portal?

- Yes, as it is
 Yes, after adaptation
 No

Q8.3. Are you already using the DCAT-AP to structure the metadata on your national portal?

Yes, as it is Yes, after adaptation No

Q8.4. What are the main benefits you see in using the DCAT-AP?

Q8.5. What are the main barriers in implementing the DCAT-AP?

2.9 Any additional information you wish to share?

Q9.1. Is there any additional information you would like to share? This can be first-hand information, studies conducted, additional best practices, reading material for the research team.

Yes No

Open data banner of SEGA: <https://e-gov.bg/bg/92>

The herein survey was announced on the web site of the SEGA and widespread to 340 addresses of the central (including Secondary budget and territorial units) and the local administration.

156 questionnaires were received filled out, as well as 20 letters and comments showing the level of understanding and maturity regarding the re-use of public sector information.

The open data banner offers an overview related to the legal framework, consultations, events and presentations regarding the process of opening and re-using public sector information in Bulgaria.

Bulgarian Open Data Portal: <http://opendata.government.bg/>