

Data Spaces

**General context and EU initiatives
on Data Spaces**

The importance of Data in the EU Strategy

European Data Strategy aims to make the EU a **leader in the Data Economy** by **establishing a single market for data** and harnessing the potential of the ever-increasing amounts of data, in particular industrial ones, **for the benefit of businesses, researchers and public administrations.**

This goal is mainly pursued through two key regulations:

Data Governance Act

- facilitates the reuse of certain public sector data that cannot be made available as open data.
- ensures trustworthy data intermediaries for sharing or pooling data within the Common European Data Spaces.
- makes it easier for citizens and businesses to make their data available for the benefit of society.

Data Act

- makes industrial data more accessible and usable, encouraging data-driven innovation.
- gives users greater control over the data they generate.
- defines essential requirements regarding interoperability to ensure that data can flow seamlessly between sectors and borders within the Common European Data Spaces.

Data Spaces

What are Data Spaces?

Data Spaces are secure, interoperable infrastructures that enable data sharing, pooling, and processing across organizations, sectors, and borders, under clear governance frameworks.

and their characteristics

Key Characteristics:

- **Data Governance:** transparent rules for access, usage, and processing, compliant with EU laws.
- **Security & Privacy:** privacy-preserving infrastructures to protect data.
- **Interoperability:** enabling the sharing of high-quality data promotes interoperability between different data systems facilitating easier collaboration across sectors and industries
- **Control & Trust:** data holders retain control over how their data are used.

The impact of Data for societal challenges

Water Management

- **Circularity** → minimizing water use and reducing water losses
- **Energy** → improving water management for reducing energy waste
- **Health** → prevent hazardous substances in both water supply and water wastage
- **Balance** → solutions to prevent or manage drought and extreme flooding

Manufacturing as a Service

- **Circularity** → enhancing resource efficiency with sustainable supply chain
- **Energy** → energy efficiency and renewables to reduce costs and environmental impact
- **Predictive Maintenance** → anticipating issues to minimize downtime and repair costs
- **Material Innovation** → creation of advanced products with improved performances

Why using Data Spaces for supporting water and manufacturing challenges

- **Overcoming legal and technical barriers** to unleash data-driven innovation.
- **Creating new products and services** while ensuring data sovereignty.
- **Supporting EU's strategic sustainable goals and circular economy** in sectors like energy, manufacturing, and water management.
- **Fostering industrial innovation** and competitiveness.
- **Increasing trust** between data providers and data users as pursuing a shared interest.
- **Reusing and collecting public sector data** for the common goods for improving public health.
- **Rising accessibility** and availability of data.

Open questions for Alpine Data Space

- **Sustainability:** In order to achieve EUSALP's goals for social and environmental sustainability, how should data spaces be regulated?
- **Business Model:** How can sharing best practices and success stories in business models encourage greater participation from enterprises and the public sector in data spaces?
- **Support for SMEs:** What legislative and economic measures need to be implemented to support SMEs in accessing and exchanging data within data spaces?
- **Standardization:** Are there different data standardization norms for the two sectors in question?
- **Advanced Technologies:** How can advanced technologies like blockchain support secure and efficient data spaces in the fields of water management and manufacturing as a service?
- **Citizen Engagement:** What actions could EUSALP take to promote data space culture among the population of the Alpine region?

Thanks!

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