

TRUSTS in the Community: Standardization, Engagement, and Impact

Interoperability as one of the key factors for success of collaborative data use

September 1, 2022 – Vienna/Barcelona. The EU innovation action [TRUSTS – Trusted Secure Data Sharing Space](#) was working on current challenges of data market technologies throughout the last three years. The project activities supported the advancement of innovations in the field of data-driven innovations, *“What TRUSTS has fostered is an understanding of interoperability for individual companies, but especially collaborative data spaces. We did a great job here in advancing that necessity for functional data ecosystems”*, states [Silva Castellvi](#), Senior Consultant for Stakeholder Engagement at the [International Data Spaces Association \(IDSA\)](#).

Trust and Security by Design for trustworthy collaboration

Trust is one of the most important factors for the data community to work on innovations in a collaborative way, IDSA is one of the forerunners in securing such aspects via identity management and similar necessities. Trust and Security by design were elaborated by IDSA in their IDS Connector, on which TRUSTS has built from the onset, and other secure software components, brought into the TRUSTS project.

Castellvi emphasizes, *“The exchange and collaboration of research institutions like Fraunhofer ISST and FIT, economic actors testing the solutions and community platforms working on feasibility evaluation created a strong drive towards innovations within the project”*.

Cooperation is key – together we achieve more

A strong community is a necessity for impact of such research and innovation actions like TRUSTS, in order to receive the project outcomes exchange with the whole ecosystem is a must. Therefore TRUSTS has had various formats (workshops, webinars, events, etc.): the most one on [Data Spaces & Semantic Interoperability](#) (W3C, SWC, ERCIM, IDSA, Fraunhofer FIT, DIO) . provided important feedback to the TRUSTS consortium, concerning gaps that are still needed to be overcome, but also provided important impact for stakeholders outside of the project. The workshop was very synergetic between the 15 Speakers and 50 participants. Functioning interoperability of data marketplaces, which is not yet fully solved within TRUSTS, was seen as biggest potential for technological impact.

In the last project year, the TRUSTS team will focus on standardization activities, which is a challenging activity in projects and companies. *“We will continue with this activity in order to provide reference implementation. For this we will further identify requirement gaps and new aspects provided to standardization bodies”*, says Castellvi. She closes, *“Important steps have been taken in the project, but we need to work further on that.”*

About the project

TRUSTS Trusted Secure Data Sharing Space is an innovation action funded from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 871481. Our goal: creating a secure and trustworthy European Data market for personal and industrial use by interconnecting different user groups and providing generic functionalities for innovative applications and services. Our consortium consists of seventeen partners based in nine countries across Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Germany, Greece, Israel, the Netherlands, Romania, and Spain. TRUSTS brings together technology providers, data providers, research institutions, and multipliers. The project runs from January 2020 to December 2022.