****

Press information 22.01.2013  
for immediate release

European Data Forum 2013 **A truly European Big Data community is on the rise**

**The European Data Forum (EDF) is an annual meeting place for industry, researchers, policy makers, and community initiatives to discuss the challenges and opportunities of (Big) Data in Europe.**

The next edition of the EDF will be held in Dublin, Ireland on April 9-10, 2013. The program will consist of presentations and networking sessions by industry leaders, academics, policy makers, and community organisers on a diverse range of topics, including research and technology development, training and knowledge transfer, and commercialization.

Vice-President of the European Commission Antonio Tajani recently launched the [European Entrepreneurship Action Plan](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/public-consultation/files/report-pub-cons-entr2020-ap_en.pdf), which designates access to Open Data and Big Data as a must, stating that “investing in digital technologies is no longer a choice.” After the commitments of EC commissioner Neelie Kroess (for example, with Open Data) and others, this is again a clear “Go” signal for the European Data Economy.

This emerging community will enable promising ideas to move from the posing research questions stage to the successful acquisition and deployment of capital; at the same time, the community’s stakeholders will mutually reinforce commercial strategies that require a forward-looking, dynamic, and well-integrated EU-wide industry.

As the sector works to build in its own successes, it has to answer several strategic questions:

* **Is the European economy ready for Big Data?**   
  What are the novel innovation and business models for Open and Linked Data? What platforms, marketplaces, policies, and strategies for the development of data ecosystems should be targeted?
* **Are we reaching out to relevant stakeholders?**   
  Do the application scenarios and specific technical and non-technical concepts of Big Data providers and consumers meet demands for themes like Smart Cities, Environmental Research, Geo-Spatial Information, eScience, and Social Media?
* **What does Europe provide in terms of innovative Business Intelligence solutions?**  
  How can the sector best align with European research agendas and roadmaps for science, technology and innovation, in particular in relation to research framework programmes such as Horizon 2020? Which framework conditions are essential for meeting Europe's ambitions towards a profitable data economy, such as forthcoming standardisation needs and commercialisation opportunities?

**EDF2013 Facts**

**What**: European Data Forum 2013 (EDF2013)

**Where**: [Croke Park Conference Centre](http://www.crokepark.ie/Conference-Centre) in Dublin, Ireland

**When**: April 9 to 10, 2013

**More Information**: <http://2013.data-forum.eu/>

**Registration** (EDF2013 is free of charge): <http://2013.data-forum.eu/news/european-data-forum-2013-call-contribution/registration>

**Twitter**: <https://twitter.com/EUDataForum> , hashtag: #EDF2013

**Press Area**: <http://2013.data-forum.eu/about/press-area>

**LinkedIn Group**: <http://www.linkedin.com/groups/European-Data-Forum-4356346>   
**Get in touch**: [edf2013@data-forum.eu](mailto:edf2013@data-forum.eu)

**Programme and Call for Participation**

We are seeking inspiring presentations addressing fundamental technical, application, socio-economic and policy-related topics related to Big Data management and analytics. The presentations will vary in format and focus depending on the anticipated audience and their contributors. Proposals will be reviewed by the organising committee of the European Data Forum (<http://2013.data-forum.eu/about/organizers>) according to their relevance to the scope and purpose of the event.

If you are interested in participating as a guest speaker for the EDF2013, please read the Call for Participation: <http://2013.data-forum.eu/news/european-data-forum-2013-call-contribution> and submit your presentation proposal no later than the 22nd of February, 2013 (2PM CET).

**Registration - Travel Support - Sponsoring**

Registration and participation in the European Data Forum 2013 is free of charge: <http://2013.data-forum.eu/news/european-data-forum-2013-call-contribution/registration>. There is also a limited opportunity for financial travel support (mainly for SMEs and NGO/NPO) - please watch the EDF2013 website for further details.

If you are interested in involving your organisation at the European Data Forum 2013, please note the Sponsor Information on the EDF2013 website and/or get in touch with the EDF2013 Sponsor Chairs: Nuria De-Lama Sanchez and/or Elena Simperl directly.

The European Data Forum 2013 is a joint activity of the EC projects:

* BIG (<http://big-project.eu/>)
* LOD2 (<http://lod2.eu/>)
* PlanetData (<http://planet-data.eu/>)
* Optique (<http://www.optique-project.eu/>)
* envision (<http://www.envision-project.eu/>) and
* TELEIOS (<http://www.earthobservatory.eu/>)

The EDF2013  is supported by the European Commission as well as by the Digital Repository of Ireland (<http://www.dri.ie/>), STI International (<http://www.sti2.org/>) and DERI, NUI Galway (<http://www.deri.ie/>).  EDF2013 is an associated event of the Irish Presidency of the Council of the EU (<http://www.eu2013.ie/>).

If you have any questions, feel free to [contact us](mailto:edf2013@data-forum.eu)and we will follow-up with you.

**The EDF2013 conference team is looking forward to meeting you in Dublin, Ireland in April!**

**EDF 2013 Press Contacts**

**EDF2013 Dissemination Chair**Martin Kaltenböck, Semantic Web Company, Austria   
Email: [m.kaltenboeck@semantic-web.at](mailto:m.kaltenboeck@semantic-web.at)

**EDF2013 Local Dissemination Chair**Deirdre Lee (DERI, NUI Galway, Ireland)  
Tel.http://www.deri.ie/fileadmin/images/elements/x.gif +353 91 495336  
Fax +353 91 495541  
Email: [Deirdre.Lee@deri.org](mailto:Deirdre.Lee@deri.org)

EDF2013 Press Area: <http://2013.data-forum.eu/about/press-area>