

CASE STUDY – HELSINKI

“MyData”

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1. Background and concept, goals of the project

We need a platform for fair consent for sharing personal data, and easily controlled and understandable purpose definitions. Managing consents by every individual data source will be very hard for the users to handle and understand when the number of sources grows, so a set of aggregating services should be introduced. This also helps the service providers as the consents handling is implemented once and used for many services thus making for simpler implementations and more fluid user experience.

Potential use cases would be combined services for people living in two (or more) cities, and commuting workers, proving driving permissions for vehicles to gain parking permits or be allowed to use vehicles etc., combining services that need authorization (like special prized tickets (from several cities) and MAAS services) and simpler UI's and “single sign on” style services.

We want to do this with other cities creating an operator network that should subscribe to high ethical standards and provide an interoperable solution for consents and sharing the data without creating unnecessary copies. We want to understand how a MyData operator network could be built and to make it work smoothly. We try to define the role of cities (and other public entities) in a working operator network and how the co-operation with private entities can be build.

We received some funding from the Finnish government for project for 2020-2021. The other participating cities are Espoo, Turku and Oulu. The total budget of the project is approx. 2.6M€ for two years.

2. Digital rights issues: either direct concerns or indirect issues arising during the project

During the project we try to learn more about following topics:

- How to make sure the consent is given voluntarily and with a good understanding,
- How to make sure all data users adhere to common ethics,



- How to make all the definitions understandable,
- How to make the purpose and scope of definitions wide and exact enough to satisfy legal needs and practical desires.

Define the role of cities (and other public entities) in a working operator network and how the co-operation with private entities can be build.

The underlying idea is to boost citizens right to have his/her data as a directly usable asset move between service providers whilst retaining control so that the permissions to use that data can be effectively revoked at any point. Due to GDPR and other legal compliance requirements one of the direct issues will be to define the balanced approach between usability and regulatory framework(s).

3. Work done and lessons learnt

The main project just starting in May, but already it is obvious that the ethics and definitions will need a lot of work. We have already done some groundwork with other cities and organizations (eg. MyData Global, OASC, Technology Industries of Finland, Vastuu Group etc) on legal issues, principles, guidelines for the network. We organized an international seminar around these issues in February.

These efforts include the mydata declaration, mydata operator white paper, mydata operator rule book (draft) a project on fair and ethical AI and some draft documentation on how the consent definitions should be written. We are currently drafting specification for MIM4 for OASC.

4. Next steps

We are going to release an MVP of a Helsinki profile in June. Releasing the Helsinki profile will be our first step in the longer path to build full MyData capabilities.

The MVP contains only basic information and is not yet connected to service specific information (for more details please refer to developer.hel.fi). The consent in this phase is service specific. The data security and GDPR compliance were crucial considerations and have been audited.

5. Conclusion

This project is one step of the long way to provide a truly useful implementation for sharing data between different domains and providers without many point to point



integrations and in essence similar but in text different agreements or permits. Thus, making the right for migrating one's data seamlessly between different service providers a reality. Individuals right(s) for information of who, what, where, how and why their data is being processed improves.