



Press information 03.06.2015
for immediate release

European Data Forum 2015 (EDF2015) – Exploiting Data Integration in a European Digital Single Market!

The European Data Forum (EDF) is an annual meeting for industry professionals, researchers, policy makers, and members of community initiatives to discuss the challenges and opportunities of the global and European data economy.

Spurred on by recent developments around Big Data and data-driven business, data has become the fourth production factor (next to personnel, capital, and natural resources), which offers completely new opportunities and at the same time confronts us with novel challenges. The European Data Forum balances technical, business-oriented and socio-economic perspectives and approaches in order to develop a vibrant, interdisciplinary stakeholder community. There will be a special focus on innovation and business opportunities created by data technologies and their exploitation, from the perspective of a digital single market in Europe.

This year's EDF will take place in the Grand Duchy of **Luxembourg** as an official event of the Luxembourg Presidency of the Council of the European Union on **November 16th and 17th, 2015** at the European Convention Center Luxembourg.

The programme will consist of presentations, panels and networking sessions by industry professionals, researchers, policy makers, and members of community initiatives. Topics will cover a wide spectrum of developments in research and technology, applications, and socio-economic aspects of the data value chain, with particular attention paid to the main theme of EDF2015: **Exploiting Data Integration**.

The forum will be opened by **Xavier Bettel, Prime Minister of Luxembourg, Marc Hansen, Secretary of State for Higher Education and Research of Luxembourg**, as well as **Günther Oettinger, European Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society**. Several high profile keynote speakers are already confirmed and will be announced soon. Selected presentations from the recently closed Call for Contributions (which received over 100 submissions) will round off the EDF2015 programme.

In addition, a **marketplace and exhibition area** will showcase the latest products, services and projects on the European Data Economy and beyond. The 2015 **European Data Innovator Award** will be presented and the **Pan-European Open Data Portal** will be officially launched.

Full information is available on the EDF2015 website: 2015.data-forum.eu

Registration is now open: <http://bit.ly/EDF2015-register>

EDF2015 is a free community event but seats are limited so register NOW!

The following is a non-exhaustive list of specific topics of interest at EDF 2015:

- More and more data is produced directly from sensors or other technical devices. Therefore, EDF wants to offer a forum for **sensor systems** as well as **high performance computing** and **analytics on large-scale** European datasets. Only by making sensor data smarter and at the same time increasing our analytics performance will we be able to handle the data tsunami expected. EDF will provide examples demonstrating how the European industry approaches these problems.
- It can be expected that European companies will predominantly benefit from the application of data-driven technology and business approaches to their application domains. Therefore, it is critical that we tackle the divide of domain knowledge (which exists mostly in the heads of experts) and **big data analytics**. Only the development of mechanisms which make it possible to utilize pre-existing knowledge within analytics engines as well as to discover new knowledge within analytics results is essential. The EDF will be instrumental in bringing together communities from research fields as different as human factors, visual analytics, and machine learning.
- The European data economy will need **a large number of data scientists** of various types. Qualified professionals are already scarce. It will be crucial to foster high-quality qualification programs that focus both on the technical aspects of data science as well as on application and sense making within the application areas. The EDF will address this need by offering a space to discuss qualification needs and possible programmes as well as foster such programmes on European as well as national level.
- Because of the strategic **importance of multilingualism in Europe**, a key topic of interest is the integration and co-operation of the European data community with the language resources, natural-language and technology communities. The synergy of these communities is critical for new types of multilingual digital services and the creation of a European digital single market without language barriers.

----- *End of official press release* -----

(Please see further information on EDF2015 below)

EDF2015 Facts

What: European Data Forum 2015 (EDF2015)

Where: Luxembourg

When: November 16 to 17, 2015

More Information: <http://2015.data-forum.eu>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EUDataForum>, hashtag: #EDF2015

Press Area: <http://2015.data-forum.eu/about/press-area>

LinkedIn Group: <http://www.linkedin.com/groups/European-Data-Forum-4356346>

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EDF2015 Press Area: <http://2015.data-forum.eu/about/press-area>

Sponsor EDF2015

The European Data Forum is a focal point for the top leaders and advocates of Open Data, Linked Data and Big Data technologies, thus offering key opportunities to increase the visibility of your company or organization. Sponsoring packages for EDF2015 are especially designed to help you spread your message to a wide range of attendees active in European industry, research, policy making and user communities.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of the EDF2015, please consider the available sponsoring opportunities (<http://2015.data-forum.eu/sponsor-information>) and contact the sponsor chairs of the EDF2015 at edf2015@data-forum.eu.