

# Mentoring Session: Open Data for the Social and Solidarity, Economy

DO Impact Project

Barcelona Online Transactional Workshop: Open Data for Social Impact 28 May 2025



- Open Data for SSE
- Open Data Sources
  - International
  - National
  - Local
- Prom Data to Impact
- Conclusions



#### OPEN DATA FOR SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY

#### What is Open Data and Why is it Relevant for SSE?

- ✓ Open data: publicly available information that anyone can access, reuse, and share freely.
- ✓ Its value increases when combined and contextualised with other sources.
- ✓ For SSE organisations, open data is a tool to:
  - Access strategic information at no cost
  - Support funding and project planning
  - Influence public policy using evidence-based approaches
  - Detect local social needs.



## **OPEN DATA FOR SSE**

#### **Empowering SSE Organisations**

- **Better decision-making** using social, economic, and demographic patterns
- Efficient resource allocation e.g. job placement services
- Demonstrating impact
   Use data to measure project outcomes
- Transparency and accountability
   Improve reporting and trust
- Cross-sector collaboration
   Share and reuse data for greater impact



## **EUROPEAN USE CASES**

#### Open Data Manchester (UK)

- Data for Communities (https://www.opendatamanchester.org.uk/projects/)
- Work with local communities.
   Collect and use open data for social problems.
  - e.g. School Streets: mobility and air quality data.
- Impact:
  - Improved child health and road safety in school environments
  - Promotion of informed civic participation

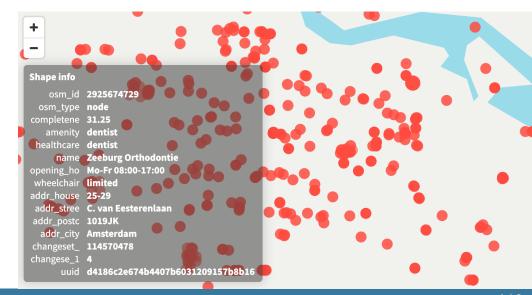


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#### **EUROPEAN USE CASES**

## Healthsites (Netherlands)

- Healthsites and Open health data (https://data.humdata.org/dataset/netherlands-healthsites)
- Collaborative platform providing open data on healthcare facilities.
   It includes information such as location, name, type of facility and services offered.
- Impact:
  - Facilitates public health intervention planning
  - Allows equitable access to medical services (especially in rural or underserved areas).

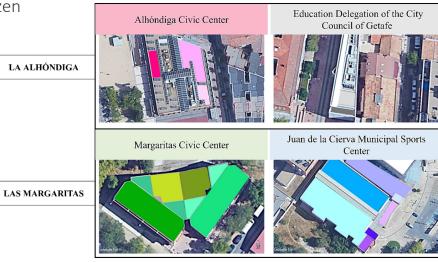


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#### **EUROPEAN USE CASES**

#### Community Energy (Spain - Getafe)

- Community Energy for addressing Energy Poverty
   (https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0378778823006485)
- Case study in Getafe (Madrid) analysing how local energy communities can address energy poverty by combining citizen participation with the use of data on energy consumption, income, and housing.
- Impact:
  - Accurate identification of vulnerable households
  - Cost savings
  - Improved energy efficiency
  - Proposals for municipal policies.





## International / European

#### Eurostat

Harmonised statistics on:

- Population
- Economy
- Employment
- Inequality
- Environment
- •

https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat

# Open Data Portal of the European Union

Data from EU institutions and agencies. Diverse topics:

- Economy & Finance
- Population & Society
- Environment & Energy
- Transport & Mobility
- Science, Technology & Innovation

https://data.europa.eu

# Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX)

Global open data platform on vulnerabilities and access to services

- Displacement
- Health
- Food security
- Crises

https://data.humdata.org

# Comparing International / European sources

	Eurostat	EU Open Data Portal	HDX
Main Focus	Harmonised official statistics	Institutional and technical data from EU bodies	Crisis response and humanitarian contexts
Geographical Scope	European Union	EU + some global	Global (focus on crises)
Types of Data	Socioeconomic, demographic, labour, environment	Administrative, thematic, sectoral	Vulnerability, displacement, access to services
Recommended Use	Comparative analysis, policymaking, academic studies	Digital tools, transparency, data-driven applications	Humanitarian planning, development, global analysis

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## National (Spain)

# INE (National Statistics Institute)

Main source of info!

- Population register (Padrón)
- Surveys (ECV, EPF, EPA)
- Census
- Consumer Price Index
- Population and household structures

https://www.ine.es

# Spanish Government Open Data Portal

Spain's central hub for open data.

- Employment
- Public Services
- Education
- Health

https://datos.gob.es

#### Specific ministries / agencies

- MITECO
   Environment, energy, and demographics
- MIVAU
   Housing and urban development
- SEPE Employment and benefits.

## Regional and Local (Catalonia and cities)

# Idescat (Statistical Institute of Catalonia)

Detailed Catalan statics; finer geographic disaggregation.

- Population
- Housing
- Education
- Income
- Labour market

https://www.idescat.cat

# Government of Catalonia Open Data Portal

Territorial, social, economic and administrative datasets on:

- Demographics
- Public expenditure
- Mobility
- Environment

https://dadesobertes.gencat.cat

#### Municipal Open Data Portals

Provide Neighbourhood-level data. Examples: Barcelona and Girona.

Open Data BCN <a href="https://opendata-ajuntament.barcelona.cat">https://opendata-ajuntament.barcelona.cat</a>

Girona Open Data
<a href="https://www.girona.cat/opendata">https://www.girona.cat/opendata</a>

#### TYPES OF USEFUL DATA FOR SSE



#### Demographic

Population, age, migration, housing, mobility



#### Socioeconomic

Income, expenses, education, unemployment, vulnerability



#### **Health and Social**

Access to services, dependency, mental health, disability



#### **Environmental and Urban**

Air quality, green space, noise, energy efficiency



#### **Public Service Use**

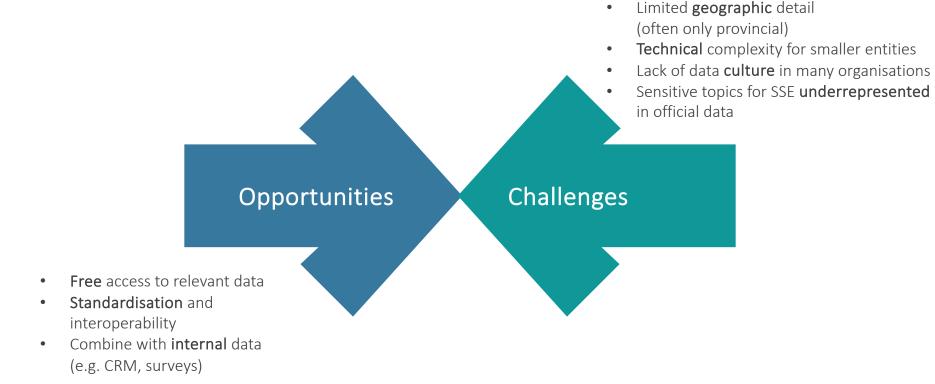
Transport, schools, recycling



#### **Policy Indicators**

Budgets, grants, monitoring frameworks

## **OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES**



#### **EXAMPLE OF INTEGRATION AND ADDED VALUE**

Habits<sup>®</sup>



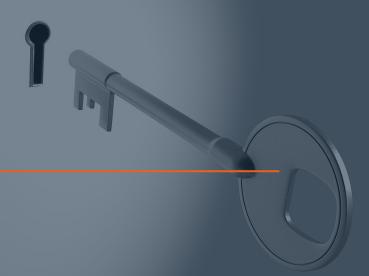








# From Data to Impact



#### **HOW CAN SSE ORGANISATIONS MAKE USE OF OPEN DATA?**





## **CAN WE INTERVENE IN DATA?**

#### Yes!

SSE actors can (and should) influence the data ecosystem:

- **Production**Collect data (surveys, citizen input)
- Validation
   Validate data accuracy against local knowledge
- Publication
  Publish own data (openly and responsibly)
- Push for improvements (granularity, frequency, new variables)
- Participation
  Join open data governance processes

# WHAT'S STILL MISSING?

- Technical capacity within organisations
   Training and support
- Shared infrastructure
   Datasets, dashboards, geo-tools (GIS)
- Sector-wide coordination
   Data observatories, alliances
- Dialogue with public authorities
   e.g. through projects like BCN Open Data + SSE





#### **CONCLUSIONS**

## Open Data for the Social and Solidarity Economy

- Open data is a **strategic asset for SSE**: accessible, reusable, and powerful when contextualised.
- Supports informed decision-making, social impact measurement, and targeted action.
- Combining open and internal data unlocks deeper insights and stronger evidence.
- Opportunities abound, but technical barriers and limited granularity remain real challenges.
- SSE organisations can be data actors not just users, but also producers, validators, and advocates.
- Collaboration is key: shared tools, sector-wide alliances, and public-community dialogue.
- Investing in capacity and infrastructure will ensure open data drives meaningful change.

Open data is more than a tool. SSE organisations can not only use it – they can help transform hoy it's generated, shared and applied for social good.

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