

Homer partners develop two pilot projects aimed at companies and citizenship

Homer, six months later

Homer defines its capitalisation strategy

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Harmonising  
Open data in the  
Mediterranean through better access and  
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# newsletter

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## HOMER PARTNERS DEVELOP TWO PILOT PROJECTS AIMED AT COMPANIES AND CITIZENSHIP

HOMER (Harmonising Open data in the Mediterranean through better access and Reuse of public sector information) partners have been working, in recent months, on two different pilot projects focussed on private companies and citizens. These projects will allow partners to continue working in parallel to the creation of a federated open data portal.

The first pilot project is called “Hack4MED” and its objective is to encourage the re-use of HOMER information by companies located in the Mediterranean, to develop web and mobile applications and to emphasise on

building a collaborative model.

The pilot project will be based on the development of a series of hackathons, meetings between programmers and other specialists in fields such as software development, graphic design, interface design and project management. These events will





serve to create the basis for the development of a digital market along the Mediterranean.

Hack4MED is coordinated by the region of Veneto and is expected to have the participation of four institutional and four operational partners as well as some associated partners, although the participation is open to any partner who wants to join in the experience.



With regard to the second pilot project, it targets citizens involvement in the decision-making process through the access to public information through the development of applications for this purpose. Thus, citizens can contribute to improve the quality of life of their territory thanks to open information.

To achieve such an ambitious objective, this pilot project will begin by defining the target audience and the type of participation expected of citizens, in addition to identifying the sectors in which citizens are more interested and what would be their more appropriate contribution.

The coordinator of this pilot experience is the Mediterranean Institute of France, and, initially, seven of 19 project partners will be involved in it, although the participation is

open to any partner who wants to join in the experience.

## HOMER, SIX MONTHS LATER

Framed in the MED operational programme and led by the Italian region of Piemonte, HOMER (Harmonising Open data in the Mediterranean through better access and Reuse of public sector information) has been working in the creation of a federated open data portal from which public information will be made available to the private sector, innovation, competitiveness and economic growth, as well as citizens, participation and democracy, since April, when its kick-off meeting took place in Turin.

It is a transnational project involving 19 partners from Italy, France, Spain, Greece, Cyprus, Montenegro, Malta and Slovenia.

The project will be developed through the exchange of good practices between the regions and entities participating in the project and it will encourage population and private companies to use open data applications. In this sense, the project also promotes the creation of synergies with other initiatives of the MED area and the European policy on the re-use of public information.

The roadmap of the future federated open data portal will be established in Corsica

HOMER second meeting, held in Corsica, took place on 12 and 13 of July. The 19 participants of this project put on the table the ideas

embodied in their own platforms for Open Data and the needs that must be met to reach a common position.

The Federated open data portal, datasets, metadata and services, metadata and semantics and services and, the access to data and applications, were the four sets discussed and developed and on which the definition and elaboration of the first technical report of the requirements of HOMER platform were based.

It is a document that presents an analysis of the current situation of public information in each one of the entities that participate in this transnational cooperation project. A document that offers an overview from which general technical specifications can be defined.

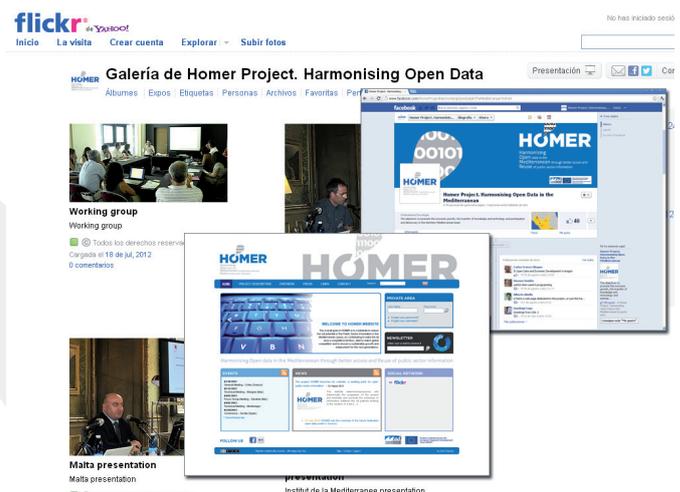
### Progresses in HOMER Communication Plan

HOMER Communication Plan, as well as the protocol for the implementation of the Plan and the protocol for the presence in the various social networks, were approved, almost at the same time, at the start of the project.

It is a Plan based on the Communication Plan of the MED operational programme and it includes different tools ranging from the Corporate Identity Manual to a website, an electronic newsletter, presence in social networks, organisation of events, publications, a communication team and actions of institutional relations, among others.

All these documents, fundamental to disseminate the project and its results, were also approved at the meeting in Corsica, though, the corporate image, later developed in the aforementioned manual, had already been approved in Turin.

With regard to the logo, the visual identity comprises the union between a solid and sober typeface, the blue tone characteristic of the zone of the Mediterranean and a bullet shaped symbol containing a text in binary code, typical of the computer language. In this sense, the opening of letter “O” and the code of the content of the bullet that emerges from this vowel, transmit the general concept of the HOMER project. In other words, the idea of communication and transmission of open data through technological means.



HOMER website was also presented in Corsica; a website which, a few days later, was already working. The website has different sections about the projects, about each of the partners that integrate the projects, a press section and newsletter, as well as different links. In addition, it has a private area to facilitate the work between the partners.

The web has enabled the creation of social networks profiles such as Facebook, or the presence on Youtube or Flickr.

## HOMER DEFINES ITS CAPITALISATION STRATEGY

HOMER (Harmonising Open data in the Mediterranean through better access and Reuse of public sector information) 19 partners will meet from 2 to 5 October in Crete to address the capitalisation strategy of the project.

After the meeting held in July in Corsica, this next meeting in Crete is the next step in the definition of the activities which will enable the creation of a federated portal of open data, from which public information will be made available to the private sector and citizenship as innovation, competitiveness, economic growth, participation and democracy are the main objectives of this project, included in the MED operational programme.

The Region of Crete is the partner in charge of HOMER capitalisation work package, hence, this meeting will be primarily focused on this aspect and its implementation in the Mediterranean area. To do this, its economic and social impact as well as its transferability and synergies with other programmes and actions will be discussed during the meeting.

The capitalisation work package aims at identifying, organising and evaluating experiences, knowledge or results in order to use them in the implementation of new and innovative projects. Thus, the strategy and actions which will be established from now on will be oriented to the use of the results after the end of the project, to the need to establish agreements and to obtain political commitments with those who make



decisions. It also aims at identifying target groups interested in the use and promotion of its results, identifying funding schemes that will enable new public and private investment and establishing, if necessary, a permanent structure in order to ensure the long-term impact and sustainability of HOMER results.

All the activities to be developed in Crete during these days will be debated through round tables and workshops which will enable to establish the work methodology and, ultimately, the capitalisation strategy.