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**IMIS / Athena R.C.**



**PUBLICA MUNDI**

**Press Release Dec. 2014**

## **PublicaMundi invites the Open Data community to join [labs.geodata.gov.gr](http://labs.geodata.gov.gr)!**

PublicaMundi, an FP7 project aiming to make open geospatial data easier to publish and reuse, has just reached a major milestone! Our first public beta, integrating all PublicaMundi technologies developed during the first year of the project, is available on [labs.geodata.gov.gr](http://labs.geodata.gov.gr).

**Athens, December 11, 2014:** PublicaMundi is an FP7-funded research project originating from everyday problems faced by open data publishers and data consumers alike. Simply stated, open geospatial data are cumbersome to easily *publish* and *consume* for non-GIS experts. While most data publishers and developers are familiar with handling and using typical data, they are not familiar with the intricacies of geospatial data.

The first year of PublicaMundi has successfully ended with our first public beta, available in [labs.geodata.gov.gr](http://labs.geodata.gov.gr). After a year of intense work, collaboration with data publishers, SMEs, and citizen associations, we have already delivered a breakthrough in open geospatial data publishing. Our contributions so far have been *awarded* (winners of [Big Data Challenge](#) in Copernicus Masters), found their way in *open standards* ([SQL/MDA](#)), *rolled-out* in leading open data catalogues ([pycsw](#) in data.gov), and reached the *Open Source community* ([FOSS4G-Europe 2014](#)).

Most importantly, we managed to deliver our promise on making geospatial easier to publish and reuse. Within a *few minutes*, a data publisher can upload any geospatial data set (even a simple csv), and have it automatically available through open OGC services, simple JavaScript APIs, and scalable interactive maps.

The PublicaMundi consortium would like to thank all open data publishers and practitioners for their feedback thus far, and **invite them to evaluate** the PublicaMundi technologies in [labs.geodata.gov.gr](http://labs.geodata.gov.gr). Give us your feedback, ideas, and help us make open geospatial data easier for you to publish and use! How you can help us:

- Use the **feedback** form available throughout [labs.geodata.gov.gr](https://labs.geodata.gov.gr/). Whatever problem you encounter, or idea you want to submit, just write it down.
- Send as an **email** to [contact@publicamundi.eu](mailto:contact@publicamundi.eu) with your ideas and comments.
- Join the development work in <https://github.com/PublicaMundi>. You can submit an issue, help with the documentation, and of course **join the development team** of PublicaMundi.

### What does PublicaMundi offer?

[Labs.geodata.gov.gr](https://labs.geodata.gov.gr/) is a test-bed for all technologies developed by PublicaMundi, providing early prototypes of software and services before their roll-out in [geodata.gov.gr](https://geodata.gov.gr/). Feel free to publish, discover, reuse, visualize open geospatial data, and give us your feedback. Check the available features for publishing geospatial data (vector and raster), our powerful OGC web services, INSPIRE conformance, Data APIs, and Mapping APIs.

PublicaMundi has already delivered on its promise, making geospatial data **first class citizens** in open data catalogues! Currently we provide:

- Full support (create, edit, import) for the most used **geospatial metadata** standards, tightly integrated in the publishing workflow, and with powerful programmatic support for adding further metadata standards.
- Full support for **vector** and **raster** geospatial data, **automating** their ingestion and provision through OGC services, interactive maps, and JavaScript APIs. Data publishers need to only upload any data they have; the system handles the rest!
- **On-demand transformation** for published **metadata** and **data** in different formats and/or CRS. Again, data publishers can just focus on *opening up data*; users can search, download and use them in any form they need.
- Powerful **OGC services** and **JavaScript APIs**, providing scalable and flexible querying, analysis, and visualization services for all published geospatial data. Developers can simply pick their service of choice and have instant access to APIs for developing value added services. Publishers once more don't have to do a thing!

Not only that, PublicaMundi provides a *full blown open data catalogue* supporting all types of data (not only geospatial), a complete *Spatial Data Infrastructure* (OGC and INSPIRE compliant), and a highly scalable cloud-based *data infrastructure*. Further, it enables data publishers to extract value and repurpose existing investments in GIS, SDIs, and open data catalogues.

Over the second year of the project, we will deliver even more exciting capabilities and services.

### PublicaMundi is an Open Project

- **Open Source.** PublicaMundi is based on, and extends great open source software for geospatial data management. Rasdaman, ZOO Project, pyctsw, GeoServer, CKAN, OpenLayers, PostGIS are among the many we focus on. Join us in <https://github.com/PublicaMundi>.

- **Open Data.** Open data is one of the pillars of EU's Data Economy, an enabler for better governance and financial growth. Our goal is to make geospatial data first-class citizens in the data economy; easier to publish, discover and use to build value added services
- **Open Knowledge.** All deliverables, software, publications, and data from PublicaMundi are offered with an open knowledge license. We believe this will enable the uptake of our work from young SMEs, researchers, and the community

### **The PublicaMundi consortium**

The project coordinator is **IMIS** ([Institute for the Management of Information Systems](#)) from "Athena" Research Center (Greece), a leading RTD institution active in research on all aspects of open data, with emphasis on geospatial data. The other partners are [rasdaman](#) (Germany), a high-tech SME leading the development of rasdaman, an open source exascale big geospatial data analysis server, [GeoLabs](#) (France) a high-tech SME leading the development of numerous open source geospatial projects, among which the ZOO-Project, and [GET](#) (Greece) a high-tech SME active in the entire lifecycle of geospatial data.

### **Background**

"Athena" Research and Innovation Centre in Information, Communication and Knowledge Technologies ([www.athena-innovation.gr](http://www.athena-innovation.gr)) is a research and technology body, which was founded under the auspices of the Greek Ministry of Development in 2001.

"Athena" R.C. participates in the project through the **Institute for the Management of Information Systems** (IMIS). IMIS was founded in 2007, with the mission to conduct research in the area of data management and large scale information systems. Research at IMIS has a strong collaborative aspect and ranges from basic to applied research. The collaborative aspect is expressed in that research is conducted with national and international partners from industry as well as academia, often also in the context of novel and innovative projects. IMIS has already attracted funding from the European Union as well as from national funding agencies. IMIS activities focus on: Information integration and interoperability, Distributed Information Systems, Web Information Systems, Management of spatial and spatiotemporal data, and Privacy preservation.

### **More information**

About the project: <http://www.publicamundi.eu>

About Athena R.C., IMIS: <http://www.imis.athena-innovation.gr>

### **Contact**

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