

Introduction

Welcome to the first newsletter of the **CROSSOVER** project.

CROSSOVER is a project, co-funded by the European Commission 7th Framework Programme FP7-ICT-2011-2012 under the objective 5.6 "ICT solutions for governance and policy modelling". **CROSSOVER** started in October 2011 and will last 18 months. Its main goal is to consolidate and expand the existing community active in the domain of "ICT for governance and policy modelling" through:

- bringing together and reinforcing the links between the different global communities of policy makers and practitioners;
- reaching out to and enhancing the understanding of non-experts and potential users, particularly high-level policy makers and policy advisors;
- establishing the basis for long-lasting interest and commitment to next generation policy making.

The vision of **CROSSOVER** is to raise awareness among policy makers of the concrete information offered by governance and policy modelling tools and to respond to their research needs. The expected outcome is a new Research Roadmap on ICT tools for Governance and Policy Modelling. The roadmap will be demand-driven and calibrated on users' and practitioners' needs and will be improved and validated by collecting their input and feedback.

CROSSOVER will pursue this goal by:

- creating a platform that serves as the main collaboration tool among the **CROSSOVER** partners, experts and practitioners;
- producing a consolidated corpus of material, such as use cases, experts, tools, models and news in the domain of ICT for governance and policy modelling;
- animating online and offline discussions among experts and practitioners.

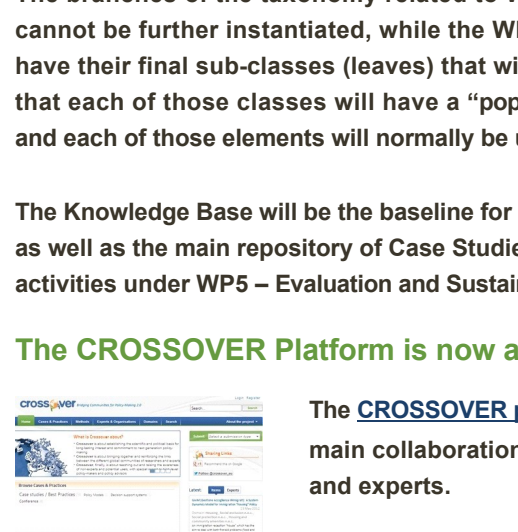
In this newsletter, we provide information about the latest developments, upcoming and past events, as well as recent publications.

Thank you for your interest in our work!

The CROSSOVER team

Project News

The CROSSOVER Taxonomy



Defining and using a taxonomy allows the systematic organisation of knowledge around the broad topic of ICT tools for Governance and Policy Modelling. Knowledge about practitioners, methodologies, relevant use cases and context, is classified and organised according to a navigable hierarchy. More technically, the taxonomy is a tag space, that is, a hyper-cube-based ontology that will help in the development of a very well organised knowledge base that supports easy searching.

The building of the reference model facilitates the coherent classification of knowledge and then:

- the study of available tools and models adopted at project level in order to contribute to the final database;
- the identification of the key people and organisations (D1.2), tools and methods, case studies and best practices.

The taxonomy has been organised in order to map the knowledge base in the following domains:

- Cases, Models, Applications – WHAT has been developed
- Key People and Organizations – WHO has developed it
- Tools and Methodologies – HOW it has been developed
- Contexts of Application – WHERE it has been developed

The branches of the taxonomy related to WHERE and HOW will describe general classes that cannot be further instantiated, while the WHAT and WHO branches constitute classes that will have their final sub-classes (leaves) that will be instantiated on the final repository: this means that each of those classes will have a "population" of elements belonging to that general class and each of those elements will normally be unique.

The Knowledge Base will be the baseline for the definition of the CROSSOVER Research Roadmap as well as the main repository of Case Studies that will be part of the work to be conducted for the activities under WPS – Evaluation and Sustainability.

The CROSSOVER Platform is now available



The **CROSSOVER platform** went online on 1st May 2012. It serves as the main collaboration tool among the **CROSSOVER** partners, practitioners and experts.

The platform also provides a consolidated corpus of material, such as use cases & practices, methods & tools, news, experts, which has been coherently organized according to the project taxonomy. The taxonomy has been developed in order to facilitate the classification of the knowledge base.

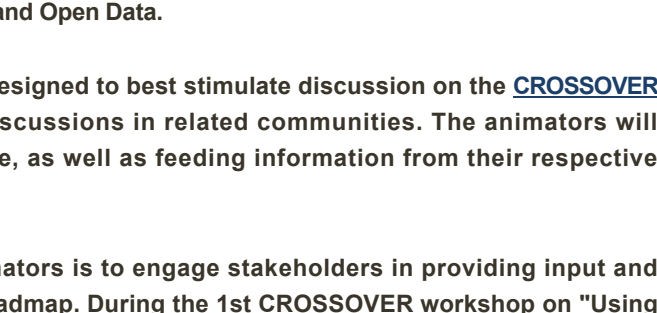
The visitors are able to browse the pages of the **Crossover platform** and use the offered search functionality. Therefore, they are able to view the details of the repository for use cases & practices, methods & tools, people, organizations, etc. that are available in the platform.

Moreover, visitors are able to view **CROSSOVER news** and **events** on Policy Making 2.0, download material, such as **publications** and **deliverables** produced by the project. **CROSSOVER Research Roadmap** on ICT tools for policy modelling is also available in a convenient format through the platform, where visitors could contribute on the proposed research challenges. Visitors can also participate in the **survey** on the ICT needs for policy makers through the **CROSSOVER platform**.

First version of the CROSSOVER Research Roadmap

The first version of the **CROSSOVER Research Roadmap** is now available.

The roadmap presents the methodology and stages followed to achieve the project objectives, and it provides an overview of key research issues related to the domain of ICT for governance and policy modelling. In doing so, it aims to stimulate long-lasting interest and commitment to next generation policy making, as well as to provide a clear outline of what technologies are now available for policy makers, and what could become available in the future.



The methodology and stages of the project can be found [here](#). More details of the major research challenges regarding ICT for policy modelling are included separately in the platform and other **Roadmap**. All sections are commentable. Readers are encouraged to post comments on each section, as well as general comments on next-generation policy making.

The project includes two workshops that are designed to gather input on the research challenges and feedback on the proposed Roadmap. The first workshop, "Using Open Data: policy modelling, citizen empowerment, data journalism" took place on 19 - 20 June 2012 in Brussels. Details of the workshop are included in the section "Recent Events" of this newsletter. The second workshop focuses more specifically on ICT solutions for policy modelling and it will assemble major governments, scientific and industry players. It will be organised in the US and more information will be available soon.

Survey on the ICT Needs for Policy Makers

The survey aims at stimulating practitioners (actual and potential), researchers and public officials in the field of policy making to provide input, feedback and validation to the new research roadmap on ICT tools for Governance and Policy Modelling which is being developed by the **CROSSOVER Consortium** and which is due to be published in March 2013.

The roadmap has a demand-driven approach: rather than focusing on the technology, it starts from the needs and the activities of policy making (collected through the survey) and then links to the research challenges. The survey is being disseminated through the platform and other Web 2.0 channels (twitter, LinkedIn, etc.) pertaining to the Consortium and the Animators Committee, and the results will be made available in the project website and presented at the final project conference.

The survey is composed of 3 short sections. In the first section, the respondent is asked what are the major challenges in the policy making process according to his or her experience, marking the options from "not important" to "very important". The possible options include: detect and understand problems before they become unsolvable, identify innovative solutions to long-standing problems, reduce uncertainty to the possible future impact of policies, ensure long-term and non-opportunistic thinking. In the second section of the survey the respondent is asked if he or she has made use in policy making, any of the following ICT tools and methodologies: Policy Modelling, Policy Simulation, Opinion Mining and Sentiment Analysis, Visualisation and Visual Analytics, Serious Games and Behavioural Applications, Open Data and Big Data, Collaborative Governance, Participatory Sensing. In particular the respondent is requested to describe some applications stressing the gaps in the tools used, or if the case the reasons for not using any tool. In the last section of the survey the respondent is asked to provide some information such as, name, role, sector, department, level (local or international), phase of the policy making process in which he or she is engaged.

The survey has been launched at the beginning of August and will last until the end of the project. So far the survey has received 37 responses (the expected target is about 300), and is available [here](#).

CROSSOVER animators cooperating with us

The **CROSSOVER consortium** appointed nine animators in the fields of Policy Modelling, Collaborative Governance and Web 2.0, Argument Visualisation, Visual Analytics, Visualisation and Policy Simulation, Serious Gaming and Open Data.

The composition of the Animators is designed to best stimulate discussion on the **CROSSOVER platform** and also link the ongoing discussions in related communities. The animators will generate blog posts, tweets and more, as well as feeding information from their respective communities back to **CROSSOVER**.

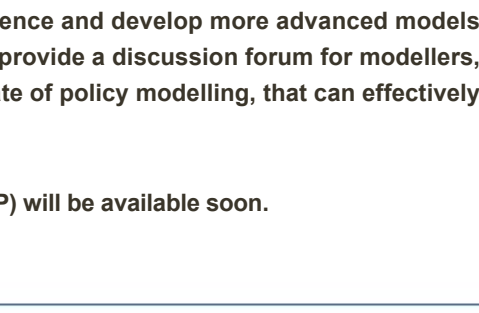
The most crucial function of the animators is to engage stakeholders in providing input and feedback on the proposed research roadmap. During the 1st **CROSSOVER** workshop on "Using Open Data Workshop: policy modelling, citizen empowerment, data journalism" that took place in Brussels, 19 - 20 June 2012, the animators Alberto Cottica and Luigi Reggi participated to chair special thematic panels where the sections of the research roadmap were discussed together with the stakeholders attending the event. This ensured feedback and input to the roadmap.

The members of the Animators Committee have also an important role in the LinkedIn group Policy Making 2.0 and foster debate among the stakeholders invited to join the group.

[Click here](#) for the list of Animators.

Cooperation with eGovPoliNet

Like **CROSSOVER**, **eGovPoliNet** is a project funded by the European Commission under the 7th Framework Programme. It aims to set up an international community in ICT solutions for governance and policy modelling that will share and advance research and insights from practical cases around the world.



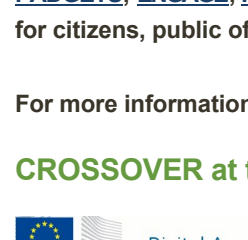
The collaboration between **CROSSOVER** and **eGovPoliNet** projects is expected to help establish one single strong community on ICT for governance and policy modelling.

The two projects will organize common workshops and conferences, and collaborate in building a common knowledge base.

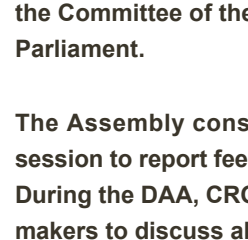
Upcoming Events

eGovPoliNet & CROSSOVER Roadmapping Workshop, Kristiansand, Norway, 6th September 2012

eGovPoliNet & CROSSOVER Roadmapping Workshop: A joint roadmapping workshop by the two FP7 projects will be held on 6th September 2012 at University of Adger, at Kristiansand, Norway. The workshop is part of the joint IFIP EGOV and ePart 2012 conferences.



EGOV 2012 is the 11th conference on electronic government, which aims to bring together top experts of the scientific research community in e-government and e-governance from all over the world.



ePart 2012 is the 4th international conference on eParticipation, which aims to bring together researchers and practitioners from a wide range of academic and applied backgrounds to provide a unique opportunity to better understand political engagement in a virtual environment and to discuss specific advances in eParticipation from different disciplinary perspectives.

The joint conference will feature refereed paper presentations, invited keynote presentations, high-level discussion panels, workshops and a PhD Colloquium.

JRC-EUROSTAT Joint Seminar on Scientific Support to EU Decision Making, Ispra, Italy, 17-18 September 2012

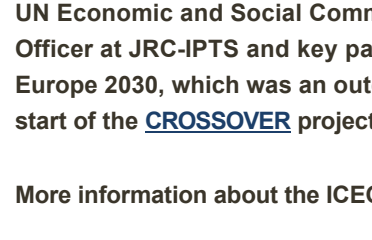
The European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) and Eurostat jointly organises a two day seminar on the use of data, indicators, models and measurement tools for policy purposes. The seminar is primarily addressed to officials and experts from EU institutions and Member States, central agencies and authorities involved in evidence-based decision making. Institutes, NGOs, journalists and researchers with an interest in the use of data for policy purposes are most welcome to participate in the debate.

The objectives of the seminar are:

- to present the latest developments and ideas within the policy community on evidence-based decision making
- to provide a structured discussion of the advantages, the challenges and the limitations of the use of (statistical) data and evidence for policy purposes
- to present the key issues on data-related policy debates (e.g. composite indicators, valuation, modelling)
- to learn by exchange of experiences and best practices how to ensure transparency, accountability and acceptance of evidence-based policy making

More information is available on the [event website](#).

ICEGOV 2012 – 6th International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance, Albany NY, 22-25 October 2012



The 6th International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance (**ICEGOV**), organised by the Center for Technology in Government (University at Albany, USA), in collaboration with the Conference Series Organizer, UNU-IIST Center for Electronic Governance (Macao), and under the patronage of the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration.

The ICEGOV series focuses on the use of technology to foster relationships between government and citizens, businesses, civil society and other forms of government (Electronic Governance). The series looks beyond traditional eGovernment, towards using technology for establishing foundations for good governance and for sustainable national development.

This year conference is expected to attract over 500 participants from all over the world including researchers, practitioners and high level policy makers.

Gianluca Misuraca from the Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS) of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) is a member of the Programme Committee and will disseminate the results of **CROSSOVER** in a joint session organised in collaboration with **eGovPoliNet**. Mr. Misuraca is also presenting a paper entitled "A New Roadmap for Next-Generation Policy-Making" co-authored by S. Armenia, D. Osimo, and F. Mureddu.

2nd CROSSOVER Workshop, Washington DC, December 2012

With the growing interconnectedness of society and speed of execution, organisations in the public and private sectors are continuously confronted with the need for improvement in strategy development, policy design and decision making in and across complex, dynamic domains.

The 2nd **CROSSOVER** workshop will focus on policy modelling, aiming to collect and share knowledge on sectoral and more generic modelling frameworks for policy formulation and evaluation.

The workshop will be held in Washington DC in an effort to connect researchers on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, which helps to collect more experience and develop more advanced models for policy making. The objective of the workshop is to provide a discussion forum for modellers, policy analysts and decision makers on the current state of policy modelling, that can effectively support decision making on critical policy decisions.

More information and the workshop call-for-papers (CFP) will be available soon.

Recent Events

CROSSOVER at "Online Gaming for Civic Engagement" Seminar, Bilbao, 12-13 July 2012



The **Seminar on Online Games for Civic Engagement** took place at the Social Innovation Park in Bilbao, which is an innovative European infrastructure aiming to identify, design and launch new large-scale / high impact approaches to emerging social needs.

The seminar aimed to explore how online games could promote civic engagement for a different mind set, towards a sustainable and inclusive society. The seminar consisted of a two-days brainstorming event, gathering video game designers, companies, scientists, users and civil society practitioners already involved in the field or interested in it.

Francesco Mureddu, a policy analyst working in the area of ICT-enabled innovative policies and strategies at Tech412, presented **CROSSOVER** and had face to face interactions with other stakeholders.

CROSSOVER at Summit on Open Data and Interoperability for Governance, Industry and Society, Samos, Greece, 2-4 July 2012

The Samos 2012 Summit was organised with great success on 2-4 July, in Samos, Greece. The event was co-organised by the University of Aegean, the Greek Interoperability Centre of the National Technical University of Athens, the ENGAGE infrastructures project and the ENSEMBLE Support Action. The aim was to foster international cooperation and strive for a new research and practice agenda in open data, collaborative governance, enterprise interoperability and future internet systems.

The meeting adopted the "Samos Declaration," which calls the United Nations, the European Union and the National Governments to take decisive steps at global, European, regional and local level regarding the development and adoption of new and advanced ICT solutions for Open Data and Interoperability - thereby providing the means for a proper response to the challenges of the future.

PADGETS, ENGAGE, FINES and **ENSEMBLE**, which are expected to produce innovative applications for citizens, public officials, politicians and businesses, in the coming years.

For more information see "[A Short Trip to the Greek Isles](#)".

CROSSOVER at the 2nd Digital Agenda Assembly, Brussels, 21-22 June 2012

CROSSOVER representatives participated at the 2nd Digital Agenda Assembly (DAA), organised by the European Commission DG-CONNECT, in collaboration with the Committee of the Regions, the European Economic and Social Committee, and the European Parliament.

The Assembly consisted of 8 parallel workshops on high digital agenda topics and a plenary session to report feedback on previous discussions and hold debates on the way forward. During the DAA, **CROSSOVER** representatives had several contacts with practitioners and policy-makers to discuss about the project.

More information about the DAA can be found on the [Commission's website](#).

1st CROSSOVER Workshop on "Using Open Data Workshop: policy modelling, citizen empowerment, data journalism", Brussels, 19 - 20 June 2012

The **1st CROSSOVER workshop** took place at the European Commission's Albert Borschette Conference Centre, Brussels, in 19 - 20 June 2012.

The workshop was co-organised by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) in collaboration with the JRC-IPTS as part of the **CROSSOVER** project, which aims to build a stronger community around the use of ICT for governance and policy modeling, and to produce an update to the **CROSSOVER research roadmap**.

The workshop explored the current status and potential of open data as a communication medium between governments and their citizens. The event attracted about 70 participants coming from all over the world and working in different areas of the field of open government data. The workshop aimed to provide participants with an overview of what open government data is currently being used, and for which purpose.

To engage participants and ensure productive discussions, each participating organisation or individual was asked to submit a position paper explaining their views and experience on the use of open data, and their interest on the workshop. Through presentations and discussions, workshop participants learned about international, European, national and local initiatives in the field.

Topics of interest included tools and techniques that use open data for policy making, data visualisation, data journalism, open scientific data, large-scale data simulation, and collaborative analysis of data.

For more information see "[Reflections on the Uses of Open Data Workshop \(PMOD\)](#)".

CROSSOVER at 6th Ministerial Conference "Borderless eGovernment Services for Europeans", 17-18 November 2011, Poznań, Poland

The Polish Presidency of the European Union (Ministry of the Interior and Administration) and the European Commission organised in close co-operation the **6th Ministerial eGovernment Conference**, entitled "Borderless eGovernment Services for Europeans", on 17 - 18 November 2011 in the City of Poznań, Poland.

CROSSOVER contributed to the organisation of the session on "Scenarios of Future eGovernment and eSociety", in which different visions of future eGovernment policy models were discussed taking different criteria into account. During his presentation, David Broster, Head of the Information Society of the European Commission's JRC-IPTS also announced the start of **CROSSOVER** as a continuation of **CROSSROAD**.

An "ante litteram" announcement of the start of **CROSSOVER** at ICEGOV 2011 – 6th International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance, Tallinn, Estonia, 26-28 September 2011

During the discussion panel on "Global eGovernance: working globally for eGovernance" organized by the UN General Secretariat, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCSWA), Gianluca Misuraca, Scientific Officer at JRC-IPTS and key partner of **CROSSOVER** presented the Rep-Of on Envisioning Digital Europe 2020, which was an outcome of the **CROSSROAD** project, and announced the forthcoming start of the **CROSSOVER** project as a continuation of **CROSSROAD**.

More information about the ICEGOV 2011 conference can be found [here](#).

CROSSOVER Plenary Meetings

A number of plenary meetings has been organised so far by the **CROSSOVER consortium**:

- 1st plenary meeting: Brussels, Belgium, 20th of October, 2011
- 2nd plenary meeting: Rome, Italy, 16th of December, 2011
- 3rd plenary meeting: Seville, Spain, 20th of March, 2012

The purpose of the meetings is to discuss the latest project developments and future work.

The next meeting will take place in Brussels, Belgium, 8-9 October, 2012.

Publications

- Francesco Mureddu, David Osimo, Gianluca Carlo Misuraca, Stefano Armenia, "A New Roadmap for Next Generation Policy Making", 6th International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance, Albany NY, 22-25 October 2012 ([download publication](#))

Related Publications

Here is a list of the most recent published books and articles that are an outcome of the **CROSSROAD** project, but can also be considered as a bridge towards **CROSSOVER**.

- Y. Charalabidis, S. Koussouris, F. Lampathaki, G. Misuraca, D. Osimo, "ICT for governance and policy modelling: visionary directions and research paths", Book Chapter in "Empowering Open and Collaborative Governance: Technologies and Methods for On-line Citizen Engagement in Public Policy Making", Springer Verlag, 2012 ([download publication](#))
- W. Luşoñ and G. Misuraca, "From 3D to Open Governance in Digital 2030: drivers, barriers and framework conditions", Book Chapter in "Citizenship in 3D - Europe Deliberative Democracy: An exploratory analysis", IDEAS Foundation Publisher, Madrid, Spain, 2012
- Y. Charalabidis, F. Lampathaki, G. Misuraca and D. Osimo, "ICT for Governance and Policy Modelling: Research Challenges and Future Prospects in Europe", in proceedings of the HICCS 2012 Conference, Hawaii USA, January 2012 ([download publication](#))

CROSSOVER in Social Media

The presence of **CROSSOVER** on major social networking and content platforms such as Twitter, LinkedIn, and Diigo has been established. We invite you to get informed, interact and follow **CROSSOVER!**

Contact

Project Coordinator

Ms Anna Triantafyllou
Senior Project Manager,
ATC S.A
Email: a.triantafyllou@atc.gr

Website: www.crossover-project.eu

