

Clio Infra Website: Creation, Use and Maintenance.

Michail Moatsos*

March 24, 2017

Abstract

Everything one needs to know for how the new Clio Infra website is created and how to recreate it from scratch if necessary. All the requirements are spelled out, and all materials and software used are open source. The overall approach uses R-coded scripts to fill-in manually made html templates, and produce the static pages for the web server. R code is fed with the material (both data and metadata) available on the Clio Infra dataverse repository. The html layout is manually made using Bootstrap. The demo front end is reachable [here](#). Pending tickets for website and service improvement are available on [Github](#)

*michalis.moatsos@iisg.nl, IISG

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1 Introduction

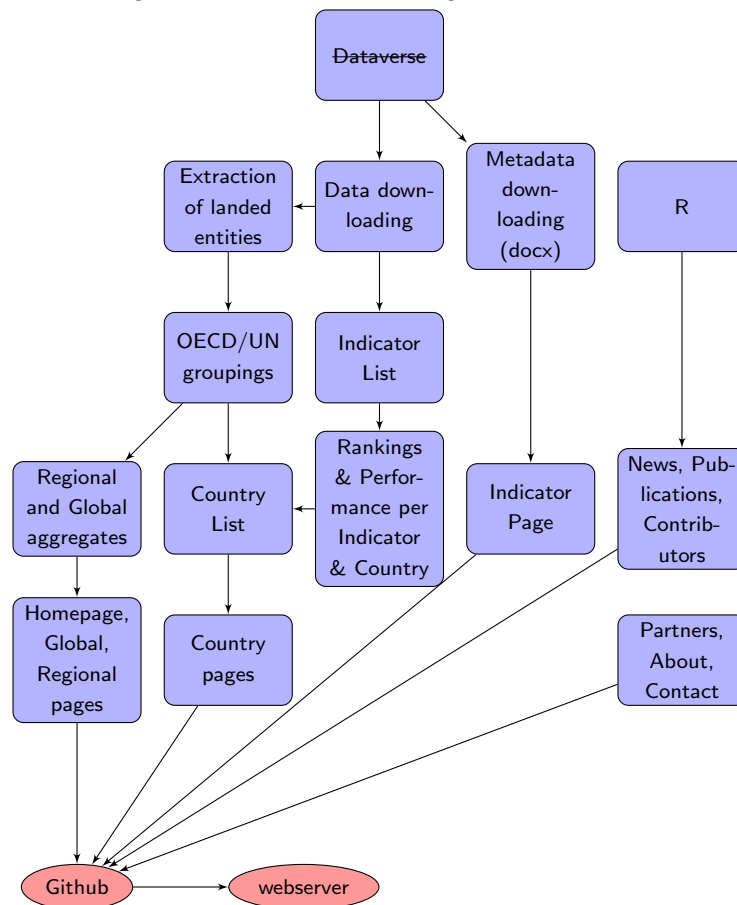
1.1 Built using Bootstrap

The website is developed using Bootstrap version 3.3.7. However, some of the css files have been modified for additional functionalities (such as the back to the top button). Thus, one needs to use the Bootstrap files as they are found on the demo server for smooth operation. For the exact templates developed and used see section 2.

1.2 Workflow

Figure 1 shows the workflow of website creation via the various R scripts and the available data. The Dataverse block is strikedthrough to underlie the fact that in the current version those files need to be fetched manually.

Figure 1: Workflow for an R generated website



1.3 Overview of items generated by the scripts

1. Indicators per country in separate xlsx with long format, created by running CountryHTML.JSON.R, having filename structure:
CountryName.IndicatorName_TerritorialRef_BorderStart_2012_CCode_XXX.xlsx
for example: Zambia_LabourersRealWage_TerritorialRef_1964_2012_CCode_894.xlsx
Exported at folder: /IndicatorsPerCountry.
2. All indicators for a given country in one xlsx with wide and long format, created by running CountryHTML.JSON.R, having filename structure:
CountryName.AllIndicatorsAvailable_TerritorialRef_BorderStart_2012_CCode_XXX.xlsx
for example: BosniaandHerzegovina_AllIndicatorsAvailable_TerritorialRef_1992_2012_CCode_70.xlsx
Exported at folder: /CountryData.
3. (a) A “broad” xlsx per indicator using all “2012 border” countries of the Clio Infra dataset, and (b) a “compact” xlsx per indicator with rows only for countries with available data. Both are created by using IndicatorHTML.R, with both wide and long formats.
Exported at folder: /data.
4. One html page for each indicator
Exported at folder: /IndicatorPagesWithMenus.
5. One html page for each country
Exported at folder: /CountryPagesWithMenus.
6. index.html, indexOECD.html, Partners.html, News_Publications.html located at the same folder as the R scripts.
7. The html files that actually need to be uploaded on the server are located in the folder “ToUpload”.

2 Requirements in tools and data

The website is created by using a set of templates and some scripts written in R. The templates are written in html and make use of the css functionalities of Bootstrap.

Those HTML templates are:

- IndexTemplate.html
- IndicatorsTemplate.html
- CountryTemplateJSON.html and CountryTemplateNoMoreVisualsJSON.html
- NewsPublicationsTemplate.html
- PartnersTemplate.html

The R scripts are (in strict order of execution):

- ReadData.R
- IndicatorHTML.R
- CountryHTML_JSON.R
- HistoricalBordersData.R
- AddMenusToIndicatorAndHome.R
- AddCountryMenu.R (only run this after running AddMenusToIndicatorAndHome.R)
- Contributors.R this needs to run only once to create ContributorsList.xlsx
- PartnersPage.R
- FooterSubstitution.R
- some supportive scripts that only need to be called from the other scripts are (*you don't need to call them directly*): IndicatorHTMLSubstitutions.R, LongToClio.R, citations.R, MakeTheGGplot.R, f_IndicatorMenu.R, and f_IndicatorMenu2.R.

Some main texts and external images used in the process are:

- AboutClioInfra.txt
- logo of various participating entities (found in images folder under www)

To run those scripts you need to install the following R libraries: *readxl*, *xlsx*, *ggplot2*, *jsonlite*, *tidyr*, *RefManageR*.

Files related to Bootstrap that need to be copied to the server www folder are all placed in the www folder of the Github repository.

Data files that are required (not included in the dataverse repository, but included in the Github repository) are:

- “CIA-Factbook-Countries with notes for their independence status.xls”, constructed with information found in: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2088.html#af>
- “statcan - countries list and codes from statistics canada.xls”, constructed with information found in: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/subjects/standard/sccai/2011/scountry-desc>
- “UN Countries or areas, codes and abbreviations.xls”, constructed with information found in: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49alpha.htm>
- “oecdregions.csv” file containing the OECD split of the world into regions. Provided by Auke Rijpma.

3 Processing

The data files are not fetched automatically from the dataverse repository in the current version of the R scripts. This will be the case in future versions. Thus the data (and meta-data) files need to be manually placed on the proper folder so that R scripts can locate them.

3.1 Metadata files

Until the metadata files on dataverse are updated with new ones, the pre-edited metadata files found on this Github repository must be fed to the R scripts instead.

Because the R script requires the metadata in txt format follow the instructions found in ConvertDOCStoTXT.xls to convert the docx files to txt. For convenience the txt files are also provided in the Github repository.

3.2 The website layouts

On the same folder level as the R scripts all the html layouts (listed in section 1) need to be placed.

3.3 Exporting data

This takes place in

CountryHTML_JSON.R

and can be found at the comment:

```
### Now exporting indicator and country files
```

Change the value of `ExportData` flag to export the files or not. If no change takes place in the data, then to save time considerably set this variable to `FALSE`.

4 Other pages

4.1 News & Publications page

This page is completely manual. When new items are added then they have to be written in html code within the `News_Publications.html` page. This could be slightly improved in later versions, but the idea is not to recreate a cms functionality with R.

4.2 Partners page

Some preprocessing to extract the list of contributors is necessary. This is done by `Contributors.R` script. This needs to run only once to create `ContributorsList.xlsx`. After that only calling the `PartnersPage.R` is enough to create the html page. Then of course you need to run the `FooterSubstitution.R` script to properly set the footer.

5 Adding new countries and indicators

This is to explain how to update the files and scripts when one needs to add an indicator and countries.

First step is to place the new data and metadata files in the proper folders. Second step is in both cases (either when a new indicator or a new country is added) that the `ReadData.R` script needs to be run to read the new data in, and then follow and execute the remaining scripts in order of appearance in the R script list of section 2.

Note that when adding a historical entity a different process needs to be followed in script: `AddMenusToIndicatorAndHome.R`

To avoid reproducing the historical data files set `CreateHistoricalDataFiles` to false in script: `AddMenusToIndicatorAndHome.R`

6 Uploading to the server

6.1 Folder correspondence table

Table 1: Where on server to upload which items from which local folder.

Local Folder	Server Folder (under /var/www)
ToUpload (no subdirectories)	/
ToUpload/CountryPagesWithMenus	/Countries
ToUpload/IndicatorPagesWithMenus	/Indicators
Country data	/docs
JSON	/json
IndicatorsPerCountry	/IndicatorsPerCountry
data	/data
html/graphs	/graphs
Citations	citations

6.2 Commands to upload to server

```
ssh michalism@clio2.sandbox.socialhistoryservices.org
```

```
scp -r "/var/www/html/theme.css"
michalism@clio2.sandbox.socialhistoryservices.org:/home/michalism
sudo cp theme.css /var/www/
```

```
scp -r "/home/michalis/PhD/Clio Infra/Website/CountryPagesWithMenus"
michalism@clio2.sandbox.socialhistoryservices.org:/home/michalism
sudo cp CountryPagesWithMenus/* /var/www/Countries/
scp -r "/home/michalis/PhD/Clio Infra/Website/JSON"
michalism@clio2.sandbox.socialhistoryservices.org:/home/michalism
sudo cp JSON/* /var/www/json/
scp -r "/home/michalis/PhD/Clio Infra/Website/IndicatorsPerCountry"
michalism@clio2.sandbox.socialhistoryservices.org:/home/michalism
sudo cp -R IndicatorsPerCountry/ /var/www/
```

```
scp "/home/michalis/PhD/Clio Infra/Website/index.html"
michalism@clio2.sandbox.socialhistoryservices.org:/home/michalism
sudo cp index.html /var/www/
scp -r "/home/michalis/PhD/Clio Infra/Website/html/graphs"
michalism@clio2.sandbox.socialhistoryservices.org:/home/michalism
sudo cp -R graphs/ /var/www/
scp -r "/home/michalis/PhD/Clio Infra/Website/IndicatorPagesWithMenus"
michalism@clio2.sandbox.socialhistoryservices.org:/home/michalism
```



```

sudo cp -R IndicatorPagesWithMenus/* /var/www/Indicators/
scp -r "/home/michalis/PhD/Clio Infra/Website/Citations"
michalism@clio2.sandbox.socialhistoryservices.org:/home/michalism
sudo cp -R Citations/* /var/www/citations/
scp -r "/home/michalis/PhD/Clio Infra/Website/data"
michalism@clio2.sandbox.socialhistoryservices.org:/home/michalism
sudo cp -R data/ /var/www/
scp -r "/home/michalis/PhD/Clio Infra/Website/CountryData"
michalism@clio2.sandbox.socialhistoryservices.org:/home/michalism
sudo cp -R CountryData/* /var/www/docs/

scp "/var/www/html/index.html"
michalism@clio2.sandbox.socialhistoryservices.org:/home/michalism
scp -r "/var/www/html/images"
michalism@clio2.sandbox.socialhistoryservices.org:/home/michalism
sudo cp -R images/* /var/www/images/

```

7 Appendix

7.1 Functions and Scripts

7.1.1 LongToClio.R

This function converts long format to clio infra format

7.1.2 Contributors.R

Exports the list of authors with their homepage and affiliation to ContributorsList.xlsx. The correct path needs to be provided.