# Open User Community Meeting Report

# Publications Office – ESPD EDM

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| Meeting Date/Time: | 2025-06-17, 10.00 - 11.30 |

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| **Attendee Name** | **Organisation / Country** |
| Paloma ARILLO ARANDA | OP |
| Roel ARYS | BOSA - Belgium |
| Marilena CRISTEA | ANAP - Romania |
| Michaël DE WINNE | BOSA - Belgium |
| Gabriele FORBITI | OP |
| Uroš IZLAKAR | Slovenia |
| Ajda KONSTANJŠEK | Slovenia |
| Srđan KRASIĆ | OP |
| Mitja MEDVEŠČEK | Slovenia |
| Nicole PATERSON-JONES | OP |
| Mira RATAJCZAK | BOSA - Belgium |
| Marc Christopher SCHMIDT | DG GROW |
| Laurent SCHONJAANS | DG GROW |
| Giampaolo SELLITO | ANAC - Italy |
| Dragoș STOICA | OP |
| Sigrid STRYPSTEEN | BOSA - Belgium |
| Stefan VAN DER MEULEN | BOSA - Belgium |
| George VERNARDOS | OP |

# Meeting Agenda

* 1. Summary OUC 1st April 2025
  2. GitHub status
  3. What's new in the ESPD Model for Q1 and Q2 2025
  4. Insights from Belgium’s implementation of Version 3
  5. Next steps
  6. Next meetings & AOB

# Summary OUC meeting 1st April 2025

* The main topics discussed in April were summarised:
  + ESPD-EDM modelled in Enterprise Architect (.eapx file available on GitHub).
  + New features and tools: alignment with eCertis UUIDs and eForms code lists, the export of EA structure into JSON, JSON schema for ESPD-EDM.
  + ESPD Demo – implemented improvements: Integrated SurveyJS and PDFMake.
  + GitHub status – closed tickets (15 in total) as part of backlog.

# GitHub status

* Two tickets have been closed since the last meeting:
  + [#424](https://github.com/OP-TED/ESPD-EDM/issues/424) ([Question]: Where could we find translations for SUBCRITERIONs descriptions), and
  + [#422](https://github.com/OP-TED/ESPD-EDM/issues/422) (Purely national Exclusion Ground - dynamic structure).

Both issues were created by colleagues from Slovenia. #424 is part of v4.1.0 release, meanwhile #422 is not applicable, as it was part of old v2 releases.

* There are two open issues, both answered (waiting user’s feedback):
  + [#426](https://github.com/OP-TED/ESPD-EDM/issues/426) ([Question]: Selection criteria).
  + [#422](https://github.com/OP-TED/ESPD-EDM/issues/422) (SUBCRITERION QUESTION should not be mandatory), new version of Excel Criterion file is proposed.

# What's new in the ESPD-Model for Q1 and Q2 2025

* A long-term plan and achieved progress were presented:
  + ESPD-EDM fully implemented and modelled in Enterprise Architect (EA). New way to manage ESPD-EDM: from Excel to EA, from XML to JSON.
  + Develop tools to allow automatic extraction and processing of EA. Export structure into JSON format. JSON schema for validation.
  + Generate full ESPD Request and Response examples on ESPD Demo site.
  + Continue with support for ESPD-EDM Excel files.
  + Integration with eCertis and eForms, alignment with ePO and eForms. Criterion, National and EU Legislation to be retrieved from eCertis via UUIDs. Enhancement of the UBL model.
  + Work on ESPD documentation, preparing the new ESPD-EDM workflow.

# Insights from Belgium’s Implementation of Version 3

* The colleagues from BOSA (Belgium) presented implementation of v3.3.0.
* Introduction and goals:
  + The tool is a customised version of EC service (EDM 1.0.2), a stand-alone application with optional use (non-structured formats are also allowed).
  + Short-term goals: extended data model; integrate ESPD with existing pre-award flows; improvements based on users’ feedback. Long-term goals: user-friendliness for Economic Operators; integration with authentic sources; semi-automatic evaluation; align with EDM 4.X.X or beyond.
* Difficulties encountered: implementation is different from the one for eForms; a lot of DIY in validation; code lists not always aligned with eForms in v3; need for updated; the Model allows 'national' adaptations.
* Choices made: JSON instead of XML (this choice has also been adopted by the ESPD-EDM Team for a future release, work ongoing); deviations from EDM (input types, cardinalities).
* Appreciated: extensive and well-organised documentation, OP's responsiveness and availability, regular OUC meetings to "stay in the loop".
* Could be improved: align data model with eForms, update the ESPD regulation and apply universal datamodel, enrich the business handbook with detailed information on criteria (purpose, etc.)
* A live presentation of the new service was provided, but work is still ongoing.

# Next steps

* Restructure GitHub repositories to align with eForms and ePO .
* Documentation enhancement (images as code, etc.);
* Align to other standards (eCertis, eForms, ePO, UBL 2.4);
* V4.1.0 release ongoing: moving Evidence block at top level for all Criteria; Subcriterion simplification;

# Next meetings & AOB

* The next OUC meeting is planned for the 2nd October 2025.
* The Annual Seminar is planned again as part of Tenders Electronic Daily event for 26th-27th November 2025, with other Unit’s projects: eForms, eSenders, eProcurement Ontology and others. More information about TED events can be found in [event calendar](https://ted.europa.eu/en/2025-event-calendar).
* In “other business” were presented:
  + eProcurement Ontology has been moved to a maintenance modus.
  + Incoming TED event: 26th of June - eSenders workshop.
  + Brief discussion about the last EXEP meeting and the proposal to modify the Procurement Directives.