SSHOC Releases System Specification for SSH Open Marketplace

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The SSHOC consortium has released the system specification for its SSH Open Marketplace, a discovery portal where tools, services, training materials and datasets will be pooled and harmonised for use by researchers in the humanities and social sciences.

The SSH Open Marketplace specification is detailed in a report just delivered to the European Commission and proposes a flexible data model determined in every detail by user requirements.

Given that the resource will eventually be incorporated into the larger European Open Science Cloud (EOSC), the specification reflects an extensive and user-centred requirements gathering process and a thorough state-of-the-art analysis – this to ensure integration with relevant work from previous and ongoing EOSC-related projects.

The user requirements articulate around eight user categories identified by the consortium partners and formulated in terms of an agile approach to software development. For each user category, the parameters considered include context, discoverability and usability, datasets, curation, GDPR compliance, and openness.

Says SSHOC spokesperson Laure Barbot of consortium partner DARIAH, the lead organisation within the partner group responsible for specifying and building the SSH Open Marketplace, "We focused on optimising the user experience in the first instance. With a view to the long-term sustainability of the Marketplace and its eventual inclusion in EOSC, data curation and governance were also of crucial importance and this is reflected in the section of the report which deals with the next steps."

According to Ms Barbot, both the system specification itself and the approach adopted to create it could serve to inspire the EOSC Architecture Working Group and the other cluster projects. She says, "The report is of interest to multiple stakeholders including the EOSC-hub project, and lays a solid foundation for integration activities in the future."

Read the full report here: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3547649

About SSHOC

Social Sciences & Humanities Open Cloud

SSHOC is one of five cluster projects within the larger European Open Science Cloud initiative and unites 20 partner organisations and a further 27 associates in realising the European Commission vision to offer researchers in the social sciences and humanities seamless access to a full and unified panorama of flexible, scalable, relevant data and the services, tools and training required to make optimal use of that data.

Media Contact

Marieke Willems m.willems@trust-itservices.com

Leonardo Marino l.marino@trust-itservices.com

info@sshopencloud.eu