The Milano and Rome EPOS harmonization meetings

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One of the main aims of EPOS is to facilitate the users to discover, use and retrieve data, products and services offered by the participating communities. The distributed nature of the EPOS e-science infrastructure makes it crucial to achieve harmonization of the metadata associated to the services offered by the communities in order to accomplish the sought integration. To this end, INGV on behalf of the EPOS TCS Seismology organised between May 16 and 18, 2017, the first EPOS TCS-ICS harmonization meeting of EPOS Implementation Phase held at the Milano headquarters. As follow-up of this meeting, a second more technical meeting was during 19-22 June at the INGV main headquarters in Rome.

The meeting held in Milano targeted the Seismology services provided by the TCS Seismology (WP8), the TCS Near Fault Observatories (WP9), the TCS Volcanos observations (WP11) and the TCS Anthropogenic Hazards (WP14). In this meeting it was presented for the first time the EPOS DCAT-AP “dictionary” which allows the integration of the EPOS DDSS (Data, Data products, Service and Software) with the ICS.

In practice, the DCAT Application profile for data portals in Europe (DCAT-AP) is a specification based on W3C's Data Catalogue vocabulary (DCAT) for describing public sector datasets in Europe. Its basic use case is to enable a cross-data portal search for data sets and make public sector data better searchable across borders and sectors (https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/dcat_application_profile/asset_release/dcat-ap-v11).

Through this data model, it is possible to integrate the several DDSS within the CERIF model adopted by EPOS. In this context, all the participating WPs have provided their feedback to reach optimal integration and as follow-up the Rome meeting was organised to sort out and solve the technical aspects. In addition, during the last 1.5 days of the Milano meeting, experts from the EUDAT2020 EC project provided hands-on presentations of the developed software services planned to be inserted into the EPOS e-science infrastructure currently under implementation.

The Rome meeting tackled technical aspects of the EPOS DCAT-AP implementation. This meeting was attended by the IT experts of the
WP8, WP9 and WP11. The attendees were supported by the ICS developers who provided examples and use cases crucial for the communities to develop the necessary software and files to achieve the sought integration.

Both the Milano and Rome meeting resulted quite successful by providing the essential ingredients required for reaching the required integration amongst the different communities participating to EPOS.