

Opendata.ch – Strategy

Version 2.1, March 10, 2019

Mission statement

The association advocates open access to data, information and knowledge as well as the free reusability of data ("open data"). We are committed to a society in which everyone has the same opportunities to access information and to actively shape our future.

Aims

Opendata.ch helps to shape the digital transformation of society by actively promoting a culture of openness, transparency, participation and cooperation:

- Opendata.ch supports public and private institutions and organisations in ensuring **transparency** and **accountability** through open data. By enhancing the traceability of their actions, they are expected to be better equipped to acquire and maintain the trust of citizens, customers, etc.
- Opendata.ch supports public administrations and private organisations in establishing and expanding a **sustainable and open data ecosystem** with cross-organisational cooperation along the entire data value chain, in securing the long-term availability of data, and in promoting their secondary use.
- Opendata.ch supports the **cooperation between organisations** and **networking with citizens and customers**, so that new ideas, new solutions and new services can be developed thanks to an ever-growing base of open datasets and constantly expanding technical possibilities. Those affected by policies and new technologies need to be able to actively shape them.
- Opendata.ch is committed to **equal access to data and information for all**. This includes promoting the ability to use data and information effectively. Everyone should have the chance to contribute creatively to solving societal challenges and to participate in politics by exchanging evidence-based arguments.

Fields and forms of action

To achieve its goals, the association Opendata.ch cooperates with partners from the private and public sectors and focuses its activities on the following areas:

- promotion of the publication, improved findability, and the use of existing datasets in accordance with open data principles¹;
- improvement of data quality;
- interlinking of data resources by means of linked open data;
- supplementing or enrichment of open datasets using crowdsourcing approaches;
- coordination with data providers all along the data value chain (data suppliers – intermediaries – data users);
- promotion of digital skills and data literacy to enable people to handle data competently;
- development of a suitable legal and political framework.

In doing so, we make use of a range of instruments and forms of action:

- public relations and awareness campaigns;
- active involvement in the Swiss open data community;
- organization of conferences, hackathons and other community events;
- conducting training sessions and workshops;
- providing advice and support services;
- documenting best practices and encouraging community capacity building among practitioners.

¹ See: Sunlight Foundation (2007): [Ten Principles for Opening Up Government Information](#) and [Open Definition 2.1](#). – As far as public-sector data is concerned, Opendata.ch advocates the principle of **"open data by default"**, i.e. public sector institutions and organisations are required to proactively publish their data in accordance with open data principles, unless there are legal restrictions to the contrary.