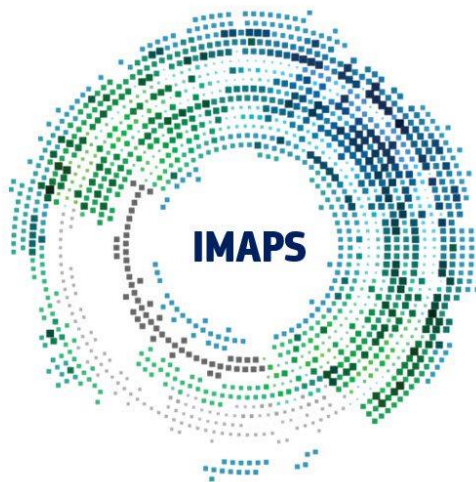


# SIMAPS v1.2.0

## Semantic Interoperability Maturity Assessment of a Public Service

### Release notes



Interoperability Maturity Assessment of Your Digital Public Service

**LIMAPS** Legal Interoperability

**OIMAPS** Organisational Interoperability

**SIMAPS** Semantic Interoperability

**TIMAPS** Technical Interoperability

## Disclaimer

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## Table of Abbreviations

Table 1: Acronyms

Acronym	Description
ABB	Architectural Building Block
CAMSS	Common Assessment Method for Standards and Specifications
CarTool	Cartography Tool
DIGIT	Directorate-General for Informatics
EC	European Commission
EIF	European Interoperability Framework
EIRA© (EIRA)	European Interoperability Reference Architecture
ELAP	EIRA Library of Architecture Principles (ELAP)
ELIS	EIRA Library of Interoperability Specifications
EU	European Union
HL SAT	High Level Solution Architecture Template
IQAT	Interoperability Quick Assessment Toolkit
ISA	Interoperability Services for Public Administrations
IMAPS	Interoperability Maturity Assessment of a Public Service
MS	Member State
PA	Public Administration
SIMAPS	Semantic Interoperability Maturity Assessment of a Public Service

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Purpose of this document

This document contains the description of the release version 1.2.0 of the Semantic Interoperability Maturity Assessment of a Public Service (SIMAPS).

### 1.2 Release date

Version 1.2.0 of the SIMAPS Survey has been released on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2022 on [Joinup](#).

### 1.3 Description

The SIMAPS Survey is a highly user-friendly online questionnaire. Designed as a self-assessment tool, the SIMAPS survey is designed for public service owners to evaluate key semantic behavioral interoperability aspects of their digital public service. On completion of the survey, the public service owners receive tailored, confidential feedback and recommendations on how to further improve their digital public service.

Details on the individual components of this release are provided in the below Chapter 2 “[Release components](#)”.

## 2 SIMAPS v1.2.0 RELEASE COMPONENTS

The SIMAPS v1.2.0 release consists of the following release components.

### 2.1 [SIMAPS v1.2.0 EU Survey portal](#)

The SIMAPS survey is available at the EU Survey portal.

**Table 1: Updates at the EU Survey Portal**

Modification	Details
Version 1.2.0	
<b>SIMAPS URL at the EU Survey portal</b>	Date: 20/12/2021 The version 1.1.0 <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0</a> has been replaced by the version 1.2.0 <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_2_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_2_0</a>
<b>Included a reference on the GitHub for feedback purposes</b>	Date: 03/05/2022 The reference "You can share your feedback on SIMAPS survey through the dedicated GitHub platform." has been added for feedback purposes in the 'Introduction' section of the SIMAPS questionnaire.
<b>Replaced the phrase "digital public service" with "service" to reduce repetition</b>	Date: 03/05/2022 The phrase "digital public service" has been replaced with "service" on the SIMAPS questionnaire. The disclaimer " <i>The unit of assessment is the "Digital Public Service" and is referred to as "Service" in the survey that follows.</i> " has been added in the end of the Introduction page to indicate the replacement of this phrase.
<b>Added a question for the applicant's traceability</b>	Date: 29/04/2022 New Item "A1E. Please provide your role in the organisation providing the service" has been added on the 'Introduction' section of the SIMAPS questionnaire as optional.
<b>Added a question for statistics reasons</b>	Date: 29/04/2022 New Item "A1F. Please provide the address of the organisation providing the service" has been added on the 'Introduction' section of the TIMAPS questionnaire as optional.
<b>Added a disclaimer on A2A question the public service catalogue name and the URI</b>	Date: 29/04/2022 The disclaimer " <i>Please also provide the public service catalogue name and URI, if it is applicable for the digital public service.</i> " has been added on the item "A2A. A digital public service is a digital service rendered in the public interest. What is the name of the digital public service that you provide to

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	<p><i>the end users (citizens, businesses or other public administrations)?” in the ‘Service Identification’ section on the SIMAPS questionnaire.</i></p>
<p><b>Added a question for future contacting purposes</b></p>	<p>Date: 21/12/2021</p> <p>New Item “A2D. Please specify the email address of the provided digital public service” has been added in the ‘Introduction’ section of the SIMAPS questionnaire as mandatory.</p>
<p><b>Rephrased A3 question and Updated the options to illustrate better the tiers of administration</b></p>	<p>Date: 03/05/2022</p> <p>The item “A3. Owner: Which public administration is primarily responsible for providing the digital public service?” has been rephrased as “A3A. Service provider: Which tier of public administration is primarily responsible for providing the service?” as optional.</p> <p>The following initial options of A3 item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Ministry e.g. Ministry of Public Administration, Ministry of Justice,</li> <li>• Public Administration e.g. Tax Administration, Directorate-General of the European Commission e.g. DG COMM, DG JUST, DGIT,</li> <li>• Government institution/agency/office e.g. National Agency for Information Society, National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government (EKDDA),</li> <li>• EU institution/agency/office e.g. EU Publications Office,</li> <li>• Other Legal Entity”</li> </ul> <p>have been updated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “International Public Administration,</li> <li>• Central Public Administration,</li> <li>• Regional Public Administration,</li> <li>• Local Public Administration,</li> <li>• Other Legal Entity”</li> </ul> <p>In case of the “Other Legal Entity” option, a free text is available.</p>
<p><b>Added a question for the Directorate-General of the European Commission</b></p>	<p>Date: 03/05/2022</p> <p>The item “A3B. Please indicate the Directorate-General of the European Commission” has been added in the ‘Introduction’ section on the SIMAPS questionnaire with a drop-down menu by including a list with EU DGs.</p>
<p><b>Updated the options on D1 question</b></p>	<p>Date: 03/05/2022</p> <p>The options of the item “D1. To what extent does the service deliver structured data, information and knowledge to its end users?” have been updated for the following purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To replace the word “MS Excel” with “spreadsheet”,</li> <li>• To remove the word “XML” from the level 3,</li> <li>• To remove the words “MS Excel” and “DTD (Data Type Definition)” from the level 4,</li> <li>• To add the “XML schema”.</li> </ul>

	<p>The following initial options of D1 item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>“The digital public service does not deliver structured data, information and knowledge to its end users (i.e. it delivers unstructured data, like e.g. image files),</i></li> <li>• <i>The digital public service delivers unstructured but partially machine-readable data, information and knowledge to its end users e.g. word and/or PDF files,</i></li> <li>• <i>The digital public service delivers structured data to its end users e.g. Excel, XML files,</i></li> <li>• <i>The digital public service delivers structured data to its end users, e.g. excel, XML files, according to an appropriate DTD (Data Type Definition) or schema,</i></li> <li>• <i>The digital public service delivers Linked Open Data (LOD) to its end users”</i></li> </ul> <p>have been updated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>“The service does not deliver structured data, information and knowledge to its end users (i.e. it delivers unstructured data, like e.g. image files),</i></li> <li>• <i>The service delivers unstructured but partially machine-readable data, information and knowledge to its end users e.g. word and/or PDF files,</i></li> <li>• <i>The service delivers structured data to its end users e.g. spreadsheets,</i></li> <li>• <i>The service delivers structured data to its end users, e.g. XML files or XML schema,</i></li> <li>• <i>The service delivers Linked Open Data (LOD) to its end users,</i></li> <li>• <i>Not applicable or not necessary (according to the scope of the digital public service),</i></li> <li>• <i>No answer”.</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Updated the options on the D5 question</b></p>	<p>Date: 03/05/2022</p> <p>The options of the item <i>“D5. To what extent does the service provide multilingual documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered?”</i> have been updated.</p> <p>The following initial options of D5 item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>“The digital public service does not provide any multilingual documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered,</i></li> <li>• <i>The digital public service provides documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered in some of the officially recognised languages by the public administration delivering the digital public service,</i></li> <li>• <i>The digital public service provides documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered in all officially recognised languages by the public administration delivering the digital public service,</i></li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The digital public service provides documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered in all officially recognised national languages, as well as in English and French,</i></li> <li>• <i>The digital public service provides documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered in all EU officially recognised languages”</i></li> </ul> <p>have been updated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>“Not applicable, the digital public service does not provide any documentation,</i></li> <li>• <i>The service provides documentation in only one language,</i></li> <li>• <i>The service provides documentation in some of the officially recognised languages by the public administration delivering the digital public service, for a certain volume of data,</i></li> <li>• <i>The service provides documentation in all officially recognised languages by the public administration delivering the digital public service, for a certain volume of data,</i></li> <li>• <i>The service provides documentation in all officially recognised national languages, as well as in English, French and German, while covering the full data volume,</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The digital public service provides documentation in all EU officially recognised languages, while covering the full data volume.”</i></p>
<p><b>Updated the options on the D7 question</b></p>	<p>Date: 03/05/2022</p> <p>The options of the item “D7. To what extent does the service provide metadata documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered?” have been updated.</p> <p>The following initial options of D7 item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>“The digital public service does not provide any metadata documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered,</i></li> <li>• <i>The digital public service provides ad-hoc metadata documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered (e.g. high-level description),</i></li> <li>• <i>The digital public service provides non-standardised metadata documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered (e.g. information about the data elements, descriptions, etc. in an unformatted way),</i></li> <li>• <i>The digital public service provides standardised metadata documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered (e.g. in JSON format),</i></li> <li>• <i>The digital public service provides standardised, semantically formatted metadata documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered, published as a Metadata Application Profile (MAP) or in a metadata repository (e.g. in the form of codelists/taxonomies)”</i></li> </ul>

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	<p>have been updated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>“The service does not provide any metadata documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered,</i></li> <li>• <i>The service provides project-level metadata documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered (e.g. high-level description),</i></li> <li>• <i>The service provides project-level and data-level metadata documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered (e.g. information about the data elements, descriptions, etc. in an unformatted way),</i></li> <li>• <i>The service provides project-level, data-level and architecture-level metadata documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered,</i></li> <li>• <i>The service provides project-level, data-level and architecture-level metadata documentation which is in a standard format for the specific use of data (e.g. a format from DCC, FAIRSharing, etc),</i></li> <li>• <i>Not applicable or not necessary (according to the scope of the digital public service),</i></li> <li>• <i>No answer”.</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Added a question for activation and disable the ‘Service Consumption’ section</b></p>	<p>Date: 29/04/2022</p> <p>New Item <i>“Does the service consume data from other services?”</i> has been added at the beginning of the ‘Service Consumption’ of the SIMAPS questionnaire without including scoring. This item activates and disables the ‘Service Consumption’ section.</p> <p>New item <i>“I confirm that the service does not consume data from other services.”</i> has been added below the item <i>“Does the service consume data from other services?”</i> with the option <i>“Yes, I confirm”</i>. The option will take the highest score (3000/3000) in order not to penalise the digital public service under assessment.</p>
<p><b>Added a free text question for any comment</b></p>	<p>Date: 29/04/2022</p> <p>New Item <i>“Please provide your comments and/or summarize your options, if necessary.”</i> has been added at the end of each section on the SIMAPS questionnaire.</p>
<p><b>Added a section for rating purposes</b></p>	<p>Date: 21/12/2021</p> <p>A new ‘Rating’ section has been added on the final page allowing rating in the survey by including the item <i>“How would you rate this questionnaire?”</i>.</p>
<p><b>Included a disclaimer on results report for the responsibility from the side of the Commission on any post-processing</b></p>	<p>Date: 03/05/2022</p> <p><b>The following disclaimer for the</b> responsibility reference regarding the implementation of the recommendations from the digital public service owner has been included in the ‘Results Message’.</p>

<p><b>of output produced by the solution</b></p>	<p><b>“Disclaimer</b> The information and views in this results report do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the Commission. The Commission does not guarantee the accuracy of the information included in this document. Neither the Commission nor any person acting on the Commission’s behalf may be held responsible for any post-processing of the results produced in the present report.”</p>
<p><b>Updated SIMAPS Questionnaire</b></p>	<p>The following changes have been made to the SIMAPS questionnaire:</p> <p>Date: 20/12/2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ‘Service Identification’ (A) annotating the scope of the digital public service has been merged in the Introduction section of SIMAPS questionnaire.</li> <li>• The interoperability maturity levels have been included without implement the scoring in the Introduction section of SIMAPS questionnaire.</li> <li>• The item <i>“A1D. Please indicate the country of the organisation providing the service”</i> related to the geographical area has been updated from single choice type as a drop-down menu by keeping the list of countries and the "Other" option. In case of the <i>“Other”</i> option, a free text is available.</li> <li>• The display of legal and license information, as well as user content inputs have been grouped.</li> </ul> <p>Date: 10/01/2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A reference to the IQAT license has been included alongside legal notices on the SIMAPS questionnaire.</li> <li>• The ‘ISA2 Programme’ has been replaced with ‘Interoperable Europe’ in the Introduction section of SIMAPS questionnaire.</li> </ul> <p>Date: 12/04/2022</p> <p>The keywords on the options of SIMAPS questionnaire have been highlighted in bold to facilitate the user reading experience.</p> <p>Date: 13/04/2022</p> <p>All ABBs are hyperlinked (PURIs) with the most common terms used throughout the questionnaires to the EIRA Glossary.</p> <p>Date: 19/04/2022</p> <p>The spelling of the word <i>“inistitution”</i> has been corrected as <i>“institution”</i> in the options of the item <i>“A3A. Service provider: Which tier of public administration is primarily responsible for providing the service?”</i> on the SIMAPS questionnaire.</p> <p>Date: 29/04/2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The word ‘owner’ has been replaced with the phrase ‘service provider’ on the item <i>“A3A. Service provider: Which tier of public</i></li> </ul>

administration is primarily responsible for providing the service?" and overall, on SIMAPS questionnaire.

- A reference to the IMAPS User Guide has been included alongside legal notices on the SIMAPS questionnaire.
- The following items on the "Service Identification" section have been updated as optional based on the feedback from the expert reviews:
  - The item "A1A. Please provide your name",
  - The item "A1B. Please provide your email address",
  - The item "A1C. Please provide your phone number",
  - The item "A1D. Please indicate the country of the organisation providing the service",
  - The item "A1F. Please provide the address of the organisation providing the service",
  - The item "A2A. A digital public service is a digital service rendered in the public interest. What is the name of the digital public service that you provide to the end users (citizens, businesses or other public administrations)? Please also provide the public service catalogue name and URI, if it is applicable for the digital public service",
  - The item "A2B. Use the following criteria to define a service: i) Process and underlying activities, ii) Appearance, iii) Provider (see A3). Please describe the process and underlying activities of the service. The service always has three phases (1. initiation, 2. processing and 3. delivery of an outcome). Focus on the public decision that is the outcome of the service. If there is no public decision and/or outcome, focus on the benefits the service provides to the target audience",
  - The item "A2C. Appearance: How does the service deliver the outcome towards the end user group?",
  - The item "A3A. Service provider: Which tier of public administration is primarily responsible for providing the service?",
  - The item "A3B. Please indicate the Directorate-General of the European Commission",
  - The item "A4. Please indicate in which sector is the service provided",
  - The item "A5. What is the end user group to whom the service is delivered?",
  - The item "A6. At what administrative level is the service provided (multiple answers are possible)?".
- The item "Would you like to be contacted for evaluation purposes?" has been updated as bold in the 'Introduction' section of the SIMAPS questionnaire.
- The "More info" functionality has been added including the examples on the A2A, A2B, A2C, A3 and A5 items for the SIMAPS questionnaire.

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<b>Accessibility by visually impaired or blind people</b>	<p>Date: 17/03/2022</p> <p>The “Accessibility Mode” has been activated on SIMAPS assessment to increase survey readability and help visually impaired readers.</p>
<b>Applicability</b>	<p>Date: 29/04/2022</p> <p>Based on the feedback from the expert reviews, the option ‘Not applicable’ should be included in the options of all SIMAPS items. As such, the project team added the ‘Not applicable’ option to all SIMAPS items as an option. The “N/A” options will take the highest score (100/100) in order not to penalize the digital public service under assessment.</p>
<b>No answer</b>	<p>Date: 29/04/2022</p> <p>Based on the feedback from the expert reviews, the option ‘No answer’ should be included in the options of all SIMAPS items. As such, the project team added the ‘No answer’ option to all SIMAPS items as the last option. The ‘No answer’ will take the lowest score (0/100).</p>
<b>Repetition</b>	<p>Date: 29/04/2022</p> <p>According to the feedback received during pilot workshops, the term “Service” replaced the term “digital public service” in all SIMAPS items with a view to reduce repetition. A relevant disclaimer added in the Identification Section of the questionnaire.</p>
<b>Scoring model</b>	<p>Date: May 2022</p> <p>The existing scoring model of SIMAPS version 1.1.0 is maintained, meaning that the sections Data, information and knowledge delivered/consumed, Service Delivery/Consumption Enablers and Service Delivery/Consumption Manifestations have weights 40%, 40% and 20% respectively across the whole questionnaire.</p> <p>However, the scoring per item has been adapted based on the 5 interoperability maturity levels of IMAPS (ad-hoc, opportunistic, essential, sustainable, and seamless), reflecting also the level of granularity mentioned above.</p>
<b>IMAPS to SIMAPS user journey</b>	<p>Date: 22/12/2021</p> <p>The project team created a simple illustration of a “user journey” to give more context and explanation to the end-user on how the SIMAPS survey can be used and to its connection to the IMAPS survey. This visual is shown before the assessment, as part of the introduction to the survey at the EU Survey portal. It describes the structure and logic behind the SIMAPS survey, starting from the IMAPS questionnaire, explaining the SIMAPS model and structure.</p>

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<b>Previous contract change requests</b>	<p>Date: December 2021</p> <p>All Change Requests (CRs) based on JIRA tickets collected during the previous contract, have been included in the SIMAPS version 1.2.0.</p>
Version 1.1.0	
<b>Updated conceptual model of SIMAPS</b>	<p>Updates have been applied to the SIMAPS conceptual model. These updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Added the ‘Service Identification’ section (A) annotating the scope of the digital public service.</li> </ul> <p>The updated conceptual model is illustrated in the ‘Introduction’ section of the online SIMAPS survey.</p>
<b>SIMAPS URL at the EU Survey portal</b>	<p>The version 1.0.0 <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_0_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_0_0</a> has been replaced by the <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0</a></p>
<b>Added a question for future contacting purposes</b>	<p>New Item “<i>Would you like to be contacted for evaluation purposes?</i>” has been added in the ‘Introduction’ section of the SIMAPS questionnaire.</p>
<b>IMAPS to SIMAPS user journey</b>	<p>The project team created a simple illustration of a “user journey” to give more context and explanation to the end-user on how the SIMAPS survey can be used and to its connection to the IMAPS survey. This visual is shown before the assessment, as part of the introduction to the survey at the EU Survey portal. It describes the structure and logic behind the SIMAPS survey, starting from the IMAPS questionnaire, explaining the SIMAPS model and structure.</p>
<b>Updated SIMAPS items</b>	<p>Some SIMAPS items from the previous version (1.0.0) were highly complex and according to the expert reviews, their terminology and language had to be simplified.</p> <p>As such, some items have been removed from SIMAPS and they have been added either to TIMAPS (item D1), or they have been deleted at all, as their scope of assessment was covered by other 1.0.0 items. The following items have been <u>deleted</u> from SIMAPS version 1.1.0:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Item D1: Is the data, information and knowledge delivered by your public service compliant with e-accessibility specifications?</li> <li>• Item D4: Please indicate to how many different MS your public service delivers semantically aligned data, information and knowledge.</li> <li>• Item D7: Are semantic formats (Linked Data, RDF, ... ) being used as a data format for data delivered by your public service?</li> <li>• Item D8: Please specify how your public service handles the reference data delivered to other public services.</li> <li>• Item D9: To what extent is semantic interoperability considered when delivering data, information, and knowledge to other public services?</li> </ul>

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- Item D10: What kind of activities do you perform to make the data, information, knowledge delivered discoverable by other public services or by end users?
- Item D11: What kind of activities do you perform to make the data, information, knowledge delivered clearly understood its end users?
- Item D13: Please indicate if and how many applications have been developed based on data delivered from your public service
- Item D14: Please indicate the extent of your public service data reuse in newly developed applications.
- Item C4: Are Linked Open Data sets being consumed by the public service?
- Item C6: From how many MS can your public service consume data, information and knowledge? (semantically aligned)
- Item C7: Is the public service able to consume data, information and knowledge available in more than one languages?
- Item C9: Can the public service consume data compliant with e-accessibility specifications?
- Item C11: Please indicate how your public service leverages semantically aligned data.
- Item C14: What proportion of the consumed data is being discovered?
- Item C15: What proportion of the data that your public service consumes is semantically aligned with data coming from other MS?

Similarly, the following items have been added to SIMAPS version 1.1.0:

- Item D1: To what extent does the digital public service deliver structured data, information and knowledge to its end users?
- Item D3: To what extent does the digital public service provide rules to map the data, information and knowledge delivered?
- Item D6: To what extent does the digital public service provide machine-readable documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered?
- Item D7: To what extent does the digital public service provide metadata documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered?
- Item D8: To what extent does the digital public service deliver data, information and knowledge that is input for a Master data repository?
- Item C1: To what extent does the digital public service consume structured data, information and knowledge from other services or end users?
- Item C4: To what extent does the digital public service consume machine-readable documentation about the data, information and knowledge consumed?
- Item C5: To what extent does the digital public service consume data, information and knowledge from a Master data repository?

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	<p>The project team has updated the language and the terminology of <b>all SIMAPS items</b> by including the terminology specificities (structure, EIRA ABBs, etc.) in the "More info" section of the online survey to facilitate end-user understanding. This way we maintain the internal structure and the alignment with other actions, facilitating the end user (i.e. who replies the questionnaire) understanding. In this context, examples have been added in the "More info" section of the online survey facilitating the end user understanding.</p>
<b>Applicability</b>	<p>Based on the feedback from the expert reviews, the option 'Not applicable' should be included in the options of all SIMAPS items. As such, the project team added the 'Not applicable' option to all SIMAPS items as the first option. The "N/A" options will take the highest score (100/100) in order not to penalize the digital public service under assessment.</p>
<b>Conceptual corrections</b>	<p>Unit of analysis: the digital public service. Whatever item assessed manual vs. electronic has been removed;</p> <p>The electronic, as term, has been replaced by digital;</p> <p>Applicability across geographies and sectors, has been removed.</p> <p>In the context of SIMAPS, the CAMSS terminology, ELIS requirements and ELAP principles have been used as basis and guidance to design the items and options of the questionnaire, as well as the respective interoperability aspects, linked to each item. These interoperability aspects will serve as the basis to design the High Level Solution Architecture Template (HL SAT) of SIMAPS, a specification that extends EIRA and provides high level requirements on how to design a semantically interoperable digital public service</p>
<b>Items' level of granularity</b>	<p>Items' options have been reworked to cover a 5-level extent of replies that reflect each one of the 5 interoperability maturity levels of IMAPS (ad-hoc, opportunistic, essential, sustainable, and seamless).</p>
<b>Scoring model</b>	<p>The existing scoring model of SIMAPS version 1.0.0 is maintained, meaning that the sections Data, information and knowledge delivered/consumed, Service Delivery/Consumption Enablers and Service Delivery/Consumption Manifestations have weights 40%, 40% and 20% respectively across the whole questionnaire.</p> <p>However, the scoring per item has been adapted based on the 5 interoperability maturity levels of IMAPS (ad-hoc, opportunistic, essential, sustainable, and seamless), reflecting also the level of granularity mentioned above.</p> <p>The weight (percentage) of items has changed due to items being added and/or removed.</p> <p>The no-scoring questions have been removed and they will be added to IMAPS.</p>



## SIMAPS v1.2.0 Release notes

<b>Previous contract change requests</b>	All Change Requests (CRs) based on JIRA tickets collected during the previous contract, have been included in the SIMAPS version 1.1.0.
Version 1.0.0	

## 2.2 [SIMAPS v1.2.0 User Guide](#)

A PDF document describing the user guide of SIMAPS including the SIMAPS model, the SIMAPS survey and the recommendations of each SIMAPS question.

**Table 2: Updates at SIMAPS User Guide**

Modification	Details
Version 1.2.0	
<b>Updated SIMAPS user guide</b>	The User Guide is a consolidated document that includes the previous release components “User guide”, “Questionnaire” and “Recommendations”.
<b>IMAPS to SIMAPS user journey</b>	<p>Date: 22/12/2021</p> <p>The project team created a simple illustration of a “user journey” to give more context and explanation to the end-user on how the SIMAPS survey can be used and to its connection to the IMAPS survey. This visual is shown before the assessment, as part of the introduction to the survey at the EU Survey portal. It describes the structure and logic behind the SIMAPS survey, starting from the IMAPS questionnaire, explaining the SIMAPS model and structure.</p>
<b>SIMAPS URL at the EU Survey portal</b>	<p>Date: 20/12/2021</p> <p>The version 1.1.0 <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0</a> has been replaced by the version 1.2.0 <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_2_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_2_0</a></p>
<b>Updated SIMAPS items on Questionnaire</b>	<p>The following items have been added to SIMAPS version 1.2.0:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Item A1E: Please provide your role in the organisation providing the service</li> <li>• Item A1F: Please provide the address of the organisation providing the service</li> <li>• Item A2D: Please specify the email address of the provided digital public service</li> <li>• Item A3B: Please indicate the Directorate-General of the European Commission</li> <li>• Item: Does the service consume data from other services?</li> <li>• Item: I confirm that the service does not consume data from other services has been added below the item “Does the service consume data from other services?”.</li> </ul>
<b>Applicability</b>	<p>Date: 29/04/2022</p> <p>Based on the feedback from the expert reviews, the option ‘Not applicable’ should be included in the options of all SIMAPS items. As such, the project team added the ‘Not applicable’ option to all SIMAPS items as an option. The “N/A” options will take the highest score (100/100) in order not to penalize the digital public service under assessment.</p>

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<b>No answer</b>	<p>Date: 29/04/2022</p> <p>Based on the feedback from the expert reviews, the option ‘No answer’ should be included in the options of all SIMAPS items. As such, the project team added the ‘No answer’ option to all SIMAPS items as the last option. The ‘No answer’ will take the lowest score (0/100).</p>
<b>Scoring model</b>	<p>Date: May 2022</p> <p>The existing scoring model of SIMAPS version 1.1.0 is maintained, meaning that the sections Data, information and knowledge delivered/consumed, Service Delivery/Consumption Enablers and Service Delivery/Consumption Manifestations have weights 40%, 40% and 20% respectively across the whole questionnaire.</p> <p>However, the scoring per item has been adapted based on the 5 interoperability maturity levels of IMAPS (ad-hoc, opportunistic, essential, sustainable, and seamless), reflecting also the level of granularity mentioned above.</p>
<b>Previous contract change requests</b>	<p>Date: December 2021</p> <p>All Change Requests (CRs) based on JIRA tickets collected during the previous contract, have been included in the SIMAPS version 1.2.0.</p>
Version 1.1.0	
<b>Updated SIMAPS user guide</b>	<p>The User Guide is a consolidated document that includes the previous release components “User guide”, “Questionnaire” and “Recommendations”.</p>
<b>Updated conceptual model of SIMAPS</b>	<p>Updates have been applied to the SIMAPS conceptual model. These updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Added the ‘Service Identification’ section (A) annotating the scope of the digital public service</li> </ul> <p>The updated conceptual model is illustrated in the ‘Introduction’ section of the online SIMAPS survey.</p>
<b>IMAPS to SIMAPS user journey</b>	<p>The project team created a simple illustration of a “user journey” to give more context and explanation to the end-user on how the SIMAPS survey can be used and to its connection to the IMAPS survey. This visual is shown before the assessment, as part of the introduction to the survey at the EU Survey portal. It describes the structure and logic behind the SIMAPS survey, starting from the IMAPS questionnaire, explaining the SIMAPS model and structure.</p>
<b>SIMAPS URL at the EU Survey portal</b>	<p>The version 1.0.0 <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_0_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_0_0</a> has been replaced by the <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0</a></p>

**Updated SIMAPS items**

Some SIMAPS items from version 1.0.0 were highly complex and according to the expert reviews, their terminology and language needed to be simplified.

As such, some items have been removed from SIMAPS and they have been added either to TIMAPS (item D1), or they have been deleted at all, as their scope of assessment was covered by other 1.0.0 items. The following items have been deleted from SIMAPS version 1.1.0:

- Item D1: Is the data, information and knowledge delivered by your public service compliant with e-accessibility specifications?
- Item D4: Please indicate to how many different MS your public service delivers semantically aligned data, information and knowledge.
- Item D7: Are semantic formats (Linked Data, RDF, ...) being used as a data format for data delivered by your public service?
- Item D8: Please specify how your public service handles the reference data delivered to other public services.
- Item D9: To what extent is semantic interoperability considered when delivering data, information, and knowledge to other public services?
- Item D10: What kind of activities do you perform to make the data, information, knowledge delivered discoverable by other public services or by end users?
- Item D11: What kind of activities do you perform to make the data, information, knowledge delivered clearly understood its end users?
- Item D13: Please indicate if and how many applications have been developed based on data delivered from your public service
- Item D14: Please indicate the extent of your public service data reuse in newly developed applications.
- Item C4: Are Linked Open Data sets being consumed by the public service?
- Item C6: From how many MS can your public service consume data, information and knowledge? (semantically aligned)
- Item C7: Is the public service able to consume data, information and knowledge available in more than one languages?
- Item C9: Can the public service consume data compliant with e-accessibility specifications?
- Item C11: Please indicate how your public service leverages semantically aligned data.
- Item C14: What proportion of the consumed data is being discovered?
- Item C15: What proportion of the data that your public service consumes is semantically aligned with data coming from other MS?

Similarly, the following items have been added to SIMAPS version 1.1.0:

- Item D1: To what extent does the digital public service deliver structured data, information and knowledge to its end users?
- Item D3: To what extent does the digital public service provide rules to map the data, information and knowledge delivered?

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Item D6: To what extent does the digital public service provide machine-readable documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered?</li> <li>• Item D7: To what extent does the digital public service provide metadata documentation about the data, information and knowledge delivered?</li> <li>• Item D8: To what extent does the digital public service deliver data, information and knowledge that is input for a Master data repository?</li> <li>• Item C1: To what extent does the digital public service consume structured data, information and knowledge from other services or end users?</li> <li>• Item C4: To what extent does the digital public service consume machine-readable documentation about the data, information and knowledge consumed?</li> <li>• Item C5: To what extent does the digital public service consume data, information and knowledge from a Master data repository?</li> </ul> <p>The project team has updated the language and the terminology of <b>all SIMAPS items</b> by including the terminology specificities (structure, EIRA ABBs, etc.) in the “More info” section of the online survey to facilitate end-user understanding. This way we maintain the internal structure and the alignment with other actions, facilitating the end user (i.e. who replies the questionnaire) understanding. In this context, examples have been added in the “More info” section of the online survey facilitating the end user understanding.</p>
<b>Applicability</b>	<p>Based on the feedback from the expert reviews, the option ‘Not applicable’ should be included in the options of all SIMAPS items. As such, the project team added the ‘Not applicable’ option to all SIMAPS items as the first option. The “N/A” options will take the highest score (100/100) in order not to penalize the digital public service under assessment.</p>
<b>Conceptual corrections</b>	<p>Unit of analysis: the digital public service. Whatever item assessed manual vs. electronic has been removed;</p> <p>The electronic, as term, has been replaced by digital;</p> <p>Applicability across geographies and sectors, has been removed.</p> <p>CAMSS</p>
<b>Items’ level of granularity</b>	<p>Items’ options have been reworked to cover a 5-level extent of replies that reflect each one of the 5 interoperability maturity levels of IMAPS (ad-hoc, opportunistic, essential, sustainable, and seamless).</p>
<b>Scoring model</b>	<p>The existing scoring model of SIMAPS version 1.0.0 is maintained, meaning that the sections Data, information and knowledge delivered/consumed, Service Delivery/Consumption Enablers and Service Delivery/Consumption Manifestations have weights 40%, 40% and 20% respectively across the whole questionnaire.</p>

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	<p>However, the scoring per item has been adapted based on the 5 interoperability maturity levels of IMAPS (ad-hoc, opportunistic, essential, sustainable, and seamless), reflecting also the level of granularity mentioned above.</p> <p>The weight (percentage) of items has changed due to items being added and/or removed.</p> <p>The no-scoring questions have been removed and they will be added to IMAPS.</p>
<b>Previous contract change requests</b>	All Change Requests (CRs) based on JIRA tickets collected during the previous contract, have been included in the SIMAPS version 1.1.0.
Version 1.0.0	

### 2.3 [SIMAPS v1.2.0 Publication on Joinup](#)

The public web page (<https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/imaps-interopability-maturity-assessment-public-service/solution/simaps/about>) describing SIMAPS version 1.2.0.

**Table 3: Changes in Joinup**

Modification	Details
Version 1.2.0	
<b>SIMAPS URL at the EU Survey portal</b>	<p>Date: 20/12/2021</p> <p>The version 1.1.0 <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0</a> has been replaced by the version 1.2.0 <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_2_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_2_0</a></p>
<b>SIMAPS Release components</b>	<p>Date: 6/5/2022</p> <p>The version 1.2.0 includes the following release components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SIMAPS v1.2.0 EU Survey portal</li> <li>• SIMAPS v1.2.0 User Guide;</li> <li>• SIMAPS v1.2.0 Publication on Joinup;</li> <li>• SIMAPS v1.2.0 Value proposition;</li> <li>• SIMAPS v1.2.0 Release package;</li> <li>• ISA product license.</li> </ul>
Version 1.1.0	
<b>Updated conceptual model of SIMAPS</b>	<p>Updates have been applied to the SIMAPS conceptual model. These updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Added the ‘Service Identification’ section (A) annotating the scope of the digital public service</li> </ul> <p>The updated conceptual model is illustrated in the ‘Introduction’ section of the online SIMAPS survey.</p>
<b>SIMAPS URL at the EU Survey portal</b>	<p>The version 1.0.0 <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_0_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_0_0</a> has been replaced by the <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0</a></p>
<b>SIMAPS Release components</b>	<p>The version 1.1.0 includes the following release components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SIMAPS v1.1.0 EU Survey portal</li> <li>• SIMAPS v1.1.0 User Guide;</li> <li>• SIMAPS v1.1.0 Publication on Joinup;</li> <li>• SIMAPS v1.1.0 Value proposition;</li> <li>• SIMAPS v1.1.0 Release package;</li> <li>• ISA product license.</li> </ul>
Version 1.0.0	

## 2.4 [SIMAPS v1.2.0 Value Proposition](#)

A PDF document, which provides the value proposition of SIMAPS v1.2.0.

**Table 4: Changes in SIMAPS value proposition**

Modification	Details
Version 1.2.0	
<b>SIMAPS URL at the EU Survey portal</b>	<p>Date: 20/12/2021</p> <p>The version 1.1.0 <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_0_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_0_0</a> has been replaced by the version 1.2.0 <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_2_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_2_0</a></p>
Version 1.1.0	
<b>Updated conceptual model of SIMAPS</b>	<p>Updates have been applied to the SIMAPS conceptual model. These updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added the ‘Service Identification’ section (A) annotating the scope of the digital public service</li> </ul> <p>The updated conceptual model is illustrated in the ‘Introduction’ section of the online SIMAPS survey.</p>
<b>SIMAPS URL at the EU Survey portal</b>	<p>The version 1.0.0 <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_0_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_0_0</a> has been replaced by the <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0">https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/SIMAPS_v_1_1_0</a></p>
<b>Updated layout</b>	<p>The layout of the SIMAPS value proposition has been updated following the same look and feel of IMAPS “one pager”. In addition, the following sections have been added for an optimal user experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>What is SIMAPS</i>: describes the logic of the SIMAPS survey</li> <li><i>What is in for you</i>: describes the benefits for the users by using SIMAPS</li> <li><i>For whom is SIMAPS relevant</i>: describes the target users (profiles) of the users that should take the SIMAPS assessment</li> <li><i>SIMAPS conceptual model &amp; structure</i>: describes the SIMAPS conceptual model and its structure</li> <li><i>Digital Public Service Components</i>: describes the three different service areas i.e. Service Identification, Service Delivery and Service Consumption that the SIMAPS assessment captures</li> </ul>
Version 1.0.0	



## 2.5 [ISA Product License v1.4](#)

The license under which the SIMAPS v1.2.0 is released.

**Table 5: Changes in SIMAPS release**

Modification	Details
Version 1.2.0	
Version 1.1.0	
Version 1.0.0	

## 2.6 [SIMAPS v1.2.0 Release](#)

An archive containing each of the above mentioned files.

**Table 6: Changes in SIMAPS release**

Modification	Details
Version 1.2.0	
<b>Release package of all release components – SIMAPS v1.2.0</b>	The package of SIMAPS version 1.2.0 does not include the SIMAPS Recommendations as a separate file from the User Guide. The User Guide is a consolidated document that includes the previous release components “User guide”, “Questionnaire” and “Recommendations”.
Version 1.1.0	
<b>Release package of all release components – SIMAPS v1.1.0</b>	The package of SIMAPS version 1.1.0 does not include the SIMAPS Recommendations as a separate file from the User Guide. The User Guide is a consolidated document that includes the previous release components “User guide”, “Questionnaire” and “Recommendations”.
Version 1.0.0	