# Technical options for OCDS implementation

Architecture and publication patterns

### Architecture

#### **Direct publication from live systems**







#### **Separate OCDS datastore - pull and convert**







#### **Separate OCDS datastore - pull and convert**



#### **Separate OCDS datastore - convert and push**







#### **Separate OCDS datastore - manual import**





#### **Publication patterns**

#### **Documents and data**



**JSON** 



CSV / Excel



Direct URLs

Long-term archival

API

Individual releases

Bulk downloads

Bulk download

Segmented data: month, year, department etc.



#### **Skills and user needs**

It's important to provide data in structured JSON format for tool developers and advanced users.

But more users have the skills to work with flattened (tabular) data, so providing CSVs and spreadsheets is important too. Working with spreadsheets, e.g. **MS Excel** 

Working with databases, e.g. **SQL** 

Working with JSON directly, e.g. **Python** 



#### **Serialization**

#### Structured (JSON)

#### "milestones": [



## **Flattened** (CSV/Excel)

	A	В	C	D	E	F
• 5	ocid	id	planning/milestones/0/id	planning/milestones/0/type	planning/milestones/0/code	planning/milestones/0/title
6	ocds-213czf-example-ppp 🔹	1.2.1 🔹	1	preProcurement *	•	Public consultation
7	ocds-213czf-example-ppp 🔹	1.2.1 🔹	2	approval 👻	•	Strategic outline case approva
8	-	*		-	-	
9	Υ.	*		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	*	



#### **Spreadsheets**

#### Simple data can be presented in a single sheet

ocid	id	tender/id	tender/value/amount	contracts/0/id	contracts/0/value/amount

#### Complex data can be presented in a multiple sheets

ocid	id	tender/id	tender/value/amount





#### **Static files**

Individual files are important for **developers and tools**:

• Persistent URIs for individual releases and records

Bulk files make your data **accessible** to a wider range of users. Consider:

- Periodic generation and segmentation, by date, release ID etc.
- Dynamic generation: streaming the latest database contents



**APIs** 

- Individual releases and resource: records at stable URLs • All releases and records ordered by date • Search endpoints informed by user needs Aggregation
- Don't forget **documents**



**Change history** 

#### **Change history: releases and records**

Releases: Updates on individual events in a process, e.g:

- Tender notice
- Contract award
  - Contract amendment



**Records**: Current state of the whole process. ╋ Links to individual releases



#### releases and records

We recommend publishing **a new release** of data whenever anything changes in the contracting process.

Worked example



15th Jan

Tender issued



**28th Feb** Award announced

**15th March** Contract signed



pen Contracting

Option 1: Publish backward looking data after contract is signed; Option 2: Publish a single record, updating every time things change; Option 3: Publish individual releases as each event happens, along with an OCDS record to compile a snapshot of the whole process.