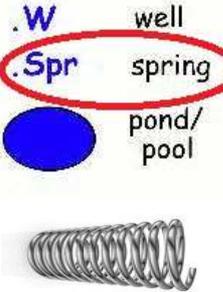# Environmental Science to Services Partnership
Latest News April 2015

The ESSP is a partnership of six leading UK public sector environmental science organisations sharing a common goal of delivering services, benefit and economic growth from their capabilities.

To achieve this we are developing DataSpring, our single sign-on web service providing direct access to multi-disciplinary environmental datasets from authoritative sources across ESSP. Once our prototype is a little more stable we'll share the link for you to take a closer look.

DataSpring

There's an ever growing volume of data that could be used by decision makers and advisors. But where to start? DataSpring offers a curated discovery and access portal to data from across the partnership in standard formats. We've worked with industry experts from our open source software supplier (WSO2) to develop an API Management service running in the cloud.

Now that we can demonstrate this capability, we'll be talking to potential users about the data they would like to find on DataSpring. We plan to extend the prototype beyond the current ESSP organisations to include a range of authoritative environmental data providers. We'll also have a capability to include premium (paid for) data as well as open data.

OpenViewer

DataSpring will support a range of services, tools and applications. Using expertise from BGS we have developed the ESSP OpenViewer as an example of how the data could be used. We'll be working with others to add more tools, but take a look at OpenViewer by visiting our webpage www.esspartnership.org. Initially starting with graphical map layers (WMS) for use in visualisation tools, we will explore providing data coverage services (WCS) allowing the data itself to be interrogated, manipulated and combined. Such services open up a range of exciting opportunities to generate new knowledge from existing data.

Collaborating on Licensing Agreements and Technical Solutions

Collaboration isn't easy but can bring huge benefits. We've made real progress in a number of challenging aspects of our plans and there is now a real collaborative will across the partnership.

We're not just working together to identify and build a technically-viable solution to deliver DataSpring; we are also working with experts from across the ESSP to developing common licensing agreements. Building on the Open Government Licence we're exploring developer and production licences for DataSpring users.

Engagement

The ESSP Partners Board recently reviewed our progress and our plans. They were engaged and enthusiastic about the DataSpring project and confirmed our plans were aligned with each partner's data strategies. They shared our excitement about the huge potential this brings in reducing barriers to innovation and stimulating economic growth

We've also been meeting with interested parties within the partner organisations, across Government (Defra, BIS, Digital Catapult, Innovate UK, Public Data Group) and beyond, with a growing interest and appetite for such a service.

We need your help! What are you already doing in this area? Could you use DataSpring to publish or publicise your data? Would you like to integrate our data into your service, tool or app?

Want to know more? Visit our updated website, watch our video, use the OpenViewer or get in touch. We'll be delighted to come and talk to you and your teams!

Coming soon... We'll share a link to DataSpring and you can take a closer look.

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Key staff across the Partnership

Partner	Core Team	Management Group	Partners Board
British Geological Survey	Helen Taylor	Julian Trick	Mike Patterson
Centre for Ecology & Hydrology	Colin MacKechnie	Nick Wells	Alan Jenkins
Environment Agency	Ali Pennycook	Martin Whitworth	Miranda Kavanagh
Met Office	Simon McLellan, Judith Rhodes, Lee Rudd	Andy Kirkman	Phil Evans
Natural Environment Research Council	N/A	Sophie Isaacs	Phil Heads
Ordnance Survey	Martin Lea	Carl Wilson	John Kimmance
Defra	N/A	N/A	Stuart Wainwright

Work package leads

Work Package	Description	Lead
1	User Requirements	Lee Rudd
2	Data	Martin Lea & Colin MacKechnie
3	Licensing, Ts&Cs, Pricing	Colin MacKechnie
4	Funding	Simon McLellan & Judith Rhodes
5	Stakeholder Management	Simon McLellan & Judith Rhodes
6	Technical	Martin Lea
7	Business Case	Helen Taylor & Ali Pennycook
8	Project Management	Helen Taylor & Ali Pennycook

Contact us:

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To learn more about ESSP visit our website
www.ESSPartnership.org