

## Q&A Report <sup>1</sup>

### Workshop on "Global Digital ICT Product Passport to achieve a Circular Economy"

1 June 2022

- 1. Will the DPP product life cycle include digital identifiers, hazardous content, performance, durability, and recyclable content, as well as carbon footprints and proof of due diligence in sourcing raw materials?**
  - a. Normally yes but recall that what exact information will be in DPP accessible by whom, in which format and for how long, will be defined in each product category during the secondary legislative process.
  
- 2. What happens if products decompose and form new chemical compounds?**
  - a. If that is planned or even unplanned (unexpected feature) then such process will be recorded hopefully in the DPP of that product and will be available to manufacturers, recyclers, etc. to ensure proper end of life handling / recycling.
  
- 3. What are the challenges in developing Digital Healthcare Product Passports such as Digital Vaccine Passports?**
  - a. Healthcare is more advance when it comes to tracing and tracking. There is already a system to track pharmaceuticals (and tobacco) and the digital patient record systems have few decades jump start over digital product passport.
  
- 4. Will the DPP also cover social aspects besides environmental impact?**
  - a. At the moment it is not mandatory, but we expect that during the implementation such information will be also integrated into DPP, so it is used for automatic reporting (and reducing the administrative burden). Ideally DPP will snowball into a single source of trusted data that can be used by companies (including for reporting) authorities to check also on other legislations, and consumers/citizens.
  
- 5. How can the DPP system enhance inclusiveness, effectiveness and trust in operations of public institutions?**
  - a. Having detailed and specific information about products is an enabler. Data processing and the production of verifiable public data sets derived from product data can also contribute.
  
- 6. Would the DPP be a kind of extended EPREL system?**
  - a. More like a decentralized EPREL database with many more features.

---

<sup>1</sup> This document provides the transcript of the questions and answers raised during the workshop. Please note that the document was formatted, but the content of the questions and answers provided by the speakers was not altered or edited.

- 7. What are the main aspects of the European Blockchain Services Infrastructure (EBSI), the EU Batteries Directive and the Waste Shipments Regulation (WSR)?**
- Very good questions, but very broad. There are big teams in EC working on these three issues. The red treat through them is DPP - Blockchain community is looking into how to facilitate the working of the DPP system. Batteries regulation will design the DPP for batteries but will rely on the overall/Cross product DPP system. Waste shipment regulation will benefit from having the insight what is in the waste shipment.
- 8. Are those standards and sources of products based on self-report? If so, how are they verified by DPP or any authority?**
- There must be clear agreements about the quality of the data, so no prerequisite in this.
  - Yes, but based on standards and guidelines, and, subject to verification.
- 9. A huge challenge to circular economy is that legal systems and law enforcement are weaker in some countries than others, so manufacturers tend to pollute or dispose waste in those weaker ones, usually developing or least developed countries, how does DPP address this?**
- Imagine any citizen finds an ICT dumped nearby: if you could scan the DPP identifier find out about it report it to authorities or the manufacturer.
  - Very good point. Hopefully the major market (where the products are consumed/used) demand quality and trusted data and that will trigger global approach. Of course, international bodies (e.g., UN agencies) will play a role to push for relevant policies and legislative measures globally.
- 10. What is the way to address counterfeit passport or counterfeit device which use duplicated passport of genuine device?**
- Currently this question is addressed by EU IPO  
<https://euipo.europa.eu/ohimportal/en/home>. We are discussing to see how the DPP development and fight against counterfeit could synergize.
  - That can be expressed as a requirement for DPP, and in fact, something discussed and developed in ITU-T SG and ITU-D too. Of course, we count on existing tech solutions to implement it. Just to give one example, ICT products could run hardware fingerprinting software in them and communicate to help validate a product.
- 11. Understanding the need for relevant data how would the proposed decentralized database work? Are we looking at another large, centralized database? How much work has been done to scope out the 'how'?**
- Thanks, there is no need/requirement to centralize the implementation, quite the opposite I'd say. There are more decentralized tech options now than in the past.

**12. If components decompose (batteries) and form new chemicals, the decomposition process must be known. This can affect recycling and storage.**

- a. Part of the DPP for batteries will be the 'dynamic' data giving the status & performance of batteries so such chemical degradation will be monitored and support proper actions (secondary use, recycling).

**13. DPP requires enterprise to do a lot of upfront work on the supply chain. It had to design a management system and process about standardization and recycling. Would DDP publish a guidebook for start-ups about recycling system?**

- a. Standard organization can help on this giving not only standard on DDP but also guidance on how to implement the DDP.
- b. DPP is about the digital transformation of the ICT sector among others, about the digitalization of the information that may be already available but less accessible, now spread across different unrelated documents, in paper or even digital. Definitely, guidance is needed, also software tools contributed by diverse actors, just like it happened with the transition from off-line/paper to the web.

**14. Do you think there are sufficient standards underpinning the data points for example LCA standards for carbon emissions? What likely data points do you think will be most challenging in practical terms or because there are currently no common standards?**

- a. As DPP is about relating/linking details, agreements must be made to represent LCA details in DPPs. Not only the details but also their verifiability, quality, credibility, etc.
- b. ITU-T publish standard on LCA assessment like L.1410, we are working on other document like L.1023 and similar that could be used as basic standard for the information that will be inserted in DDP.

**15. Is block chain technology considered for a DPP?**

- a. As Francesca says, definitely blockchain/distributed ledger tech can bring useful solutions to challenges, for instance, related to verifiability, decentralization, etc. Tech solutions are enablers, so welcome to consider any that allows satisfying requirements at a feasible/competitive cost.

**16. Why should the EU be the determinant of sustainability criteria of products coming from other jurisdictions? Is this not a problem of regulatory overreach impacting state sovereignty of producer countries? A common complaint of developing export countries like Indonesia and Brazil.**

- a. EU cares about the sustainability (quality, safety,...) of the products placed on the EU market. The DPP proposal does not target to regulate the requirements on the non-EU markets of course. But if every country/region develops their own sustainability (and DPP) requirements then that will reflect in the price for companies and eventually for consumers.

**17. Where can an end user have their product disposed of? Can this information be included in the DPP? This could relieve the end user of the responsibility to know all products and their components.**

- a. It is not easy to answer because these information change from country to country if not from location to location. So will be not a simple implementation.

**18. What is the process to join the ITU working group to develop this DPP standard?**

- a. <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/membership/Pages/default.aspx>
-