Updating open data standards
(The journey of the Frictionless Specs to v2)

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Hi there! I am Sara.

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Digital Commons

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Frictionless Data Package

Your data

Descriptor (metadata + schema)

specs.frictionlessdata.io/data-package/
What makes a standard successful?

- Engagement with **communities**
- **Simplicity**, disrupting as little as possible existing approaches and processes
- **Extensibility** and **customisable** by design
- **Human-editable** and **machine-usuable** metadata standards
- Reusing existing **standard** formats for data
- **Language-**, **technology-** and **infrastructure-agnostic**
Think about adoption

Technical implementation:

➔ framework.frictionlessdata.io/
➔ github.com/frictionlessdata/frictionless-r
➔ github.com/frictionlessdata/frictionless-js

...frictionlessdata.io/universe
Why an update?
How to coordinate the update?
1. Don’t do it alone

- Engage with a diverse group of people.
- Build a common data model that really fits the needs of everyone (or at least find some minimal common ground).
- Our Frictionless Specs working group:
2. Be clear

- Define overarching goals & roadmap of the project, and put them somewhere easy to find.
3. Decide how to decide

Establish a clear governance model / decision-making rules

Decision-making

For every GitHub issue on the specs submitted by the community throughout the years, the Frictionless core team or any working group member will propose a recommended action to the working group. The action proposed will be **accepted if consensus with the working group is reached**, meaning we have arrived at a decision, or at least a compromise, that everyone can live with.

The working group will be invited to share their view in a devoted GitHub issue. If a broader conversation is needed, the proposal discussion can be elevated to the monthly call for deliberation. The working group will be given a reasonable amount of time to review the proposed action.

Consensus is reached and the issue is closed if at least ⅔ of the working group members participate in the discussion and express their **favourable opinion**. In case of serious and explicitly stated concerns, working group members who are core library investors (at the moment: OKFN, INBO, Datopian) may veto a proposed action.

The community manager at OKFN will reach out to working group members who did not participate in the discussion to make sure their opinion is also captured. We want to ensure that reminders of your participation are handled with care. You can expect a gentle and considerate approach, such as receiving an email once every two weeks highlighting any issues where your vote is pending. Our goal is to keep you informed without causing any unnecessary inconvenience, so you can feel confident and at ease with the process.

Decision-making on the technical maintenance of the specs will be centralised by OKFN.
Where are we now?

- 10/36 issues closed
- 11/26 open issues have a first PR proposal
- 23/26 open issues have an ongoing WG discussion

→ Public Live Tracker: [github.com/frictionlessdata/specs/issues/853](https://github.com/frictionlessdata/specs/issues/853)

By June 2024:

- Frictionless Specs v2 release
- Metadata Mapper
- Integration in External Systems
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