
openfarmsubsidies Documentation

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Holger Drewes

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This is the project documentation for `openfarmsubsidies`, a new approach on building an open scraper infrastructure and user interface for researching EU farmsubsidy payments, build upon the experiences made during work on historically grown `Farmsubsidy.org` [tech infrastructure](#).

The project has its own [organization on GitHub](#) and consists of the following repositories:

Name (GitHub)	Description	Status	Last Status Update
openfarmsubsidies-scraper	Scraping	Beta	2017-06-28
openfarmsubsidies-elastic	Search Index	Beta	2017-06-28
openfarmsubsidies-backend-api	Backend/API	Beta	2017-06-28
openfarmsubsidies-frontend	Frontend	Beta	2017-06-28

This documentation provides guidance for installation, setup and technical aspects for the different sub modules.

Contents:

Scraper (Django/DDS)

Introduction

The scraping infrastructure is build on Python/Django and is using the `djang-dynamic-scraper` scraping library at its core.

Scrapers for the various EU member state agencies databases are build and maintained within the Django admin interface.

Django administration Welcome, admin. View site / Change password / Log out

Home > Dynamic_Scraper > Scrapers

Select scraper to change Add scraper +

Search: Search

Action: Go 0 of 2 selected

ID	Name	Scraped obj class	Status	Max items read	Max items save	Pagination type	Rpts
1	GB (Great Britain) - Environment Department	Payment	MANUAL	(None)	(None)	RANGE_FUNCT	1
2	IE (Ireland) - Agriculture Department	Payment	MANUAL	(None)	(None)	RANGE_FUNCT	1

Filter

- By status
 - All
 - ACTIVE
 - MANUAL
 - PAUSED
 - INACTIVE
- By pagination type
 - All
 - NONE
 - RANGE_FUNCT

Installation

The scraping infrastructure project can be installed by cloning the [GitHub](#) repository and install the requirements into a Python 3.5 virtualenv with:

```
pip install -r requirements.txt
pip install -r requirements_dev.txt # DEV requirements
```

The project uses the following main Python/Django libraries:

- Django 1.10
- Scrapy 1.4
- Django Dynamic Scraper (DDS) 0.13

Configuration

The following environment variables have to be found in your shell environment, e.g. by adding lines like `export OPENFARMSUBSIDIES_SECRET_KEY="..."` to the `.bash_profile` file:

Key	Description	Place
<code>OPENFARMSUBSIDIES_SECRET_KEY</code>	Project specific Django secret key	<code>settings.py</code>

Starting a local Django server should now provide access to the scraper management admin console via the browser (go to `127.0.0.1:8000`):

```
python manage.py runserver
```

Scraper Handling

Importing/exporting Scrapers

Scrapers can be found in the `scraper_dumps` directory inside the repository and imported with the following command:

```
python manage.py loaddata scraper_dumps/farmsubsidy_scraper_dump_YYYY-MM-DD_dds_[DDS_
↳VERSION_NUMBER].json #Generic
python manage.py loaddata scraper_dumps/farmsubsidy_scraper_dump_2016-01-18_dds_v094.
↳json #Example
```

Note: It is recommended to match the project installation DDS version with the version from the scraper dump, otherwise DB changes during DDS version changes have to be looked at closely in the [DDS release notes](#) and manual adoptions to the JSON dump format might be necessary.

Creating a new Scraper

For creating scrapers a `ScrapedObjectClass Payment` has to be defined in the Django admin (see the definition from the scraper dumps) in addition to the `models.py` definition, defining the data structure of the scraped payment data. See the [Data Format](#) section for description of the different payment attributes.

Scrapers are created per-country wise as `Scraper` objects in the Django admin and are referenced in additional `Country` objects, representing a EU member states respectively the associated payments agency.

For further documentation and conceptional overview see the [DDS docs](#)

Running a Scraper

Scraper can be run from the command line with the following command:

```
scrapy crawl --output=data.json --output-format=jsonlines payment_spider -L DEBUG -a ↵
↵id=GB -a max_items_read=4 -a max_pages_read=2
```

This will run the scraper connected to the Agency in the Django admin with the id GB and write the output in a JSON Lines formatted file called `data.json`.

Usage options for scraping behaviour can be found in the corresponding DDS doc section for [running/testing scrapers](#).

Data Format

Scraper Format Description

The following are the scraped object attributes of a `Payment` object. Note that some field are either filled in with static values (like the `country` attribute) or are automatically filled via external API (like the `name_en`) attribute and are not directly used in the scraping process:

Attribute	Scraped Field	Mandatory	Description
<code>base</code>	Yes	Yes	Container attribute for element scraping, see DDS docs
<code>name</code>	Yes	Yes	Name of recipient scraped from the site, use both for en and non-en names
<code>name_en</code>	No	No	Use ONLY if name should be translated via Yandex API, add static placeholder processor
<code>country</code>	No	Yes	Always add, with static processor inserting the two-letter country code
<code>zip_code</code>	Yes	No	ZIP code of recipient
<code>town</code>	Yes	Yes	Town of recipient
<code>region</code>	Yes	No	Region of recipient
<code>year</code>	No	Yes	The year of the scraped data, add static placeholder processor
<code>amount_nc</code>	Yes	Non-€-Country	Use for scraping of non-€-country amounts
<code>nc_conv_date</code>	No	Non-€-Country	Always use this and following field together with static processor...
<code>nc_conv_rate</code>	No	Non-€-Country	...for non-€-countries
<code>amount_euro</code>	Yes(€)/No	Yes	Use for scraping of €-country amounts, otherwise static processor
<code>sub_payments_nc</code>	Indirect	No	Use for scraping sub payments of non-€-countries if available (see extra expl.)
<code>sub_payments_euro</code>	Indirect(€)/No	No	Use for scraping sub payments of €-country amounts, otherwise static processor
<code>sp-x (sp1,sp2,..)</code>	Yes	No	Additional helper attributes for sub payments, both € and non-€
<code>extra_dp_url_123</code>	Yes	No	Helper attributes for scraping additional data urls per payment, see DDS docs

Additional note on `sub_payment` scraping:

Sub payments are indirectly scraped via the `sp-x` fields and then added via placeholders into a static processor template of the `sub_payments_nc` or `sub_payments_euro` field.

Only scrape sub payments if the two (without market measures)/three main agricultural subsidy pillars are listed, otherwise things get divided into too small sections. Use the english naming translation in the following unified form (for easier/useful faceting later on search):

Payment Type	Sub Payment Name	Remarks
European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF)	EAGF (Direct Payments)	Direct payments to farmers, largest part
European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)	EAFRD (Rural Development)	Environmental measures, sometimes: ELER, smaller part
Market Measures (e.g. for milk, fruit market)	Market Schemes	Only sometimes

The scraped sub payments don't have to sum up to the total subsidy sum, so you can also pick the 2/3 most common ones. For other payments than the ones above use an english name translation.

The following is an exemplary static processor template for the Bulgarian scraper:

```
'static': 'EAGF (Direct Payments), {sp1} | EAFRD (Rural Development), {sp2} | Market_↵Schemes, {sp3}'
```

In this case the scraper definition also has to provide entries with XPath definitions for the sp1, sp2, sp3 and sp4 fields. The so-scraped values are then automatically added to the static processor text replacing the placeholders.

General format for the sub_payment string:

```
'static': '[Name of SP1], {sp1} | [Name of SP2], {sp2} | ...'
```

Note: It is possible to add up to six sub payment types to the scraper. The amounts of the sub payments doesn't have to add up to the total amount of the payment.

Output Format Description

Scraped items are saved with additional serialization customizations defined in the `models.py` module as JSON Lines items, more or less (one additional processing is necessary) ready to be indexed in the Elastic index.

If currency is scraped in national unit conversion rate and date is read from fixer.io API.

Data format looks like the following:

```
{
  "town": "PERTH",
  "amount_nc": 57444.0,
  "name": "\"A F Angelil T/A \"\"Cluny Estate\"\"\"",
  "amount_euro": 76126.11,
  "country": "GB",
  "sub_payments_euro": [{
    "amount": 32969.45,
    "name": "Rural Development"
  }, {
    "amount": 43156.83,
    "name": "Direct Aid"
  }, {
    "amount": 0.0,
    "name": "Market Schemes"
  }],
  "sub_payments_nc": [{
    "amount": 24878.42,
    "name": "Rural Development"
  }, {
```

```

    "amount": 32565.71,
    "name": "Direct Aid"
  }, {
    "amount": 0.0,
    "name": "Market Schemes"
  }],
  "year": 2015,
  "nc_conv_rate": 0.75459,
  "nc_conv_date": "2016-01-22",
  "zip_code": "PH2"
}

```

Recipient Name Translation

For recipient name translation the Yandex translation API is used. `YANDEX_TRANSLATE_API_ENDPOINT` and `YANDEX_TRANSLATE_API_KEY` have to be set in `settings.py` file.

Translation is automatically activated if `name_en` attribute is added to a scraper of a specific country, leave attribute for scrapers with no translation (e.g. GB).

Yandex has the current API limits:

- 1.000.000 characters per day
- 10.000.000 characters per month

OpenFarmsubsidies scraping is coming close, so API usage has to be actively managed/recorded to avoid reaching limitations.

Take the following formula for character estimates:

- (Number of recipients (`wc -l`)) * 15 characters/recipient

Try to stay under 80% of day/month limit, distribute (translated) scraper runs to different days, avoid double runs.

Creating the Countries Endpoint

The `countries` endpoint of the API (see: [Countries Endpoint](#)) is taking the administrated data from the `Country` Django model objects as a starting point.

There is a `create_countries_endpoint` Django management command providing the JSON output for the API response:

```
python manage.py create_countries_endpoint
```

Recreate the API endpoint every time a country is added and integrate it in the Backend/API python code.

Note: You can exclude a country by setting the corresponding scraper to `inactive` status.

Search Index (Elastic)

Searching is done with `Elastic`, currently the following version is used:

- `Elastic 2.1.1`

Installation

Download `Elastic` and install in folder `elasticsearch` (no version number) inside the repository.

The local dev server on `http://localhost:9200` can then be started with:

```
./server.sh
```

Index Creation

Index Template

For indexing template in `conf/template.json` is used for mapping and has to be activated/loaded before first data indexing:

```
curl -XPUT localhost:9200/_template/template_1 -d '@conf/template.json'
```

The current mapping for the index can be seen with:

```
curl -XGET 'http://localhost:9200/openfarmsubsidies/_mapping/payment?pretty'
```

Deleting the current template:

```
curl -XDELETE localhost:9200/_template/template_1
```

See installed templates:

```
curl -XGET localhost:9200/_template/
```

Index Management

List indices:

```
curl 'localhost:9200/_cat/indices?v'
```

Delete index:

```
curl -XDELETE 'localhost:9200/openfarmsubsidies?pretty'
```

Indexing Documents

Format Pre-Processing

Input files have to be formatted as JSON Lines format and are prepared with the following command for indexing:

```
./jl2elastic inputfile.json
```

Indexing Documents

Index data:

```
curl -XPUT 'localhost:9200/openfarmsubsidies/payment/_bulk?pretty' --data-binary  
↪"@data_elastic.json"
```

Searching the Index

Testing search:

```
curl 'localhost:9200/openfarmsubsidies-test/_search?q=PERTH&pretty'
```

Backend/API (Python/Flask)

Backend/API for creating a simple API layer and connecting to Elastic.

Installation

Installation is done by cloning the repository and install the dependencies from the requirements files:

```
pip install -r requirements.txt
pip install -r requirements_dev.txt # DEV requirements
```

The project uses Python 3.5 and is build upon the following main Python/Flask libraries:

- Flask 0.10

The dev server on `http://127.0.0.1:5000` can be started with:

```
python app.py
```

API

General

Current version of the API: v1

Common Request Parameters

Name	Description	Example Values
start	Result object to start with (default: 0)	0, 9 (10th object!)
rows	Number of rows/objects to return (default: 10)	1, 10, 25

Common Behaviour

API always returns aggregations for towns, years, countries and sub payments type.

Payments Endpoint

Payments endpoint can be reached at:

```
/[API_VERSION]/payments/
```

Results are sorted by amount_euro by default.

Endpoint-specific Request Parameters

Name	Description	Example Values
q	Generic search for recipient, town or ZIP code	Nestle,London,NR16
name	Recipient name	Nestle
country	2-letter country code of an EU country	GB,SI,NL,PL
zip_code	ZIP code of a European town	NR16
town	Name of a European town or city	London
year	Year of payment	2014
country	2-letter country code of an EU country	GB,SI,NL,PL
amount_euro_gte	Amount euro greater than given value	2500,100000,1000000
sub_payments_type	Type of the sub payment in national language	Direct Aid

Example Requests

```
https://[URL_TO_API]/[API_VERSION]/payments/?amount_euro_gte=5000&town=London
```

Example Data Set

```
_source: {
  town: "London",
  amount_nc: 6568,
  name: "Example Recipient",
  amount_euro: 8631.32,
  country: "GB",
  sub_payments_euro: [
    {
      amount: 8630.66,
      name: "Rural Development"
    },
    {
      amount: 0,
      name: "Direct Aid"
    },
    {
      amount: 0,
      name: "Market Schemes"
    }
  ]
},
```

```

sub_payments_nc: [
  {
    amount: 6567.5,
    name: "Rural Development"
  },
  {
    amount: 0,
    name: "Direct Aid"
  },
  {
    amount: 0,
    name: "Market Schemes"
  }
],
year: 2014,
nc_conv_rate: 0.76095,
nc_conv_date: "2016-01-26",
zip_code: "SW7"
}

```

Sub payments are indexed schemaless as they are provided by the specific country agencies.

Note: If both an `amount_nc` (national currency) and an `amount_euro` is provided, the Euro value is not coming originally from the source but is calculated via `fixer.io` API with the given conv rate at the conv date provided.

Countries Endpoint

The `countries` endpoint is a simple static endpoint and can be reached at:

```
/[API_VERSION]/payments/
```

It provides a list of all countries where payment data is indexed together with some additional information like a countries responsible paying agency, associated data and info urls and the like.

There are no request parameters supported at the moment.

Example Request

```
https://[URL_TO_API]/[API_VERSION]/countries/
```

Example Data Set

```

{
  "GB": {
    "name": "Great Britain",
    "agency_name": "GOV.UK - Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs",
    "info_url": "https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-
↵environment-food-rural-affairs",
    "data_url": "http://cap-payments.defra.gov.uk/",
    "nc_symbol": "GBP",
    "nc_sign": "£"
  },

```

```
...
  "IE": {
    "name": "Ireland",
    "agency_name": "gov.ie - Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine",
    "info_url": "http://www.agriculture.gov.ie",
    "data_url": "http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/agri-foodindustry/
↪euinternationalpolicy/commonagriculturalpolicy/cap/capbeneficiariesdatabase/
↪paymentsdatabase/cap_ben_master.jsp",
    "nc_symbol": "",
    "nc_sign": ""
  }
}
```

Frontend (Bootstrap/Javascript)

Installation

Requirements

Main runtime library dependencies:

- Bootstrap 4 Alpha 6
- jQuery 3.2.1

Main dev tools:

- Sass (Ruby installation)
- http-server
- (Gulp.js) (build automation)

Running the server

Run the `http-server` from the main folder of the repository:

```
http-server
```

Content is served on `http://127.0.0.1:8080`, API is expected at `http://127.0.0.1:5000`.

Development

Sass sources can be compiled with:

```
sass sass/content.scss css/content.css
```

Or you can run the `watch` command with:

```
sass --watch sass/content.scss:css/content.css
```

Server Setup

General

Deployment of all server parts is done on an Ubuntu 14.04 AWS/EC2 instance, Python `fabric` is used for deployment automation, fabric files can be found in `openfarmsubsidies-scraper` repository.

The following fabric tasks are just for orientation what need to be installed/done and are not intended to pass through, depending on your system pre-requisites:

```
fab prepare_system
fab install_deps
```

Script templates for setting up Gunicorn, Nginx and Supervisor can be found in the `conf` folder.

SSL

SSL cert is created with **Let's Encrypt** with the following command:

```
sudo /home/ubuntu/.local/share/letsencrypt/bin/letsencrypt certonly -d_
↳openfarmsubsidies.org -d www.openfarmsubsidies.org -d scraper.openfarmsubsidies.org_
↳-d api.openfarmsubsidies.org
```

Elasticsearch

Elasticsearch is installed as `deb` (Debian) package following [this instructions](#).

Installation can be found at `/usr/share/elasticsearch/`, start/stop is done via `init.d` script `sudo /etc/init.d/elasticsearch start`.

Index backup can be done with:

```
sudo cp -Rp /var/lib/elasticsearch /var/lib/elasticsearch-backup-2017-06-28
```

CHAPTER 6

Indices and tables

- `genindex`
- `modindex`
- `search`