



Berlin Group openFinance API Framework Workplan 2021

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1 Introduction

1.1 From Core XS2A Interface to openFinance API

With the revised Payment Services Directive (PSD2) the EU has published a directive on payment services in the internal market. Among others, PSD2 contains regulations on services to be operated by Third Party Providers (TPPs) on behalf of a Payment Service User (PSU). These services are

- Payment Initiation Service (PIS) to be operated by a Payment Initiation Service Provider (PISP) TPP as defined by article 66 of PSD2,
- Account Information Service (AIS) to be operated by an Account Information Service Provider (AISP) TPP as defined by article 67 of PSD2, and
- Confirmation on the Availability of Funds Service (FCS) to be used by a Payment Instrument Issuing Service Provider (PIISP) TPP as defined by article 65 of PSD2.

To support the TPP in accessing the accounts managed by an Account Servicing Payment Service Provider (ASPSP), each ASPSP has to provide an "access to account interface" (XS2A interface). Such an interface has been defined in the Berlin Group NextGenPSD2 XS2A Framework.

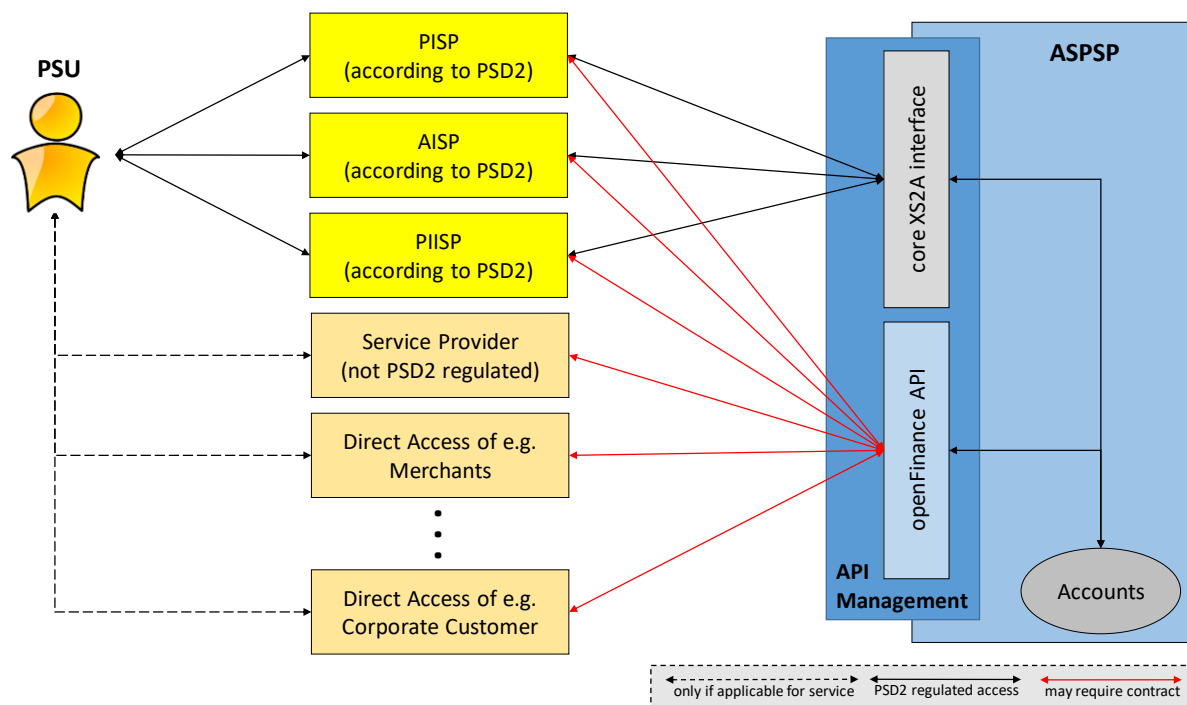
The XS2A Framework is now planned to be extended to premium services. This interface is addressed in the following as **openFinance API Framework**. The openFinance API interface differs from the XS2A interface in several dimensions:

- The extended services might not rely anymore solely on PSD2;
- The services might rely for example also on GDPR;
- The openFinance API can address different types of **Access Clients**, e.g. TPPs regulated by an NCA according to PSD2, or corporates not regulated by an NCA;
- The extended services might require commercial contracts between the Access Client and the ASPSP;
- The openFinance API could also be used by other institutions for any business not regulated by PSD2;
- Access client identification is not necessarily based on eIDAS PSD2 compliant certificates;
- The extended services might require e.g. the direct involvement of the Access Client's bank for KYC processes;

Note: The notions of Access Client and ASPSP are used because of the technical standardisation perspective of the openFinance API. These terms are analogous to "asset broker" and "asset holder" resp. in the work of the ERPB on a SEPA API access scheme.

Note: In implementations, several ASPSPs might offer their services in an aggregation platform. Such platforms will be addressed in the openFinance API Framework as "API provider".

The following access models are followed by this framework:



1.2 Workplan 2021

This document is drafting the Workplan 2021 for

- the creation of premium value added services within the openFinance Interface, and
- the further evolution of the Core XS2A Interface architecture to support this.

Note: Depending on market input and feedback or new market developments, the Workplan 2021 and related timelines may be subject to further adjustments and finetuning.

Note: Where applicable, reference is made to the relevant detailed Change Request available on the detailed Change Requests overview (ref. <https://www.berlin-group.org/nextgenpsd2-downloads>).

Note: the distinction between short-term and mid-term extensions has been based a.o. on the following quantifiable criteria (based on weighted averages):

- Interest measured as a commitment to implement
- Commercial value
- Expected usage rate

In addition, priorities from the Advisory Board were taken into account as well as non-quantifiable criteria, e.g. urgency of already available Change Requests, easy-to-achieve targets, resources offered as support during standardisation, and connection to the recently published European Commission Digital Finance Package. The services enriching the API Framework with technical architecture enhancements have been considered as a high priority.

2 Short-term extensions

2.1 Payment Initiation Functionality Extensions

The existing payment functionalities shall be extended in several dimensions by introducing

- a reservation of funds functionality to the API (ref. CR0019);
such a service would allow to reserve PSU funds for a certain time after PSU authorisation
- a deferred payment option (ref. CR0019);
such a service would allow to execute API-initiated payments with reserved funds at a later stage and in several steps
- a recurring payment option with maximum authorised amounts and where execution with the correct amount is initiated by the Access Client (ref. CR0019);
such a service would allow to process recurring payments without rejections at payment processing level
- the initiation of a consumer loan into the payment initiation (Pay by Loan, ref. CR0006);
such a service would allow the PSU to agree first with the ASPSP on a consumer loan to be used for the related payment. Additional functions like cancellation of remotely agreed loans and 'ex ante' information about all relevant rates (e.g. interest, installment details) shall be added as well.
- a new payment service type to support SEPA Direct Debit (SDD) collections via XML (ref. CR0007+CR0055);
such a service would allow to initiate EPC-formatted SDDs, together with relevant PSU-authorisations, by re-using the payment endpoint functionality of the core XS2A interface in introducing a new payment product

Todo:

- write the related Operational Rules & Implementation Guidelines documents and OpenAPI files

2.2 Account Information Extensions for Savings and Loan Accounts

Ref. CR0028

The existing account information functionalities shall be extended by introducing

- New AIS reporting endpoints for savings and for loan accounts
- Additional reference capabilities for the related accounts in the consent model

Todo:

- write the related Operational Rules & Implementation Guidelines documents and OpenAPI files

- Extend the existing consent model which will also apply to future versions of the core API (non-backwards-compatible)

2.3 Account Information Push Notifications

This service will allow to push actual account information to the openFinance API client. In a first step this pushing information is restricted to push account entries, e.g. related to incoming instant payments. The service will come with a subscription API where the PSU is consenting directly towards the ASPSP to forward his or her data to the client.

Todo:

- write the related Operational Rules & Implementation Guidelines documents and OpenAPI files for the subscription process and push messaging

2.4 Administration Services: Discovery API and Client Parameter

Ref. CR0025

The Discovery service will allow Access Clients to get an overview

- on the list of ASPSPs supported by a dedicated API provider;
- on the services and products supported by an ASPSP;
- on technical configurations of an ASPSP interface: variants supported, SCA supported, etc.

In addition, the API is meant to support links for documentation to be downloaded.

The Client Parameter service will allow openFinance API clients to steer authorisation and service processes in more complex environments (e.g. in a corporate context).

3 Mid-term extensions

3.1 Request-to-Pay

Ref. CR0036

This service allows openFinance API clients to submit an e-invoice or potentially other types of documents. The authorisation of a potential payment can be either realtime with a client process control flow or deferred in the PSU-ASPSP interface. In addition the service is planned to offer control functions such as the PSU consent to the client to submit e-invoices or potentially other types of documents. The extended payment services as described above will also be taken in consideration for this service.

Todo:

- write the related Operational Rules & Implementation Guidelines documents and OpenAPI files for the Request-to-Pay service

Note: Due to ongoing market infrastructure implementation projects within the context of the EPC Request-to-Pay scheme, the priority of the standardisation might be re-assessed at the beginning of 2021.

3.2 SDD eMandates authorisation

Ref. CR0001

This service allows the Creditor to get an e-Mandate signed by the ASPSP using the PSU consent and SCA in a Debtor role.

Todo:

- write a first draft of an Operational Rules document and discuss the potential usage with the scheme holder

3.3 Integrated ID Services

This service allows to extend the payment initiation request with confirmation of certain PSU-related data (e.g. age, address data, TaxID etc.). A potential PSU consent could be part of the payments SCA process.

Todo:

- Extend the related extended payment service documentation as defined above.

3.4 Securities AIS

The existing account information functionalities shall be extended by introducing

- New AIS reporting endpoints for securities accounts (showing depot details, transaction and orders)
- Additional reference capabilities for the related accounts in the consent model

Todo:

- extend the related Operational Rules & Implementation Guidelines documents and OpenAPI files

3.5 Direct Debit collections in JSON

Ref. CR0055

Add a new datamodelling to support JSON-based SDD collections in addition to the XML-based SDD collections, as part of the extended payment initiation service.

Todo:

- Adapt the extended payment initiation services documentation.

3.6 Administration Services: Service Offer, Service Registering, Signature Processes

The Service Offer service will provide service pricing and service details information to the market. The Service Registering service will provide means to subscribe to a service, where applicable. Signature Processes will be more globally defined to transmit signature processes results of PSUs to the ASPSP, particularly in the case of corporates.

4 Targeted Timelines

Depending on market input and feedback or new market developments, the Workplan 2021 and related timelines may be subject to further adjustments and finetuning.

The following highlevel timelines are scheduled for upcoming development and market consultation processes (internal drafting periods and processes are not covered in the timelines):

	Q1 2021			Q2 2021			Q3 2021			Q4 2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1 - Short-term Services												
1.1 - Operational Rules												
Preparation												
Market Consultation												
Finalisation												
1.2 - Implementation Guidelines												
Preparation												
Market Consultation												
Finalisation												
2 - Mid-term Services												
2.1 - Operational Rules												
Preparation												
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