



**Raising Awareness
on
Public Sector Information**

**A collation of
European PSI Platform
News Items posted or submitted
April 2010**

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Date	News item proposed	Posted to Platform?

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Title:

PSI economic potential: IGF5. 30th April 2010

Source:

Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

Introduction:

IGF5 Workshop proposal: Public sector information online: democratic, social and economic potentials

Body:

Geneva: 29 April 2010

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) has published the list of workshop proposals received. The list includes under the Openness category a workshop proposal titled: ***Public sector information online: democratic, social and economic potentials*** (Workshop proposal 120)

<http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/>

<http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/component/chronocontact/?chronoformname=WSProposals2010ListView>

The following bodies have jointly submitted the proposal:

The Spanish Aporta project (<http://www.aporta.es>)

The European Public Sector Information Platform (<http://www.epsiplatform.eu>)

Queensland University of Technology, The Australian auPSI information platform (<http://www.aupsi.org/>)

The KM Africa Information platform (<http://www.isivivane.com/kmafrica/>)

The Information Society Development Committee under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania (<http://www.ivpk.lt/>)

<http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/index.php/component/chronocontact/?chronoformname=WSProposals2010View&wspid=120>

The fifth annual IGF Meeting will be held in Vilnius, Lithuania, on **14-17 September 2010**.

All public sector information stakeholders with an interest in supporting, participating and joining this workshop proposal should contact the European Public Sector Information Platform.

Related news topics

IGF2010 information platform launched

IGF Hyderabad report published

Lithuania to host IGF-2010

Metadata: International

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: Internet Governance Forum, IGF

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Title:

PSI Re-user SME reacts to SMILES! 29th April 2010

Source:

Christian Lister, Communications Director, The Genesis Initiative & Operations Manager at X-Press Legal Services

Introduction:

EU-listing Small Business Act - *Small and medium-sized issuers listed in Europe (SMILES)*

Body:

Brussels: 18 March 2010

The Permanent Representation of France to the European Union titled: ***Intervention by Mrs Christine Lagarde, Minister of Economy, Industry and Employment.***

<http://www.rpfrance.eu/spip.php?article1086>

The news article states:

“On the 18th March 2010 Ms. Lagarde, Minister of Economy, Industry and Employment, opened the conference 'Do We Need an EU Small Business Act Listing', co-organized by the ECMI and the CEPS.

Ms. Lagarde welcomed the report and particularly Demarigny identified five recommendations:

- *Creating a legal definition of 'Small and Medium-Sized Listed Issuers in Europe' (SMILE).*
- *Providing more relevant information to investors by creating a special scheme for Smiles in the context of the Prospectus Directive.*
- *Extension of time to three months to publish yearly financial reports.*
- *Creating a specific plan IFRS for SMEs entering the market.*
- *Establishment of a European platform for trading SMILE.”*

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On the 19th March 2010 MAZARS published a news topic titled: ***Report published calling for an ‘EU-listing Small Business Act’, prepared by Fabrice Demarigny at the request of Christine Lagarde.***

<http://www.mazars.com/Home/News/Latest-news2/Report-calling-for-an-EU-listing-SBA/>

The report (available in French and English languages) titled:

Un « Small Business Act » du droit boursier européen - Mettre en place un environnement financier et réglementaire adapté aux petits et moyens émetteurs cotés en Europe (« SMILEs »). Mars 2010

Rapport établi par Fabrice DEMARIGNY, directeur des activités marchés de capitaux du groupe Mazars

An EU-Listing Small Business Act - Establishing a proportionate regulatory and financial environment for Small and Medium-sized Issuers Listed in Europe (SMILEs). March 2010. Report by Fabrice DEMARIGNY, Global Head of Capital Markets Activities of MAZARS Group

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London: 28th April 2010

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The **Genesis Initiative** Communications Director Christian Lister (and also Operations Manager of X-Press Legal Services) distributed via email a press release on the SMILES report. The press release states:

“The essence of this report appears to be in the section which says: In 2009, a large number of SMILES, but also regulators, public authorities, exchanges and stakeholders shared the view that the initial and on-going listing costs outweigh the benefits.

It appears therefore that the EU Directives have set requirements representing a barrier, which is too high for Small and Medium Companies in terms of compliance and costs. Interviews substantiate this fact.

If this were the case there is obviously a need to do something about it.

The mechanics of a solution simple, however I offer the following general points:

- *It is far better to correct the existing systems rather than try to impose a new structure.*
- *Why were the EU Directives that set the barriers passed? Do we need them? Are they doing any good?*
- *If there were a good reason for these Directives, is it still there? Could there be another way of solving the problem?*
- *Years ago there did not appear to be any real barriers to a small business getting into the capital markets. What has happened to prevent them?*
- *Creating something new would inevitably mean more legislation and therefore a greater need for specialists. The more specialists there are, the higher the cost for emerging businesses to get into the market.*

Well-meaning regulation often has the opposite effects that it was meant to achieve. A good example is the employment legislation in France.

This is so complex that many SMEs opt to stay small and use only family workers.

If you were to be considering extra legislation I would urge you to extrapolate the consequences as well as the immediate results.”

http://www.xpresslegal.co.uk/view/About_Us/Meet_the_Directors/

<http://www.genesis-initiative.org/>

Related news topics

Reducing red tape for small firms
ASEDIE: Impact on Business Registers
ASEDIE responds on Business Registers

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 1, 3

Keywords: regulation, SME, Small Business Act

Title:

EURADIN Newsletter No. 4. 29th April 2010

Source:

European Address Infrastructure (EURADIN)

Introduction:

European Address Infrastructure publishes newsletter number 4

Body:

Navarra: 29 April 2010

The European Address Infrastructure (EURADIN) has published the EURADIN Newsletter number 4.
<https://www.euradin.eu/default.aspx>

The contents of the newsletter include amongst other topics:

- The European Gazetteer Service
- Addresses at marginal costs – Results from Denmark
- A future for EURADIN: The European Address Forum
<http://www.europeanaddressforum.eu/EAF/>

Related news topics

EURADIN Conference now 15 June 2010

EURADIN: Report on French meeting published

Iceland considers European Addresses!

EURADIN reports!

Address Registers - CBA of €6 billion per annum for EU

EURADIN Newsletter No. 3

European SDI Awards

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: EURADIN, European Address Forum, Address Information

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Title:

WWW2010 & Linked data. 29th April 2010

Source:

W3C

Introduction:

Linked Open Data Camp has a strong European presence!

Body:

Raleigh: 26 to 30 April 2010

The [19th International World Wide Web Conference - WWW2010](http://www.w3.org/2010/04/w3c-track.html) that is underway in Raleigh, North Carolina, USA will be considering linked data within the W3C stream on the 29th April 2010.
<http://www.w3.org/2010/04/w3c-track.html>

The Linked Open Data (LOD) Camp agenda includes a number of European papers and speakers from Austria, Spain and the UK amongst others.
<http://esw.w3.org/LODCampW3CTrack>

The papers and presentations from the workshop held on the 27th April 2010 have been published and include amongst others:
<http://events.linkedata.org/ldow2010/>

Governmental Data

- [Linking UK Government Data](#) (John Sheridan, Jeni Tennison)
- [Geographical Service: a compass for the Web of Data](#) (Gianluca Correndo, Manuel Salvadores, Yang Yang, Nick Gibbins, Nigel Shadbolt) ([Slides](#))

Related news topics

PSI Catalogues Aggregator

Metadata: International

Theme: 5

Keywords: World Wide Web Consortium, Linked Data

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Title:

EURADIN Conference now 15 June 2010. 29th April 2010

Source:

European Address Infrastructure (EURADIN)

Introduction:

EURADIN final Conference will now be held on 15 June 2010

Body:

Navarra: 28 April 2010

The European Address Infrastructure project EURADIN reports that the 1st European Address conference will now take place on Tuesday 15th June 2010.

<https://www.euradin.eu/default.aspx>

Related news topics

EURADIN Conference cancelled

European Address Forum: 3 days to the launch!

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: EURADIN, Address Information

Title:

INSPIRE Guidance published 29th April 2010

Source:

European Commission (EC) - Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe (INSPIRE)

Introduction:

Access to spatial data sets and services of the Member States by Community institutions and bodies

Body:

ISPRA: 28 April 2010

The European Commission Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe (INSPIRE) platform has published a technical document titled: *Guidance on the 'Regulation on access to spatial data sets and services of the Member States by Community institutions and bodies under harmonised conditions'* (34 pages)

<http://inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu/index.cfm/pageid/62>

The Introduction to the report states:

"Therefore this Guidance document in its main part concentrates on access to spatial data sets and services and provides guidance and information about the provisions of the Regulation, in order to clarify the scope, meaning and background of these provisions. This should facilitate Member States and the public authorities as well as the Community institutions and bodies in applying the Regulation. In order to provide a complete picture on sharing of spatial data sets and services in a second part the Guidance document provides further advice and guidelines which can help the Member States to create a harmonised approach to the provision of spatial data sets and services to the institution and bodies of the Community.

While these guidelines are not mandatory, their content provides what may be considered to be good practice, whose adoption could significantly support the harmonisation of the conditions of access for the Community bodies and institutions. A separate Good Practice document will include examples of data and service sharing practices that can improve sharing according to Article 17 within and between the Member States.

Sharing agreements can assume different forms, e.g. e-mail, licence statement on a webpage, a click licence, a licence agreement signed by all the parties involved. Whatever form the agreement takes, it is legally binding and defines the conditions of use of the related spatial data sets and services. Often these agreements are formalised in form of a licence, as this allows to clearly specifying all relevant rights and obligations.

The Guidance includes INSPIRE model licences which can be used by the Member States or public authorities, when they choose to use a licence, within the context of INSPIRE, although using the models is not compulsory. The use of these model licenses allows to reach a high level of harmonisation.

Two types of INSPIRE model licences are introduced in the annexes:

- *The Basic INSPIRE Licence (Annex B) applies when spatial data sets or services can be used under INSPIRE conditions without significant further restrictions or conditions and are free of charge.*
- *The Specific INSPIRE Licence (Annex C) applies when a Member State public authority wishes to grant the Community institution or body additional rights of use or wants to impose*

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additional conditions on that use and/or charges.

The Basic INSPIRE Licence can be used either as fully two-sided licence agreement (signed or acknowledged by all parties involved), or as a licence declaration, that can be for example found on a website, where use conditions applicable to the data made available on that website are specified.

The Guidance also provides key concepts for INSPIRE Framework Agreements, which are recommended for all those cases where a licence agreement is needed, especially where the contract includes two or more partners and/or covers the conditions for access and use of one or more data sets and services.

The role of national contact points and coordination structures in ensuring the harmonized and optimal provision of spatial data sets and services from the Member States to the Community institutions and bodies is discussed. Furthermore, the Guidance gives also suggestions on measures which Member States and their public authorities can put in place to ensure access to spatial data sets and services in case of a major emergency situation having impact on the environment.

The applicability of the Regulation as well as links to other Directives, are introduced. Special attention is given to the definition of conditions of use which are to be expressed in the metadata.”

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Section 3.10 of the technical document refers to the re-use of public sector information and states:

“The INSPIRE Directive makes a reference to other Directives that may be applicable to the provision of spatial data sets and services, such as Directive 2003/4/EC on public access to environmental information and Directive 2003/98EC on the re-use of public sector information.

In particular, as regards the relationship between INSPIRE and the PSI Directive, the provision of data sets and services for any activity that remains within the performance of the public task as defined in the INSPIRE Directive, falls under the field of application of INSPIRE, while the provision for any activity outside of the public task falls under the PSI Directive.

So access to data and services provided under INSPIRE only concern the use of the data for public tasks that may have an impact on the environment. Re-use is not regulated or provided for by INSPIRE use.”

Related news topics

INSPIRE: Access to data and services

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 1

Keywords: Guidance, good practice, INSPIRE, PSI, geographic, spatial infrastructure

Title:

Cadastral PSI Indicators. 28th April 2010

Source:

ePractice.eu

Introduction:

Measuring added value of public sector information online delivery

Body:

Brussels: 7 April 2010

The Benchlearning Community on the ePractice.eu platform have been informed that the final deliverables of the Benchlearning Study have been published.

<http://www.epractice.eu/community/benchlearning>

The announcement states:

<http://www.epractice.eu/community/benchlearning/blog/542>

"Last December the two year project of "Supply of services for the further development, reinforcement and promotion of Benchlearning" was concluded and final deliverables were approved by the European Commission.

Final deliverables about the three eGovernment Pilots and the final Policy Recommendations have been published in the Section "Shared Resources" of this Benchlearning Community."

-

Policy Recommendations report:

Title: Supply of services for the further development, reinforcement and promotion of Benchlearning:
Policy Recommendations

Pages: 41

The report refers to public sector information on page 7:

"2.1 Pilot 1: Efficiency Gains

2.1.1 RESULTS

Pilot 1, throughout the first year of the project's activities, set up and measured a set of sophisticated impact indicators to monitor cadastral information services.

RSO defined and carried out "zero measurement" of efficiency indicators as well as indicators aiming at measuring added value of public sector information online delivery as requested by the agencies.

All the agencies involved in the pilot provide high-impact cadastral and geo-data services and have implemented very sophisticated digitalized services fully available online such as maps, legally relevant information, description of property lots, tax related and technical information. This information is of high relevance for citizens and/or businesses, when buying a house or building it on a land parcel, or paying taxes.

The three agencies formally involved in the pilot are:

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- *Agenzia del Territorio, Italy (Italian National Cadastre) – Pilot Agency;*
- *Oficina Virtual del Catastro, Spain (Cadaster Virtual Office) – Pilot Agency;*
- *Lantmäteriet, Sweden (National Land Survey) – Pilot Agency;”*

The following TABLES refer to public sector information (PSI) indicators and measurements

Table 1 Measurement framework (pages 7 & 8)

Table 2 Measurement indicators for the three cadastral agencies (pages 9 & 10)

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The final Benchlearning Conference titled: **Measuring eGovernment Impact** took place in Ghent, Belgium on the 1st December 2009.

<http://www.epractice.eu/node/295937>

The RSO SpA presentation outlined Pilot 1 Efficiency Gains as:

“Pilot measurement of “efficiency gains” of cadastral eServices:

- *Development of a set of indicators to measure the efficiency gains and savings due to the delivery of cadastral eServices;*
- *Definition of the indicators in line with the agencies’ requests to assess the added value of online cadastral information supply in terms of internal and social impact;*
- *Data gathering and analysis (volumes, eService costs, organisation and customer satisfaction programs);*
- *Shared experiences among agencies.*

Agencies involved:

- *Agenzia del Territorio (Italian National Cadastre)*
- *Oficina Virtual del Catastro (Cadastre Virtual Office of Spain)*
- *Lantmäteriet (National Land Survey of Sweden)*

Observers:

- *Regional agencies (Emilia-Romagna, Catalonia)”*

Related news topics

Participate in the measurement of PSI economic activity

PSI Working Group on PSI Measurement Indicators – Cadastral Information

eGovMoNet Final Conference

Europe in the top 50!

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2, 5

Keywords: Indicators, public sector information, eGovernment, Cadastre

Title:

PSI Catalogues Aggregator. 28th April 2010

Source:

University of Southampton – School of Electronics and Computer Science

Introduction:

Southampton University launches PSI Catalogues Aggregator - Portal

Body:

Southampton: 27 April 2010

The University of Southampton has launched a research project on PSI Catalogue's.
<http://bagatelles.ecs.soton.ac.uk/psi/>

The announcement states:

“This portal aims to bring together our research and lessons learned from developing a global Public Sector Information (PSI) locator system. Our aim with this website is to assemble a platform for integrating several PSI catalogues that we have identified and downloaded from the Web. With an integrated environment we can execute global/federated searches, navigate the catalogues, and retrieve records regardless of origin.

In the process of "getting there" we are also able to make some general assertions about the contents of these catalogues (i.e. how often is information being published? who are the main publishers in each country? what types of data are being published?).”

The portal provides two modules:

Module 1 - Global Retrieval

<http://bagatelles.ecs.soton.ac.uk/psi/federator/>

“Our primary goal is to investigate the challenges and potentials of a semantically integrated Public Sector Information (PSI) locator service. Our schema integration approach involves the development of a uniform interface - mediated schema - that captures the core concepts of a PSI catalogue. A mediated schema will act as a central hub for training alignment classifiers and matching our catalogues of PSI.

Main Goals

1. Mediated Schema
2. Catalogue Integration
3. Federated Searching

Work Completed

We harvested 5 catalogues of PSI holders around the world. These include the US Raw and Tool catalogues of data.gov, the CKAN dump of data.gov.uk, the OPSI Information Asset Registers, and Australia's online portal to 69 public sector datasets. These include over 6,000 records of PSI.

Browse the catalogues individually using the embedded Linked Data browser:

data.gov | data.gov.uk | opsi.gov.uk | australia.gov.au “

Module 2 - Statistical Analyzer

<http://bagatelles.ecs.soton.ac.uk/psi/analyzer/>

“Part 2 of our experiments involves the analysis and correlation of comparable statistics across the PSI catalogues we harvested. Results from such analysis enable us to make general assertions about the contents of the catalogues.

Main Goals:

1. *Content Appraisal*
2. *Catalogue Correlations*
3. *Visualizations*

Work Completed

We provide 2 dynamic samples of our analyses:

[Release Date Statistics](#)

By comparing the release dates of the records we are able to assess the activity of the PSI portals and the agencies that disseminate the information assets.

[Tag Cloud Visualizations](#)

By comparing the keywords and category terms used for annotating the records we are able to extrapolate the general themes and topic distribution of the catalogues.”

Related news topics

Public Sector Information (PSI) Data Catalogues
OKC2010 considers PSI Re-use
London Data store passes 200
UK data.gov + 10 days

Metadata: UK

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: PSI Catalogues

Title:

EEEGOV days streamed! 27th April 2010

Source:

European Projects & Management (EPMA), Czech Republic

Introduction:

Web streams of the 8th Easter European eGov Days published

Body:

Prague: 22 April 2010

The 8th Eastern European eGov Days conference titled: ***Changing Concepts & eGovernment as a Service*** took place in Prague from the 21st to the 23rd April 2010. Over 3.5 hours of webstreaming of the conference plenary sessions have been published. The event was impacted by the travel difficulties caused by the Icelandic volcanic ash covering much of Europe. The conference was Jointly organised by the Forum e|Government / OCG-Austrian Computer Society, Vienna (AT) and EPMA/Vysocina Region (CZ) with partners. It was also announced that the 8th Conference will be the last to be held in Prague.

<http://www.epma.cz/eeegov-days.html>

http://prenosy.uradlive.cz/site/player/pl_compact.php?a=37768&t=0&m=wm&l=cs_CZ

Related news topics

eGovMoNet Final Conference

eGovernment Days 2010 Call for Papers

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2, 5

Keywords: eGovernment

Title:

eGovMoNet Final Conference. 27th April 2010

Source:

ePractice.eu

Introduction:

European eGovernment Measurements Conference: Papers published

Body:

Brussels: 26 April 2010

The papers and presentations from the eGovernment Monitor Thematic Network (eGovMoNet) final Conference that took place in Brussels from the 8th to the 9th of April 2010 have been published.

<http://www.egovmonet.eu/>

<http://www.epractice.eu/en/workshops/egovmonet2010>

The conference considered amongst other topics:

- An overview of eGovernment user satisfaction measurements
- Examples of impact measurements
- Innovative eGovernment and measurement approaches
- eGovernment measurements on national and regional level
- Levels of eGovernment measurement (regional, national, European, and beyond)
- The recommendations from the network for good practices in eGovernment measurements and methodology design.

A report on the conference titled: *European eGovernment Measurements - Final eGovMoNet conference* has been published. (31 pages)

Related news topics

Europe in the top 50!
PSI & Public Sector innovation

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2

Keywords: eGovernment, benchmarking

Title:

OKC2010: Papers published. 27th April 2010

Source:

Open Knowledge Foundation (OKF)

Introduction:

Proceedings of the 5th Open Knowledge Conference published

Body:

London: 24 April 2010

The papers presented at the Open Knowledge Foundation Conference 2010 (OKC2010) have been published.

<http://sunsite.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/Publications/CEUR-WS/Vol-575/>

<http://www.okfn.org/okcon/>

The paper titled: [Access or Re-use of PSI? A Cookie if You Get it Right!](#) deals with topical issues related to the re-use of public sector information.

Related news topics

Open Knowledge Conf 2010: a promising year for Open Data

OKC2010 considers PSI Re-use

EU Legal Framework and Public Sector Spatial Data

KU Leuven Legal Workshop reports!

Open Knowledge Scotland Team Invite you to Participate in #Opendata Meeting

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Keywords: Open Knowledge, Open Data

Title:

Users views on SEMIC, OSOR & ePractice. 27th April 2010

Source:

SEMIC.EU and OSOR.EU

Introduction:

Exchange Platforms survey: User Experience and Expectations: Final report published

Body:

Brussels: 15 and 20 April 2010

The Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe (SEMIC.EU) and the European Union's Open Source Observatory and Repository, (OSOR.EU) have announced the publication of the final report on the *Exchange Platforms survey: User Experience and Expectations*. (27 pages)

<http://www.semic.eu/semantic/view/snnav/currentInformation/News.xhtml;jsessionid=4D1622B75F28FA692F1B738F9A9DB077?newsId=8457c606-f090-47cb-97f3-e41e98077b1e&tmpl=News>

<http://www.osor.eu/news/user-survey-osor-needs-more-promotion>

The SEMIC.EU announcement states:

“A new study on the usage of IDABC / ISA platforms shows favourable assessments and a demand for extended services and collaboration features.

According to the study conducted by Gartner for the European Commission, the largest user groups of all three collaboration platforms (SEMIC.EU, OSOR.eu and ePractice) are IT professionals, civil servants and consultants. Remarkably, all three platforms have a high percentage of non-EU users. And while ePractice as the most general platform has the largest user base, the visitor numbers of OSOR.eu and SEMIC.EU have increased significantly over recent months.”

“The study is based on a pan-European user survey conducted in December 2009 and January 2010 as well as in-depth interviews with heavy users of the three platforms.”

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The OSOR.EU announcement states:

“The visitors and users of the European Union's Open Source Observatory and Repository, OSOR.eu, want the project to do more to promote itself. That is one of the conclusions of a user survey by Gartner, a market-research firm, completed in February.

According to the consultancy, half of the visitors use the OSOR to start discussions on open source in their organisation.

The visitors also want OSOR to simplify the navigation on the website and to add support for more languages. They perceive the OSOR as a good platform, and grade it a 3.6 on average on a scale of 1 to 5. "Almost every user recommends the OSOR to colleagues in the field, and 58 percent of them can be considered to be ambassadors for the project", write the analysts in their report.

The researchers studied questionnaires completed by 173 OSOR users, which they consider equal to 38 percent of all active visitors to the project. The majority of OSOR users are in an IT position, are a

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consultant or a civil servant. Most visitors use the OSOR to read the news, to search for open source case studies and to find out about conferences and meetings.

Nearly all users, 97 percent, have downloaded at least one of the open source applications made available on the OSOR. And 15 percent says that they have implemented at least one of these applications.

The OSOR website has about 40.000 visitors per month and, at the beginning of this year, had 1210 registered users.

The results of the survey include Semic.eu and ePractice.eu. two other projects by IDABC/ISA, the EU's e-Government programme. For Semic, users also requested to do more on promotion and to increase the site's content. Visitors of ePractice want the site to add web 2.0 features and improve performance."

DIGIT Study – Exchange Platforms survey: User Experience and Expectations Platforms Analysis Report (74 pages)

http://www.osor.eu/news/misc/DIGIT-Study-Exchange-Platforms-survey-User-Experience-and-Expectations.pdf/at_download/file

Related news topics

SEMIC – ePractice – OSOR consultation opens

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 5

Keywords: SEMIC.EU, OSOR.EU, ePractice.eu

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Title:

OKC2010 considers PSI Re-use. 25th April 2010

Source:

Introduction:

Open Government Data and PSI in the EU

Body:

London: 24 April 2010

The Open Knowledge Foundation ([OKF](http://www.okfn.org)) annual conference – [OKCon2010](http://www.okfn.org/okcon/) took place at the University College of London (UCL) on Saturday 24th April 2010. The Conference was well attended but a number of speakers and delegates from across the world were unable to attend due to the aftermath of the Icelandic volcanic ash impact on air transport. It was also evident that the impact of the UK general election [public sector purdah policy](#) had reduced the number of UK public sector employees present at the conference.

<http://www.okfn.org/okcon/>
<http://blog.okfn.org>

The European Public Sector Information Platform team was present at [OKCon2010](http://www.okfn.org/okcon/) and participated in the conference session titled: [Open Government Data and PSI in the EU](#). The session included two pan European perspectives and two Member State perspectives – Norway and France. The session attracted 25 participants that had a keen interest in opening up public sector information for re-use for the benefit of ALL in society.

The question and answer session following the short presentations considered the following topics amongst others:

- the need for case studies that demonstrate the benefits arising from opening up public sector information for subsequent re-use.
- the focus by many Member States on E-government rather than the data.
- the difficulties a public sector employee has when handling Access requests and Re-use requests – the interaction of the implementation of the access laws (Freedom of Information), the PSI re-use laws and the privacy laws.
- the difficulties in balancing the privacy aspects when opening up public sector information – the example of public sector procurement was cited.
- the need to rank data.gov services not just by their presence but by the amount of data that they gave access to.
- the role of civil society in raising the awareness and demonstrating to the public sector how to open up their information holdings and the value that arises from that.
- the possible reasons as to why at the current time data.gov services had been implemented in English language speaking countries.
- the possible reasons as to why European Member States have shown little interest in opening up public sector information.
- the Slovenian Information Commissioners approach to handling issues related to financial charges for Slovenian PSI - where if the PSI re-use requester was not re-using the PSI for commercial gain then the financial charge should be waived. This developed into a discussion on what was "commercial gain". This led to the example of an NGO that was not commercial but to cover their costs charged a nominal fee for the publications that they may have produced that included the PSI. Other examples discussed included journalists undertaking

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scrutiny but publishing in a news paper sold on the open market; lawyers representing their clients in Court where the Barristers and Lawyers were clearly providing their services commercially. The discussion concluded that no financial charge or only the financial charge of delivering the PSI was the simplest solution that over came the issues that currently exist when re-using PSI.

- the role of the Freedom of Information activist community when combined with the PSI re-use activists within civil society could help apply greater pressure on the Public Sector to comply with the spirit of the PSI re-use Directive. Bulgaria was cited as an example during the transposition phase of the EU [Directive 2003/98/EC](#)
- the potential reasons as to why the implementation of the PSI Re-use Directive in Germany was so weak or almost non existent!
- the plans and aspirations to implement a data.gov service in Sweden.
- the interaction of crowd sourced substitute data such as OpenStreetMap with the re-use of public sector information provided a number of good case studies as the OpenStreetMap was providing the geographic base to present PSI obtained via the PSI reuse framework.

http://wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/Main_Page

The OKC2010 also included a number of presentations that referred to public sector information and the increasing interest and delivery of data.gov services around the world as well as the challenges faced when opening up public sector information on a large scale.

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/propriety_and_ethics/civil_service/election_guidance.aspx

Related news topics

OKCon2010: Programme published

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Keywords: OKN, OKC2010, Open Knowledge Foundation, data.gov

Title:

EU Competition policy responds to the Internet. 21st April 2010

Source:

European Commission (EC)

Introduction:

Antitrust: Commission adopts revised competition rules for distribution of goods and services

Body:

Brussels: 20 April 2010

The European Commission Competition Directorate has announced that the Commission has adopted new revised competition rules for distribution of goods and services that will come into force in June 2010 and will be valid until 2022. There is a one year transitional phase. The current Block Exemption Regulation was adopted in 1999 and exempts agreements that comply with EU competition rules - Article 101(3) of the EU Treaty.

<http://ec.europa.eu/competition/antitrust/legislation/vertical.html>

The press release (IP/10/445, Brussels, 20 April 2010) states:

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/445>

"The European Commission has adopted a Regulation block exempting agreements between manufacturers and distributors for the sale of products and services. The Regulation and accompanying Guidelines take into account the development, in the last 10 years, of the Internet as a force for online sales and for cross-border commerce, something that the Commission wants to promote as it increases consumer choice and price competition. The basic principle remains that companies are free to decide how their products are distributed, provided their agreements do not contain price-fixing or other hardcore restrictions, and both manufacturer and distributor do not have more than a 30% market share. Approved distributors are free to sell on the Internet without limitation on quantities, customers' location and restrictions on prices.

"A clear and predictable application of the competition rules to supply and distribution agreements is essential for the competitiveness of the EU economy and for consumer welfare. Distributors should be free to satisfy consumer demand, whether in brick and mortar shops or on the Internet. The rules adopted today will ensure that consumers can buy goods and services at the best available prices wherever they are located in the EU while leaving companies without market power essentially free to organise their sales network as they see best," said Vice-President of the Commission and Competition Commissioner Joaquín Almunia."

Related news topics

EU Treaty articles 101 and 102

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 1

Keywords: Competition, Antitrust, Treaty Article 101

Title:

ASEDIE: Raises awareness on the PSI re-use opportunity. 21st April 2010

Source:

Asociación Multisectorial de la Información (ASEDIE), Spain. News alert via Olga Quirós Vice-secretary General, ASEDIE

Introduction:

ASEDIE facilitates opportunity for private sector companies to consider the re-use of PSI

Body:

Madrid: 21 April 2010

The Spanish Asociación Multisectorial de la Información (ASEDIE) will be holding a Public Administration meeting on the 5th May 2010 in the Library of the Official Boletín of Spain (BOE). The objective of the meeting is for the public sector information holders to present the data that they hold that is accessible for re-use. The meeting will provide the ASEDIE private sector members with an opportunity to consider how they may access and re-use the information in added value products and services.

<http://www.asedie.es/index.html>

<http://www.boe.es/>

AGENDA

09:00 – 09:15 Recepción y Presentación de la Jornada
09:15 – 10:15 Boletín Oficial del Estado (BOE)
10:15 – 12:00 Catastro
12:00 – 12:15 Café
12:15 – 13:15 Centro de Documentación Judicial (CENDOJ)
13:15 – 14:30 Instituto Nacional Geográfico (ING)

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09:00 - 09:15 Reception and Presentation of the Seminar
09:15 - 10:15 Official State Bulletin (BOE)
10:15 to 12:00 Cadastre
12:00 to 12:15 Coffee
12:15 to 13:15 Judicial Documentation Centre (CENDOJ)
13:15 to 14:30 National Geographic Institute (ING)

Related news topics

ASEDIE: Impact on Business Registers

ASEDIE responds on Business Registers

Metadata: Spain

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: ASEDIE

Title:

data.worldbank.org launched! 20th April 2010

Source:

World Bank - news alert via tweet to the European Public Sector Information Platform

Introduction:

World Bank Frees Up Development Data

Body:

Washington: 20 April 2010

The World Bank published a press release titled: ***World Bank Frees Up Development Data*** and launches data.worldbank.org with 2000 data sets.

The press release headline points state:

- *Bank Group offers free access to more than 2,000 financial, business, health, economic and human development statistics via a new website: data.worldbank.org*
- *An initial 330 indicators are available in French, Spanish and Arabic*
- *Experts say open access policy will foster innovation, support evidence-based policymaking*

The press release states:

“Data for Innovation, Empowerment

Hans Rosling, Gapminder Foundation co-founder and vigorous advocate of open data at the World Bank, said, “It’s the right thing to do, because it will foster innovation. That is the most important thing.”

He said he hoped the move would inspire more tools for visualizing data and set an example for other international institutions.

"The real power of open data is the enormous opportunity to turn data into knowledge and useful applications to enhance transparency and ultimately accountability of all actors in development," added Aleem Walji, manager of the World Bank Institute's new Innovation Practice. "Free and open access to data will empower citizens to get more directly involved in the development process."

Potential applications could "mash up" or combine global datasets from the World Bank's World Development Indicators with micro-level data on aid flows within a country to reveal the extent to which international aid responds to the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable and poorest segments of society.

Walji said the World Bank will launch an "Apps for Development" challenge later this year to give developers around the world incentives to “transform datasets into new applications to help tackle existing development challenges, such as infant mortality , literacy and extreme poverty.” “

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:22547256~pagePK:64257043~piPK:437376~theSitePK:4607,00.html>

<http://data.worldbank.org/>

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World Bank Open Data (data.worldbank.org) states under For Developers:
<http://data.worldbank.org/developers>

“Open Data is about accessibility. With the launch of data.worldbank.org we step up the effort to open the World Bank's data catalogs to direct and easy access via the web. During 2010, we will roll out two waves of web functionality that will serve as a platform for this push.

Phase 1: data.worldbank.org launch (April, 20th 2010)

Phase 1 is focused on polishing the existing web API and making it browsable by a web site. It marks the point of the World Bank's pledge to make all of their indicator data accessible publicly through their web site and the web API.

- Expand the existing dataset available through the public API to 1,000+ indicators.
- Improve browsing of public data by creating a rich web site with tables, graphs and maps featuring over 300 indicators.
- Add multilingual support to the web interface (to be rolled out to the API in phase 2).
- Ease access to API by removing necessity of API keys and clarifying legal questions.

Phase 2: Community and improved data access (mid 2010)

Phase 2 will focus on promoting the use of the World Bank's data through the web API. This will require improvements of the actual API but equally important a place for communicating around the API and a lower threshold of entry especially for non-developers.

This phase will mark the departure of a developers-only web API to one that is geared towards researchers, decision makers and developers alike. Once phase 2 is rolled out it will not require developer skills to get started on using the World Bank's API.

- Relaunch the public web API with improved query functionality and response formats.
- Launch a community platform to address support questions and allow for more feedback by data and web API users.
- Allow non-developers to better vet available data with an improved data browser.
- Provide copy/paste web widgets for instant use.
- Lower the get-started threshold for developers by improving documentation and providing example code and libraries.
- Roll out multilingual support for public web API.”

Related topics

Public Sector Information (PSI) Data Catalogues

Metadata: International

Theme: 2

Keywords: Open Data, World Bank

Title:

Europe in the top 50! 20th April 2010

Source:

United Nations (UN) - Public Administration Network (UNPAN)

Introduction:

UN E-Government Survey 2010: Leveraging e-government at a time of financial and economic crisis

Body:

New York: 16 April 2010

The United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN) has published the E-Government Survey 2010 titled: ***United Nations E-Government Survey 2010: Leveraging e-government at a time of financial and economic crisis***. (References: ST/ESA/PAD/SER.E/131. ISBN: 978-92-1-123183-0. Sales No.: E.10.II.H.2. Pages 140)

http://www2.unpan.org/egovkb/global_reports/10report.htm

The announcement states:

“The 2010 United Nations e-Government Survey: Leveraging e-government at a time of financial and economic crisis was completed in December 2009 and launched in early 2010. The report presented various roles for e-government in addressing the ongoing world financial and economic crisis. The public trust that is gained through transparency can be further enhanced through the free sharing of government data based on open standards. The ability of e-government to handle speed and complexity can also underpin regulatory reform. While technology is no substitute for good policy, it may give citizens the power to question the actions of regulators and bring systemic issues to the fore. Similarly, e-government can add agility to public service delivery to help governments respond to an expanded set of demands even as revenues fall short. Since the last edition of the survey, in 2008, governments have made great strides in development of online services, especially in middle-income countries. The costs associated with telecommunication infrastructure and human capital continue to impede e-government development. However, effective strategies and legal frameworks can compensate significantly, even in least developed countries. Those who are able to harness the potential of expanded broadband access in developed regions and mobile cellular networks in developing countries to advance the UN development agenda have much to gain going forward.”

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The survey shows that all of the European Member States are in the top 50 world-wide.

<http://www.unpan.org/Library/MajorPublications/UNEGovernmentSurvey/tabid/646/language/en-US/Default.aspx>
http://www2.unpan.org/egovkb/global_reports/10report.htm

E-government development index (pages 113 & 114)

World Rank	European Member State	Index Value
	European Union	
4	UK	0.8147
5	Netherlands	0.8097

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7	Denmark	0.7872
9	Spain	0.7516
10	France	0.7510
11	Sweden	0.7474
15	Germany	0.7309
16	Belgium	0.7225
19	Finland	0.6967
20	Estonia	0.6965
21	Ireland	0.6866
24	Austria	0.6679
25	Luxembourg	0.6672
27	Hungary	0.6315
28	Lithuania	0.6295
29	Slovenia	0.6243
30	Malta	0.6129
33	Czech Republic	0.6060
37	Latvia	0.5826
38	Italy	0.5800
39	Portugal	0.5787
41	Greece	0.5708
42	Cyprus	0.5705
43	Slovakia	0.5639
44	Bulgaria	0.5590
45	Poland	0.5582
47	Romania	0.5479
	EFTA	
6	Norway	0.8020
18	Switzerland	0.7136
22	Iceland	0.6697
23	Liechtenstein	0.6694

Related news topics

Connected Governance

Metadata: International

Theme: 2

Keywords: E-Government

Title:

Raising the standards! 20th April 2010

Source:

Association of Private Meteorological Services (PRIMET)

Introduction:

Regulation of the Meteorological sector may be coming in the UK

Body:

Sherborne St John, UK: 19 April 2010

The European Association of Private Meteorological Services (PRIMET) has published a news topic titled: ***Regulation of the Meteorological sector may be coming in the UK.***

<http://www.primet.org/>

The PRIMET announcement states:

"The Royal Meteorological Society is sponsoring a new Quality Standard for the meteorological products and service suppliers in the UK. While a national scheme at present there are aspirations for it to evolve into a European wide system. The outcome of a six month trial phase for a draft Standard and Assessment process was reported to the Society's Quality Standard Advisory Council at which PRIMET is an invited observer."

<http://www.rmets.org>

The PRIMET Briefing paper (available to Members only) states:

"Background

There has for some years been underway in the UK an action, led by the Royal Meteorological Society (RMets), to develop a means by which end users of commercial products in meteorology can assess the quality of the product and the supplier. This began as a study on the possibility of assessing the "accuracy" of (weather) forecasts but has now developed into a proposal for the development of a Quality Standard for the industry along the lines of the ISO 9000 series. This is the beginnings of a regulatory framework for the industry, initially in the UK but, given the characteristics of the Single Market, potentially for the whole of Europe.

A draft Quality Standard was developed in 2009 under the overview of an Advisory Council made up of representatives of all those suppliers and customers who volunteered to take part. PRIMET is an observer at this Council. The application and consequences of the draft standard have been the subject of a Trial Phase in which the Standard and its application have been tested by three volunteer stakeholders, MeteoGroup, The Met Office and Metra Information (Europe) Ltd. This meeting of the Steering Group was the review of the outcome of this Trial Phase."

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Reports published by the Royal Meteorological Society

The Royal Meteorological Society's Quality Standard for the provision of Meteorological Services: Proposal for the Pilot Phase.

Published January 2009

Pages: 25

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<http://www.rmets.org/pdf/qs-draft.pdf>

Related news topics

MEP's consider PSI pricing!
The problem of the level playing field!
PRIMET participates!

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 3

Keywords: meteorological services

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Title:

European Digital Agenda: Support welcomed! 20th April 2010

Source:

European Commission (EC)

Introduction:

European Commission Vice-President for the Digital Agenda Neelie Kroes welcomes Ministers' support for the European Digital Agenda

Body:

Brussels: 19 April 2010

The European Commission has published a press release titled: ***Digital Agenda: Kroes welcomes Ministerial support.***

The press release (MEMO/10/137, Brussels, 19 April 2010) states:
<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/10/137>

“European Commission Vice-President for the Digital Agenda Neelie Kroes welcomed Ministers' support for the European Digital Agenda at the informal meeting of EU Telecoms and Information Society Ministers which took place by videoconference on 19 April 2010. Vice-President Kroes welcomed in particular the Ministerial Declaration on Digital Europe, which she described as "a milestone, a crucial building block for a truly European Digital Agenda". The Ministerial Declaration will be taken into account by the Commission in its forthcoming Communication on a European Digital Agenda, one of the pillars of the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.”

Related news topics

European Digital Agenda agreed

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: Digital Agenda

Title:

European Digital Agenda agreed. 19th April 2010

Source:

Spanish European Presidency and via news alert Jorge Cancio, Ministerio de Industria, Turismo Y Comercio (MITYC), Madrid

Introduction:

Granada Ministerial Declaration on the European Digital Agenda confirms commitment to PSI re-use

Body:

Andalusia: 19 April 2010

Under the stewardship of the Spanish Presidency of the European Union the Informal Meeting of Telecommunications and Information Society Ministers met (both physically and via video conference due to the Volcanic dust covering much of northern Europe)

http://www.eu2010.es/en/documentos/noticias/noticias/abr19_telecomunicaciones_sebastian.html

The press release titled: ***Europe approves the Granada Declaration for the new Digital Agenda*** published by the Ministerio de Industria, Turismo Y Comercio (MITYC) states:

- The Granada Strategy is based on eight central themes: infrastructures, advanced use of the internet and trust; user rights; Digital Single Market; digital Public Services; strengthening the competitiveness of Europe's ICT sector; International Dimension of the Digital Agenda and Benchmarking Information Society
- EU countries consider that measures should be adopted to meet the target of 100% coverage of basic broadband to all citizens by 2013 and promote wide take-up of high speed broadband by 2020
- The need of digital public services that promote the reuse of public sector information, increase the efficiency of government and reduce administrative burdens on citizens and businesses
- Competitiveness of Europe's ICT sector must be strengthened through further research, development and innovation by means of better adapted programmes for sector firms, SMEs in particular

The Granada declaration states: (News Editor has added bold emphasis within the following text)

Public Digital Services

*19. Respond to the Malmo Declaration on eGovernment by developing more effective and efficient interoperable public services that emphasise open and transparent government and active participation, **that promote the reuse of public sector information and thus potentially very important new user-driven service innovations**, that increase the efficiency of government and lead to a measurable reduction in administrative burdens on citizens and businesses as well as contribute to a low-carbon economy.*

20. Ensure the implementation of eGovernment strategies at an organisational, legal and technical level including e-ID and e-signatures.

21. Embed innovation and cost effectiveness into eGovernment through the systematic promotion of

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open standards and interoperable systems, development of EU wide e-authentication schemes and proactive development of e-invoicing, e-procurement (and pre-commercial procurement).

22. Deploy eHealth and ICT assisted elder care services systematically across the EU in order to reduce costs while raising efficiency and the quality of care.

Related news topics

Digital Agenda Communication: 1 step closer!
Malmö proceedings published

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 1, 2

Keywords: Granada declaration, PSI Reuse

Title:

Government 2.0 - Hype, Hope, or Reality? 19th April 2010

Source:

epractice.eu

Introduction:

European Journal of ePractice: Government 2.0 - Hype, Hope, or Reality?

Body:

Brussels: 19 April 2010

The epractice information platform has published Edition number 9 of the European Journal of epractice titled: ***Government 2.0 - Hype, Hope, or Reality?*** (References: N° 9 · March 2010 · ISSN: 1988-625X, 92 pages)

<http://www.epractice.eu/en/editorial/313327>

The contents of Edition 9 include:

Editorial

Government 2.0 - Hype, Hope, or Reality?

David Osimo

Articles

The Impact of Social Computing on Public Services: a Rationale for Government 2.0

Tijs van den Broek, Valerie Frissen, Noor Huijboom & Yves Punie

Framing Web 2.0 in the Process of Public Sector Innovation: Going Down the Participation Ladder

Enrico Ferro & Francesco Molinari

Government 1.5 – is the bottle half full or half empty?

Jeremy Millard

ICT in politics: from peaks of inflated expectations to voids of disillusionment

Alina Ostling

Open Government – Information Flow in Web 2.0

Peter Parycek & Michael Sachs

Asian Government Usage of Web 2.0 Social Media

Joanne Kuzma

Harnessing the unexpected: a public administration interacts with creatives on the web

Tito Bianchi & Alberto Cottica

The following pages refer to public sector information re-use:

Within the Editorial

“Too often, governments simply adopt social media tools, trying to replicate the existing communication and participation paradigm, rather than embracing more profound innovation – just as

in government

*1.0. As such, government 2.0 is destined to be little more than hype: the real impact is only enabled by institutional and cultural change. This implies the need for legal innovation, in particular in the field of Civil Service Code, Freedom of Information, Data Protection and **Re-use of Public Sector Information**. But most of all, government 2.0 implies a different way to manage public policies, based on openness, trust and meritocracy. Across public policy domains, governments have to learn to promote innovation and create public value not through direct intervention, but by leveraging and enabling the best capacities of citizens to be deployed and fully realised.” (Reference page 3 and 4)*

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Within the article titled: **Government 1.5 – is the bottle half full or half empty?**

“Some of this is starting to happen but remains on a small scale. Often leading the way, however, is not the government or public administration but civil society organisations and social entrepreneurs. Such services start from asking the question what do citizens need from public services to make their lives better, i.e. how can the service improve the daily life of citizens where they live and work. One archetypal example is the FixMyStreet service² in the UK designed and run by the mySociety³ third sector organisation staffed by volunteers. This service allows any citizen to report any problems in their street or neighbourhood ranging from broken street lights or paving, abandoned vehicles or rubbish, graffiti, etc. The citizen does not need to know which authority is responsible as the site automatically passes the complaint to the correct department and then traces and tracks its progress on behalf of the citizen until the problem is solved. To do this, mySociety had to obtain relevant public sector information and data about authorities’ roles and procedures, contact points, etc. Much of these data were already in the public domain, although not all, but were widely scattered and not easily accessible digitally. The value added which mySociety brought was to gather dispersed data, ‘mash’ it together in appropriate ways, and present it in an easy to use format for citizens. They had to reach across administrative silos, something perhaps difficult for the public sector to do itself.” (Reference page 40)

“6. New business models for eGovernment services

What about Europe? Even though Europe, with some examples mentioned earlier, is starting to embrace the smart phone potential for eGovernment, progress is very slow and clearly lagging the USA. Does Europe suffer too much from its long history of well-embedded public sector structures and institutions, not to mention mindsets, which make it hard to change?

Notice some quite specific innovation trends in the examples cited which point to a completely new upside-down business model:

- 1. Start from the needs of the citizen rather than the needs of the government – what is needed in their everyday lives. A good way to do this is to get citizens involved, or at least the people or organisations closest to them who do not have conflicting motives (as the private sector, and even government itself, sometimes has). “Government forgot that the biggest asset that they have are actual citizens.”*
- 2. The re-use of existing public sector information (PSI), much of which is already available but which is often spread across different authorities and databases and not in machine-readable format. Public data is the fuel that makes these applications work.*
- 3. The organisations best placed to do this, or at least initiate the process, tend to be non-profit and non-public sector, often though not always at local level, although they do need to work with public authorities.*
- 4. This is largely a bottom-up, rather ad-hoc process which exploits creative talent, initiative and enthusiasm from outside government – clearly, there is always more relevant talent outside any organisation than inside it. However, governments and the public sector must enable and accept it, rather than attempting to block it which often happens. “.... many developers work free”.*
- 5. It leads to much greater transparency, responsibility, innovation, more engaged citizens and better services. “Government is us. We are government. So let’s take a responsibility and start changing things ourselves.” (References pages 43 and 44)*

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Related news topics

Call for Gov 2 papers: Hype, Hope, or Reality?

Public Sector Information (PSI) Data Catalogues

Is this the answer?

Efficiency & effectiveness

<http://www.epractice.eu/en/journal/issues>

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: Government 2.0

Title:

EURADIN Conference cancelled. 19th April 2010

Source:

EURADIN

Introduction:

EURADIN has reported that the 1st European Address Conference has been cancelled

Body:

Navarra: 19 April 2010

EURADIN reports that the 1st European Address conference scheduled to take place on Thursday 22 April 2010 has been cancelled.

<https://www.euradin.eu/default.aspx>

The EURADIN announcement states”

“[1st European Address Conference](#)

CANCELLED

*As a result of the volcanic activity in Iceland and the ash cloud over Europe, the 1st EUROPEAN Address Conference in Brussels on 22 April **has been cancelled**.*

The EURADIN team is looking at the possibilities to postpone this event. News regarding the re-scheduling will be soon announced on this website.”

Related news topics

European Address Forum: 3 days to the launch!

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: EURADIN

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Title:

European Address Forum: 3 days to the launch! 19th April 2010

Source:

European Address Forum (EAF) & EURADIN

Introduction:

European Address Forum to be launched at the final EURADIN Conference

Body:

Navarra: 19 April 2010

The European Union funded project European Address Infrastructure (EURADIN) will be holding the projects final conference titled: ***Addressing the Future – First European Address Conference*** in Brussels on the 22nd April 2010. The final item on the programme of the Conference is the official launch of the ***European Address Forum*** (EAF).

The ***European Address Forum*** welcomes all stakeholders that have an interest in the importance of an Address to the European Society at large to attend the launch of the ***European Address Forum*** on 22nd April 2010 in Brussels or to email the ***European Address Forum*** to express your interest.

<http://www.europeanaddressforum.eu/EAF/>

Related news topics

An invitation to join the European Address Forum
European Address Forum to be launched

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: European Address Forum, EURADIN, Address

Title:

Europeana Public Domain Charter. 18th April 2010

Source:

Europeana Version 1 Project

Introduction:

Europeana published Public Domain Charter

Body:

The Hague: 1 March 2010

Europeana Version 1 Project has announced the publication of the first annual report.

The announcement states:

“Europeana's Annual Report outlines internal and external achievements, including progress in developing our partner network, ingesting content and building technical infrastructure. It also looks ahead to the Rhine release, which will launch the fully functional Europeana.eu portal.”

<http://group.europeana.eu/web/europeana-project>

The annual reports states on page 8:

“4.3 Legal Issues

As we move from prototype to operational service this year, we need to formalise our contractual relationship with content providers. To that end we have drafted Data Provider and Data Aggregator Agreements and circulated them to partners for consultation. Our legal advisers are finalising the Agreements in the light of comments received and the formal contracts covering the re-use of metadata in Europeana will be circulated for signature to providers and aggregators.

A working group was formed with 17 participants to identify rights issues related to content and content re-use. A questionnaire about content re-use was sent to 12 different cultural institutions and a list of relevant issues was established.

We are close to launching a Public Domain Charter, in support of the position taken by the Public Domain Manifesto. Both documents agree that content that is in the public domain in its analogue form [primarily, content that is out of copyright], does not leave the public domain when it is digitised. The Manifesto has been produced by a consortium of user groups, whereas Europeana's Charter takes the content providers' viewpoint, and encourages them not to limit access and re-use of content by licensing it exclusively or long-term to third parties.

Consultations on the draft of the Charter were held with stakeholders at the Europeana Plenary Conference, September 2009, and at the Digital Initiatives for Heritage Conference, December 2009. The final draft is now with the EDL Foundation Board for approval.”

The annual report states on page 14:

“6 Future Plans

- *Improved Europeana metadata. We will semantically enrich the aggregated data from all providers and make it available for re-use.”*

The Hague: 30 March 2010

Europeana Version 1 Project has announced the publication of the Europeana Public Domain charter.

The announcement states:

“Europeana has published its Public Domain Charter. It takes a strong position in support of the public domain, saying that a healthy Public Domain is essential to economic and social well-being. The Charter also says digitisation of Public Domain content does not create new rights over it.”
<http://group.europeana.eu/web/europeana-project/publications>

“The European Public Domain Charter

Europeana, Europe’s digital library, museum and archive, belongs to the public and must represent the public interest.

The Public Domain is the material from which society derives knowledge and fashions new cultural works.

Having a healthy and thriving Public Domain is essential to the social and economic well-being of society.

Digitisation of Public Domain content does not create new rights over it: works that are in the Public Domain in analogue form continue to be in the Public Domain once they have been digitised.”

“Principles for a healthy Public Domain

Copyright protection is temporary. *Copyright gives creators a time-limited monopoly regarding the control of their works. Once this period has expired, these works automatically fall into the Public Domain. The mass of knowledge over recorded time is in the Public Domain; copyright offers an appropriate and time-limited exception to this status.*

What is in the Public Domain needs to remain in the Public Domain. *Exclusive control over Public Domain works cannot be re-established by claiming exclusive rights in technical reproductions of the works, or by using technical and or contractual measures to limit access to technical reproductions of such works. Works that are in the Public Domain in analogue form continue to be in the Public Domain once they have been digitised.*

The lawful user of a digital copy of a Public Domain work should be free to (re-) use, copy and modify the work. *Public Domain status of a work guarantees the right to re-use, modify and make reproductions and this must not be limited through technical and or contractual measures. When a work has entered the Public Domain there is no longer a legal basis to impose restrictions on the use of that work.”*

“The Public Domain in the digital age

Public-Private Partnerships have become one option for funding large scale digitisation efforts. Commercial content aggregators pay for the digitisation in exchange for privileged access to the digitised collections. These activities are seen as a reason for attempting to exercise as much control as possible over digital reproductions of Public Domain works. Organisations are claiming exclusive rights in digitised versions of Public Domain works and are entering into exclusive relationships with commercial partners that hinder free access.

When this exclusivity locks down digital content and inhibits access and re-use by teachers, innovators and citizens, memory organisations may be compromising their core mission and undermining their relationship with their users. Works that are in the Public Domain in analogue form must remain freely available in digital form and digitisation of such works must lead to increased access by the public instead of new restrictions. To remain relevant in the digital age, cultural and scientific heritage organisations must strive to increase access to our shared knowledge and culture by being the primary

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points of access to the works that they have in their collections. Value-added services can be developed around content without the need to claim exclusive rights over works that have been in the Public Domain in analogue form.

Ultimately, at a political and policy-making level, it is in the interests of society that Public Domain knowledge and information be digitised. Once digitised, it should be freely available to creative enterprise, R&D innovators and technical entrepreneurs to use as the basis for generating ideas and applications yet to be envisaged.

The aim of this Charter is to give a clear signal to content providers, policy makers and the public that Europeana and the Europeana Foundation believe in and wish to strengthen the concept of the Public Domain in the digitised world. In order to do so we need a robust and up-to-date understanding of the nature of this essential resource.”

<http://version1.europeana.eu/web/europeana-project/documents/>

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 1, 2

Keywords: Culture, Europeana

Title:

PSI Regulations should be removed! 18th April 2010

Source:

Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), UK

Introduction:

Ordnance Survey consultation: Government response lacks clear statement on PSI Re-use Regulations

Body:

London: 31 March 2010

The UK Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) published the Governments response to the Policy options for geographic information from Ordnance Survey – Consultation.

The UK Government response on page 29 reports on the submissions to Question 4 of the Consultation: *What are your views and comments on public sector information regulation and policy, and the concepts of public tasks and good governance as they apply to Ordnance Survey.*

The Government response states under the heading **Public Sector Information Regulation:** *[emphasis added by News Editor]*

*“4.39 Some respondents thought that regulation of Ordnance Survey was one of the key issues to be considered. A few thought current regulation of Ordnance Survey to be insufficient, feeling that OPSI did not have strict enough enforcement powers, which led to non-compliance. Others felt that there was no need for economic regulation of Ordnance Survey, with some going as far as to say that the current **Public Sector Information (PSI) Regulations should be removed.***

4.40 A few respondents thought the regulation landscape with respect to Ordnance Survey was complex and diffuse. It was suggested that an approach in which data was free could simplify procurement and re-use across organisations, public and private.

4.41 A number of respondents noted that there was a fundamental inconsistency between the PSI Regulations which encouraged the maximisation of re-use of information once it had been collected and paid for by government on a marginal cost basis, with the current requirement placed on Ordnance Survey to recover its costs through licensing that data, due to its Trading Fund status.

*4.42 Some thought that the current PSI Regulations as applied to Ordnance Survey data and, in particular, data derived from Ordnance Survey data, were not appropriate, and many were concerned that **they acted as a barrier to the dissemination of public sector information** or made it difficult for users to contemplate moving to other suppliers. In addition some respondents felt that Ordnance Survey had an unfair advantage in being able to licence for a fee data that was definitive ‘government’ data. Respondents who commented on this thought these datasets should be available for free use and re-use. Relaxation and simplification of licensing would be a welcome step for many respondents who thought it could lead to greater innovation.”*

The Department of Communities and Local Government has as yet not published all the submissions to the Consultation to assist further analysis of the issues related to the Public Sector Information Regulations.

The Government response does not indicate what action they intend to take in response to the submissions on Public Sector Information regulation and are have missed an important opportunity to state that the PSI Regulations SI 1515 of 2005 are the UK transposition of the European Union

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Directive 2003/98/EC. The UK Office of Public Sector Information has also not provided clarification on this particular issue following the publication of the Governments response. (Possibly caught by the Civil Service Code during election periods).

<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/>

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/propriety_and_ethics/civil_service/election_guidance.aspx

Related news topics

UK Government responds on Ordnance Survey free products

Impact Assessment of OS OpenData™ announcement

Metadata: UK

Theme: 2

Keywords: Ordnance Survey, PSI Regulations

Title:

UK Address Register: Underpins 2011 Census. 18th April 2010

Source:

UK Statistics Authority, UK

Introduction:

UK Statistics Authority suggests that ONS publish the reasons the Census Address List is not available for use

Body:

London: 8 March 2010

The UK Statistics Authority has published a report number 28 titled: [Special Assessment of the 2011 Censuses in the UK: Phase 1 \(Office for National Statistics, the General Register Office for Scotland, and the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency\)](http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment-reports/index.html) (32 pages)

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/>

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment-reports/index.html>

The report states:

“1.2 Summary of strengths and weaknesses

1.2.6 ONS and NISRA are currently developing address lists for the postal delivery of census questionnaires to the majority of households in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Relying on these lists carries an inherent risk due to ongoing problems with missing and duplicate addresses. The development of robust contingency plans should be a priority.”

“3.25 A key part of the “post-out, post-back” methodology is the development of an accurate and complete address list. In its 2007 report on the 2011 Census, the Statistics Commission identified several risks associated with this methodology. ONS is working with Royal Mail, Ordnance Survey and local authorities to develop an address list for use in the 2011 Census. Checks on the accuracy and completeness of the list were carried out in 2007 and in preparation for the 2009 Rehearsal. These checks showed there are ongoing problems with the list in terms of both missing and duplicate addresses. The resolution of some of these problems is compounded by the nature of the ownership of the component lists. The Assessment team understands that there are no plans to maintain the ONS address list after the Census (see Protocol 3 for further discussion). The address list NISRA plans to use (POINTER) is being developed by a consortium including Land and Property Services (incorporating Ordnance Survey NI), Royal Mail and local authorities. NISRA has been involved throughout the development of POINTER via the Census Address Register (CAR) Group, which it chairs. Address checks will be carried out by census enumerators in their Enumeration Districts in the weeks preceding census day to validate the CAR. We suggest that ONS and NISRA publish a note which details how they will mitigate the impact of the risks associated with post-out, post-back methodology.”

“3.53 Despite the high cost of developing the address list for England and Wales and its undoubted usefulness to a wide range of organisations, the Assessment team understands that the UK Government has no plans to maintain the list after the Census. We suggest ONS publish the reasons why it will not maintain the address list, and explain why ONS itself is not able to make its list available to other organisations.”

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“**Suggestion 9** Publish the reasons why the address list will not be maintained and explain why ONS itself is not able to make its list available to other organisations (para 3.53)”

Related news topics

UK Address Register: Parliament makes recommendations

UK: National Address Registers: Do they exist?

Metadata: UK

Theme: 1

Keywords: Census, Address Register

Title:

An insight into UK Address Registers. 18th April 2010

Source:

Dr. Pauline Pollard, UK

Introduction:

Doctorate thesis demonstrates the contradiction between information sharing and information trading

Body:

Bristol: March 2010

Dr Pauline A. Pollard has kindly given the European Public Sector Information Platform to publish her Doctorate Thesis titled: Co-ordinating the sharing of spatial data in the UK. Dr. Pollard's thesis using the attempts to create a definitive Address Register in the UK demonstrates how the UK Government contradictory policies on information sharing and information trading have held back the UK with respect to the creation of a national definitive address data set. Recent UK Government announces with respect to the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain and the 2011 Census illustrate that the contradictions persist to the detriment of UK Society.

The thesis abstract states:

"This thesis is concerned with the sharing of geographic information in the UK focusing on the development of a definitive address dataset as a key information resource. It provides an interpretive longitudinal in-depth case study approach based on Walsham (1993) using direct observation, interviews and documents as sources of evidence. It tells an actor-centred story of the development of national address datasets since the early 1990s, placing this within the wider context of European, UK, regional and local public sector information policy."

The thesis states (Reference pages 216 and 227 to 228)

"7.8 Conclusion

The thesis demonstrates an association between the information trading paradigm (which values ICTs for their automating potential) the provider institutions that seek to control ICTs, and the ICTs which reinforce the provider interest creating inflexibility in reorienting to the information age. This is combined with an inability of the institutional order to free itself from this contradiction between information sharing and information trading."

"8.6 Conclusion

This thesis has told the story of the efforts of network actors to develop a single spatial address holding for information age government first conceived of by the central and local government policy communities in the 1970s yet still not available. It illustrates how conceptually simple and apparently neutral address information raises issues of power and control within intergovernmental relations because it is a key resource. The analysis has focused on the institutionalised processes that shape information holdings, to explain why, despite the radical implications of ICTs, change is gradual and institutionally shaped.

The story has aimed to show how actors (including local address custodians creating source data and European commissioners aiming to co-ordinate information sharing) are deeply engaged in these institutionalised processes. All human action carries within it the 'seed of change' (Walsham, 1993) and all actors contribute to the process of change by developing new discourses, networks and ICTs.

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At times, actions impact on the established way of doing things and lead to an institutionalised shift in direction, which can be hard to predict."

Related news topics

UK Address Register: Parliament makes recommendations

UK: National Address Registers: Do they exist?

Mapping the Future!

OS OpenData: 10+ days on!

Re-use of PSI supports innovation!

UK Government responds on Ordnance Survey free products

Impact Assessment of OS OpenData™ announcement

Metadata: UK

Theme: 3

Keywords: PhD Thesis, Spatial information, Address Information

Title:

UK Address Register: Parliament makes recommendations. 18th April 2010

Source:

Parliament, UK

Introduction:

Parliamentary Committee publishes report and makes recommendations on the need of a definitive Address Register

Body:

London: 31 March 2010

The UK Parliament London Regional Committee published a report titled: ***London's population and the 2011 Census. Report, together with formal minutes and oral and written evidence.*** (References: HC 349. Published on 31 March 2010. Pages = 201. First Report of Session 2009–10)
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200910/cmselect/cmlonreg/349/34902.htm>
<http://www.parliament.uk/>

The Committee's report was published on the same day that the UK Government published their response to the ***Policy Options for geographic information from Ordnance Survey – Consultation.*** Although the Consultation asked the question (Question 9): What are your comments on the proposal for a single National Address Register and suggestions for mechanisms to deliver it? The Government made no response as to the actions they intended to take.

The report Summary states (Reference page 3):

"We welcome the creation of a national address register for the census, but find it barely credible that this valuable resource is not to be maintained after 2011. We recommend that the Government deal with the intellectual property issues which inhibit maintenance of the register as a matter of urgency."

The Committee on pages 8 & 9 make the following recommendations:

"Our recommendations

18. We make this report to the House at the end of a Parliament and shortly before the expiry of the Order of the House which has established this Committee. It will be for the House of Commons elected at the forthcoming general election to determine what, if any, arrangements there should be for select committee scrutiny of the Government's policies in London.

19. Our report contains several important recommendations for the conduct of the census in London, which we address as appropriate to the Minister for the Cabinet Office, the Minister for London and the UK Statistics Authority, the non-ministerial department responsible to Parliament for the Office for National Statistics. We expect a response to the report which we have made to the House to be laid before the new House early in the new Parliament. Should a successor to our Committee not be appointed at the start of the 2010 Parliament, we recommend that the Public Administration Select Committee, which has a remit to examine the work of the UK Statistics Authority and the Cabinet Office, consider the response to the report from the UK Statistics Authority and the Government and determine whether any follow-up action is necessary in the run-up to the 2011 Census."

Committee Conclusions and Recommendations (reference page43):

"11. We are encouraged by the development of a national address register for the 2011 Census. Such a

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register is vital for a successful Census in London. (Paragraph 87)

12. We note the work which ONS has already done to check and resolve conflicts between the draft register and local authority and Post Office databases. It is nevertheless important not to underestimate the challenges of maintaining an accurate register of addresses for London in the months which remain before Census night. We encourage ONS and London boroughs to maintain and increase present levels of collaboration, in order to ensure that the address register produced for London is as accurate as possible. (Paragraph 90)

13. An accurate and well-maintained national address register is an invaluable tool for the 2011 Census, and will be vital for any future exercises to quantify London's population. We find it barely credible that the address register developed for the 2011 Census at substantial effort and expense is to be abandoned following the Census for reasons connected to the ownership of the intellectual property. (Paragraph 93)"

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The report states at pages 26 to 28:

"The National Address Register

87. We are encouraged by the development of a national address register for the 2011 Census. Such a register is vital for a successful Census in London.

88. ONS believes that the creation of the address register is "progressing well": nationally, 216,000 anomalies in the register have now been identified and passed to local authorities for resolution, and a similar number had been sent to the Royal Mail. 46,000 of the anomalies between the address register and local authority databases, approximately 21%, arose in London boroughs, and as of early March all but four boroughs had examined the anomalies and returned corrections. 51,444 anomalies between the draft register and the Royal Mail address database had been identified in respect of addresses in London boroughs, and the ONS estimates that approximately 80% of these anomalies have also been resolved.

89. The accuracy of an address list in London is difficult to maintain for a number of reasons: there are many houses in multiple occupation, and properties are often subdivided without formal notification being given. During the Census rehearsal in Newham, 1267 new addresses were found. 76 Some London boroughs fear that their local knowledge is not being fully utilised in the preparation of the register, in particular with respect to the construction of new properties. It seems to us odd that the creation of a national address database should not seek to take all available information into account.

90. We note the work which ONS has already done to check and resolve conflicts between the draft register and local authority and Post Office databases. It is nevertheless important not to underestimate the challenges of maintaining an accurate register of addresses for London in the months which remain before Census night. We encourage ONS and London boroughs to maintain and increase present levels of collaboration, in order to ensure that the address register produced for London is as accurate as possible.

91. We understand that the address register will not be maintained in its present form after 2011, despite the substantial time and effort which has gone into establishing and updating it. Shaun Flanagan of the Cabinet Office told us that when ONS negotiated the contract with the Royal Mail, Ordnance Survey and the Local Government Information House to provide data for the register, a condition of the agreement was that the register would not be re-used, but that any improvements to the data would be fed back to the three providers.

92. The Chair of the UK Statistics Authority has already written to Ministers to make the case for the national register to be maintained beyond 2011.⁷⁸ The Minister for London told us that negotiations on the future use of the register were ongoing: "there is no dispute about the importance and benefits of resolving this." That view was echoed by Keith Dugmore of the Demographics User Group, who described it as a "golden opportunity to produce a definitive national address register and to keep it

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going". We were nevertheless disheartened to receive no clear answer from the Government on the issue of lead responsibility for negotiating an agreement.

93. An accurate and well-maintained national address register is an invaluable tool for the 2011 Census, and will be vital for any future exercises to quantify London's population. We find it barely credible that the address register developed for the 2011 Census at substantial effort and expense is to be abandoned following the Census for reasons connected to the ownership of the intellectual property.

94. We concur with the UK Statistics Authority in recommending that the address register prepared for the 2011 Census be maintained as a public resource. We recommend that the Government urgently seek to resolve any outstanding issues with the maintenance of the register after April 2011, and to provide sufficient resources for its continued maintenance and development."

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UK Parliamentarians prior to the publication of the Committees report have continued to raise questions as to why the issues related to producing a definitive Address Register have not been resolved.

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Cabinet Office

Census

Mr. Maude: To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office with reference to the answer to the hon. Member for Brentwood and Ongar of 17 November 2008, Official Report, column 236W, on the Census, what the latest estimated cost is of developing the address register being created for the 2011 Census; what use will be made of the register after the 2011 Census; and whether not-for-profit groups will have access to the register. [312368]

Angela E. Smith: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply.

Letter from Dennis Roberts, dated January 2010:

The Director General for the Office for National Statistics has been asked to reply to your recent question asking what the latest estimated cost is of developing the address register being created for the 2011 Census; what use will be made of the register after the 2011 Census; and whether not-for-profit groups will have access to the register. I am replying in his absence. (312368)

The total cost of developing the address register up to and through the Census collection period (mid 2011) is now estimated at £10M. This is a reduction from earlier estimates of £12M as the result of a better focused and more efficient field check. These costs are considered necessary and good value for the Census because no single national product provides a suitable address list for Census. These costs include some licensing and operational costs which would have been incurred even if a single national source had existed.

The address register being developed is intended and licensed only for use in the 2011 Census. ONS will not destroy the register after Census but licensing and legal issues around ownership of the source address data mean that we are not able to make the address register available for use by other government departments or others. Accordingly, not-for-profit groups, in common with all other parties, will not have access to the register. However, new addresses found through the ONS address check in mid 2010 will be made available to all of the address source suppliers.

2 Feb 2010 : Column 310W

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There are currently no plans for further use of the register to support future censuses or other statistical work but options for such work are being considered. If a case can be made for further use of the register then changes and extensions to existing licensing agreements would be required.

We would like to see the address register (excluding those addresses found during the census field operation, which are deemed confidential under the 1920 Census Act) built upon for further and wider use. Maintenance of the list beyond the 2011 Census, however, falls outside the resources and the remit of the current project, and of ONS as a whole. Steps are being taken, however, to ensure that processes are repeatable and ONS would support the wider use of the register if this can be managed.

Related news topics

UK: National Address Registers: Do they exist?

Metadata: UK

Theme: 1, 2

Keywords: Address Register, NLPG, London, Census

Title:

UK: National Address Registers: Do they exist? 18th April 2010

Source:

Intelligent Addressing (IA) Limited, UK

Introduction:

Intelligent Addressing responds to Burisa articles on National Address Registers in the UK

Body:

London: 12 April 2010

Intelligent Addressing have published a copy of the article titled: ***Question: Is there "The" National Address Register? Answer: Yes – the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG)*** that appeared in the British Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (BURISA) March 2010 Newsletter Edition number 183.

The announcement states:

“"Is there "The" National Address Register.." article published in Burisa issue 183

The latest BURISA newsletter publishes an article from Tony Black, IA's Director of Operations, on "Question: Is there "The" National Address Register? Answer: Yes - the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG)" BURISA an informal, non-profit making, unincorporated association of practitioners whose common interest is the use and management of information and the development of information systems for services to the public.”

<http://www.burisa.org>

<http://www.intelligent-addressing.co.uk/iaweb/link.htm?nwid=164>

The article highlights the discrepancies in public sector information policy in the UK and poses questions and then provides answers:

“However, addresses underpin hundreds, if not thousands, of other applications, many of which require the addresses to be 100% complete and on a daily basis. These range from over a hundred applications in local authorities, to the emergency services, utilities, transport companies, delivery firms.

Therefore The National Address Register is arguably the most important dataset in the country, though the other two key datasets would be of people (not to be confused with identity cards!) and organisations. One of the ironies about the arguments around the NLPG being “The” definitive dataset for England and Wales over the past 10 years is that the “sister” projects in Northern Ireland (Pointer) and Scotland (One Scotland Gazetteer) are accepted as being The solution in those countries.

Why isn't the NLPG recognised in the same way and used widely?”

http://maps.osni.gov.uk/Content.aspx?id=moreinfo_addressdata

<http://www.nlpg.org.uk>

<http://www.improvementservice.org.uk/national-gazetteer/>

Related news topics

10th Anniversary of NLPG!

EURADIN: Report on French meeting published

European SDI Awards

European PSI Platform
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UK Address data in disarray!

Metadata: UK

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: Address Register, NLPG, Intelligent Addressing, Census

Title:

EURADIN: Report on French meeting published. 17th April 2010

Source:

Association Française pour l'Information Géographique (AFIGéO), France

Introduction:

Report on the EURADIN French workshop on Address data has been published

Body:

Paris: 16 March 2010

The French Association Française pour l'Information Géographique (AFIGéO) has published the report (French and English languages) on the EURADIN French national meeting on Address data. The workshop took place in Paris on the 18 January 2010 at the headquarters of La Poste. The presentations and other materials from the workshop have been published.

<http://www.afigeo.asso.fr>

http://www.afigeo.asso.fr/page_296.html?AfigeoSession=4b85a336c3e835987ee8876332a00b8e

Reports

Summary Report of the French National EURADIN workshop, Organized by AFIGéO with the support of La Poste, IGN and Eurogi, In Paris on the 18th January 2010. (16 pages English language)

Atelier national sur les Données Adresse, Organisé le 18 janvier 2010 au siège de La Poste à Paris 14ème, par L'AFIGÉO avec le soutien de La Poste, l'IGN, Eurogi, Dans le cadre du projet EURADIN Compte-rendu. (14 pages French language)

The English language report states:

"1. French context of Address database production

1.1 No leader for a geographic address national database

In France the National Institute of Geography – IGN is leader in EURADIN Project. AFIGéO, EUROGI's member, is in charge to set up a workshop in France to facilitate networking between different actors.

In France, local councils (city for example) have responsibility to name the street and define a number associated to the address. Central State, Emergency services and of course, national French Post Office are directly concerned by Address database set up, and new creations.

With Internet development and emergence of electronics business, the use of GPS... more and more companies now produce their own geographic Address database.

Since 2000, the need to create and set up a geographic Address national Database has been expressed through recommendations, but without results. The main problem identified in

France is the lack of national leader / and plenty of stakeholders.

In 2009, the result is that there is no national and official Address Data reference database.

1.2 Workshop' objectives

In France, this workshop aims at:

- *Presenting and promoting EURADIN global objectives (partners, organization; results ...) and linking with the Inspire Directives services...*
- *Enhancing exchange between all national and local stakeholders working on Address Data base and services,*
- *And questioning all participants about the necessity to organize themselves for creating the French chapter of the European Address Forum?*

1.3 Mains issues for French partners

Dominique Caillaud is President of AFIGeO. In introduction he recalls the necessity to make the difference between geo-location of Address data, and use of Address for definition of housing. He precise that in France there are too many difficulties coming from legislatives restrictions for use of Address Data.

François Brun, Deputy Director of IGN has the same point of view: the French position is very different from other European country. For him, we must look for best practices and to be inspired from experiences from other countries.

Patrick Dousseaud, Deputy Director of Address Service in La Poste is glad to host this workshop in this location. La Poste manage the biggest French address database and is in charge of more than 30 millions postal deliveries each day!). So decreasing the number of wrong data is the main objectives of La Poste."

Related news topics

Addressing the Future!
An invitation to join the European Address Forum
European Address Forum to be launched
Address Registers - CBA of €6 billion per annum for EU
EURADIN reports!
Iceland considers European Addresses!
10th Anniversary of NLPG!

Related Blog Topics

Identifying PSI re-use value chains

Related PSI Library reports

EURADIN – European Address Infrastructure

NORDIC 2007 Address Meeting

Metadata: France

Theme: 2, 3, 5

Keywords: Address

Title:

Innovation awards announced. 17th April 2010

Source:

National Endowment for Science Technology and the Arts (NESTA), UK

Introduction:

NESTA announces top 100 'Open Innovation' global winners

Body:

London: 9 April 2010

The UK National Endowment for Science Technology and the Arts (NESTA) has published a press release announcing the Open Innovation global winners. The awards were announced at the NESTA's Open for Business conference in London where over 100 senior executives responsible for innovation in large organisations discussed new approaches to collaborative working. The video presentations from the Open for Business conference have been published. A 24-page report titled: ***Open innovation: From marginal to mainstream*** has also been published as part of the conference.

<http://www.nesta.org.uk>

http://www.nesta.org.uk/news_events/video/assets/features/open_for_business

The press release titled: ***NESTA announces top 100 'Open Innovation' global winners*** states:

http://www.nesta.org.uk/news_events/press_releases/assets/features/nesta_announces_top_100_open_innovation_global_winners

"The winners of the 'Open 100' competition have overcome deep rooted obstacles such as intellectual property laws and trust to remain at the forefront of innovation."

NESTA today announced the winners of 'Open 100', a competition to find global companies and organisations which excel at 'open innovation' and exploit the power of mass collaboration.

Open innovation is a growing trend among the private, public and third sector which allows new ideas, solutions and markets to be sourced from external partners, moving away from a reliance on traditional internal R&D. Open innovation strategies have become increasingly important as customers demand more service and product innovation at a faster speed, and where tough economic times require cheaper ways of developing new products and services."

"The categories and the winners are:

Open Innovation: Companies sourcing or placing innovations externally towards a mutual benefit. This promises higher quality, faster and cheaper innovation.

Winner: McLaren

Selected because they actively seek out and create new markets outside of their core business. For example, their current collaboration with the National Air Traffic Control Service uses an adapted version of McLaren's predictive software to predict the airports' detailed traffic movements two hours before they happen.

Crowdsourcing: Usually on the web as the benefit of leveraging both the diversity and wisdom of the crowd for new ideas, products and partners.

Winner: Cloudmade

Selected for its innovative business structure and multilayered approach to openness. Started by the founders of Open Street Map, it employs a Wikipedia style process for producing maps by tapping into

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thousand of contributors around the globe. Cloudmade build programming interfaces for this mapping data so developers can build smarter maps.

Co-creation: A hybrid approach valuing the wisdom of the crowd and the expertise of professionals.

Winner: WikiHow

Selected because it provides simple solutions to everyday problems by applying the wisdom of crowds and categorizing it into useful and freely accessible 'how to' manuals. In February 2010 it had 25 million visitors, making it a valuable advertising platform which forms its core revenue stream.

WikiHow is a strong example of how a social enterprise model can develop global reach and make money by providing an open platform.

Open Source Software: Widespread collaboration and opening up intellectual property via the creative use of licensing strategies.

Winner: Open Office

Selected because it has become a worthy competitor to the dominating model for software 'Windows'. It has achieved this by relying on community created software which demonstrates how Open Source can create consumer grade products.

Open Business: Developing a product or service for free and sharing it with a community whilst generating a revenue model.

Winner: Zopa

Selected for its innovative potential. Zopa provides a peer-to-peer lending platform where individuals can lend and borrow from each other without a bank acting as a middleman."

Related news topics

K4I Media review

NESTA: IPR Frameworks

State of the Map 2010

Metadata: UK

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: Innovation

Title:

UK Election: PSI features in Green manifesto. 17th April 2010

Source:

Green Party, UK

Introduction:

UK Green Party publishes manifesto that sets out a number of PSI related promises

Body:

London: 15 April 2010

The political parties in the UK have started to publish their manifestos for the UK elections that will take place on the 6th May 2010.

The UK Green Party has published their election Manifesto titled: *Fair is worth fighting for.*

<http://www.greenparty.org.uk/>

<http://www.greenparty.org.uk/policies.html>

http://www.greenparty.org.uk/assets/files/resources/Manifesto_web_file.pdf

The Green manifesto states on page 29:

“Promoting trust

We would:

• ***Free up information*** – allow us to see the data they have on us. We believe that citizens should be entitled to access to information held by Government except where specifically restricted. Restrictions should protect the privacy of individual citizens and national security. Information on policy formulation, the conduct of public affairs, the environment and health and safety should be freely available.”

Related news topics

UK Election: PSI features in Conservative manifesto!

UK Election: PSI features in Labour manifesto!

Metadata: UK

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: Green party

Title:

Digital Agenda Communication: 1 step closer! 17th April 2010

Source:

European Commission (EC)

Introduction:

Commissioner Kroes to urge support for Digital Agenda at informal meeting of European Union Telecommunication Ministers in Granada

Body:

Brussels: 16 April 2010

The European Commission Information Society Directorate has published a press release titled: ***Telecoms: Kroes to urge support for Digital Agenda at informal meeting of EU Telecoms Ministers, 18-20 April 2010, Granada.***

<http://www.eu2010.es/en/agenda/informalesministros/ministrosteleco.html>

http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/kroes/index_en.htm

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/10/132&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

The press release Memo/10/132 dated 16th April 2010 states:

“European Commission Vice-President for the Digital Agenda Neelie Kroes will be urging EU Telecoms Ministers at their informal Telecoms Council in Granada on 18-20 April 2010 to work together with the Commission and the European Parliament to implement an ambitious strategy to ensure that Europe's digital economy delivers maximum benefits to citizens and business and contributes to sustainable prosperity for Europe. Vice-President Kroes will welcome the Declaration on a Digital Europe due to be adopted by the Ministers, which will be taken into account by the Commission in its forthcoming Communication on a European Digital Agenda. The European Digital Agenda is one of the pillars of the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth (see IP/10/225).”

Related news topics

A Digital Agenda for Europe

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2

Keywords: Digital Agenda

Title:

Mapping the Future! 16th April 2010

Source:

Civil Service Live. UK. And via news alert from the Advisory Panel on Public Sector Information (APPSI), UK

Introduction:

Mapping the future: Access to public geographic data is increasing, but not as fast as some would like!

Body:

London: 12 April 2010

The Civil Service World published on the 8th April 2010 a report titled: ***Mapping the future: Access to public geographic data is increasing, but not as fast as some would like.*** The article written by Ruth Keeling reports on a Civil Service World online debate that explored the potential of – and the obstacles to – better use of government statistics.

The article was also published online on Civil Service Live on the 12 April 2010.
<http://network.civilservicelive.com/pg/pages/view/281063/>

The article states:

“Alongside the huge benefits of releasing more and more data, and allowing it to be localised, come associated risks. By and large, politicians and civil servants nowadays embrace the idea that the public should be able to access government data – with some exceptions, such as personal data – and now it is just a matter of smoothing out the technical issues. But a keen debate still rages over how public bodies that have traditionally generated income from data should proceed, and while the government has finally moved to release map data, postcode data is still expensive to access.”

“Carol Tullo, director of information policy at the National Archives, was the first to mention perhaps the biggest sticking point in the geographic data world: the reluctance of data owners to release it for free. Map data owned by Ordnance Survey (OS) and postcode information owned by Royal Mail have been at the centre of the row over whether data should be released for free reuse, or if access to such information should be charged for. The problem, Tullo explained, is that “On the one hand, the centralised collection of good quality data requires resources, and costs need to be covered; on the other, giving free access allows users to experiment and play with data. That drives innovation and in turn feeds our information economy.””

“Although there are still problems in the use of geographic data, the online debate shows there is plenty of work going on regardless. As Carol Tullo concluded, what is already out there “will not be a perfect solution for all, no doubt, but as with this blog, it will have the advantage of airing and linking location data to a wider audience”.”

Related news topics

A Map for the Future?

Metadata: UK

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: geographic information, Civil Service

Title:

GI2010: 10th Anniversary symposium. 16th April 2010

Source:

IGN (INNOVATION.Grenzüberschreitendes Netzwerk e.V.), Germany

Introduction:

Internationales GI2010-Symposium findet in Dresden statt - GI2010 International Symposium to be held in Dresden

Body:

Dresden: 14 April 2010

The German Innovation Grenzüberschreitendes Netzwerk has published a press release on the GI2010 symposium that will be held in Dresden on the 14th & 15th May 2010.

<http://GDI-SN.blogspot.com>

The German language press release states:

“Dresden (14. April 2010 - IGN): Die sächsische Landeshauptstadt ist internationaler Treffpunkt für das grenzüberschreitende, inter-regionale Symposium „10. Sächsisches GIS-Forum“ - GI2010. An dieser Jubiläumstagung nehmen Experten aus neun europäischen EU-Mitgliedsstaaten, darunter aus fünf deutschen Bundesländern teil.

Im Mittelpunkt des zweitägigen Symposiums steht die Umsetzung mehrere Direktiven der Europäischen Kommission auf regionaler und lokaler Ebene: INSPIRE (Infrastruktur für georäumliche Informationen in Europa), PSI (Wiederverwendung von Informationen des öffentlichen Dienstes) sowie ACCESS (Öffentlicher Zugang zu Umweltinformationen). Die Jubiläumstagung wird organisiert vom gemeinnützigen Verein „INNOVATION.Grenzüberschreitendes Netzwerk e.V.“ (IGN) in enger Kooperation mit CAGI, CCSS, WBU und SAGI - tschechischen, polnischen und slowakischen Vereinen und Forschungseinrichtungen. Darüberhinaus stellen innovative GIS-Technologiefirmen lokale & regionale GDI-Strategien für Kommunen und Landkreise vor.

Weitere Schwerpunkte dieser Jubiläumstagung sind: Innovationen bei der Umsetzung der Direktiven durch so genannte Geo-, Umwelt- und Raum-Informationssysteme und Geodienste-Infrastrukturen (GDI) in Kommunen und Landkreisen, untersetzt durch Vorträge zu EU-FP6/FP7 Forschungsprojekten und praktischen Applikationen in verschiedenen Regionen Europas. Darüber hinaus soll insbesondere die Frage der Nachhaltigkeit grenzüberschreitender Zusammenarbeit mit der polnischen Region Niederschlesien sowie tschechischen Regionen in Nordböhmen (Liberec, Ústí n.L. und Karlovy Vary) auf regionaler und lokaler Ebene im Mittelpunkt der Diskussionen stehen. Akteure der OpenSource und OpenStreetMap-Gemeinschaft berichten zum Einsatz von Werkzeugen zur Erfassung von Metadaten, Adreßdaten bzw. freien Geobasisdaten.

Mehrere Workshops behandeln die Anforderungen und Umsetzung speziell der INSPIRE-Direktive durch Landkreisbehörden und Kommunen, umgesetzt in „Best Practice“-Beispielen aus den Bundesländern Bayern, Brandenburg und Rheinland-Pfalz, darunter Geoportale für den Einsatz beim Technischen Hilfswerk (THW), der Freiwilligen Feuerwehr, in Einsatzleitstellen von Rettungsdiensten und Polizei sowie im Geoportal des Saarlandes oder für den Aufbau lokaler bzw. regionaler GDI.

Ein spezieller Workshop befaßt sich mit Fragen der nachhaltigen Landwirtschaft mit dem Leitthema „Der Agrarbetrieb der Zukunft“ - eine Vision integrierter Informationssysteme für das GPS-gestützte Landmanagement („precision farming“), logistische Unterstützung für Landwirte und Agrarbetriebe

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bzw. zum Risikomanagement in der landwirtschaftlichen Produktionskette durch innovative Geowebdienste und Informations- & Kommunikations-Technologien (IKT) in Agrarbetrieben.

Das GI2010-Symposium beginnt am 14. Mai auf dem Agrar-Campus der TU Dresden mit dem ganztägigen Vortragsprogramm und wird am 15. Mai vormittags mit den Workshops fortgesetzt. Weitere Informationen und Anmeldung: siehe Weblog."
<http://GDI-SN.blogspot.com>

Approximate English translation:

"Dresden (April 14, 2010 - IGN): The capital of Saxony is the international forum for the cross-border, inter-regional Symposium '10 Sächsisches GIS-Forum - GI2010. At this anniversary meeting of experts take from nine European Union member states, including some from five German federal states.

The two-day symposium is to implement several directives of the European Commission at the regional and local level, INSPIRE (Infrastructure for geospatial information in Europe), PSI (re-use of Public Service) and ACCESS (public access to environmental information). The anniversary meeting is organized by the charitable organization "INNOVATION.Grenzüberschreitendes Network eV" (IGN), in close cooperation with CAGI, CCSS, WBU and SAGI - Czech, Polish and Slovak societies and research institutions. Furthermore, present innovative GIS-technology companies local & regional GDI strategies for municipalities and counties.

Other focal points of this anniversary meeting: are innovations in the implementation of directives by so-called geo-, environmental and spatial information systems and geographical services infrastructure (GDI) in municipalities and counties stocky, by lectures on research and practical applications in EU-FP6/FP7 different regions of Europe. In addition, in particular the question of sustainability of cross-border cooperation with the Polish region of Lower Silesia and Czech regions in Northern Bohemia (Liberec, Ústí nad Labem and Karlovy Vary) are at the regional and local level, the focus of the discussions. Actors and the open source OpenStreetMap community to report for the use of tools for capturing metadata, address data or free geodata.

Several workshops will address the requirements and implementation especially the INSPIRE directive by district authorities and communities, implemented in "best practice" examples from the states of Bavaria, Brandenburg and Rhineland-Palatinate, including Geoportals for use at the Agency for Technical Relief (THW), the volunteers Fire Brigade, in control centers of emergency services and police, and in the Geoportal of the Saarland, or for the development of local or regional GDI.

A special workshop dealing with issues of sustainable agriculture with the theme "The agricultural workplace of the future - a vision of integrated information systems for the GPS-based Land Management ("precision farming"), logistical support for farmers and agricultural companies and on risk management in agricultural production chain through innovative Geowebdienste and Information & Communications Technologies (ICT) in agricultural holdings.

The GI2010-Symposium begins on 14 May, on the agricultural campus of the TU Dresden with the day-long program of lectures and on 15 May morning continued with the workshops. For more information and registration: see blog. "

Related news topics

Dresden: GI2010 Symposium

Metadata: Germany

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: GI2010, Dresden

Title:

Open data: Local government case study. 16th April 2010

Source:

Lichfield District Council, England and news alert via tweet posted to ePSIplatform

Introduction:

Lichfield District Council – Open Election Data Project Case Study

Body:

Lichfield: 13 April 2010

The Lichfield District Council in the West Midlands, England UK has published a case study titled:
Lichfield District Council – Open Election Data Project Case Study.

<http://worktogether.org.uk/2010/04/13/lichfield-district-council-%E2%80%93-open-election-data-project-case-study/>

The abstract states:

“In central, regional and local government there is an increasing desire to share data more widely to improve transparency and accountability and to reduce duplication. An early adopter Lichfield District Council has been actively sharing a range of local data for some time. In March 2010 the Council was the first authority to make its local election results openly available as part of the Open Election Data Project. By making small changes in how their local election results are displayed local authorities can jointly work towards creating a free national database of local election results and undertake a low risk, low cost pilot in implementing the open data agenda.”

Related topics

Public Sector Information (PSI) Data Catalogues (by Governments)

Metadata: UK

Theme: 2

Keywords: Linked data, case study, Open data

Title:

Stockholm spreads the PSI re-use opportunity message! 14th April 2010

Source:

Introduction:

Reports on the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce Open Seminar on PSI re-use to develop new services and products

Body:

Stockholm: 26 March 2010

The Stockholm Chamber of Commerce held an ‘Open Seminar’ on how data held by public authorities can be re-used by individuals, businesses and civil society to develop new services and products. The seminar took place on the 26th March 2010 (12:30 to 4:00 pm) in Stockholm.

<http://chamber.se/?id=1421&newsid=32695>

The seminar program: (an approximate English translation):

12:00 Registration

12:30 Peter Egardt, CEO of Stockholm Chamber of Commerce

12:40 Mats Odell, Local Government and Finance Minister

13:00 Rolf Nordqvist, Chair PSI Alliance

13:20 Joakim Jardenberg, MD Mind Park <http://www.slideshare.net/jocke66/offdata>

13:40 Claes Thagemark, Secretary E-delegation

14:00 Break with coffee

14:20 Stig Jönsson, DG Lantmäteriet

14:40 Tord Kvik, Deputy DG SMHI

15:00 Tomas Wennström, an entrepreneur who, among other things operates vackertvader.se

<http://www.slideshare.net/tomaswennstrom/ppen-offentlig-data>

15:20 Joakim Lundblad about what happens when we opened the archives

15:25 Andreas Lundgren and Lars Wiigh of openness and open standards

15:30 Jonas Lejon on access to public information from a entrepreneur’s perspective.

15:35 Daniel Akenine on how different levels of processed data provides opportunities for innovators

15:40 Martin Svalin on the initiative Hack Forces

15:45 Concluding discussions - Fredrik Sands, Stockholm Chamber of Commerce

<http://www.psialliance.eu/>

<http://www.mynewsdesk.com/se/pressroom/chamber/image/view/fredrik-sand-9535>

<http://www.chamber.se/kommentaren/fredrik-sand.aspx>

Photographs from the seminar

http://www.flickr.com/photos/arkland_swe/tags/20100326/

Some of the presentations from the seminar

<http://www.slideshare.net/event/offentliga-data-som-plattform-fr-utveckling-av-nya-tjanster>

Audio recordings from the seminar & via Stockholm Chamber of Commerce

<http://bambuser.com/channel/MagnusKolsjo/broadcast/648926>

<http://chamber.se/?id=1421&newsid=33232>

A report on the open seminar appears on Johan Groth’s blog that states (approximate English translation)

<http://www.gogab.se/2010/offentliga-data-som-plattform-for-utveckling-av-nya-tjanster>

"Public data platform for the development of new services

On Friday (News Editor: 26 March 2010) I was at the seminar "Public data platform for the development of new services" which was organized by the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce in response to the government tabled its bill "Public administration of democracy, participation and growth" (Bill 2009/10: 175).

The bill underlines the government to "an effective management" is an important prerequisite for the development of Sweden and a "strong and prosperous Sweden". The other is not much to say, a modern society is a complex machine which (at least in most countries) the State is one of the largest and most powerful players. In a democracy it is therefore of central importance to this great actor could create confidence in its activities.

The government requires that the "overall objective of the management policy should be an innovative and collaborative [emphasis added] government". Here, the attentive note one important word: interactive. The Swedish authorities have long been in many ways worked well and served its purpose. A component of the management model has been a far-reaching autonomy for the various authorities. This has not caused a big problem in the past when information flows have been clearer and in particular less. In today's society, which, if for no other, is characterized by extensive interaction, this model has come to any of the end of the road. Compare it in many respects, "autonomous" Doctor in Mariannelund in Emil-books with a doctor who is part of the cohesive care process! It has become increasingly important in information interaction, yes collusion at all. It is encouraging that the government emphasizes interaction as an important part of management.

The first part of the draft bill deals with "a law on the re-use of the public administration". The proposal builds on the European Parliament and Council Directive 2003/98/EC, known as the PSI Directive. The Act aims to "promote the development of an information market by facilitating the individual's use of documents provided by authorities." (Other parts of the bill is about rather more important things but they have no bearing on the field of information and IT and, therefore, left aside in this post.)

What the government mainly for forward is that in the modern information society is the opportunity to develop new services that could be useful for the citizen and the state (on the EU web page on the PSI Directive mentioned including GIS services, and services within finance and insurance). One obstacle to this development is that large parts of society "raw information" has been "locked up" with authorities and other public actors. By providing such, the government collected and processed, information to the "market" for "reclamation" market participants can begin to develop useful and fun services at a furious pace."

For those of us who worked on issues of information interaction and development of information services since 1999, these questions are well known and familiar. In June 2000 I was with and arranged for the IT Commission's public hearing on the data. One of the main issues was precisely "how society's basic information should be made available". Much has happened since then (although there are reasons to recall the question then, now and then) and it was therefore delighted when Local Government and Financial Markets Minister Mats Odell at the workshop used the word "commodity" for the information and data contained within the public sector and which will now be made available.

The picture was confirmed by Stig Jönsson, DG of National Land Survey, an agency that is well advanced in these matters. The workshop also involved a number of entrepreneurs who convincingly described the new opportunities now opening up and also showed examples of new services in the information market.

The contractor of me understand their enthusiasm, but the state official in great part to disrupt the often undeserved criticism directed at the various authorities. The important debate on how to create the future information society will be easier if you play on the right keyboard.

One of the projects I have been involved in, we made a compilation and analysis of potential barriers to information interaction between the authorities involved. The extension was also available of information to other players.

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It proved possible to summarize the barriers in a number of groups:

- * Targets and performance management - a barrier to collaboration?*
- * Laws and Regulations*
- * International and national directives and investigations*
- * A consensus and ownership*
- * The benefit / cost*
- * Technology*
- * Other*

For all of these areas were the laws and regulations which represented the biggest challenge. It was here that we in the project felt that the greatest difficulty lay, including in the management of the various records laws but also in how the law (not) consider hardware-based call to a service-based architecture. In other words, that this action must be done! It requires changes in existing laws as much as the new laws. I hope the government continues with the necessary reforms in the groove of the PSI Act.

Another reflection of the meeting was that it (naturally) came to buy a lot of information and data. It is important to remember that data per se is of relatively limited benefit. If someone says "Bob Jones" to you and you do not know if there is a customer, a supplier, a patient or another so you will not be whole lot.

I had other words, preferred to have the meeting also had time to talk a bit about metadata. It is only when we have common and well-known structural information related to our data we will see the true dynamic development. This applies not least, most of all, rather, the data will now be made available.

Another example: there are currently no given definition of what a building is. Is a ski lift a building? A bridge or a bridge? The answer is that it depends on whom you ask, Tax, Lanmäteriet, one of the country's municipalities ... we make available information on the "buildings" without knowing what we are talking about is a high risk that we may just be a pile of data.

Get me wrong. I am big supporter of making available the data in the same manner as such in Spain. However, it is important that data is made available in ways that make them useful, yes, understandable.

We need to start building society "soft infrastructure" (ie information, concepts and domain models) while we build the hard infrastructure and make available data. Otherwise we will drown in data incomprehensible!

You want to talk more about this are welcome to contact us. Feels like it's easier to draw and talk while you're talking :-)"

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A report on the open seminar appears on Mathias Ekman's blog that states (approximate English translation)
<http://blogg.idg.se/ekman/2010/03/27/intressanta-foredrag-om-offentliga-data-pa-handelskammaren/>

"Interesting talk on public data at the Chamber of Commerce
March 27, 2010 11:44

Finished yesterday with a visit to a seminar "Public data platform for the development of new services," organized by the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce. Speakers included Mats Odell, Joakim Jardenberg and Daniel Akenine.

Odell and Claes Thage Mark (Edelegationen) highlighted the need to create innovative authorities where citizens and businesses to decide what is a good business. The aim is also to ensure access to information the market for small and start-ups.

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Industry Organization PSI Alliance lifted above all the need to have access to "raw data", that payment will be based on "removal costs" and the need to identify who will manage the supervision of this exciting new market.

I also believe it was filmed and it should show up here <http://www.chamber.se/>

The papers of Thomas and Joakim Wennström Lundblad was interesting and terminating Martin Svalin created hope and energy in the question whether it will happen something practical.

Personally I think the two issues that Daniel Akenine lift is the most interesting for further discussion. The questions for the semantic description of data (Daniel compared with the change of the Web) and the concept of Differential privacy. The latter refers to trying to address the issue surrounding the individual data may not be considered as a vulnerable but the sum of more data might make it.

I'll be back with thoughts on this when this has been germinating in my mind over the weekend. Now wait a mixture of Mother Mu, StarWars and Latte!"

Related news topics

Offentliga data som plattform för utveckling av nya tjänster

Metadata: Sweden

Theme: 1, 2, 3

Keywords: PSI, Stockholm Chamber of Commerce

Title:

UK Election: PSI features in Conservative manifesto! 13th April 2010

Source:

Conservative Party, UK

Introduction:

UK Conservative Party publishes manifesto that sets out a number of PSI related promises

Body:

London: 13 April 2010

The political parties in the UK have started to publish their manifestos for the UK elections that will take place on the 6th May 2010.

The Conservative Party has published their manifesto titled: *Invitation to Join the Government of Britain*.

<http://www.conservatives.com/Policy/Manifesto.aspx>

The manifesto states on page 69:

“Publish data so the public can hold government to account

Drawing inspiration from administrations around the world which have shown that being transparent can transform the effectiveness of government, we will create a powerful new right to government data, enabling the public to request – and receive – government datasets in an open and standardised format. Independent estimates suggest this could provide a £6 billion boost to the UK economy. We will open up Whitehall recruitment by publishing central government job vacancies online, saving costs and increasing transparency.”

Related news topics

UK Election: PSI features in Labour manifesto!

Open data worth £6 billion to the UK economy!

Metadata: UK

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: Politics, Manifesto, Conservative

Title:

The value of meteorological information! 13th April 2010

Source:

SIRWEC

Introduction:

SIRWEC 2010 Conference paper and presentations published

Body:

Quebec: 23 February 2010

The materials from the Standing International Road Weather Commission's 15th [SIRWEC](http://www.sirwec.org/conferences/Quebec/sirwec_2010.html) conference that was held in Quebec City, Canada from the 5th to the 7th February 2010 have been published. The papers presented showed the important role of public sector information with respect to the transport networks and the safety of those that use them especially during the winter months.

http://www.sirwec.org/conferences/Quebec/sirwec_2010.html

The papers presented at the Conference included those from the ROADIDEA project as well as from public sector bodies, private sector bodies, research and academic institutions from European Member States that included amongst others: <http://www.roadidea.eu/default.aspx>

- Austria
- Croatia
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Netherlands
- Slovenia
- Switzerland
- Sweden
- UK

The 2012 SIRWEC conference will be hosted by Finland.

The paper presented at the 15th SIRWEC Conference titled: *Value of weather information for road management* presented by Pekka Leviäkangas & Anna-Maija Hietajärvi of VTT Transport and Logistics Systems, reviews research that considers the economic value of meteorological information. <http://www.vtt.fi>

“ABSTRACT

Weather information is valuable to road management value chain starting from the planning, construction and operating of roads, and yielding to value-added services to road users. Prior studies in the field show multiple use cases for weather information and tangible value in many respects. The technological changes and trends of new public management will however change the valuation logic. In the future, recognition of the business value will become more relevant. Many applications, such as variable message signs will be replaced by in-vehicle applications. Also the unbundling of the public sector functions will change the way that different actors look at weather information. Some systems, formerly regarded as public, will probably change into business tools of private/commercial operators.”

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Related news topics

ePSIplatform Meeting debates European Progress on PSI Re-use

Innovative use of PSI

Metadata: International

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: Meteorological Information

Title:

Survey on Open Government Data. 13th April 2010

Source:

Access Info , Spain and the Open Knowledge Foundation, UK

Introduction:

The Open Government Data project initiate survey on Open Government Data

Body:

Madrid & Cambridge: 13 April 2010

The Open Government Data project is seeking input on Open Government Data across Europe. The initial findings of the project will be launched at a meeting that will be held in London on the 22nd April 2010 when the next steps will also be presented.

<http://opengovernmentdata.org/>

The project announcement states:

Open Government Data Project: Research project by Access Info and the [Open Knowledge Foundation](#), in collaboration with the [Open Society Information Program](#), to map out and evaluate the current state of initiatives to promote access to government data in formats that can be freely used, reused, and distributed by anyone. The project will also identify the obstacles to accessing and reusing public data and recommendations for future initiatives to address these.

<http://www.access-info.org/en/open-government-data>

Survey questions

A. Getting the information

- 1. Does your access to information law mention the reuse of the information?*
- 2. If not, do you have a separate law on reuse of public sector information?*
- 3. Does your national access to information law provide for access to:*
 - a whole database?*
 - documents in electronic format?*
 - documents which are under some kind of intellectual property restrictions?*

B. Using the information

1. Restrictions

a. Which of the following restrictions applies to the reuse of the information in your country:

- The reuse only applies to the information created by the public bodies only when executing their public tasks.*
- The reuse is not possible when the information has intellectual property rights that belong to third parties.*

b. Can public document have intellectual property rights?

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2. *Can official material be used for commercial and non commercial purposes?*

3. *Fees*

a. *Does the (a) ATI and (b) the PSI Reuse law permit fees to be charged in concept of:*

- *Collection of data?*
- *Production of data?*
- *Reproduction of data?*
- *Dissemination of data?*
- *Time investment of the public authorities?*

Please provide copies of the relevant legal provisions.

b. *Do the provisions on charging contradict the provisions established on the Access to information law? If so please provide details of how this conflict has been resolved in practice or in the decision of the relevant oversight body.*

4. *Licenses*

- *Is there an obligation to have a license to reuse the information?*
- *Are the licenses homogenized in all the public authorities?*
- *Can the licenses be requested electronically?*

Related European PSI Platform information

Public Sector Information (PSI) Data Catalogues

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2

Keywords: Open Government Data

Title:

COMMUNIA 2010 Conference announced. 13th April 2010

Source:

COMMUNIA

Introduction:

The COMMUNIA thematic network has announced the launch of the COMMUNIA 2010 conference web site.

Body:

Torino: 6 April 2010

The European Thematic Network on the Digital Public Domain COMMUNIA has announced the COMMUNIA 2010 conference titled: ***University and Cyberspace: Reshaping Knowledge Institutions for the Networked Age***. The conference will take place in Torino from the 28 to 30 June 2010.
<http://communia-project.eu/node/384>

The announcement states:

<http://www.communia2010.org/>

“Universities are entrusted with the increasingly important responsibility of creating, sharing, and fostering use of knowledge on behalf of society, and to that end, are the recipients of tremendous investments of time, money, space, authority and freedom. Universities have embraced this role in diverse fashions, varying by tradition, period, and discipline, but we now ask them to go further. As we progress ever more deeply into a networked age, our knowledge institutions are faced with concomitant opportunities. They are challenged by society to become a driving force to create and disseminate knowledge - using innovative, effective, and dynamic approaches - derived from and for the networked world.”

Related news topics

OKN reports on the 7th Communia Workshop

5th Communia Workshop Publishes

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: COMMUNIA

Title:

LOCUS: Vital unfinished business! 12th April 2010

Source:

Locus Association, UK

Introduction:

Government approach to future of Ordnance Survey leaves vital unfinished business, says Locus Association

Body:

London: 12 April 2010

The UK Locus Association has published a press release titled: **Government approach to future of Ordnance Survey leaves vital unfinished business, says Locus Association.**

<http://locusassociation.co.uk/industry159.php>

The press release states:

“Locus welcomes the creation of OS OpenData, and in particular the release of boundary, gazeteer, and postcode data as part of the free package. It agrees that the release of this data should improve citizen empowerment and enable innovation in the private sector.

Beyond the creation of OS OpenData, however, the Government Response to the Consultation leaves many key issues, many of which were identified in other government reports, unaddressed:

- *Public Task: while the Consultation asked for views on what OS’s Public Task should be, the Response says this work will now wait until the National Archives produces a consultation paper on a general definition of the public task for public data later this year. Locus believes the definition of OS’s Public Task should have properly preceded the changes Government has announced, and would urge government to prioritise this work.*
- *Regulation: Question 4 of the Consultation asked for participants’ views on regulation and good governance. The Response cites these views but makes no specific proposals. Given that OS will continue to operate as a commercial entity, while at the same time acting as the official GI Advisor to Government (with new responsibility for the technical delivery of the strategically important INSPIRE datasets), Locus believes the issues of fair pricing to intermediaries, accounting separation by product and activity, avoidance of cross-subsidy, and independent and effective regulation are crucial; Locus members look forward to hearing how Government intends to put an appropriate regulatory structure for OS in place in the very near future.*
- *Central procurement: Locus members are concerned that Government proposes a single central procurement of OS data for Government. They would like to understand how damage to the interests of private sector companies wishing to bid in this area (or already supplying products and services to Government) can be avoided. Locus notes that Government intends to set up a committee to assess what GI might be centrally procured by Government from OS, and would welcome the opportunity to participate in this process.*
- *Derived data: the Consultation recognised that the OS policy of applying “derived data” restrictions was one of the main barriers to wider usage and access to public data. The Government Response says only that “Ordnance Survey will also be proposing changes to the derived data policy for the commercial sector”. Locus believes derived data restrictions act as a barrier to innovation and market growth, and looks forward to continuing to work with Government and OS to see these restrictions removed in the shortest possible timeframe.*

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Audrey Mandela, Locus Chairman, comments: "While we welcome the release of some Ordnance Survey datasets as a positive first step, the Government announcement does not yet provide a long-term, effective framework for a fair and level playing field for the market for geographical information in Great Britain. Locus looks forward to continuing to work with Government and Ordnance Survey over the coming months to help to identify solutions for the issues that thusfar have not been addressed."

Related news topics

Locus Association's response to the Ordnance Survey Consultation

UK Government responds on Ordnance Survey free products

Impact Assessment of OS OpenData™ announcement

OS OpenData: 10+ days on!

Metadata: UK

Theme: 3

Keywords: LOCUS, Ordnance Survey, Derived data, Public Task

Title:

UK Election: PSI features in Labour manifesto! 12th April 2010

Source:

Labour Party, UK

Introduction:

UK Labour Party publishes manifesto that sets out a number of PSI related promises

Body:

London: 12 April 2010

The political parties in the UK have started to publish their manifestos for the UK elections that will take place on the 6th May 2010.

The Labour Party has published their manifesto titled: A future fair for all.

<http://www2.labour.org.uk/manifesto-splash>

The manifesto states on page:

“Public services in the digital age

Citizens expect their public services to be transparent, interactive and easily accessible. We will open up government, embedding access to information and data into the very fabric of public services. Citizens should be able to compare local services, demand improvements, choose between providers, and hold government to account.

We have led the world with the creation of data.gov.uk, putting over 3,000 government datasets online. Entrepreneurs and developers have used these datasets to unleash social innovation, creating applications and websites for citizens from local crime maps to new guides to help find good care homes or GPs. We will now publish a Domesday Book of all non-personal datasets held by government and its agencies, with a default assumption that these will be made public. We will explore how to give citizens direct access to the data held on them by public agencies, so that people can use and control their own personal data in their interaction with service providers and the wider community.

Opening up government – central and local – in this way offers huge potential for Britain. We can use new technologies to give people a say on policymaking; enable citizens to carry out more of their dealings with government online; and save money for taxpayers as we switch services over to digital-only delivery.

Digital government also demands digital inclusion. So we will build on our network of UK Online centres and public libraries to spread free internet access points within the community, and develop new incentives for users to switch to online services.”

Related news topics

We are becoming the worlds leader!

Digital Domesday 2010!

Metadata: UK

European PSI Platform
News items posted or suggested April 2010

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: Politics, Manifesto, Labour

Title:

OS OpenData + 10+ days on! 12th April 2010

Source:

Introduction:

Further reactions to UK Government announcement on OS OpenData

Body:

Brighton: 10 April 2010

An updated collation of reactions to the UK Government's announcement to open up part of the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain's public sector information holdings! The sample below adds to those listed on the European Public Sector Information Platform news topic posted on the 3rd April 2010.

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Sample of reactions: Announcement + 2 days (2nd April 2010)

2nd April 2010

Knowwhere blog

OS Consultation – winners, losers, irony and a bit of schadenfreude

<http://knowwhereconsulting.co.uk/os-consultation-winners-losers-irony-and-a-bit-of-schadenfreude/>

Sample of reactions: Announcement + 3 days (3rd April 2010)

3rd April 2010

Ben Gamblin blog

UK postcode data search

<http://www.bengamblin.com/2010-04-03/uk-postcode-data-search/>

<http://www.bengamblin.com/geo/>

3rd April 2010

IT ProPortal

Ordnance Survey Releases Free Mapping Data

<http://www.itproportal.com/portal/news/article/2010/4/3/ordnance-survey-releases-free-mapping-data/>

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Sample of reactions: Announcement + 5 days (5th April 2010)

5th April 2010

EDINA

Digimap and OS OpenData

<http://edina.ac.uk/cgi-bin/news.cgi?filename=2010-03-06-osopendata.txt>

5th April 2010

CycleStreets blog

European PSI Platform
News items posted or suggested April 2010

Ordnance Survey data freed (partially)

Easter came early this year!

<http://www.cyclestreets.net/blog/2010/04/05/ordnance-survey-data-freed-partially/>

5th April 2010

CartoTalk

Ordnance Survey OpenData

<http://www.cartotalk.com/index.php?showtopic=5570>

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Sample of reactions: Announcement + 6 days (6th April 2010)

6th April 2010

Timesonline

Online Ordnance Survey maps are a treasure

The mapping revolution has had a breakthrough. But too many Ordnance Survey jewels are still locked away

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/columnists/ben_macintyre/article7088278.ece

6th April 2010

Ordnance Survey

Update on OS OpenData

<http://osopenspaceblog.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/?p=316>

6th April 2010

Paikkatiето

Iso-Britannian paikkatiedot vapautettu

<http://paikkatiето.com/2010/04/06/iso-britannian-paikkatiedot-vapautettu/>

Ed Parsons.com

6th April 2010

Image of the day : Democracy at work ?

<http://www.edparsons.com/2010/04/image-of-the-day-democracy-at-work/>

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Sample of reactions: Announcement + 8 days (8th April 2010)

8th April 2010

Wired Fresh blog

Freeing Ordnance Survey data: is it a good thing? Our analysis

<http://www.wirefresh.com/freeing-ordnance-survey-data-is-it-a-good-thing-our-analysis/>

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Sample of reactions: Announcement + 9 days (9th April 2010)

9th April 2010

Guardian: Free Our Data blog

Ordnance Survey data goes free: yes, we had noticed (just hadn't written it...)

<http://www.freeourdata.org.uk/blog/2010/04/ordnance-survey-data-goes-free-yes-we-had-noticed-just-hadnt-written-it/>

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Sample of reactions: Announcement + 10 days (10th April 2010)

10th April 2010

Citizenship Foundation

Ordnance Survey OpenData: what is it? Come and discuss it at Moseley Exchange

<http://citizensheep.com/blog/2010/04/10/ordnance-survey-opendata-what-is-it-come-and-discuss-it-at-moseley-exchange/>

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Sample of reactions: Announcement + 11 days (11th April 2010)

11th April 2010

Edgehill Blog

OS OpenData Street View

<http://blogs.edgehill.ac.uk/125by125/tag/opendata/>

11th April 2010

Mad about maps

Many feared that the internet and satnavs would be the road to ruin for traditional maps. But as a British Library exhibition shows, they are more popular than ever, finds Mike Parker

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/7575641/Mad-about-maps.html>

11th April 2010

Simon Whitehouse blog

Embedding an Ordnance Survey Map into a Wordpress blog post

<http://siwhitehouse.co.uk/2010/04/embedding-an-ordnance-survey-map-into-a-wordpress-blog-post/>

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An approximate English translation from the 6th April 2010 Finnish posting

“Ordnance Survey (Great Britain map body) has released a number of spatial data sets on April 1st day. Preliminary estimates, it was not a aprillipila. Admittedly failed to upload data as soon after midnight, but well before the British official time resources were already available for download.

I tried to tell the essays in this exemption from the background, details released data sets and the corresponding spatial Finnish National Land Survey department has.

Background

Spatial data release is not the Ordnance Survey's own decision. Gordon Brown's decision is based on the authorities' release of information resources. Sir Tim Berners-Lee has been particularly active in Great Britain: apparently intended to set an example to other states. United Kingdom data to the release of a lot more data.gov.uk site.

Releasing data to the authorities, means that information resources are free to the public, authorities and company. The data is no longer a license to collect and / or irroitamiskuluja (not within the administration, and external users). Free of charges in addition to data sets generally not restricted: data may enable private companies to adopt new products.

Usually three reasons for the release of the argument:

- ***Transparency of government:*** *Freedom of information data sets will allow better management of transparency. Citizens are better able to respond to your living environment-related issues.*

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- **Performance Management:** Duplication of data to the collection decreases. Administration more effective when adequate information resources are being used in the right place at the right time. Reduction of bureaucracy, where officials need not negotiate lisenssointioikeuksia and / or data charges.
- **New business opportunities:** Free of data enabling new innovations. Innovations create business and thereby increase tax revenues. Great Britain is estimated that the Ordnance Survey's data to the liberalization of the cost 12 million pounds, but would generate increased tax revenue for 156 million pounds (although this report has also been criticized).

Exempted spatial data

Ordnance Survey did not release all the spatial data sets. This is followed by a certain amount of criticism and I believe that the material will continue to release even more. I think the start is important. When (and if) the liberalization to generate new innovation and administrative efficiency will be improved, so the benefits are more visible.

Now exempt from the spatial data sets are:

* 1:50 000 Scale Gazetteer

Name the place of registry, which has about 250 000 place names.

* 1:250 000 Scale Colour Raster

Small-scale rasterikarttasarja.

* Boundary-Line TM

Administrative boundaries, the most accurate scale of 1:10 000 Includes information on statistical data sets

* Code-Point Open

ZIP material. Great Britain postal numbers is relatively Cryptic, is not intended to understand the Continent.

* Land-Form PANORAMA Contours [®]

Height curve data, scale 1:50 000 Curve of the Mediterranean 10 m.

* Meridian TM 2

Vector scale 1:50 000 Customized maps for spatial analysis also appears to be possible, for example, route optimization.

* MiniScale [®]

1:1 million of small-scale map data. Be supplied to the spatial and material for the finished product, folding systems (Adobe Freehand / Illustrator).

* OS Locator

Street Name Registry.

* Strategically [®]

Vector scale 1:250 000 Produce the information content should meet the 1:250 k rasterikarttasarjaa.

* OS Street View [®]

Rasterikarttasarja scale 1:10 000 Proposed the most extensive data.

These spatial data sets, there is the new material in June: OS TM VectorMap District. This will be the medium-scale (1:25 000), raster and vector data.

Free data sets were excluded from the most detailed spatial data and aerial image data. Guardian blog explains in more detail what the Ordnance Survey's data sets can be used.

Matching spatial data sets with the Finns

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National Land Survey of spatial data are not directly comparable to Ordnance Survey's datasets. But if you want to Finland, the UK authorities to open the way of data, as the National Land Survey of the list could be:

Map-scale databases

These resources include databases, map scales 1:100 000 - 1:4,5 million. Vector in addition to those maps rasterikartat would also be very useful.

Height Models

Surveying department currently has three different resolution: 25 × 25, 10 and 10 × 2 × 2 square meters elevation models. Bring a height of 25 m, the model is well suited for visualization, 10 meters in height can make a design already rough analysis. Tarkin at 2 m elevation model produced by laser scanning and used to produce accurate flood maps in 2013. Model 25 and a height of 10 meters to the top sufficient resources would be exempt from the material. 2 m height of the model is sufficient to more authorities: to reduce the duplication of data collection.

Nimistörekisteri

The material contains about 800 000 place names. This material would certainly use different registry geokoodauksessa.

Administrative boundaries

Surveying the statistics institution must base maps already available for free. They should be good to have a vector of administrative boundaries (municipalities, provinces, etc.)

Terrain Database, Land Registry and aerial photographs are those materials which are not at this stage need to be released. Their exploitation and utilization of services through the interface is sufficiently effective way to get benefits out of it. Can take the example of Ordnance Survey's Open Space API interface to the service, the French Géoportail API to API, or the Spanish-Idee de service. What about the other three spatial data?

Land Survey of Finland is not the only entity that manages spatial data. Regulation of spatial infrastructure mailing list very essential spatial data producers and data. For each material, the split comes a public debate on transparency: the spatial data could be released, how and in what timeframe?

What now?

Public information sources will be release in Finland (also),. Currently, there is only schedule: before the 2011 parliamentary elections or the following? Open-discussion mantraksi data has already risen to Public Data Guide. Topic has already taken place this spring with a few wake-up Meeting (Open Forum Virium up the city and the Linked Open Data in Finland). The battle for the delay could still happen, but probably best to be part of the solution as part of the problem. IMHO."

Related news topics

OS OpenData + 2 days

Metadata: UK

Theme: 2

Keywords: OS OpenData, Ordnance Survey, geographic information

European PSI Platform
News items posted or suggested April 2010

Title:

Economic working groups launched! 7th April 2010

Source:

European Commission (EC)

Introduction:

The European Commission has launched working groups on economic aspects of PSI Re-use

Body:

Luxembourg: 31 March 2010

In the European Commission Communication on the implementation of the re-use of public sector information framework Directive 2003/98/EC that was published on 7th May 2009 reported that the European Commission would undertake a series of economic studies at the European level.

The European Commission led PSI Group considered the Commissions proposal at the 12th meeting of the PSI Group that took place on the 12th June 2009. The meeting agreed to hold a further meeting devoted to economic measurement and an economic analysis of pricing models adopted by public sector bodies. The meeting took place on the 12th November 2009.

The meeting on the 12th November 2009 agreed to establish 5 working groups on PSI Economic Indicators on the following themes:

1. Address Information
2. Cadastral Information
3. Company Information
4. Legal Information
5. Meteorological Information

and one working group on Economic Case for Marginal Cost/Cost Recovery.

The Terms of Reference and the working papers for each of the above groups have been published on the European Public Sector Information Platform.

All public sector information stakeholders are invited to observe and provide feedback to the working groups.

All of the working groups are now seeking both public sector and private sector organisations that will be willing to participate in the economic studies that will be launched in the Autumn of 2010 by the European Commission.

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: Economic measurement

Title:

KU Leuven Legal Workshop reports! 7th April 2010

Source:

Katleen Janssen, ICRI, K.U.Leuven, Belgium

Introduction:

Workshop on legal aspects of geographic data and spatial data Infrastructures - Report and presentations published

Body:

Leuven: 7 April 2010

On the 19th March 2010, the Spatialist project (www.spatialist.be) and the Interdisciplinary Centre for Law and ICT (ICRI, www.icri.be) organised a workshop on legal aspects of geographic data and spatial data infrastructures at the premises of the K.U.Leuven.

This workshop intended to bring together the members of the GI&SDI community whose work or activities are aimed to progress the research, policy and practice with regard to the legal aspects of geographic data and SDI, either as a lawyer or as a researcher or professional in other fields closely related with law or policy. As the objective was to stimulate discussion on the different topics of the agenda, the number of participants was deliberately kept small, in order to facilitate interaction and debate. The workshop was attended by 24 people, and speakers included Prof. dr. Harlan Onsrud from the University of Maine, Prof. dr. Jos Dumortier from the K.U.Leuven, Mr. Michael Nicholson from Intelligent Addressing and Mr. Andrej Osterman from the European Commission.

The objective of the workshop was to get an overview of existing research and practice, to consolidate possible synergies and to develop a common research agenda for the future. The workshop was divided into four blocks, each with a particular theme. The four themes that were addressed are 1) privacy and security, 2) intellectual property rights, 3) public-private sector relationships and competition, and 4) the future of legal SDI-research and practice.

A short report from the workshop can be found here. The slides and the report are also available on the Spatialist website (http://www.spatialist.be/eng/act/20100319_ICRI.htm). For more information, contact Katleen Janssen at katleen.janssen@law.kuleuven.be.

The next edition of the workshop will be held on 18 March 2011.

Related news topics

Towards a common research agenda

Metadata: Belgium

Theme: 1, 2, 3

Keywords: SPATIALIST, SDI, GI, KU Leuven

European PSI Platform
News items posted or suggested April 2010

Title:

IGF2010 information platform launched. 7th April 2010

Source:

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) & Committee of the Information Society Development

Introduction:

The Lithuanian IGF2010 web site has been launched

Body:

Vilnius: 7 April 2010

In preparations for the 5th Internet Governance Forum (IGF) meeting that will be held in Vilnius, Lithuania from the 14th to the 17th September 2010, the Lithuanian IGF2010 information platform has been launched that provides details on the logistics of the IGF2010.

<http://www.igf2010.lt/index.php/en/welcome/index>

<http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/>

Related news topics

Lithuania to host IGF-2010

Metadata: International

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: United Nations, Internet Governance Forum, Lithuania, PSI, Open Data

European PSI Platform
News items posted or suggested April 2010

Title:

Creative Commons and Government. 6th April 2010

Source:

VALA - Libraries, Technology and the Future & auPSI, Australia

Introduction:

Australia: VALA considers Creative Commons within Government and recent report of Victorian State Government

Body:

Melbourne: 24 March 2010

The auPSI information platform has published the presentation that Professor Anne Fitzgerald presented at the evening meeting of VALA – Libraries, Technology and the Future that took place in Melbourne, Australia on the 24th March 2010.

The VALA meeting also considered an update from Doctor Vaughn Koops the Executive Officer of the Victorian Parliament's Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee (EDIC) and the Victorian State Governments response to the EDIC Committee report following the Inquiry into Improving Access to Victorian Public Sector Information and Data.

http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/edic/inquiries/access_to_PSI/final_report.html
<http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/edic/>

The auPSI announcement states:

“Professor Anne Fitzgerald will present on Creative Commons and its application to Public Sector Information in Australia. Her powerpoint slides, Creative Commons and Government, are available here (1.28 MB, .ppt)”

<http://www.aupsi.org/>
<http://www.aupsi.org/news/VALAmeetings2010.jsp>

<http://www.vala.org.au/index.php>
<http://www.vala.org.au/general-meetings/vala-meetings-2010-creative-commons>

Related news topics

CC Licences: The Australian experience!
Access to Public Sector Information
CC and Government

Metadata: International

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: creative commons, crown copyright, Australia, QUT

Title:

PSI Re-use in Slovenia. 5th April 2010

Source:

Information Commission, Slovenia

Introduction:

EVPSI considers PSI re-use within Slovenia: presentation published

Body:

Ljubljana: 2 April 2010

The Slovenian Information Commissioners Office has published the presentation that the Deputy Information Commissioner presented at the Extracting Value from Public Sector Information (EVPSI) seminar held in Turin on the 26th March 2010. The presentation titled: ***Re – use of PSI in Slovenia*** provides a good overview of the implementation of the Public Sector Information re-use Directive 2003/98/EC within Slovenia. The presentation includes a number of re-use case studies and also details the split of responsibilities between the Information Commissioner and the Ministry of Public Administration.

<http://www.ip-rs.si/index.php?id=320>

<http://www.ip-rs.si/?id=195>

The announcement states:

“March 25th to 27th Turin, Italy - Kick-off meeting of the LAPSI Project (Legal Aspects of Public Sector Information) on re-use of public sector information, in which the Commissioner partakes in as a partner, a member of the consortium. At the same time [EVPSI](#) (Extracting Value From Public Sector Information) conference took place where the Commissioner's Deputy Kristina Kotnik Šumah gave a presentation on the re-use of public sector information in Slovenia (her presentation is [here](#)). Both events were attended by Commissioner's advisors Jasna Rupnik and Maja Lubarda and researcher Polona Tepina.”

A report on the EVPSI seminar has also been published on the IOSA Open Archaeology web site.

<http://www.iosa.it/content/extracting-value-public-sector-information>

Related news topics

EVPSI catches up with PSI re-use!

EVPSI: Public launch

CRID reports on LAPSI

Metadata:

Theme: 1, 2

Keywords: PSI, Information Commissioner, Slovenia

Title:

Draft Directive supports PSI Re-use. 5th April 2010

Source:

The European Working Group on Telematic Procedures

Introduction:

La Direttiva europea sul procedimento amministrativo telematico - The European Directive on electronic administrative procedure

Body:

Cagliari, Sardinia: 23 March 2010

The European Working Group on Telematic Procedures has published the results of a study of a potential Directive to institute a framework for the telematic administrative procedure and the Public Administrations interface with the citizen through electronic means in the application of European Union Law. The text of the proposed Directive has been published in the English and Italian languages.

The European Working Group on Telematic administrative procedures is established at the University of Cagliari in Italy and is coordinated by Professor John Duni.

<http://spol.unica.it/teleamm/2010/default.html>
<http://spol.unica.it/teleamm/2010/default-it.html>
<http://www.unica.it/pub/english/>

The proposed draft Directive states within Recital 19:

“19. By increasing telematic administrative activity, the present Directive accelerates dematerialisation and increases the amount of information on line, thus increasing promoting administrative transparency; information is essential for the respect and well good functioning of the four fundamental freedoms of the European community. within this view, this Directive reinforces the content of European Parliament and Council Directive 2003/98/EC of 17 November 2003, on the re-use of public sector information, which regulates the general framework for the conditions governing the re-use of public sector documents , in order to guarantee fair, proportionate and non-discriminatory conditions, i, keeping into consideration the link between information and the functioning of the internal market, and between information and the right to know and to participate in public affairs.”

“19. La presente Direttiva, attraverso l'incremento di attività amministrativa telematica, accelera la dematerializzazione ed incrementa il numero delle informazioni in rete, accrescendo la trasparenza amministrativa; l'informazione è essenziale per il rispetto e il buon funzionamento delle quattro libertà fondamentali della Comunità Europea. In questa linea, la direttiva 2003/98/CE del Parlamento Europeo e del Consiglio, del 17 novembre 2003, relativa al riutilizzo delle informazioni del settore pubblico, che disciplina il quadro generale per le condizioni del riutilizzo dei documenti del settore pubblico, al fine di garantire condizioni eque, proporzionate e non discriminatorie, tenendo conto del legame tra l'informazione e il funzionamento del mercato interno, e tra l'informazione e il diritto alla conoscenza e alla partecipazione alla vita pubblica, risulta potenziata nei suoi effetti.”

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 2

Keywords: public sector, electronic administration

European PSI Platform
News items posted or suggested April 2010

http://www.ania.it/rel_istituzionali/documenti_legali/files/progettilegge/file_iter/165_CAMERA-LeggeComunit.2009-17.02.10.pdf

<http://documenti.camera.it/leg16/dossier/testi/ID0008C.htm>

<http://documenti.camera.it/Leg16/Dossier/Testi/CL073.htm>

<http://www.parlamento.it/parlam/leggi/deleghe/dlattcee.htm>

<http://documenti.camera.it/Leg16/Dossier/Testi/ID0008B.htm>

"Direttiva 2003/98/CE" 2010

European PSI Platform
News items posted or suggested April 2010

Title:

Re-use of PSI supports innovation! 5th April 2010

Source:

Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), UK

Introduction:

UK Ministry to champion the release of local public data and information sharing

Body:

London: 1 April 2010

The UK Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has published a report titled: ***Evidence and Innovation Strategy 2010 – 2012.***

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/corporate/evidenceinnovation201012>

<http://www.communities.gov.uk>

The announcement states:

“This strategy sets out a vision for the way Communities and Local Government procure, use and deliver cutting edge and world class evidence and analysis. It sets out the innovative analysis and it points to the Department's ambitions to further improve and build on effectiveness.”

The report contains a Case Study titled: ***Making complex data accessible to a wider audience*** on pages 22 to 27 that states:

“Making Data Available: *One of the ways we want to increase access to data is through The Making Public Data Public Programme, which is focused on improving access to public data held by Government to provide citizens with information about the services they need and to increase transparency and accountability. To support this ambition CLG has set up the Local Public Data Panel, a panel of experts from local government, academia and the IT developer community, chaired by Professor Nigel Shadbolt, the Local Public Data Panel will work closely with local authorities, local strategic partners, the LGA, government departments and agencies to champion the release of local public data and information sharing, accelerate progress in agreeing common standards for data released into the public domain, and help identify which local public data are likely to have the greatest impact on empowering citizens or improving public delivery.*

The Local Data Exchange (LDEx) supports the drive to champion the local public data agenda. We intend to progressively build LDEx as the standard mechanism for releasing CLG's statistical and geospatial data in an open, standard, re-usable form. LDEx will also enable CLG's data to be quickly and easily linked to related external sources, thereby fostering development of new insight for a much broader range of consumers. LDEx is a natural extension to CLG's Places Database, the Data Interchange Hub and Geography Publishing Service. By building on these services, the LDEx will reference 2,000 datasets drawn from multiple sources and integrated around the concept of place. LDEx will make these sources available for public consumption via an open platform utilising common standards. The project will also prepare CLG's data holdings to align with the emerging LinkedData vision for public sector information.

Underpinning our work to make our data accessible are the Public Data Principles, set out in Putting The Frontline First: Smarter government www.hmg.gov.uk/media/52788/smarter-government-final.pdf

1. *Public data will be published in reusable, machine-readable form*
2. *Public data will be available and easy to find through a single easy to use online access point (www.data.gov.uk/)*

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3. *Public data will be published using open standards and following the recommendations of the World Wide Web Consortium*
4. *Any 'raw' dataset will be represented in linked data form*
5. *More public data will be released under an open licence which enables free reuse, including commercial reuse*
6. *Data underlying the Government's own websites will be published in reusable form for others to use*
7. *Personal, classified, commercially sensitive and third-party data will continue to be protected."*

Report References

Title: Evidence and innovation strategy 2010-2012

Date: April 2010

ISBN: 978-1-4098-2432-9

Pages: 32

Contents:

Introduction

Our analytical framework

Data and statistics

Externally commissioned research and in-house analysis

Monitoring and evaluation

Making evidence accessible

Going forward – the next steps

Related news topics

Report on Local Data Panel Meetings

OS OpenData + 2 days

UK OpenData licences based on CC

UK Government responds on Ordnance Survey free products

Local government: Open Data Policy Consultation

UK PM Speech on Building Britain's Digital Future

Digital Domesday 2010!

Metadata: UK

Theme: 2

Keywords: Local Government, Innovation

Title:

The Digital Divide in Germany! 5th April 2010

Source:

Initi@tive D21, Germany via news alert from Frank Hoffman, IGN Dresden, Germany

Introduction:

Study reports a large majority of Germans are not part of the digital society

Body:

Berlin: 18 March 2010

The German INITI@TIVE D21 has published a report titled: ***Die digitale Gesellschaft in Deutschland – Sechs Nutzertypen im Vergleich*** (The digital society in Germany - Six types of users compared).

<http://www.initiaved21.de/>
<http://www.digitale-gesellschaft.info/>

The press release titled: ***Studie: Große Mehrheit der Deutschen ist nicht Teil der digitalen Gesellschaft*** (Study: Large majority of Germans is not part of the digital society) states (Approximate English translation):

<http://www.initiaved21.de/presseinformationen/studie-grosse-mehrheit-der-deutschen-ist-nicht-teil-der-digitalen-gesellschaft>

“This new digital divide runs not only along a boundary facilities, but is defined in terms of expertise, knowledge, variety and intensity as well as attitudes towards digital media. On this basis, can be explained by the typology of the German reflect an accurate picture of the digital society in Germany. Six groups were identified.

The digital outsiders (35 percent share of the total population), digital outsiders are the largest and with an average age of 62.4 years, the oldest group. Compared to the other types they have the least potential for digital, computer and Internet use the smallest and the most negative attitudes towards digital issues. Only a quarter have the digital infrastructure from a basic equipment (computers and printers). Skills in dealing with the digital media are therefore scarce. Even terms such as e-mail, operating system or web site are the digital outsiders largely unknown and only a fifth of the digital outsider is able to find on the Internet to law.

The occasional users (30 percent)

The casual users are on average 41.9 years old. Take in comparison to the digital outsiders, at least in part to the action part in the digital society. 98 percent own a PC or notebook, three quarters already a digital camera. Fits to almost all the opportunity to spend time with computer and Internet users - especially for private purposes. The casual user is already familiar with many basic concepts of the digital world, but especially in safety a great backlog. Overall, this guy clearly recognizes the benefits of the Internet, but does not promote its further development and preferably more traditional media.

The professional users (nine percent)

Average 42.2 years old, this group has the highest proportion of professionals. Compared to the occasional users, the professional users a much better digital infrastructure in their workplace and use accordingly there above average Internet. However, the private use is slightly below the level of casual user. The diversity of use of the professional user rather limited useful applications such as email or word processing.

The trend users (Eleven percent)

This group has both the highest male (78 percent) and students share (13 percent). The average age of

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35.9 years trend user is relatively young. If the trend often users a full range of digital devices is available. The trend is clearly secondary computer. The members of this group have extensive expertise on the computer and are familiar with a few exceptions, well into the digital world. The trend users address particularly like Web 2.0 applications and to recognize the great advantages of digital media for themselves.

The digital professionals (12 percent)

The average professional digital is 36.1 years old, mostly male and employed. This type has both at home and in the office on a very good digital infrastructure. His skills are extensive, as reflected particularly in their professional skills. Whether macro programming, spreadsheet, digital pro feels at home in this complex terrain.

Rarely, the digital professionals looking compared to the trend of users and the avant-garde digital diversion in the digital world, or use them for self. When using diversity, therefore, are useful applications, such as Online shopping, price search and read news, in the foreground.

The digital avant-garde (three percent)

The youngest group (average age 30.5 years) simultaneously with three percent, the smallest group. The digital avant-garde, while a rather low income and often lives in a single household. Your digital infrastructure leaves little to be desired. Striking here are the high mobile and Internet business.

In all areas in which the digital avant-garde with very high skills and forms with complex topics, the head of the digital society. Your knowledge about the digital world, however, is not quite as pronounced as in the digital professionals. More by "trial and error" rather than reading manuals suited to the digital avant-garde of his skills. From the digital media can be from this group hardly an average of eleven hours, they spend a day at the computer. Besides the work, therefore, the leisure behavior is often determined by digital media.

"This study is the first time an instrument available with which to measure accurately in the next few years, the development of the digital society in Germany. Particularly with regard to their own activities for the digital society, the Initiative D21 to make it clear that the wait will not lead to changes alone to the goal. Only to individual groups is needed, Germany can better meet the challenges of the digital world in the 21st St century," said Robert A. Wieland, a member of the D21-full board and managing director of TNS GmbH, the results for the digital society."

Related news topics

Lower Saxony: Open Government Data!
Frankfurt Launches Frankfurt-Gestalten.de (Create Frankfurt)
Implications for PSI Re-use policy and regulation
German DGI launches Working Group on PSI Re-use

Metadata: Germany

Theme: 2, 3

Keywords: information society, knowledge economy, digital divide

Title:

Dutch Government sets a strong example! 4th April 2010

Source:

Creative Commons Netherlands

Introduction:

New Dutch government portal uses CC0 public domain waiver as default copyright status

Body:

Netherlands: 31 March 2010

Creative Commons Netherlands in a news topic congratulates the Dutch Government on adopting Creative Commons Zero for the newly launched Government wide online information service.

<http://www.rijksoverheid.nl/>

The news topic states:

“The Netherlands government has launched [Rijksoverheid.nl](http://www.rijksoverheid.nl/), a new website that [all Dutch ministries will migrate to](#) (English; other links in this post are Dutch).

Creative Commons Netherlands notes that the site’s copyright policy [signals a seriousness about open sharing of public sector information](#) — its default is to [remove all copyright restrictions with the CC0 public domain waiver](#).

Rijksoverheid.nl not only signals a true commitment to openness but also sets a strong example for other governments. Congratulations!”

<http://creativecommons.org/weblog/entry/21473>

<http://creativecommons.org/international/nl/>

--

Dutch version of the Creative Commons Netherlands news topic:

<http://creativecommons.nl/2010/03/31/rijksoverheid-in-het-publieke-domein/>

“Since today (March 31) is the first version of rijksoverheid.nl online. It is the first step in a process where more and more ministries and other government organizations through a portal (and corporate) will be reached. Not an easy operation.

Rijksoverheid.nl but in another sense an amazing milestone. Who visits the website rijksoverheid.nl does well here also click on the copyright info, all right. Rijksoverheid.nl is (as we know) the first government site content to make available under CC0, which means that the content is a public domain status is granted. It is free of restrictions reusable. The government thus provides a signal that she is serious about the open sharing of (public) information.”

Related news topics

Dutch launch Government wide website under CC0!

Metadata: Netherlands

Theme: 2, 3

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Keywords: Creative Commons Licences

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Title:

Dutch launch Government wide website under CC0! 4th April 2010

Source:

Central Affairs within the Ministry of the Prime Minister, Netherlands

Introduction:

Dutch Government launches Government-wide website Rijksoverheid.nl live - Rijksbrede website Rijksoverheid.nl live

Body:

The Hague: 31 March 2010

The Deputy Prime Minister of the Netherlands has officially opened a Government-wide website.
<http://www.rijksoverheid.nl/nieuws/2010/03/31/rijksbrede-website-rijksoverheid-nl-live.html>

On the 29th March 2010 the Minister of Interior and Kingdom Relations informed the Dutch Parliament (The House of Representatives). The letter states:

“De Voorzitter van de Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal

Datum 29 maart 2010 Betreft lancering www.rijksoverheid.nl

Het kabinet heeft in de Nota Vernieuwing Rijksdienst stevige ambities neergelegd voor de ontwikkeling van de overheidscommunicatie. Sleutelbegrippen als ‘herkenbaar, toegankelijk, eenduidig, ontkokerd en thematisch’ geven deze ontwikkeling richting.

In het kader van het programma Vernieuwing Rijksdienst is een aantal communicatieprojecten opgezet om de communicatiefunctie binnen het rijk efficiënter op te zetten en de beheerslast bij de departementen terug te dringen. Het project Overheidscommunicatie Nieuwe Stijl (ONS) geeft daar vorm aan.

Eén van de deelprojecten ervan is het opzetten van één rijksbreed internet waarin alle departementale sites opgaan.

Op 31 maart 2010 gaan zeven sites van de rijksoverheid op in de site www.rijksoverheid.nl. Dit zijn de sites regering.nl, [postbus 51.nl](http://postbus51.nl), minaz.nl, minez.nl, minocw.nl, minvws.nl en jeugdengazin.nl. Dit betekent dat alle informatie van deze departementen terug te vinden is op één site. De overige departementale websites gaan in de loop van 2010 over naar www.rijksoverheid.nl.

Met de lancering van de site www.rijksoverheid.nl wordt een grote kwaliteitsslag gemaakt in de informatievoorziening aan de burger. De informatie wordt op deze wijze niet naar organisatie toegankelijk gemaakt, maar naar onderwerpen die burger en bedrijven aanspreken. Daarnaast levert het project een bijdrage aan het efficiënter inzetten van de communicatiecapaciteit van het rijk. Alle departementale redacties worden samengevoegd tot één rijksbrede redactie. Door van 16 sites naar één site over te gaan worden zowel de communicatiebezetting van departementen als de beheerskosten van websites stevig teruggebracht.

De informatie over de overige voortgang over het project Overheidscommunicatie Nieuwe Stijl vindt u terug in de voortgangsrapportages Vernieuwing Rijksdienst die in mei 2010 aan de Tweede Kamer worden toegezonden.

De Minister van Binnenlandse Zaken en Koninkrijksrelaties”

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Approximate English translation of the above letter:
"The Chairman of the House of Representatives

Date March 29, 2010
Subject launch www.rijksoverheid.nl

The government has strong ambitions National Renewal Letter filed for the development of government communication. Key terms such as "recognizable, accessible, unambiguous, and thematic ontkokerd" give this development direction.

Under the National Reform Programme is a number of communications projects designed to function within the realm of communication more efficient to set up and management burden by reducing the departments. Government Communication Project New Style (ONS) gives it form. One of the subprojects it is setting up a government-wide web sites which all departmental direction.

On March 31, 2010 to seven sites of the central government on the site www.rijksoverheid.nl . These are the sites regering.nl, [PO Box 51.nl](http://POBox51.nl), minaz.nl, minez.nl, minocw.nl, and minvws.nl jeugdengezin.nl. This means that all information in those departments can be found at one site. The other departmental websites to over 2010 to about www.rijksoverheid.nl .

With the launch of the website is a great quality www.rijksoverheid.nl trick in the information to the public. The information is thus not accessible to the organization, but to address issues that citizens and businesses. Addition, the project contributes to the efficient use of communication capacity of the empire. All departmental editors are combined into a government-wide editorial. Because of 16 sites to a site about to be occupied by both the communications departments and the management of websites securely reduced.

Information on other progress on the project New Government Communication Style can be found in the National Renewal progress reports in May 2010 to the House to be sent.

The Minister of Interior and Kingdom Relations"

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The Copyright statement on the one-stop-shop to Dutch Central Government Ministries states:

"Copyright

Copyright information about the content of this website

Unless otherwise stated, the content of this website's Creative Commons statement zero (CC0) applies. This means that any reuse of the contents of this site is permitted, except by or in any particular item (eg a photo or a document) is indicated on that part a copyright exception applies.

By reusing the content of this website is not required attribution. But in citing the contents may not be the impression that the government certainly the thrust of the derivative work supports.

The following rates are zero Creative Commons statement not changed and therefore remain in force:

- *Patent rights and trademark rights.*
- *The rights of others, or parts of this website or on the way the site is used, such as image rights and privacy law."*

"Copyright

Auteursrechtelijke informatie over de inhoud van deze website

Tenzij anders vermeld is op de inhoud van deze website de Creative Commons zero verklaring (CC0) van toepassing. Dit houdt in dat iedere vorm van hergebruik van de inhoud van deze site is toegestaan,

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tenzij bij of in een bepaald onderdeel (bijvoorbeeld een foto of een document) staat aangegeven dat op dat onderdeel een auteursrechtelijke uitzondering van toepassing is.

Bij hergebruik van de inhoud van deze website is naamsvermelding niet verplicht. Maar bij het citeren van de inhoud mag niet de indruk worden gewekt dat de rijksoverheid zonder meer de strekking van het afgeleide werk onderschrijft.

De volgende rechten worden door Creative Commons zero verklaring niet gewijzigd en blijven dus van kracht:

- *Octrooirechten en merkrechten.*
- *De rechten van anderen, ofwel op onderdelen van deze website ofwel op de wijze waarop de website wordt gebruikt, zoals het portretrecht of privacyrecht.”*

Related news topics

Dutch consider PSI re-use over lunch!

1 step further!

Climate data available for re-use!

Metadata: Netherlands

Theme: 2

Keywords: one-stop-shop, Creative Commons

Title:

OS OpenData + 2 days. 3rd April 2010

Source:

Introduction:

Initial Reaction to UK Government announcement on OS OpenData

Body:

Brighton: 3 April 2010

A collation of reactions to the UK Government's announcement to open up part of the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain's public sector information holdings!

Sample of reactions: Announcement + 1 day (1st April 2010)

BBC: 1st April 2010

Ordnance Survey offers free data access

Mapping agency Ordnance Survey (OS) has launched a service offering free and unrestricted access to most of its map data.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/8597779.stm>

The Guardian: Technology – 1st April 2010

Ordnance Survey launches free downloadable maps

Move marks radical departure from previous OS financial model under which every piece of map data had to be paid for

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2010/apr/01/ordnance-survey-maps-download-free>

Telegraph: 1st April 2010

Ordnance Survey makes maps free to download

Ordnance Survey has undergone its biggest shake-up in its 260-year history as digital versions of its maps have been made available to download for free.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/7542038/Ordnance-Survey-makes-maps-free-to-download.html>

The Register: 1st April 2010

UK.gov folds over Ordnance Survey map data

Lets developers mashup tumulus

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/04/01/ordnance_survey_opendata/

The Register: 1st April 2010

OS free data splurge lacks public sector licensing deal

Wander round in circles till UK.gov finds a direction

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/04/01/ordnance_survey_public_sector_licensing_agreement/

The Earnest Marples Blog: 1st April 2010

The licence for OS OpenData

<http://ernestmarples.com/blog/2010/04/the-licence-for-os-opendata/>

Ramblers: 1st April 2010

OS Free map scheme won't unleash the benefits of walking

“Government lost its nerve on releasing Landranger and Explorer maps”

http://www.ramblers.org.uk/news/latest_news/OSfreemaps

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Open Knowledge Foundation Blog: 1st April 2010
Ordnance Survey opens up UK mapping data!
<http://blog.okfn.org/2010/04/01/ordnance-survey-opens-up-uk-mapping-data/>

OpenStreetMap: 1st April 2010
Ordnance Survey Opendata
http://wiki.openstreetmap.org/wiki/Ordnance_Survey_Opendata

Suprageography: 1st April 2010
OS OpenData is here
<http://oliverobrien.co.uk/2010/04/os-opendata-is-here/>

Jon Choo blog: Thursday, 1 April 2010
Ordnance Survey OpenData now available
<http://jonchoo.blogspot.com/2010/04/ordnance-survey-opendata-now-available.html>

Grough: 1st April 2010
Government 'lost its nerve' on free Ordnance Survey maps
<http://www.grough.co.uk/magazine/2010/04/01/government-lost-its-nerve-on-free-ordnance-survey-maps>

Stanfords: 1st April 2010
OS OpenData
<http://www.stanfords.co.uk/articles/news/os-opendata,402,AR.html?gclid=CJOD7Nv46aACFVOY2Aod0S04XA>

MySociety: 1st April 2010
OS OpenData downloads
<http://parlvid.mysociety.org:81/os/>

Dotted Eyes: 1st April 2010
OS OpenData
<http://www.dottedeyes.com/opendata.php>

Pitney Bowes Business Insight blog: 1st April 2010
Finally, the OS data runs free...
<http://stratus.pbbiblogs.com/2010/04/01/finally-the-os-data-runs-free/>
<http://stratus.pbbiblogs.com/2010/04/01/finally-the-os-data-runs-free/>

Ganpati News: 1st April 2010
OS OpenData, a New Agreement, Traces by Government for Public Sector
<http://www.ganpatinews.com/2010/04/01/os-opendata-a-new-agreement-traces-by-government-for-public-sector-73893>

Land Matters: 1st April 2010
Ordnance Survey - victory at last (well nearly)
<http://www.andyweightman.com/wordpress/?p=62>

Outdoors Magic: 1st April 2010
OS Free Data 'A Damp Squib'
<http://www.outdoorsmagic.com/outdoors-news/os-free-data-a-damp-squib/6811.html>

The Association for Geographic Information: 1st April 2010
Government publishes its response to the Ordnance Survey Consultation
http://www.agi.org.uk/pooled/articles/BF_NEWSART/view.asp?Q=BF_NEWSART_318653

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Sample of reactions: Announcement + 2 days (2nd April 2010)

The Guardian: DataBlog – 2nd April 2010

Ordnance Survey opendata maps: what does it actually include?

The Ordnance Survey has opened up its map data for free after a long campaign. Find out what was released

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/news/datablog/2010/apr/02/ordnance-survey-open-data>

The Independent: 2nd April 2010

OS maps: No.1 in the charts since 1747

Now its maps are available on the web, Jonathan Brown plots a path through the history of the Ordnance Survey

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/this-britain/os-maps-no-1-in-the-charts-since-1747-1934059.html>

GIS in Education: 2nd April 2010

OS OpenData Launches

<http://www.educationgis.com/2010/04/os-opendata-launches.html>

Primary Geographies Blog: Friday, 2 April 2010

Open Data: new map site from the Ordnance Survey

<http://primarygeogblog.blogspot.com/2010/04/open-data-new-map-site-from-ordnance.html>

Bird Forum: 2nd April 2010

Ordnance Survey Open Data

<http://www.birdforum.net/showthread.php?s=5d52927e6b7664b5d16bdba1ebcec8fa&p=1779328#post1779328>

Whitespider1066 Blog: 2nd April 2010

Ordnance Survey Screws Walkers

http://whitespider1066.com/2010/04/ordnance-survey-screws-walkers/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=ordnance-survey-screws-walkers

ESRI Mapping Centre Blog: 2nd April 2010

Ordnance Survey Data Released for Free on the OS OpenData Web Site

<http://blogs.esri.com/Support/blogs/mappingcenter/archive/2010/04/02/Ordnance-Survey-Data-Released-for-Free-on-the-OS-OpenData-Web-Site.aspx>

Unlock: 2nd April 2010

Work in progress with OS Open Data

<http://unlockdata.wordpress.com/2010/04/02/work-in-progress/>

Related news topics

UK OpenData licences based on CC

UK Government responds on Ordnance Survey free products

Impact Assessment of OS OpenData™ announcement

Metadata: UK

Theme: 2

Keywords: OS OpenData, geographic information, data.gov.uk

Title:

Sweden's Parliament goes OpenData! 2nd April 2010

Source:

Parliament, Sweden and via news tweet from Fredrik Sand of Stockholm Chambers of Commerce

Introduction:

Sweden's Parliament invests in syndication service - Riksdagen satsar på syndikeringsstjänst

Body:

Stockholm: 26 March 2010

Sweden's Parliament has announced that over 165000 documents held by the Parliament have been opened up for society to re-use.

http://riksdagen.se/Webbnav/index.aspx?nid=45&sq=1&ID=jhxmhc7DA_3_20

The press release titled: *Riksdagen satsar på syndikeringsstjänst* (Approx. English translation):

<http://data.riksdagen.se/>

"Parliament invests in syndication service

Introducing a new syndication service - data.riksdagen.se. It makes it possible to download content from the parliamentary databases. Here are details on the members, voting and decision.

- Now we make the Parliament more accessible databases. We make it possible for users to retrieve and reuse content in a way that suits them best, "says Karin Hedman, CIO at the Riksdag Administration.

The service is aimed mainly at users who want to develop their own solutions with content from the parliamentary databases. It may, for example to build a website for the general election or to find out how a member voted in recent years. You can also create your own alerts by subject with RSS.

The databases containing over 165 000 records, for example, parliamentary decisions, government bills, motions and minutes of the House.

Open interface with simple Web technologies

The service makes it possible to download content to regular Web pages. Here you can follow links to pages with additional information. Formats are XML and JSON.

The service is now being launched to invite users to test and provide feedback. Data.riksdagen.se developed continuously with more content and more features.

Surf to any of the following pages to begin to syndicate:

- * Form of the document search*
- * List of all members since 1990"*

Related news topics

Major reforms announced in Sweden
Sweden: new law on PSI reuse published!

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Metadata: Sweden

Theme: 2

Keywords: Open, Parliament

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Title:

2nd ECN Brief published! 2nd April 2010

Source:

European Commission (EC) - European Competition Network (ECN)

Introduction:

European Competition Network publishes second edition of newsletter on competition authorities' activities

Body:

Brussels: 31 March 2010

The European Competition Network ([ECN](#)) has [published](#) the second **ECN Brief 02/2010** for the period December 2009 to March 2010

The contents of brief include:

- Enforcement & Cases
- Legislation & Policy
- Other issues of interest
- ECN Members' websites
- ECN statistics

The brief reports on the second annual conference on competition enforcement in the recently acceded Member States that will be held in Brno, Czech Republic on the 23rd April 2010.

<http://www.eccompetitionlaw.eu/index.php>

The conference announcement states:

“Countries that recently acceded to the European Union have long history with competition law. Most of these countries also represent smaller, open market economies, which have faced a rapid privatisation process. Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary have also endured several common historical events that make them face similar market situations and problems including inter alia excessive pricing, bid rigging, refusal to access as well as issues related to the current financial crisis.”

The program will consider amongst others the following topics:

http://www.eccompetitionlaw.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1&Itemid=4

- Development of Competition Enforcement - important decisions
- Merger control
- Economic analysis in competition law
- Vertical agreements

Related news topics

1st ECN Brief published!

Metadata: Europe

Theme: 1

Keywords: Competition

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Title:

We are becoming the worlds leader! 1st April 2010

Source:

Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), UK

Introduction:

Access to Ordnance Survey data will drive innovation and change

Body:

London: 31 March 2010

The UK Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has published a press release titled: John Denham: *Access to Ordnance Survey data will drive innovation and change*. The press release includes a short video of the Minister announcing OS OpenData™.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1529556>

The announcement states:

A historic milestone on the road towards transforming Britain into a 21st century digital economy was reached today as Communities Secretary John Denham announced that fundamental Ordnance Survey data would be made available to the public for free.

Members of the public, entrepreneurs and social organisations will now be able to access certain Ordnance Survey data and use it for applications such 'Fix My Street' or crime mapping - practical systems focused on driving improvements locally. These changes aim to drive new markets and unlock new potential for jobs in existing and new technologies.

From its origins as a military mapping organisation, Ordnance Survey will now play a key role in transforming Britain into a modern, 21st century digital economy. Following extensive consultation, Communities Secretary John Denham today announced that information relating to administrative boundaries, postcode areas and mid-scale mapping will now be made freely available for use and re-use.

The move has been welcomed by Sir Tim Berners-Lee OBE, the inventor of the World Wide Web and the head of the new Institute of Web Science announced by the Prime Minister last week. He said:

"I'm delighted that the Ordnance Survey is releasing this data for free re-use. It will help people make fuller use of other government data on data.gov.uk, as well as stimulating innovation in mapping itself."

The opening up of Ordnance Survey data will also unlock real potential for innovation in the private sector. Start ups and companies not currently active in the geographical information market could deliver new products by adding data or information they might have themselves or from elsewhere, including other Government data, to 'mash' with the free for re-use data from Ordnance Survey to create new commercial products.

Communities Secretary John Denham welcomed the changes saying:

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"This shows the UK is at the cutting edge of a digital revolution. The move to free up public data encourages fresh thinking - people re-using information in different and more imaginative ways than may have originally been intended. A seemingly endless stream of new applications and websites continues to show the potential of combining information, creative vision and digital technology.

"Increasing access to Ordnance Survey data will attract a new wave of entrepreneurs and result in new solutions to old problems that will benefit us all. It will also drive a new industry, creating new jobs and driving future growth.

"The changes signal a wider cultural change in Government based on an assumption that information should be in the public domain unless there is a good reason not to - not the other way around. Greater openness, accountability and transparency in Government will give people greater choice and make it easier for individuals to get more directly involved in issues that matter to them."

Sir Rob Margetts CBE, Ordnance Survey's Non-Executive Chairman, adds:

"The launch of OS OpenData has been made possible because of the Government's commitment to providing ongoing funding to support this data package, in order to ensure a sustainable Ordnance Survey for the future, for which I am thankful. This is fundamental to maintaining the quality of the data for which Ordnance Survey is globally renowned."

Professor Nigel Shadbolt, University of Southampton, Co-Director of the Institute for Web Science and Government Information Advisor, has also welcomed the move:

"OS OpenData makes critical geographic information freely available to all of us. Our goal has been to facilitate innovation and reuse, to allow everyone the opportunity to enrich this valuable public data."

The modified datasets to be released have been renamed OS OpenData™. This will provide access to a range of Ordnance Survey data free of charge and without restrictions on use and re-use. The following Ordnance Survey datasets will be released for free on 1st April 2010:

- OS Street View®
- 1:50,000 Gazetteer
- 1:250,000 Scale Colour Raster
- OS Locator™
- Boundary-Line™
- Code-Point® Open
- Meridian™ 2
- Strategi®
- MiniScale®
- OS VectorMap™ District (available 1 May 2010)
- Land-Form PANORAMA®

Vanessa Lawrence CB, Director General and Chief Executive of Ordnance Survey, said:

"Over the past few months we have been working extremely hard to put in place all the steps which were necessary in order to deliver the Prime Minister's objective. I believe that OS OpenData delivers on that vision, providing a wide range of Ordnance Survey mapping for reuse and without restriction.

"Since the release of the public consultation we have seen the launch of Data.gov.uk which demonstrates how important high quality and well maintained geography is in enabling data from different sources to be linked, used and understood. I am therefore pleased that Ordnance Survey data, long recognised as world class, for currency, accuracy and quality, has been identified as having a fundamental role to play as key to underpinning in the future growth of the Smarter Government and Making Public Data Public initiatives."

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Related news topics

UK OpenData licences based on CC
Impact Assessment of OS OpenData™ announcement
UK Government responds on Ordnance Survey free products

Metadata: UK

Theme: 2

Keywords: OS OpenData

Title:

UK OpenData licences based on CC. 1st April 2010

Source:

PerSpectIves blog (OPSI), UK

Introduction:

UK OPSI provide an update on Licensing and data.gov.uk and OpenData

Body:

London: 1 April 2010

The UK Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI) has posted on the PerSpective blog an update on licensing of public sector information in the UK.

<http://perspectives.opsi.gov.uk/2010/04/licensing-and-datagovuk-further-developments.html>

The announcement states:

“Licensing and data.gov.uk – further developments

Since our last update, work has been continuing behind the scenes on the development of a new licensing model for government information. The latest step has seen us working closely with Ordnance Survey on a new licence covering the use of OS OpenDataTM.

Our joint aim has been to make sure that the OS OpenDataTM licence terms and conditions correspond with those on data.gov.uk and that these terms are in line with the Government’s commitment to “establish a common licence to re-use data which is interoperable with the internationally recognised Creative Commons model”.

The new licence terms go live on the Ordnance Survey and data.gov.uk websites today.”
(1st April 2010)

<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/opendata/licence/>
<http://data.gov.uk/terms-and-conditions>

ORDNANCE SURVEY OpenData LICENCE Terms and Conditions V1.0 April 2010
(PDF Format 2 pages)

DATA.GOV.UK Terms and Conditions (as at 1 April 2010)

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