Open Data Islands and Communities

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Open Data

everyone is doing it

Governments, Cities, local gov.

Big Data does it with MapReduce
Semantic Data does it with RDF

In C21 Data is Power
why not an island?

island data flows

rest of the world

other communities

groups and individuals

Community

1

2

3

4
island data flows from community to world

rest of the world

Community

• visibility and control
• identity and empowerment
• level of detail
• local knowledge

island data flows from world to community

rest of the world

Community

• making the most of open data
• local decision making
• lobbying and negotiation
island data flows
within the community

- gossip is not enough!
- sparse, dispersed population
- social cohesion and economic benefits

island data flows
between communities

- sharing best practice
- brand presence
- interlinked data
small may be beautiful
but ... 

barriers and challenges

expertise and resources

“I don’t know if any public sector has necessarily cracked the nut on attracting the right skills and capabilities,” ...

“The commercial sector has, because they’ve got the dollars to spend.” (Ian Bartram, Gartner)

activists – often (semi) retirees
busy life style – multiple jobs and roles
barriers and challenges

expertise and resources

reusable data flows
"create solutions that are easily reuseable in other European cities” (aims, Code for Europe)

even more important for small communities
meta-data: find and make sense of local data
reusable apps, data access portals, ...

barriers and challenges

expertise and resources
reusable data flows
interaction design
limited broadband and mobile connectivity
ease of access without technical support
standard formats for data entry (e.g. spreadsheet)
bespoke but reusable apps/plugins, ...
barriers and challenges

- expertise and resources
- reusable data flows
- interaction design
- heterogeneous multi-source data
  - make apps fit people’s data formats
  - long tail of small data
  - provenance

in summary ... benefits to:

the community
- empowerment and control
- availability of information
- communication within and between communities

the world
- improved quality of data
- level of detail of data
- local knowledge and understanding