

2012 INTERNATIONAL OPEN GOVERNMENT DATA CONFERENCE



Best of the Lightning Talks

Tariq Khokhar and Jeanne Holm

@tkb and @JeanneHolm

Organized by the World Bank and Data.gov

Key Ideas



- 6-7 July featured a virtual IOGDC
- 29 papers in two days
- Topics ranged from
 - Understanding open data and open government
 - Internationalization
 - Standards and interoperability
 - Visualizing data
 - Innovating through challenges



UNDERSTANDING OPEN DATA AND OPEN GOVERNMENT

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Open Government Data: Not Only for the Happy Few?



- Katleen Janssen
 - Need to balance the tsunami of data and with contextual information
 - Data is the tool, but not the goal
 - While open data is good, only a minority of people can really use it
 - Keep in mind developing nations and digital divides



Open Data in Russia



- Ivan Begtin
 - Hot topic in Russia
 - Working towards best practices, ideas, and tools
 - One challenge: Russian procurement data changing Latin to Cyrillic letters, making it difficult to search and hard for the public to read



Being Open About Data—An Analysis of the British Open Data Policies



- Antti Halonen
 - UK decision to publish all spending data more than £25,000
 - Demands of capturing and publishing spending data can punish local commitment to making it transparent
 - Politics of open data
 - [http://finnish-institutue.org.uk/
images/stories/pdf2012/being
%20open%20about%20data.pdf](http://finnish-institutue.org.uk/images/stories/pdf2012/being%20open%20about%20data.pdf)



Role of Data in Transparency and Accountability—Recovery.gov

- Gaurav Paul
 - Recovery.gov shows insight to how recovery money is used
 - Government needs to be accountable for effective communication with the public
 - Phones are still a useful means of communication
 - Provide strong geospatial analysis to track money



CENDI: Breaking Down Silos in Scientific and Technical Information



- Bonnie Carroll
 - CENDI
 - Interagency group manages cooperation
 - Science.gov as a big silo buster
 - Complex scientific and technical information landscape needs to be better harvested for open data
 - Records, archives, and data interaction



Moving Towards a More Open Culture

- Giovanni Carnaroli
 - Develop an open data infrastructure by selecting high-value data and then releasing it
 - The shift is from “ownership” of data to “access” to data
 - Need for transparency, participation, and collaboration by agencies



Crowdsource Congress: Making Facts More Influential



- Lorelei Kelly
 - Transparency data show information, but lacks accountability
 - Congress needs to be modernized
 - Comparing how legislative bodies are working with experts and expertise
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Bb7zSsfNXo>





INTERNATIONALIZATION

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Open Data at the World Bank



- Tariq Khokhar
- World Bank Open Data Initiative:
 - Access to development data, finances, maps, projects, performance assessments, operations, etc.
 - World Bank methods and thought processes made transparent.
 - It's not what you do, it's how you do it
 - Open Access Policy
 - Data where the people are
 - Sites build on public data
 - data.worldbank.org

The screenshot shows the World Bank's Data section homepage. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for English, Español, Français, Русский, 中文, and Arabic. Below this is another navigation bar with tabs for Home, About, DATA (which is highlighted in red), Research, Learning, News, Projects & Operations, Publications, Countries, and Topics. A red banner with the word "Data" is prominently displayed. Below the banner, there are several news items and statistics. One news item is about the Apps for CLIMATE competition, featuring a photo of a group of people. Another news item is about a conversation with Zoellick about Open Data. There are also sections for "Updates" (with links to Exporter Dynamics Database and Global Financial Inclusion) and "Open Data Services" (with statistics like 8,000+ time series indicators in dataBank, 850+ datasets in Finances, 11,000+ activities in Projects & Operations, and 700+ surveys in Microdata).

Kenya Open Data Initiative



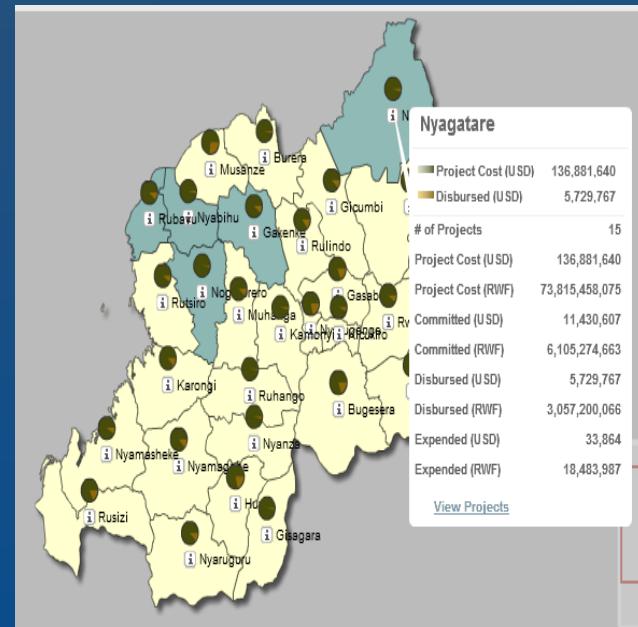
- Cam Caldwell
 - Goals of KODI (Kenya Open Data Initiative)
 - Modernize the way Kenya uses and shares information
 - Make data easy to find, explore, use, and visualize
 - Organizations engage with audiences
 - Empower developers
 - Work on single platform to present information



Development Assistance—Managing for Development Results



- Arshak Hovanesian
 - People can report and visualize aid to specific regions
 - Monitor donor performance against aid effectiveness indicators
 - Indonesia, Rwanda, and Sri Lanka are all benefitting from the insights gained





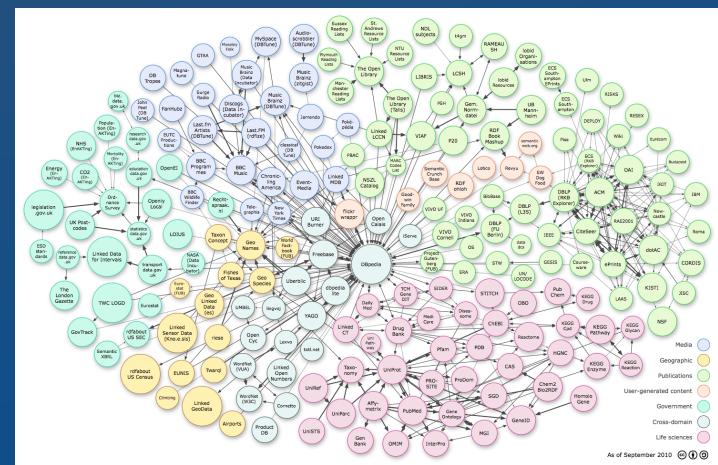
INTEROPERABILITY AND STANDARDS

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Advanced Technologies for Open Government Data



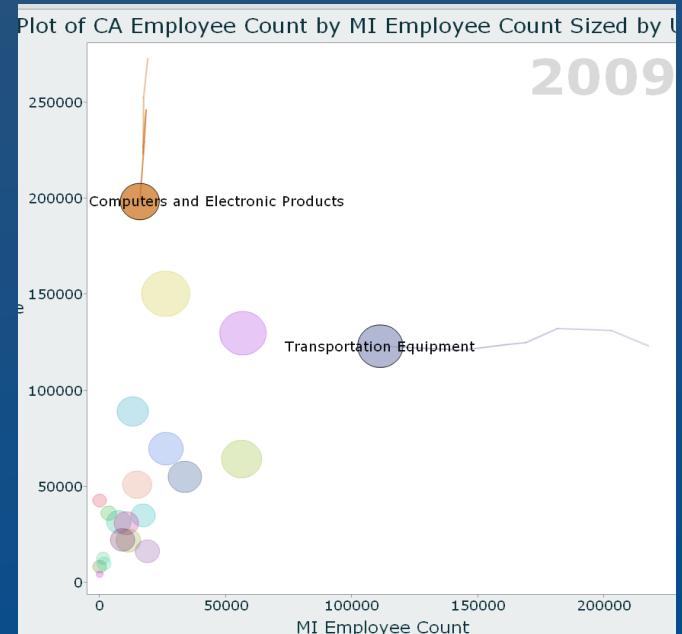
- Jim Hendler
 - Data mashups let us create linked data
 - Comparing US and China GDP example shows how multiple datasets create better data
 - Metadata gathers more information (Kenya water map)



Unlocking Organizational Data



- Jim Harbour
 - Need to turn locked data into intelligence to drive innovation
 - Metadata = Roadmap
 - Data Access API = Vehicle
 - Data Products = Destinations
 - Manufacturing in Michigan compared with manufacturing in California



Key Elements for Open Government Accountability and Interoperability



- Carlos Jimenez
 - Open metadata is strategic
 - Spain's open data activities want to be a guide with good open practices at every point
 - Use agreed upon taxonomies, vocabularies, and open metadata



An Instant Open Data API



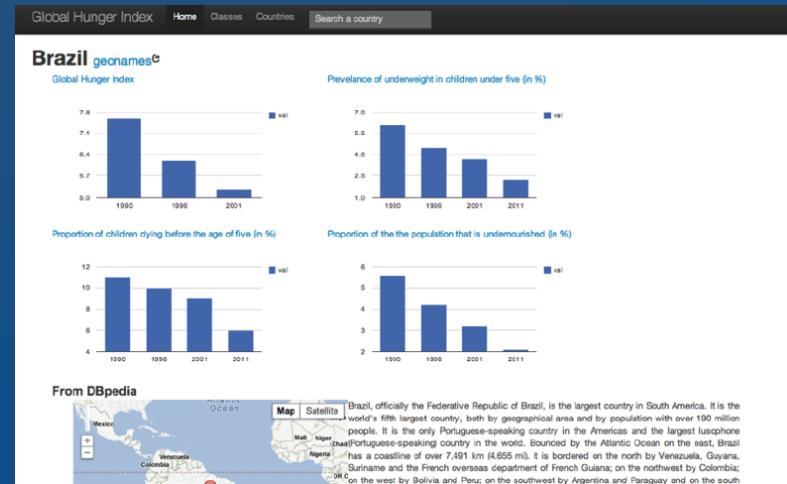
- Chris Metcalf
 - Open data is messy
 - Developers receive very raw form of data
 - APIs are more developer friendly
 - Data augmentation simple with SODA
 - Easy to make maps with data (auto geospatial implementation)
 - Easily searchable



Publishing and Using Linked Open Government Data with LODSPeakr



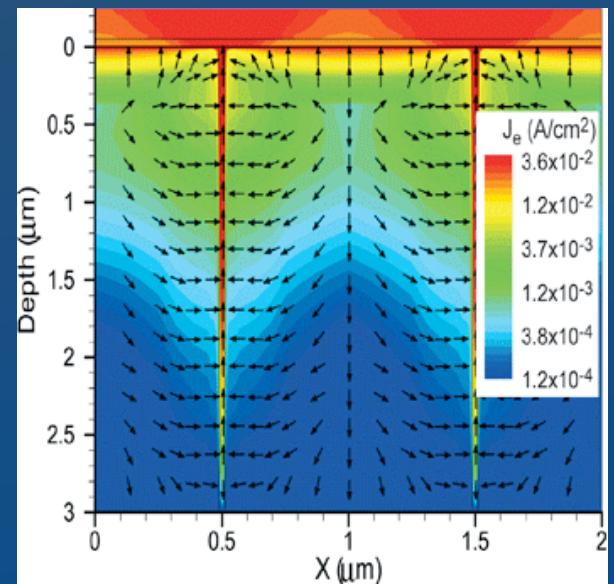
- Alvaro Graves
- LODSPeakr (Linked Open Data Simple Publishing Kit)
 - Tool to create webapps based on linked data
 - Users can define what and how data is displayed
 - Small learning curve



Computational Models for Open Data



- Roy Hyunjin Han
 - Need for computational science in the public sector
 - Not enough to publish results of the model, model itself needs to be accessible and available





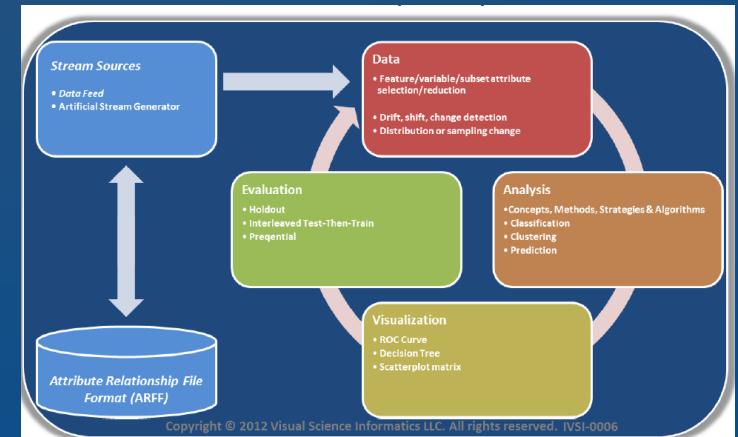
VISUALIZING DATA

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Visual Analytics Framework



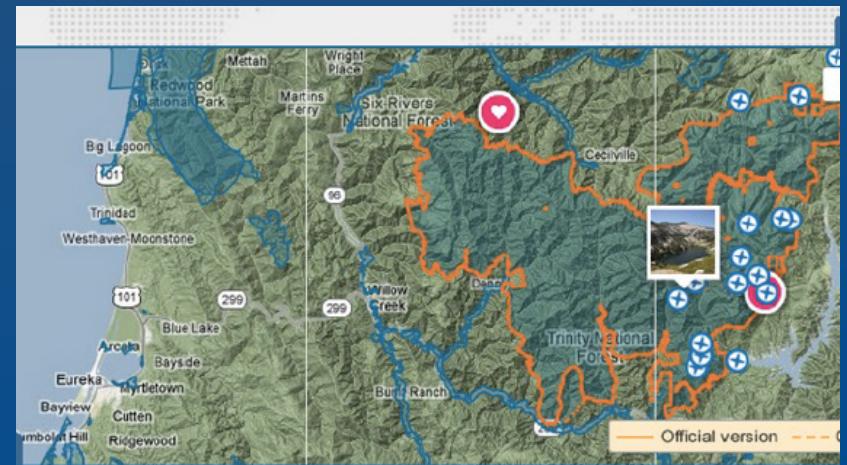
- Yair G. Rajwan
 - Data quality and data decay can be visualized with a framework
 - Workflow is a key
 - Workflow context
 - Exploration
 - Modeling
 - Statistical reporting
 - Forecasting predictions



How Working With Geospatial Data Can Be a Joy and Not a Pain



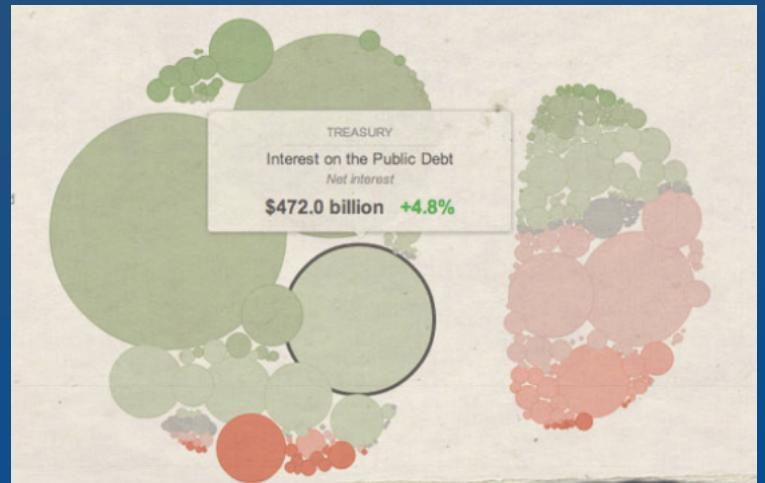
- Javier de la Torre
 - Current tools make it difficult to synchronize work and handle large amounts of data
 - Geospatial data and CartODB can be used to help make sense
 - Solution: open data in reusable ways and provide in raw data formats



Making the Federal Budget Easy to Understand: Visual Budget



- Eric Hochhalter
 - Visualizations to help understand data
 - Data tells stories
 - Great visuals can change the world (Florence Nightingale's visualizations of infection)
 - We will always connect large numbers to personal experience
 - <http://www.visualbudget.org>





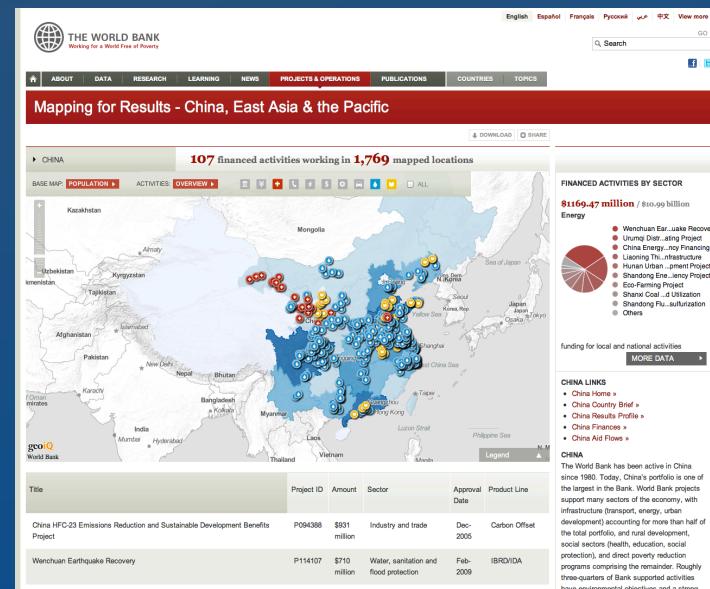
PUTTING THE DATA TO WORK

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Tracking Corruption with Open Data Initiatives and Technology



- Ashwin Jayaram
 - Corruption can be battled by systems that
 - Track funds and ...
 - Provide citizen engagement and feedback systems
 - Still making connections amongst data and outcomes



GHDx—Improving Discoverability and Accessibility of Health-Related Data



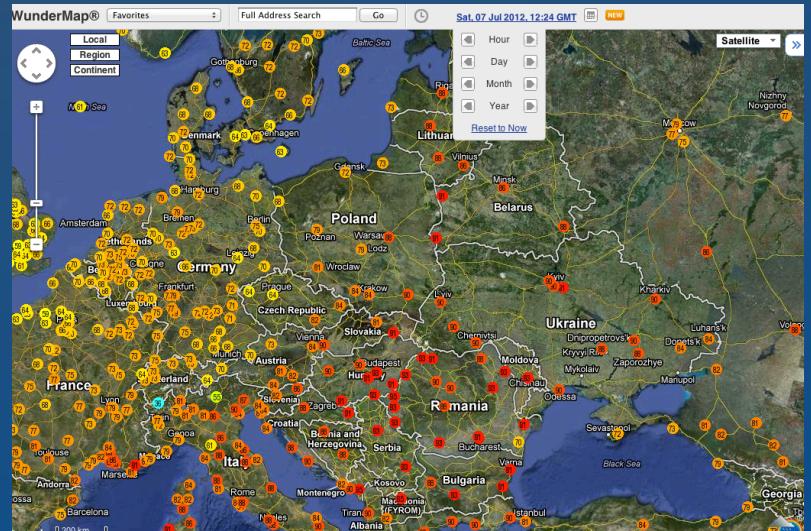
- Bill Heisel
 - Platform for data owners to share their data with the public
 - Specialized data catalogue → simplified data finding
 - [http://
www.healthmetricsandevaluation.
org/ghdx](http://www.healthmetricsandevaluation.org/ghdx)



Weather Underground



- John Celenza
 - Severe weather warnings allow people to react appropriately to threats
 - Internationalization: MeteoAlarm (EUMetNet)
 - Need shared models and standards
 - <http://www.wunderground.com/>



Holder de ord: Introducing Monetary Democracy to Norway



- Daniel Rees
 - Connecting voting data and democracy
 - Use case: War in Afghanistan
 - Making sense of intricacies in the parliamentary system
 - How to weight significance of topics
 - Collaborative efforts with array of other international governments

The war in Afghanistan

Property tax

Wage regulations

Legislative Transparency: A Round Up of Efforts and Results to Date



- Karen Suhaka and Josh Tauber
 - Need for Transparency
 - Citizen replacing journalist to become information mediator
 - Open Government Business Models
 - Contribute your own open government business model at: [/bit.ly/OGBizModel](http://bit.ly/OGBizModel)



Driving Innovation Through Open Data



- Jeanne Holm
 - 450,000 datasets from 172 agencies
 - 13 communities like energy and safety bring experts from the public, academia, industry, and government
 - Drive innovation through challenges and new data
 - Advanced technologies make data more accessible and discoverable

The screenshot shows the DATA.GOV homepage with a dark blue header and various sections:

- Header:** DATA.GOV (with a globe icon), HOME, DATA, APPS, COMMUNITY, METRICS, OPEN DATA SITES, GALLERY, WHAT'S NEW.
- WHAT'S NEW:** Earthquake and Tsunami Datasets and Information, Worldwide M+ Earthquakes, Past 7 Days, RadNet Map Interface for Near-Real-Time Radiation Monitoring Data, Search other related datasets, World Earthquake Interactive Map Demo.
- SEARCH OUR CATALOGS:** Search bar and SEARCH button.
- RADNET:** RADNET is a national network of monitoring stations that regularly collect air, precipitation, drinking water, and milk samples for analysis of radioactivity.
- DATA AND APPS:** 379,931 raw and geospatial datasets, 964 government apps, 236 citizen-developed apps, 44 mobile apps, 172 agencies and subagencies, Suggest a dataset or app!, 2011 Next Generation Data.gov is interactive, explorable, and social.
- COMMUNITIES:** Come explore, discuss, meet others in the same field, and develop the data and apps in the community that you care about. Join in the discussions by going to communities before that interest you.
- OPEN GOVERNMENT:** Latest News: Japanese Earthquake and Radiation Data, Real-time alerts and data related to the earthquakes off the coast of Japan and radiation levels in US, What's coming up on Data.gov? Check out: Sonny's blog.
- LEARN:** Are you a teacher, professor, or student? Young people across America are learning about Data.gov and we want you to be part of getting data into the classrooms.
- SEMANTIC WEB:** As the Web of linked documents evolves to include the Web of linked data, we're working to maximize the potential of semantic technologies to realize the promise of Linked Open Government Data. We and our collaborators at the Tetherless World Constellation at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute are helping to lead the way in this exciting area!
- DEVELOPER'S CORNER:** Are you interested in sharing your mashups, apps, and ideas? Do you want to learn how to develop and publish some of the data hosted here on Data.gov? Whether you are here to share, learn, collaborate, or innovate—you've come to the right place!
- FOOTER:** About, FAQ, Contact Info, Data Policy, Accessibility, Privacy Policy, Sitemap, DATA.GOV.



RISE OF THE CHALLENGES

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USAID Food Security Challenge



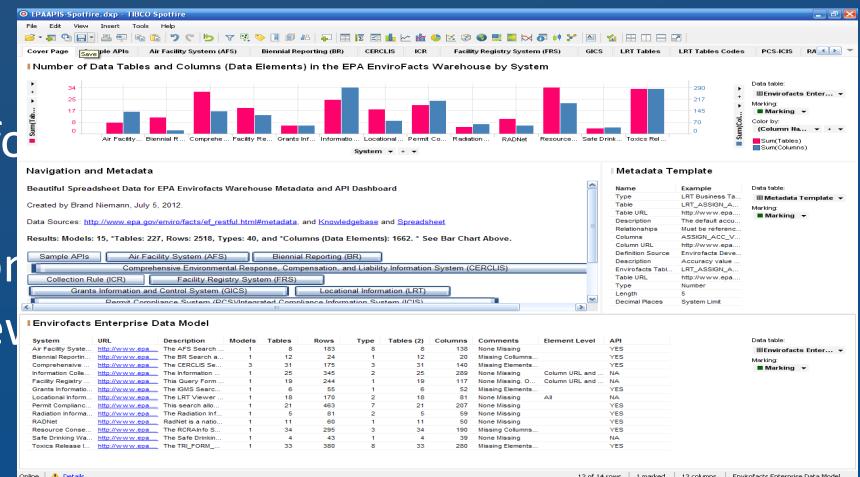
- Kat Townsend
 - Develop apps to increase food security
 - “The best way for people to have impact is for people to learn from their peers”
 - “Crowdsourcing the questions and crowdsourcing the solutions”
 - Three Ideation Jams leading to a Code-a-thon and a Data Palooza
- <http://idea.usaid.gov/g8>



Department of Commerce App Challenge



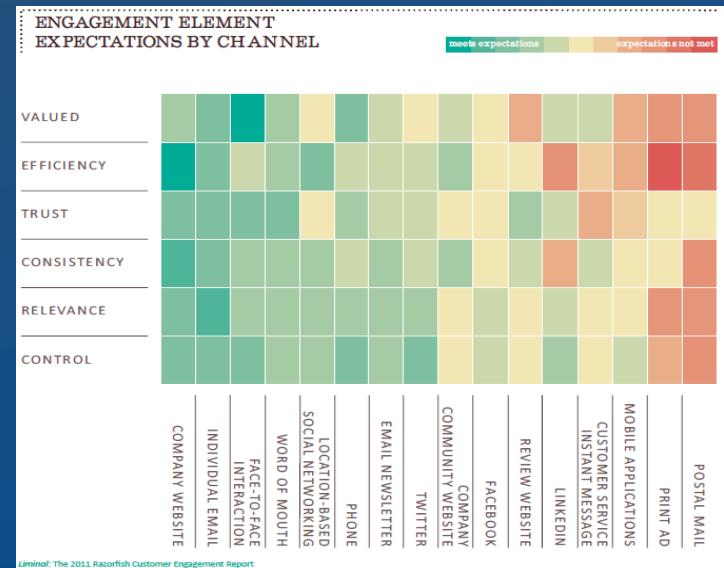
- Brand Niemann
 - Information Platform is the critical infrastructure component for building a Learning Organization
 - Most critical human component for accelerating the learning process and making use of the Information Platform is take the shape of a new role: The Data Scientist



Managing The Citizen Experience In An Open Government



- Sid Burgess
 - Understand the avenues of citizen engagement and exploit them
 - Engage rather than just build
 - Focus on your data purpose

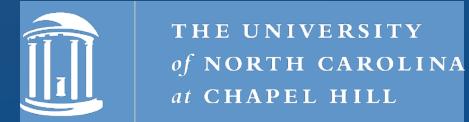


Changing Science—New Data for Understanding the Human Condition



- Barbara Entwistle
 - OECD Expert Group on Data and Research Infrastructure for the Social Sciences
 - Understand research potential
 - Discover and access data
 - Ethical issues arise from new forms of data
 - Data linkage and integration
 - Improve incentives for internationalization

E·S·R·C
ECONOMIC
& SOCIAL
RESEARCH
COUNCIL



Challenge.Gov— Investing in Innovation



- Tammi Marcoullier
 - Stimulate private sector investment
 - Improve skills of the participants
 - Free to all Fed agencies
 - Full end-to-end platform
 - More than 100 challenges
 - Millions of dollars



Summary



- The virtual conference kickstarted the online conversations
- The Open Data Tutorial yesterday got people thinking
- We welcome you to an amazing week ahead
- Participate, share, and be inspired!