

ple, including the governments of many states and large cities in the US, countries like Canada, Ireland, Norway, Australia, and New Zealand, and citizen-initiatives have started in countries such as France, Italy, Denmark, Austria, Germany, and many others. Perhaps the most significant take-up has been in the UK, where <http://data.gov.uk> has received strong support from the government, and where it is seen as not only a step towards more transparent government, but also a cost-reduction mechanism. Instead of building and maintaining expensive websites with governmental information, the government simply publishes the underlying data sources and encourages third parties (be it either citizens or commercial parties) to develop services on top of these published data sources. In the US alone, over 200 applications built by third parties have been reported. Such notable applications from around the world include a safety map of bicycle routes, information for home buyers about their new neighborhoods, a school finder, a nursery finder, pollution alerts, a regional expenditure map, and WhereDidMyTaxGo.¹⁶

Finally, intergovernmental agencies are following the same path, such as the World Bank (data.worldbank.org), the European Commission's website for European tendering procedures (ted.europa.eu), and the European statistics office Eurostat (ec.europa.eu/eurostat/).

6.5 *New York Times*

Since 1913, the *New York Times* has been maintaining an index of all subjects on which it has published. This has grown into a collection of almost 30,000 “subject headings,” describing locations, people, organizations, and events. Every article in the *New York Times* since its first appearance in 1851 has been tagged with these subject headings, and such tags are being used to provide news-alerting services, to automate the editorial process, and to build “topic pages” that collect all *New York Times* information for a

¹⁶<http://www.wheredidmytaxgo.co.uk/>.