



## D5.8 SYMPOSIUM SUMMARY

### PROJECT

Acronym: **OpenDataMonitor**

Title: Monitoring, Analysis and Visualisation of Open Data Catalogues, Hubs and Repositories

Coordinator: SYNYO GmbH

Reference: **611988**

Type: Collaborative project

Programme: FP7-ICT

Start: November 2013

Duration: 24 months

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**Open Data Institute**, Research Department, UK, (ODI)

**Athena Research and Innovation Center**, IMIS, Greece, (ATHENA)

**University of Southampton**, Web and Internet Science Group, UK, (SOTON)

**Potsdam eGovernment Competence Center**, Research Department, Germany, (IFG.CC)

**City of Munich**, Department of Labor and Economic Development, Germany, (MUNICH)

**Entidad Publica Empresarial Red.es**, Shared Service Department, Spain, (RED.ES)

## DELIVERABLE

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**Disclaimer:** The content of this publication is the sole responsibility of the authors, and in no way represents the view of the European Commission or its services.

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## 1 INTRODUCTION



**Figure 1.1:** Bernhard Jäger (SYNYO) opens the ODM Symposium

At the outset of the [OpenDataMonitor project](#) we wanted to ensure that both the research undertaken and [the platform](#) developed met the needs of the various open data actors in the community. We were also committed to a targeted dissemination strategy that achieved maximum impact.

In addition to sharing our insights and findings, we were determined that the project not be developed in isolation, but formed part of a wider 'pipeline' of tools and resources to support the open data community. Creating a product that would educate and inform users and continue to be resourced after project completion was a significant component of our exploitation and sustainability strategy. In short, we wanted to create a sustainable legacy.



### 3 SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS AND ATTENDEES

To lead and steer these topics of discussion and reflect on the use of open data in a number of sectors and industries, the ODI produced a stimulating agenda and invited speakers from the ODM's external expert and advisory board (EEAB) and external open data experts. These speakers accompanied our own ODM consortium partners to present to the assembled group. ODM symposium speakers included:

- Ben Unsworth, Socrata (SME, industry expert, member of the ODM EEAB)
- Clifford McDowell, Doorda (start-up, industry expert)
- Jamie Whyte, Trafford City Council (public sector, data developer, data visualisation)
- Anneza Pitsalis, ODI (node network)
- Orsola De Marco, ODI (start-ups)
- Dr Tom Heath, ODM consortium
- Dr Elena Simperl, ODM consortium
- Bernhard Jäger, ODM consortium

*Tim Davies (Open Data Research Network alumni and expert researcher was also an invited speaker but had to send his apologies on the day).*



**Figure 3.1: A captivated audience tweet about the event**

All ODM consortium partners were present with the exception of MUNICH and ATHENA. To provide additional support for technical questions developers of ATHENA and SYNIO were available for a live ‘technical chat’ in the form of a [collaborative, open google document](#) where attendees could pose questions to our technical team.

Over 50 attendees attended the symposium including: policy makers and public sector representatives, both at a national and local level (Government Digital Services (GDS), National Audit Office (NAO), Surrey County Council), open data portal owners (Data.gov.uk), researchers and academics, start-ups and SMEs (Demand Logic, Spend Network), developers and open data consultants and enthusiasts also joined us on the day.

## 4 EVENT PROCEEDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Amanda Smith of the ODI chaired the event and our speakers created a stimulating dialogue. Bernhard Jäger from SYNNO opened the symposium, setting the scene and explaining the challenges in measuring and monitoring open data catalogues. Bernhard gave detailed explanations, accompanied by polished demonstrations to highlight all of the platform’s functionality to the audience.



**The Challenges**

**Current Open Data Challenges**

- Numerous organisations and public bodies already publish open data or currently start to do so but use different systems and vocabularies.
- Open data of relevant stakeholders is stored either on a local, regional, national or pan-European level.
- Entered metadata is often incomplete or inconsistent.
- On all levels the open data landscape is very fractured and has many planning problems and challenges:
  - Which categories?
  - Quality of data?
  - Which gaps?

**The OpenDataMonitor Consortium**

1. SYNNO GmbH  
Research and Development Department  
Vienna, Austria
2. Open Data Institute  
Research Department  
London, UK
3. Athena Research Center  
Institute of Management Information Systems  
Athens, Greece
4. University of Southampton  
Web and Internet Science Group  
Southampton, UK
5. IGGC Potsdam eGovernment Competence Center  
Research Department  
Potsdam, Germany
6. CITY OF MUNICH  
City of Munich  
Department of Labor and Economic Development  
Munich, Germany
7. red.es  
Entidad Publica Empresarial Red.es  
Shared Services Department  
Madrid, Spain

**The Objectives**

**Main Objectives of OpenDataMonitor**

- open data analysis and monitoring tool with intuitive dashboards and visualisations.
- research on open data topologies, sources, parameters and categorisation models.
- Identify technologies, processes and methods on open data monitoring as well as open data stakeholder requirements.
- scalable open data monitoring concept using metadata, parameters and key-indicators.

Figure 4.1: Presentation of challenges and objectives of ODM

**Overview**

THE OPENDATAMONITOR ALLOWS YOU TO:

- better understand the European Open Data landscape
- find data catalogues and datasets
- analyse and visualise available metadata
- compare countries and catalogues
- reveal hidden potential on existing resources
- access the raw data

Download data

315 data catalogues collected | 733,400 datasets collected  
 161 harmonised data catalogues | 283,200 datasets collected  
 27 countries + International | 1,240 datasets collected  
 3 platform [CKAN, Socrata, HTML] | 4,040 datasets collected

**Country Dashboard**

Germany

Overall quality score is 55% measured in 2015.

75% Open Access | 56% Machine readable | 26% Open metadata | 63% Open licenses

catalogues harvested from Germany

**Catalogue Dashboard**

opendata-hro\_de ✓

Ranked #6 in Germany based on the overall quality metric. Measured in August 2015.

100% Open Access | 100% Machine readable | 100% Open metadata | 75% Open licenses

20 Open Access | 119 Machine readable | 3 251 GB Open metadata

Quality Indicators: Open licenses, Machine readable, Open access, Open metadata

Quantity Indicators: Dataset number, Distribution number, Distribution size, Unique providers

Learn more about each data catalogue

**List of Datasets / Dataset Details**

data.gv.at

City of Munich red.es

**Compare Catalogues**

Catalogue Comparison

Coverage

Overall Quality Score

Quality Indicators: Open licenses, Machine readable, Open access, Open metadata

Quantity Indicators: Dataset number, Distribution number, Distribution size, Unique providers

Compare metrics of two or more catalogues

City of Munich red.es

Figure 4.2: Opening slides to explain and demonstrate the ODM platform.

Tom Heath (ODI) followed Bernhard, presenting the metrics adopted in the platform. Tom demonstrated the approach taken to analyse open data both in terms of quality and quantity and outlined some of the limitations and future possibilities. We followed this with a Q&A panel with members from the consortium and a lively discussion about the concepts tackled in the project.



**Figure 4.3: Bernhard Jäger (SYNYO) and Sirko Hunnius (IFG.CC) take questions from the audience**

External speakers were also invited to discuss how open data is being adopted by start-ups, ODI nodes around the world, start-ups (Doorda), industry (Socrata) and local public sector (Trafford Council). We collected feedback from attendees using feedback forms and through post-event networking.

*“Thank you for inviting me - it was a fabulous, insightful, engaging event. Make sure you invite me to the next one!” - Antonio Acuna, Head of Data.gov.uk*

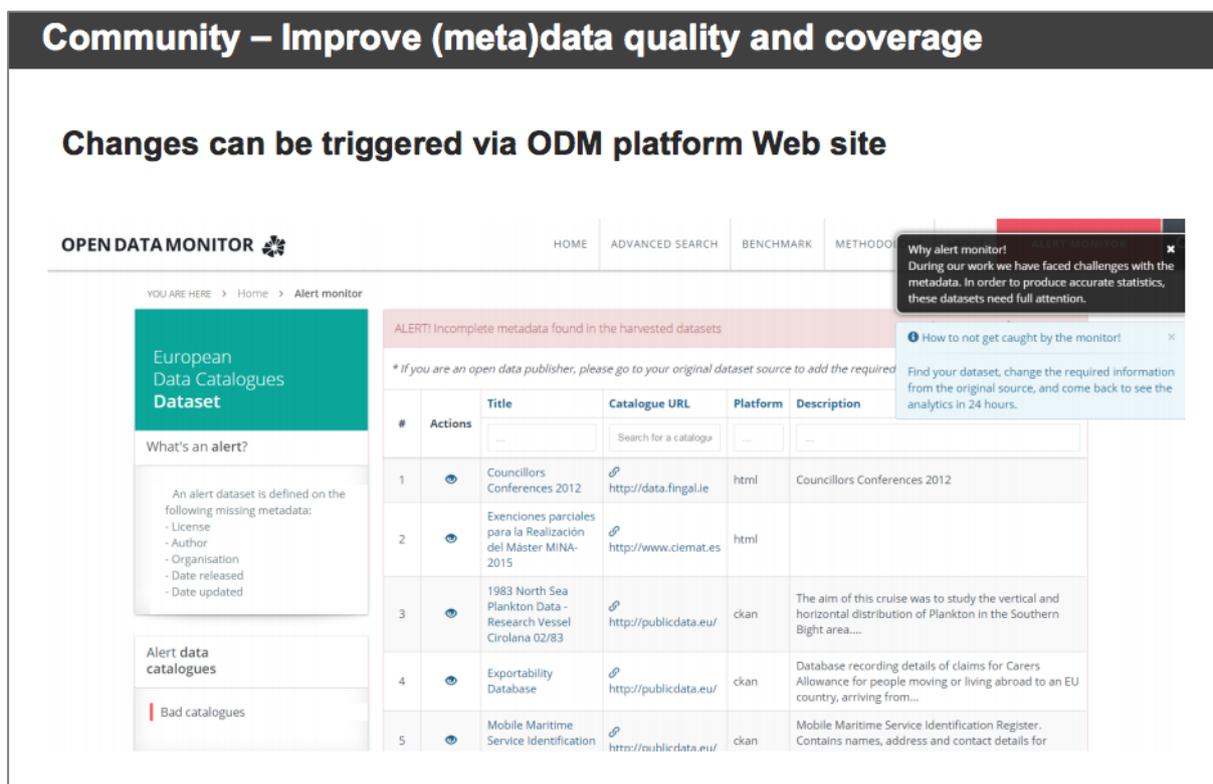
*“Great event, thank you!” - Chris Elsmore, Demand Logic*

*“Thank you for bringing everyone together to discuss the challenges and connect policy to real life examples” - Rajesh Bhardwaj, open data technologist*

## 5 NEXT STEPS AND CONCLUSION

One of the key themes discussed was next steps for this work, a session led by Elena Simperl (Southampton University). In her discussion and closing comments, Elena framed ODM as a critical component of on-going and future open data landscaping.

Elena clarified that the project has harvested, integrated, and analysed metadata from 161 catalogues, which are available via an API and for download (CC BY 4.0). Elena highlighted proactive ways in which the community could continue to support ODM, one such example being, using the alert monitor to check for gaps in metadata and update their original data to improve the underlying quality.



**Community – Improve (meta)data quality and coverage**

**Changes can be triggered via ODM platform Web site**

OPEN DATA MONITOR  HOME ADVANCED SEARCH BENCHMARK METHODS

YOU ARE HERE > Home > Alert monitor

**European Data Catalogues Dataset**

What's an alert?

An alert dataset is defined on the following missing metadata:

- License
- Author
- Organisation
- Date released
- Date updated

Alert data catalogues

Bad catalogues

**ALERT! Incomplete metadata found in the harvested datasets**

\* If you are an open data publisher, please go to your original dataset source to add the required

#	Actions	Title	Catalogue URL	Platform	Description
1		Councillors Conferences 2012	<a href="http://data.fingal.ie">http://data.fingal.ie</a>	html	Councillors Conferences 2012
2		Exenciones parciales para la Realización del Máster MINA-2015	<a href="http://www.ciemat.es">http://www.ciemat.es</a>	html	
3		1983 North Sea Plankton Data - Research Vessel Cirolana 02/83	<a href="http://publicdata.eu/">http://publicdata.eu/</a>	ckan	The aim of this cruise was to study the vertical and horizontal distribution of Plankton in the Southern Bight area...
4		Exportability Database	<a href="http://publicdata.eu/">http://publicdata.eu/</a>	ckan	Database recording details of claims for Carers Allowance for people moving or living abroad to an EU country, arriving from...
5		Mobile Maritime Service Identification	<a href="https://publicdata.eu/">https://publicdata.eu/</a>	ckan	Mobile Maritime Service Identification Register. Contains names, address and contact details for

**Why alert monitor?**  
During our work we have faced challenges with the metadata. In order to produce accurate statistics, these datasets need full attention.

**How to not get caught by the monitor!**  
Find your dataset, change the required information from the original source, and come back to see the analytics in 24 hours.

Figure 5.1: Elena Simperl’s call to the community to use ODM functionality to improve the quality of their data.

Elena asked the community to put the data to work and recommended combining ODM with other data sets and methodologies, ensuring that ODM is cited when such results are published. ODM has adopted an open-source strategy throughout the project, and the backend is [available as open](#)

[source](#) as well as the [metadata integration](#), encouraging the community to build on the ODM research and development we have delivered.

## Community – Put the data to work

**Explore and understand the open data ecosystem**

**Combine with other data sets and methodologies**

**Cite us when you publish the results**

### The OD500 Global Network

The OD500 Global Network is an international network of organisations that seek to study the use and impact of open data. Coordinated by the Governance Lab (GovLab) the OD500 Global Network enables participating organisations to analyze open data in their country in a manner that is both globally comparative and domestically specific. The OD500 Global Network starts from the assumption that only by mapping the use of open data within and across countries, can new approaches for understanding the economic and social impact of open government data be generated.

  
Australia

  
México

  
United States

  
Italy

  
Korea

  
OD500 in Your Country

Scaled country scores are rounded to the nearest whole number before ranks are assigned, meaning a number of countries receive tied rankings.

Interactive Image

Country	Barometer Rank	ODB Scaled	Readiness (Scaled)	Implementation (Scaled)	Impact (Scaled)	2013 ODB	ODB Change	2013 Rank	Rank Change
UK	1	100	98	100	100	100	0	1	0
US	2	92.66	96	88	100	93.38	-0.72	2	0
Sweden	3	83.7	100	76	88	85.75	-2.05	3	0
France	4	80.21	91	75	84	83.02	16.29	10	6
New Zealand	4	80.01	81	88	55	74.34	5.67	4	0
Netherlands	6	75.79	95	76	57	83.06	12.13	10	4
Norway	7	74.59	88	73	84	71.86	2.73	5	-2
Canada	7	74.52	90	75	58	85.87	8.65	8	1
Denmark	9	70.13	94	54	95	71.78	-1.65	5	-4
Australia	10	68.33	92	69	43	67.68	0.65	7	-3
Germany	10	67.63	85	67	53	85.01	2.62	9	-1
Finland	12	66.49	93	54	78	49.44	17.05	14	2
Estonia	13	60.18	84	51	84	49.45	10.73	14	1
Spain	13	59.89	78	60	42	48.19	11.7	17	4
Chile	15	58.7	69	73	8	40.11	18.59	25	10

**Figure 5.2: Elena Simperl recommended combining ODM with other open data research to ensure the project’s outputs are reused.**

In summary, we demonstrated and agreed that ODM is a valuable tool for researchers, open data infrastructure, technology and platform providers, data owners and policy makers. We communicated a clear call to action; researchers were encouraged to use the data, to validate and enhance new metrics and to help with technology. Data owners were encouraged to help improve their metadata, increase the catalogue coverage, provide feedback on the metrics and add context, qualitative data and success stories. We requested that open data infrastructure providers use the technology and work with us to develop data quality assessment methods. Finally, we asked that policy makers use the dashboard and give us feedback on new features.

## ODM - Technology

**Backend available as open source, see**

<https://github.com/opendatamonitor>

**Metadata integration**

<https://github.com/opendatamonitor/ckanext-harmonisation/tree/master/ckanext-harmonisation/controllers/dictionaries>

Poland

Overall quality score is 32% measured in 2015.



**Figure 5.3:** Elena Simperl also demonstrated how the developer and tech community can get involved with ODM

To conclude, ODM has significant potential to both work alongside and support other open data tools, and to be further developed (with the support of the community) to include new catalogues from Europe and beyond. With a clear appetite from the community and direction of travel, conversations at the ODM final project review will understand the logistics around continuation of work.

The discussions and topics raised at the ODM Symposium demonstrated a strong desire from the community to develop and build upon the platform. A significant objective of the ODM final project review will be to understand the logistics involved in satisfying this.

## APPENDIX A

Table 1: Key figures from the ODM symposium

<b>Number of invitations sent out</b>	Over 300 bespoke invitations, plus online and offline methods for dissemination.
<b>Methods for disseminating the invitation</b>	Eventbrite, Twitter, LinkedIn, newsletters, targeted marketing at academic, research and tech groups,
<b>Number of attendees</b>	56 external + 15 ODI/partners
<b>Tweets of the event</b>	See full storify report: <a href="https://storify.com/ayymanduh/opendatamonitor-symposium">https://storify.com/ayymanduh/opendatamonitor-symposium</a>
<b>Number of speakers</b>	10

## APPENDIX B

### ODM Symposium Agenda

12:45–13:00 | **Registration, networking and refreshments**

13:00–13:10 | **Welcome opening**

Amanda Smith, ODI

13:10–13:25 | **Introduction to OpenDataMonitor**

Bernhard Jäger, SYNYO

13:25–13:45 | **Designing metrics to monitor open data and early insights from ODM**

Tom Heath, ODI

13:45–13:55 | **OpenDataMonitor Q&A**

13:55–14:10 | **The open data startups story: from UK to Europe**

Orsola De Marco, ODI

14:10–14:25 | **Open data activity across the world: insights from ODI Nodes**

Anneza Pitsialis

14:25–14:40 | **Creating a business with open data**

Clifford McDowell

14:40–15:00 | **Visualising local open data**

Jamie Whyte

15:00–15:20 | **How does Socrata work with its customers to boost open data's quality and quantity?**

Ben Unsworth

15:20–15:40 | **What next? Turning open data measurement into action**

Tim Davies

15:40–16:00 | **Next steps for ODM and wrap-up**

Elena Simperl - University of Southampton

16:00 | **Close**

Amanda Smith, ODI

*Networking drinks and canapés to follow with a demo café to explore OpenDataMonitor*