

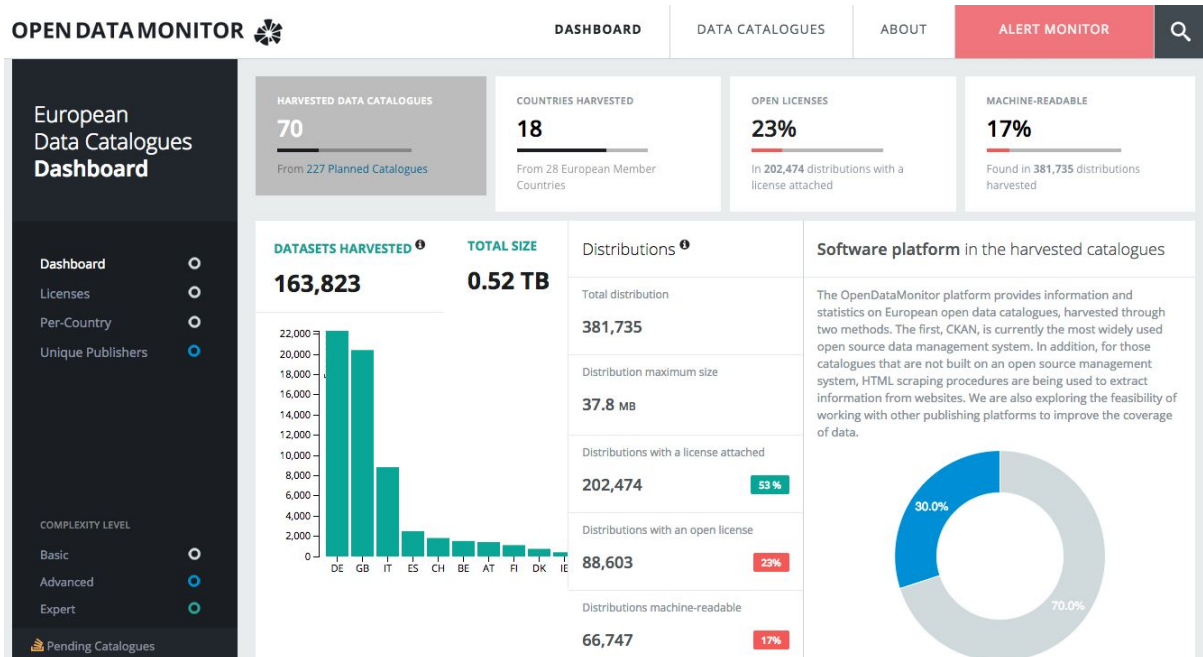
## OpenDataMonitor (ODM) ODM newsletter 5: October 2015

<http://opendatamonitor.eu> | <http://project.opendatamonitor.eu>  
<http://knowhow.opendatamonitor.eu/>  
[@opendatamonitor](#)

Since our last newsletter back in May, we've made numerous iterations to the [OpenDataMonitor platform](#) and are delighted to announce that we've now harvested over 170 catalogues across Europe. With our [research project](#) coming to an end this month, our final project newsletter sets out what we've learnt over the duration of the project and the practical next steps for the future.

### Technical development and delivery

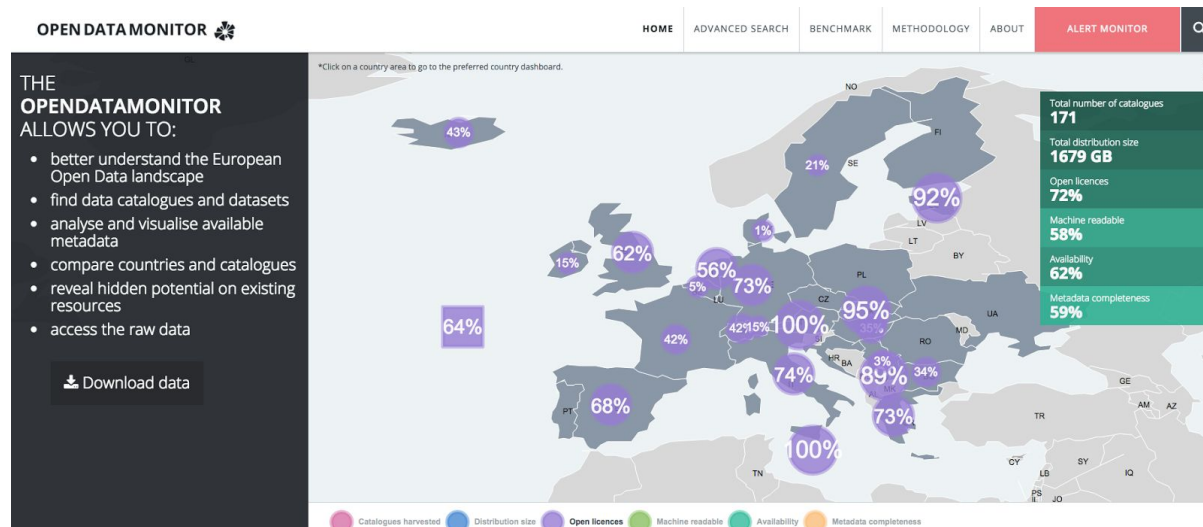
Based on stakeholder workshops, real-life use cases and feedback from the community, we have focused our efforts on the usability of the platform. We've made continuous improvements to the alpha version we launched back in February.



*OpenDataMonitor alpha (February 2015)*

Throughout the duration of the ODM project, we've learnt that using standardised APIs (e.g. CKAN) combined with complex harvesting mechanisms, makes it possible to statistically analyse and present [metrics](#) to better understand how open data is developing.

These metrics, 'rolled up' into the categories of **quality** and **quantity** of open data, include file formats, machine readability, licences and additional meta-data. These findings help users to identify the status, gaps and potential of open data resources. To ensure that it's possible for stakeholders across Europe to understand the development of the open data, ecosystem we've provided a multilingual user interface and intuitive dashboards.



The current version of OpenDataMonitor (October 2015)

Throughout the second year of the [ODM project](#), we have implemented dashboards at three levels; [European](#), [Country](#) and [Catalogue](#) (examples given for Germany.) We now provide a [benchmarking dashboard](#) of catalogues and countries. During the latter period we verified the metrics and refined the definitions and calculations accordingly to use the most [relevant metrics](#) to measure the performance of selected entities in both country and catalogue level. The [methodology section](#) of the platform provides thorough documentation for the terms, definitions, metrics, and processes adopted in platform development.

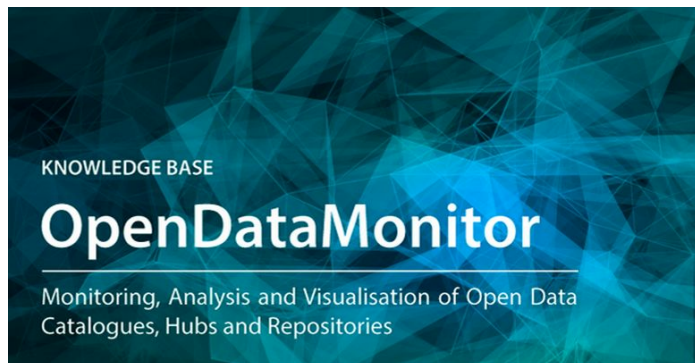
The OpenDataMonitor code is available in a public GitHub repository: <https://github.com/opendatamonitor> and we encourage you to contribute. You can find out more in the '[Get involved and help us take this work forward](#)' section of this newsletter.

### OpenDataMonitor sponsored publications

Throughout the OpenDataMonitor project, partners have authored a number of research papers. All project-sponsored publications to date are available on our [project website](#). These include:

- [Open Data: Versunkene Schätze oder digitaler Datenmüll?](#)
- [Conceptualizing Open Data Ecosystems – A Timeline Analysis of Open Data Development in the UK](#)
- [The Tau of Data: A New Metric to Assess the Timeliness of Data in Catalogues](#)
- [The Social Shaping of Open Data Through Administrative Processes](#)
- [Providing, Guarding, Shielding: Open Government Data in Spain and Germany](#)
- [Police.uk and Data.police.uk: Developing Open Crime and Justice Data for the UK](#)
- [From Toddler to Teen: Growth of an Open Data Ecosystem](#)

In addition, the ODI undertook a large scale study, "[Open data means business](#)". The study identified and analysed **270 companies** that use, produce or invest in open data as part of their business, through desk research, surveys and interviews.



## Project know-how

Our [know-how website](#) distills key research findings, insights, methodologies and technological developments into more accessible, bite-sized formats, such as reports and blog posts. Examples include:

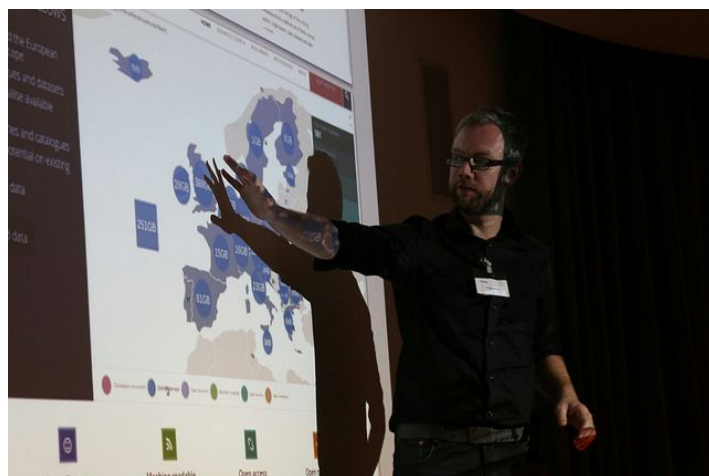
- [ODM main components](#)
- [ODM processing workflow](#)
- [HTML harvester](#)
- [Harmonisation process](#)
- [Quality metrics](#)
- [Quantity metrics](#)
- [Levels of applied mappings](#)

## Our collection of 500+ open data resources

To aid us in our understanding of the platforms, portals, technology providers and learning resources, the ODI and Southampton University gathered a [comprehensive, baseline collection of key resources](#) earlier this year.

We have been gathering articles, blogposts, reports, catalogues, publishing platforms and APIs demonstrating open data and its impacts.

The [collection](#) of over 500 resources is there to help those who are using or producing open data in their work and research. We see it as a ‘toolkit’ for those new to open data and experts alike; a living resource that anyone can use, add to and share. Please reuse, citing us when you do, and add to the collection.



## ODM Symposium

On Monday 5th October, the ODI and its partners convened over 50 open data publishers, policy owners, academics, researchers and data driven startups for a symposium at the Museum of London.

Made up of lively discussion, expert presentations and passionate discussion, the Symposium was a stimulating and exciting event. The assembled audience, together with external open data experts and members of the ODM's Expert and Advisory Board explored a wide range of topics such as:

- What is OpenDataMonitor and what have we learnt?
- How can we measure the quality and quantity of open data?
- What tools, platforms and services help open data professionals understand more about how the landscape is developing?

The Symposium tackled the big question; how do we further progress the open data landscape? The diversity of speakers and attendees resulted in a rich variety of ideas, discussions and opinions. To find out more about how the event unfolded, see:

[#ODMSymposium](#)

## Get involved and help us take this work forward!

One of the key themes discussed at the ODM symposium was the next steps for the platform. Dr Elena Simperl (Southampton University) led the discussions in her closing comments, framing ODM as a critical component of the ongoing and future open data landscaping efforts.

ODM has **harvested, integrated, and analysed metadata** from **171 catalogs**, all of which are available via an API and for download (CC BY 4.0).

You can continue to support ODM in the following ways:

- using the [alert monitor](#) to check for gaps in metadata and updating your original data to improve the underlying quality.
- combining the findings from ODM with other data sets and methodologies, and citing us when such results are published
- building on the backend ([available as open source](#)) as well as the [metadata integration](#)
- [providing us with details](#) for your catalogue, or catalogues we might have missed or have not included within the remit of the project, so that they can be harvested.