ODI
Open cities

Ben Snaith

ben.snaith@theodi.org

The ODI

Sir Nigel Shadbolt
Chairman

Sir Tim Berners-Lee
President

Founded in 2012, the Open Data Institute (ODI) is an international, independent and not-for-profit organisation based in London, UK.

Vision

We want a world where data works for everyone.

Mission

We work with companies and governments to build an open, trustworthy data ecosystem.

The Data Spectrum

Small / Medium / Big data

Personal / Commercial / Government data

Internal access	Named access	Group-based access	Public access	Anyone
Employment contract + policies	Explicitly assigned by contract	Via authentication	Licence that limits use	Open licence
Sales reports	Driving licences	Medical research	Twitter feed	Bus timetable

Closed **Shared** **Open**

Cities are complex.

Responsible for managing an elaborate ecosystem of sectors and people – in transport, planning, energy, emergency services and more.

Have to balance economic, political and societal pressures on a large scale.

theODI.org

<u>Their complexity makes cities appealing</u>

Tech companies market their smart products (sensors and systems) as being able to address these problems and radically improve cities

(i.e. there is a lot of <u>hype</u>)

Potential problems with this:

▶ Designing cities and services is hard!

▶ Privacy and surveillance

▶ Ethics of data collection and algorithmic decision making

▶ Technology is expensive

▶ Increasing data silos

▶ Data skills and literacy

▶ Problematic view of data

ODI

What is an <u>open</u> city?

Open City

At the Open Data Institute (ODI) we advocate for, and support, an open culture. This involves **data infrastructure** that is as **open as possible;** encouraging **data literacy** and capability for all, and advocating for **open innovation**. Underpinning these activities should be a commitment to increasing the trustworthiness of cities to use technology.

This means:
- building ethical considerations into how data is collected, managed and used
- ensuring equity around who accesses, uses and benefits from data
- engaging widely with affected people and organisations.

theODI.org

Hamburg:

- When new bike stations were needed, the public were asked where

- Received over 4000 suggestions

- Being used for housing now too

- The city government hand over all of the info to residents, so they can decide with the same knowledge

- Digitalising the approach

London Datastore

- Originally launched in 2010 providing a platform where anyone can access public data relating to London
- The need for portals is changing: shifting from its focus on open data, to facilitating access to data across the data spectrum.
- We recommend to:
- 1. Improve the findability of data
- 2. Increase the variety/volume of data
- 3. Showcase data reuse
- 4. Document best practices
- 5. Champion standards adoption and development
- 6. Encourage and facilitate collaboration

Photo by Dan Roizer on Unsplash

theODI.org

596 Acres

- Aims 'to turn municipal data into information useful to the public, and to help neighbours navigate city politics, and connect neighbourhood organizers to one another'
- Main goal: to raise awareness amongst New York City's residents about the possibilities of turning vacant city land into green areas in neighbourhoods that lack them and thereby to foster civic engagement and bottom-up interventions.
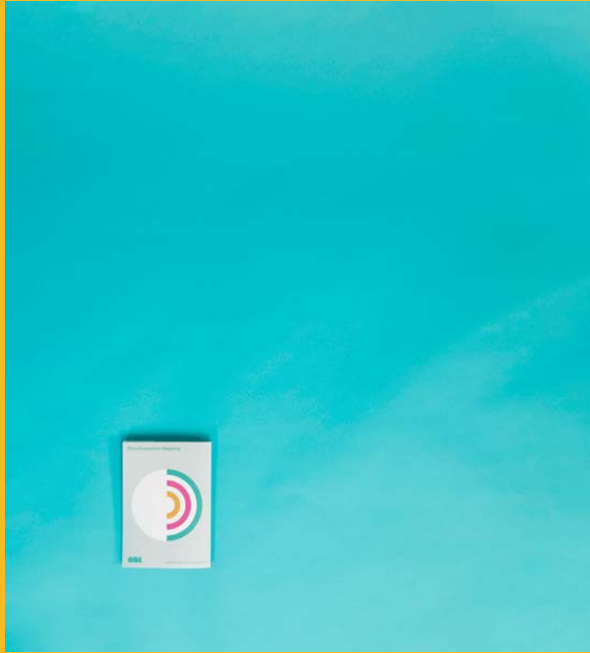
Overcoming barriers
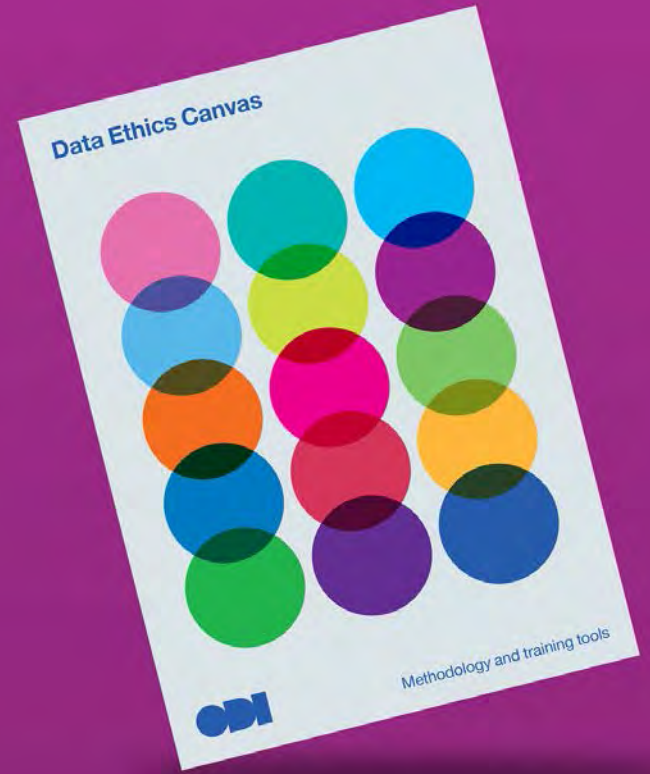
ODI

Data and Public Services Toolkit

Data ecosystem mapping tool

Data Ethics Canvas

Skills framework