Workshop 'Opening data at municipality of The Hague'

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Abstract: 'Open Data' is hot! After the announcement of Barak Obama and Tim Berners-Lee to publish internal organizational datasets on the web using strictly defined open standards (XML, RDF, SKOS, Dublin Core), organizations and (local) governments all over the world opened their datasets. Linked open data is a huge potential information source for science and citizens. Therefore students of the bachelor program worked for 10 weeks together with officials of the municipality of The Hague on apps for their data. This process was not that easy: officials had lots of objections against opening up their data and developing apps on it.

In this workshop we will see what the outcome was and practice to overcome the objections.

Keywords: communicative process; open data; apps

Opening Data at Municipality of The Hague

Last year at Bobcatsss 2013 Ankara, Klaas Jan Mollema and two students presented in which way the Bachelor program Information Services & Management (ISM) collaborates with the Municipality of The Hague in their research on Open Data. Since opening up data had become hot topic for national governments in Holland also the local government is asked to open up their data.

This is a difficult task to deal with, because most of the data is only designed to be used for internal purposes. Opening up datasets could cause situations where privacy issues, technical issues and political issues are involved.

During September and October 2013 thirty students of the ISM program collaborated with several officials of the Municipality of The Hague in order to find out what problems come up while opening their data and if there is a possibility to develop web-apps to use the data.

Together with Marjolijn de Jager they created a strategy to convince the officials to collaborate with the students in order to develop the right products.

In this workshop we will present the outcome of the project. We also want to discuss technology and governmental processes. Finally we will encourage you to brainstorm how to open up your data and create some ideas of apps.

Workshop Topics

Historical timeline and current state of Open Data (infographic style)

- Political developments
- Technical developments
- Standardizing
- Semantic web

The Municipality of The Hague and Open Data

One of the products of the project

Short discussion about the use of webtechnology in relation to Open Data

Tactics to overcome objections

One of the products of the project

Practice to overcome objections and brainstorm about dataset use in apps

Objectives / outcomes

Participants will be well informed about the current state of open data application and processes.

Participants will be inspired with examples of open data application.

Participants will be able to create a small visual representation of data in a small amount of time.

Target Audience

The workshop is targeted on everybody who is interested in Open Data in general and who likes to be informed about some best practices. Researchers, professionals, designers, lecturers and students are welcome to join.

Duration

Duration of the total workshop will be max. 60 minutes. Times are indications and open for discussion with the conference management. Rest-time will be added to the 'hands on'-part.

Historical timeline and current state of Open Data (infographic style) (8 minutes)

- Political developments
- Technical developments
- Standardizing
- Semantic web

The Municipality of The Hague and Open Data (2 minutes)

One of the products of the project (5 minutes)

Short discussion about the use of webtechnology in relation to Open Data (5 minutes)

Tactics to overcome objections (10 minutes)

One of the products of the project (5 minutes)

Practice to overcome objections and brainstorm about dataset use in apps (25 minutes)

Numer of participants and prerequisites

This workshop is accessible for the maximum amount of 40 people.

Participants are not required to read something in advance, but are asked to think about the subject they would like to visualize during the 'hands on'-part. It may be useful that participants bring their own devices (laptop or tablet), for use during the 'hands on'-part.

Method

The introduction will be a short 'infographic style' presentation with facts about the development of Open Data.

Next to that we will present some tactics to overcome the objections against opening up data. Thirdly a group of five students will present their app they created in collaboration with the officials.

Finally a workshop situation will provide participants skills to open up data and create new ideas to apply data.

Attachement: Curriculum Vitae

Klaas Jan Mollema MSc is lecturer Information Services & Management at The Hague University of applied sciences. With his background in Mediatechnology (Master Leiden University) and Information Services & Management (Bachelor-ICT The Hague University) he lectures the topics 'the way ICT helps organizations to store and retrieve their information', 'the use of Geographic Information Systems' and 'developing Semantic software'. Next to this he does research on the next level of Open Data.

Marjolijn de Jager MA is lecturer Information Services & Management at The Hague University of applied sciences. With her background on Communication she lectures the topics 'analyzing organizations', 'presentation skills' and 'argumentation'.

The group of five students are second year students of the bachelor program Information Services & Management at The Hague University of applied sciences. The members of the group are: Danny Hartman-Maatman, Sanne Goos, Jelle Halling, Marga Hillinga, Ferdi Mac Gillavry.

The bachelor program Information Services & Management contains one semester (2 x 10 weeks) with semantic web and open data projects. The program provides next to the major, a minor Geographical Information Systems, containing a link between Open Data, Governmental management, data visualization and Geospatial data.

2013, January 23-25

Klaas Jan and some students had a workshop on Open Data and Infographics at Bobcatsss 2013 Ankara