IP of the Public Sector Information

Creating Value through Public Sector Information (PSI) Re-use

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PSI re-use in Hong Kong

This seminar is part of a series of activities to discuss PSI re-use in Hong Kong, which started in 2009, when we had a speaker from an Australian government organisation as a guest speaker at the ICKM 2009 conference (International Council of Knowledge Management) at the University of Hong Kong.

You can find more background information on this website: http://knowledgedialogues.wordpress.com/psi-hong-kong/

The HK Foresight Centre is planning further seminars during 2011, including one in collaboration with the European Chamber of Commerce. If you would like to keep posted about the events or would like to suggest topics for discussion on PSI re-use in Hong Kong, please get in touch with us.

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What is PSI?

Information Commons

Public Domain
PSI definition (OECD)

Public sector information is broadly defined as “information, including information products and services, generated, created, collected, processed, preserved, maintained, disseminated, or funded by or for the Government or public institution”

OECD recommendation C(2008)36
PSI Re-use definition (OECD)

Use by the original public sector generator or holder or other public sector bodies and further re-use by business or individuals for commercial or non-commercial purposes.

In general, the term “use” implies this broad spectrum of use and re-use.
Realising the Value of PSI

Governments and public bodies are information creators, controllers, distributors, information archivists and record keepers

Since mid-90s shift in government policies relating to information generated from within or on behalf of the public sector
PSI in the Knowledge Society

- PSI = information collected and compiled using taxpayers’ funds

- Open access involves
  - free access
  - open formats
  - open licensing

- Open licensing means
  - “liberalised” rights to use the information
  - change from “All rights reserved” to “Some rights reserved”
Drivers for change

- **Societal expectation**
  - demand for transparency of public sector information
  - Open access enables innovation, collaboration and facilitates informed decision making

- **Increasing demand to "mix and match" public data with other information**
  - we have the technology
  - people want to enhance data and create new products
  - need for collaboration and innovation

- **Technology**
  - making information accessible, easy and cheap to assemble
  - providing user-friendly formats
  - engaging people, building communities
  - Web 1.0 – dissemination (the past)
  - Web 2.0 – participation and collaboration (the present)
At policy level, these developments towards an open information environment require a complete shift in thinking about the role of government practices, legislation and mindset.
Public Domain in the Knowledge Society

- **Digital content** – new infrastructure for business models, participative web
- **Public sector information** - increase aggregate returns on public investments, maximise use & spill-overs
- **The Internet** has greatly expanded our capacity to create, compute, communicate coordinate and innovate
PSI in the “old days”

- PSI was made available on request or on need-to-know basis
- Access to PSI was restricted
- The government “owned” the information (copyright)
- Focus on e-Government (transactional information exchanges)
Welcome to Data.gov

The purpose of Data.gov is to increase public access to high-value, machine-readable datasets generated by the Executive Branch of the Federal Government. Although the initial launch of Data.gov...

How to use Data.gov

Data.gov includes searchable data catalogs providing access to data in three ways: through the "raw" data catalog, the tool catalog and the geodata catalog. Please note that by accessing datasets or...
Shaping Policies for Creativity, Confidence and Convergence in the Digital World

Convergence
Adapting to a new environment of converged platforms (voice, video and data) and extending the networks to new devices and sensor technologies

Creativity
Promoting the Internet as a catalyst for economic growth, employment opportunities and social innovation

Confidence
Reducing the Internet’s vulnerability to threats and empowering users and consumers
OECD PSI Directive

Enabling maximum access to public sector information and content and its re-use by the private sector.

OECD Seoul Declaration 2008

Foster creativity in the development, use and application of the Internet, through policies that:

- Maintain an open environment that supports the free flow of information, research, innovation, entrepreneurship and business transformation

- Make public sector information and content, including scientific data, and works of cultural heritage more widely accessible in digital format.

- Encourage universities, governments, public research, users and business to work together in collaborative innovation networks and to make use of shared experimental Internet facilities
PSI Objectives

Principles for enhanced access and more effective use for public and private sectors

Increase total returns on public investments and economic and social benefits through:

- More efficient distribution
- Enhanced innovation
- Development of new uses
- Market-based competition

International policy principles contribute to global exchange and use of public information
OECD Recommendation: Policy Principles

- Openness
- Access and transparent reuse conditions
- Asset lists
- Quality
- Integrity
- New technologies and long-term preservation
- Copyright
- Pricing
- Competition
- Redress mechanisms
- Public private partnerships
- Internat’l access / use
- Best practices

Source: Vickery/OECD
Policy principles - details

- **Openness**
  Assume openness as a default rule for all funding models, define limitations (privacy, security, etc.)

- **Transparent access and reuse conditions**
  Non-discriminatory competitive access, limited restrictions, eliminating exclusive arrangements

- **Asset lists**
  Awareness, easy to find, clear information on conditions

- **Quality**
  Methodical collection, reliability, cooperation

- **Integrity**
  Best practice management, no unauthorised modification

- **New technologies and long-term preservation**
  Interoperability, multiple languages, technological obsolescence
Policy principles -- details

- **Copyright**
  Exercise to facilitate re-use including 3rd party holders

- **Pricing**
  When not free, pricing transparently and ensure competition. Should not exceed marginal costs of maintenance and distribution. Any higher pricing based on clear policy grounds

- **Competition**
  Pricing and unfair competition, cross-subsidisation, downstream equality where comparable

- **Redress mechanisms**

- **Public private partnerships (e.g. for digitisation)**

- **International access / use (harmonisation, interoperability)**

- **Best practices (share widely, information exchange)**

Source: Vickery/OECD
PSI in Europe

Directive 2003/98/EC
European Public Sector Information (PSI) Platform

The European PSI Platform is funded under the European Commission's eContentplus Programme and builds upon the ePSIplus Thematic Network (September 2006 to February 2009). The current site will remain but over the next few months notice changes to the design and structure as the European PSI Platform develops. All of the content published by the ePSI+
Economic Value of re-use of PSI

68 bn €
Economic potential of PSI in Europe
PIRA (2000)

1.51 bn €
Geodata in Germany
MICUS (2008)

27 bn €
Total market size Europe
MEPSIR (2006)

£ 1 bn
Potential net economic value
UK
OFT (2007)

737 m €
Economic value
PSI France
GFII (2005)

52%
Share of geodata
PIRA (2000)

Market studies on PSI re-use potential in Europe

Source: G. Boehle-Keimer, Micus 2008
Adapting Laws to the Digital Age

- Personal data protection laws
- Access to information laws
- Archives and Records policies
- Copyright/Creative Commons laws
- Public information management policies
- Cost assessment acts
How can we create socio-economic value from using our information assets in Hong Kong?