

Open Data: towards a new relationship between citizens and their representatives ?



Tangui Morlier – Open World Forum 2010



What are our representatives doing?

- Difficult to know:
 - Their tasks are complex
 - We have different interests
 - We don't have necessarily much time

Open Data may help...



International democratic projects

- Sunlight Foundation (USA)
 - Open Congress
 - Transparency Data
- mySociety (UK)
 - They Work For You
 - Fix my street
- OKFN / Where Does My Money Go? (UK)
- Open Parlamento (IT)
- 107 other initiatives around the world



What about France?

- MP vote collection: mondepute.free.fr (2001)
- Specific subject platform:
 - Mémoire politique (2005)
 - Candidats.fr (2007)
- Why not a generic platform?



Regards Citoyens

- NosDeputes.fr
Promotion of MPs activities at the National Assembly
- Simplifions la loi
Law projects as a forum
- Redécoupage electoral
Political impact of election boundary changes
- Numérisons les lobbyistes
Who are the MPs listening to?



Key factors in citizens projects

- Main projects:
 - Use Free & Open Source technologies
 - Are Free & Open Source projects
 - Make the data available under open data licences

*« If we want a more transparent system,
let's apply the transparency to ourselves »*



What about Public Sector Body?

- More and more PSB goes for Open Data:
 - Not expensive (G. Brown 03/2010)
 - Promotes public policies
 - Improves internal communication
 - Creates new relations between citizens
- Key success:
 - Use for Open Definition Licences
 - Focus on data, not its usage
 - Include re-users



Open data

- **A way for:**
 - **Citizens:** to better understand their democratic institution and public administration
 - **Public sector body:** to better understand citizen needs
 - **Representatives:** to promote and defend their political choices