

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



Tangui Morlier – Open World Forum – 30 septembre 2010



What are our representants doing ?

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

- MPs vote collection: mondepute.free.fr (2001)
- Subject-specific platforms:
 - 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 électoral**
Political impact of elective boundary changes
- **Numérisons les lobbyistes**
Who are the MPs listening to ?



Key factors in citizen projects

- The 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 Bodies ?

- More and more PSB go for Open Data:
 - Not expensive (G. Brown 03/2010)
 - Promotes public policies
 - Improves internal communication
 - Creates new interactions between citizens
- Keys for success:
 - Use 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 bodies**
to better understand citizen needs
- **Representatives**
to promote and defend their political choices