

# Open data platform to drive open innovation

**Published On:** 03 April 2017

**Organisation:** Joint Research Centre, European Commission

**Country:** European Commission

**Level of government:** Central government

**Sector:** Economic affairs

**Type:** Communication, Data, Financial Resources, Methods, Partnerships

**Launched in:** 2013

**Overall development time:** 3 year(s)

**Link to the innovation's website**

**Like this innovation**

0 persons like this innovation

# Description

---

We established a participatory online platform to collect relevant information on their investment priorities to support innovative projects, Together with policy-makers in regional and national governments we collected and verified this data in a partly crowd-sourced way. We now cover most of regions and countries in the EU and provide an easily accessible database to find out what other territories are planning to invest in. This has been already widely used to create joint networks and project platforms across Europe.

---

## Why the innovation was developed

- It was developed to allow for quicker and more sustained open innovation in Europe.
  - Often, many local and regional governments are not fully aware what their counterparts in other countries are doing. Through this new tool, they can quickly find out where there is scope for collaboration, but also for competition.
- 

## Objectives

Enhance public trust, Enhance transparency, Improve access, Improve effectiveness, Support economic growth

---

## Main beneficiaries

Academia, Businesses, Government staff

# Results

---

## Effectiveness

- More effective partner search: already several governments have used this data to collaborate.
- 

## Service quality

### Responsiveness:

- Having knowledge about others' investment plans allowed some regions to be more specific about their planned collaboration projects.
- 

## User satisfaction

- Policy-makers were on average very happy to have this kind of data and to be able to contribute to the quality of the data.

# Development

---

## Design

The idea was generated within our team based on the experience of other economic observatories (on Clusters etc.). We quickly prototyped an interactive map with very limited coverage and then expanded steadily. Design time: 6 month(s)

---

## Testing

- It was ongoing process by contacting relevant policy-makers and asking them to either fill in data or verify existing accounts.
- 

## Implementation

### Tools used:

- Mainly ICT and GIS (creating a database and an interactive map).

### Resources used:

- Three part time policy officers and one part time IT developer. The sourcing of data was done across our department (around 50 colleagues) and more than 200 policy-makers across Europe.

Implementation time: 4 month(s)

---

## Diffusion

- We have developed other complementary open data tools on funding volumes. Currently, we are mainly curating the data and starting to develop user stories to disseminate the added value of the tool.
- 

## Challenges and solutions

- The main challenge was to fill the database and create critical mass at the beginning, for which at the beginning massive desk research was necessary,

# Lessons Learned

---

## Lessons Learned

- Starting with a quick beta version was very helpful to quickstart the process
  - Curating the data over time, however, took much more time than expected and human resources were already used by other projects in the meantime.
  - Keeping the momentum and dedication is important and difficult.
- 

## Conditions for success

- Sustained support from the hierarchy and success stories of data being used by stakeholders.