

j STAT MAP

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Organisation: Statistical Bureau, Japanese Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC)

Country: Japan

Level of government: Central government

Sector: General public services

Type: Public Service

Launched in: 2013

Overall development time: 1 year(s)

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Description

The Statistics Bureau of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications started a new service called "j STAT MAP" in January 2015 at "e-Stat," a portal site of official statistics of Japan since 2008.

By reinforcing statistical GIS, it can display statistical data on a map by a small region such as subdivisions of a municipality. New features of "j STAT MAP" enable its users to:

- 1) Upload and analyse users' data on maps.
- 2) Add up figures by areas as selected by a user.
- 3) Output statistical reports of areas as selected.

The data available includes: population and number of households from the population census, and number of establishments and workers from Economic Census. Data of Population Census is given by small regions and by a grid of one kilometer, 500 meter, and 250 meter squares.

Data from the economic census is given by a grid of one kilometer and 500 meter squares. The bureau is working to add data so that a part of data of Economic Census is also available by small regions. All of these functions are available on tablet terminals by downloading an application called "Map De Statistics."

This innovation was designed to enable local residents to utilise national government statistics. Combined with data of local governments, it makes a useful tool to plan for empowering local communities, stimulating existing local businesses, or developing new businesses. They are also extremely useful for drafting disaster prevention plans or re-development plans, based on analysis of statistical data.

Why the innovation was developed

- Flexible responses to changes in progress outside. In this case, the key to the innovation is the development of ICT.
- As the organisation taking charge of major statistics for the national government, the Statistics Bureau of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, it took the chance and decided to move forward on a project to make available local data of national statistics for the public in a way that makes the most of ICT developments, is web-based, available on mobile/smart phones, is easy to handle, and convenient to customize.
- The purpose of this innovation is to make the entire national government statistics a better tool for the public more than ever before.
- By using "j STAT MAP" to plan for their own local affairs, people can comprehend and appreciate the use and effectiveness of statistics while planning and empowering local communities, stimulating existing local businesses, or developing new businesses.
- Combining customised national statistical data with locally acquired information is extremely useful for drafting disaster prevention plans or re-development plans of local communities.
- General public: as the service began, the number of registered users was still limited. The potential users are, however, tens of millions of people from elementary school students learning about their own local communities, to planning staffs of local governments, think-tanks, NPOs, and so on.

Results

Service quality

Accessibility:

- "j STAT MAP" enables users to upload and analyse users' data on maps;
- Add up statistics of areas a user selects;
- Output reports on statistical data of areas a user selects.
- All these features of "j STAT MAP" have contributed to improving services and uses of national statistics.
- "j STAT MAP" opened up the way for general users to customise national statistics for their own local interest, combine nationally-collected data with locally acquired information, and thereby make analysis for various local purposes such as drafting disaster prevention plans or re-development plans of local communities.

Development

Design

This innovation “j STAT MAP” was emerged from the efforts of open data policy in the field of statistics. Staffers of the Statistics Bureau of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, and those of the National Statistics Centre, an Independent administrative agency, contributed to raising the level of open data in statistics.

Testing

- The Statistical Information Systems Division of the Statistical Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications set about 15 months for trial operation of the service.
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Implementation

Tools used:

- GIS function
- Tablet Terminal
- API

Resources used:

- Number of staffers: 5
 - Expenses: approximately 200 million yen for the development of application
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Challenges and solutions

- Challenges: the volume and types of data currently being provided on “j STAT MAP” are limited.
 - Solutions: considering that the volume and type of statistical data available on “j STAT MAP” is limited, the innovation team is, at the moment, working to increase the volume and type of national government statistical data for the users of “j STAT MAP”.
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Partnerships

Other Government of Japan ministries

Other Public Sector

The partnership with other government ministries assisted with the management of the development and operation of the innovation.

Lessons Learned

Lessons Learned

- Efforts made to advance data technology.
 - Challenges in its efforts.
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Conditions for success

- Human resources and budget resources are required as a minimum condition.
 - Creative ideas must come in first to combine ICT development and open data policy in the area of statistics in the right direction.
 - The “right” directions in this case means empowering the public to make better planning for their own matters in accordance with their interest using analysis of national and local statistics.
 - “j STAT MAP” can be a quite useful tool for planning for the local economy and disaster prevention, among others.
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