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Yes, MNiSTIR:

The Challenge of Evidence-Based Policy via Open Research

22 July 2022

- Prof Patrick Paul Walsh, UCD Full Professor and Director of the SDG Academy
- Ms Niamh Brennan, Programme Manager, Research Informatics Librarian, Trinity College Dublin
- Dr Charles Larkin, Director of Research, Institute for Policy Research, University of Bath



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Abstract:

In this paper we outline how the United Nations Library used appropriate tagging, metadata, constrained vocabulary, standards, interoperability, and persistent identifiers for documents which allows those documents to then be marshalled into collections of materials for policymakers to use to create evidence-informed policy. This allows libraries and policymakers to regain the digital commons. The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Academy has been able to use these tools to further open education. This is a model for how to achieve these objectives in the Irish context. In this paper we outline our proposal for FAIR, Open Science, Open Data approach to policy research entitled: **Yes, MNiSTIR (Metrics, Next Generation, Skills & Training, Incentives & Rewards)** where library and research services support evidence-informed policy work and parliamentary scrutiny. In addition, we highlight how novel knowledge classification tools developed by MIT with the Boeing Corporation for specialised online courses, can amplify the effectiveness of Open Science, allowing the rapid upskilling of policymakers through the digitalisation of evidence gathering. The goal of this work being that research outputs allow greater collaboration, facilitating more effective rapid evidence assessments and improved engagement & knowledge co-production between policymakers and the research community.





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Outline of Talk

- Prof Patrick Paul Walsh, UCD Full Professor and Director of the SDG Academy
UN Library & SDG Academy
- Ms Niamh Brennan, Programme Manager, Research Informatics Librarian,
Trinity College Dublin
Open Science – FAIR & MNiSTIR
- Dr Charles Larkin, Director of Research, Institute for Policy Research,
University of Bath
FAIR, MNiSTIR & the Science-Policy Interface



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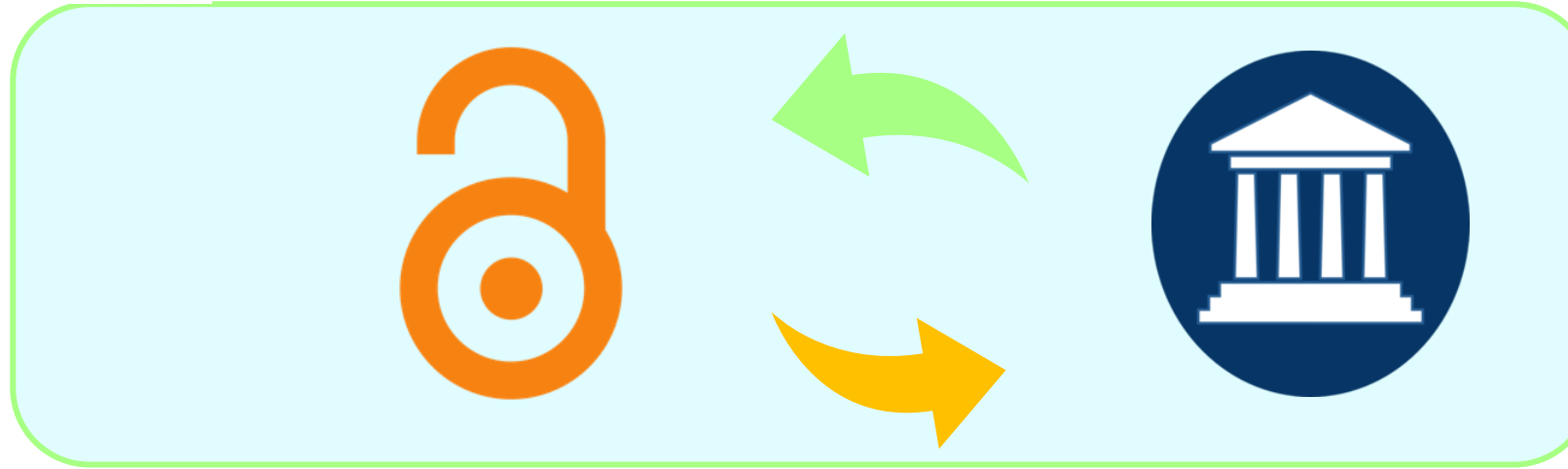


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Open Public Policy



39

MASSIVE OPEN
ONLINE
COURSES TO
DATE.



ENROLLMENTS
600k+

COUNTRIES/
TERRITORIES

193+

An initiative of the Sustainable
Development Solutions Network

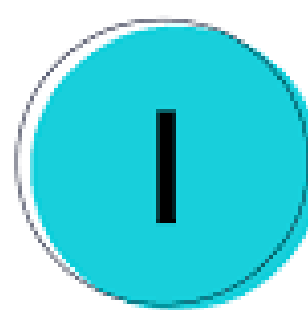




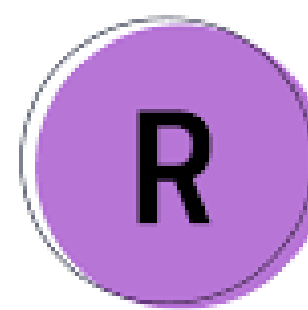
Findable



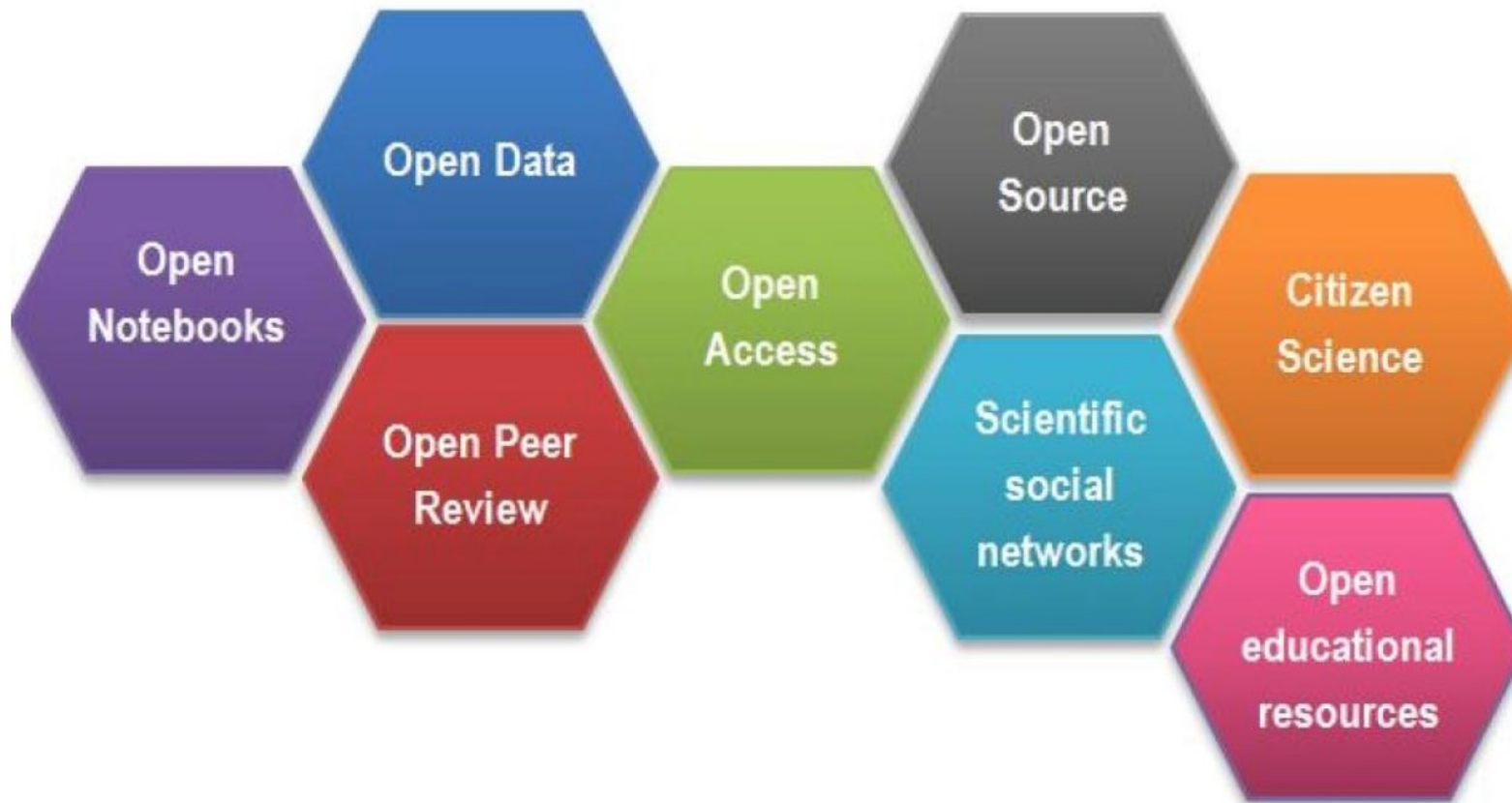
Accessible



Interoperable



Reusable



Open Science Beehive (Foster Open Science)

Make Public Policy FAIR!

• Findable • Accessible • Interoperable • Reusable



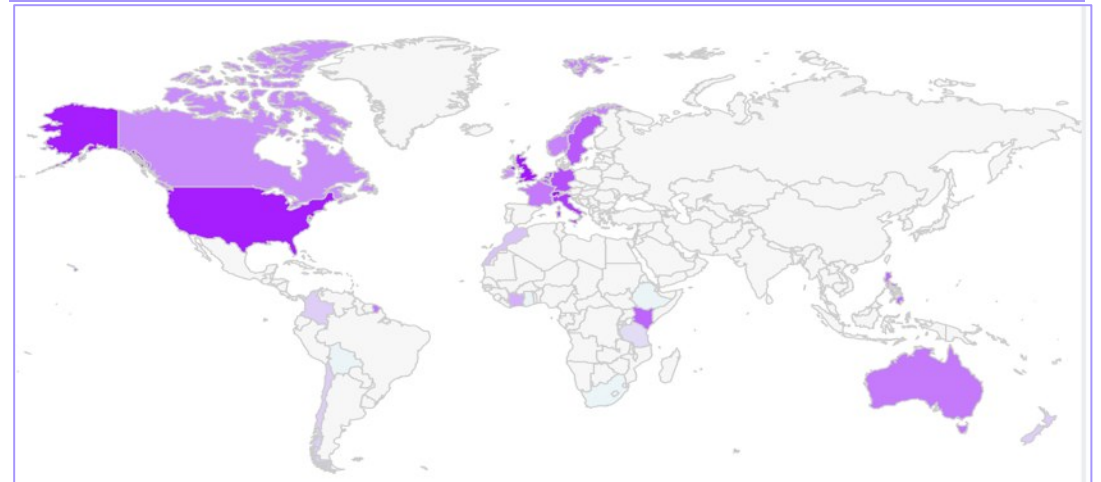
Public Policy Information is like Research Data.

- Digital
- Multi-faceted and varied
- “Grey” as in, not traditionally published
- Extremely Valuable
- Unstandardised (lacking metadata, identifiers etc.)
- Difficult to locate and access
- Not easily intelligible by machines
- Often composite (different types of media)
- Re-use/sharing rights: often unclear
- Not tracked or indexed in the same ways as other works of research interest
- Not cited
- Sharing/re-use not rewarded

Research Data: strong re-use support

- FAIR Principles - mandated
- Data Management Plans & DMP Online
- Standardised Research Data Management e.g. Science Europe template
- Increasing tracking: Data citation indices, Impact Story, inclusion in Open Science metrics

Public Policy Information: more re-use support needed



TCD Research Public Policy mentions. Source: Altmetric.com

FAIR is the practical foundation needed to support Open Public Policy

FAIR Public Policy needs complementary practical human and organizational supports

- Metrics, Next Generation
- Skills & Training
- Incentives & Rewards

= MNiSTIR

Institutions, Funders, Agencies:

Support FAIR for Public Policy Information!

+

MNiSTIR to Open Policy Exchange!



Understanding the Science Process-Policy Process Interface

Figure 4: Information flows in an ideal open government system

Humanities & Social Sciences
Communications



COMMENT



<https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-022-01132-5>

OPEN

Transforming evidence for policy: do we have the evidence generation house in order?

Ruth Stewart ^{1✉}, Harsha Dayal ², Laurenz Langer¹ & Carina van Rooyen ¹

Why Do this?

EBDM vs EIDM

Evidence Based Decision Making

Evidence Informed Decision Making

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Evidence System versus Policy System: Institutionalisation of EIP



FAIR and MNiSTIR are necessary!



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Patrick Paul Walsh is currently on secondment to UN SDSN as Vice President of Education and Director the SDG Academy. He remains a Full Professor of International Development Studies, Director of the UCD Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Director of the UCD M.Sc. in Sustainable Development in partnership with UN SDSN.

Niamh Brennan is Programme Manager for Research Informatics in Trinity College Library Dublin where she works on research reporting, evaluation and impact. She is responsible for the development of Trinity's Research Support System and its institutional repository, TARA

Charles Larkin is Director of Research at the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Bath

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