want2know: a Greek platform for citizens who want Open access to Data

Submitted on 17 Jun 2013 by Charalambos Bratsas
On the occasion of the OKFN press release "G8 countries must work harder to open up essential data", and its announcement on the Greek Media, OKFN Greece also released the want2know platform.

The corresponding activity in Greece is still at an early stage. More specifically, OKFN Greece two months ago, offered the Greek State the Greek Open Data Portal. The European Commission Vice President for Digital Agenda, Neelie Kroes, personally sent her best wishes to the group of Greek OKF for this venture.

Since then, however, no public agency has expressed its interest to enrich the Greek Open Data hub with their open data, mainly because there is no national strategy around open data. The process of Open Census gave OKFN Greece the idea to implement want2know, aimed at motivate the citizens themselves. Citizens will be able to request the data they want to know and in which they want to have open access and be informed of existing ones.

This application is made firstly for informational purposes and aims, with the help of all Greek citizens to publish new packages of public sector data. Moreover, it is also a platform for data evaluation according to the criteria of OKFN for open data (per the open census requirements) and interoperability as suggested by the founder of Web, Tim Berners Lee. It remains to be seen whether the Greek state will take into account the requirements of the Digital Agenda, in order to catch up on open data progress and acquire one more weapon to fight chronic issues.