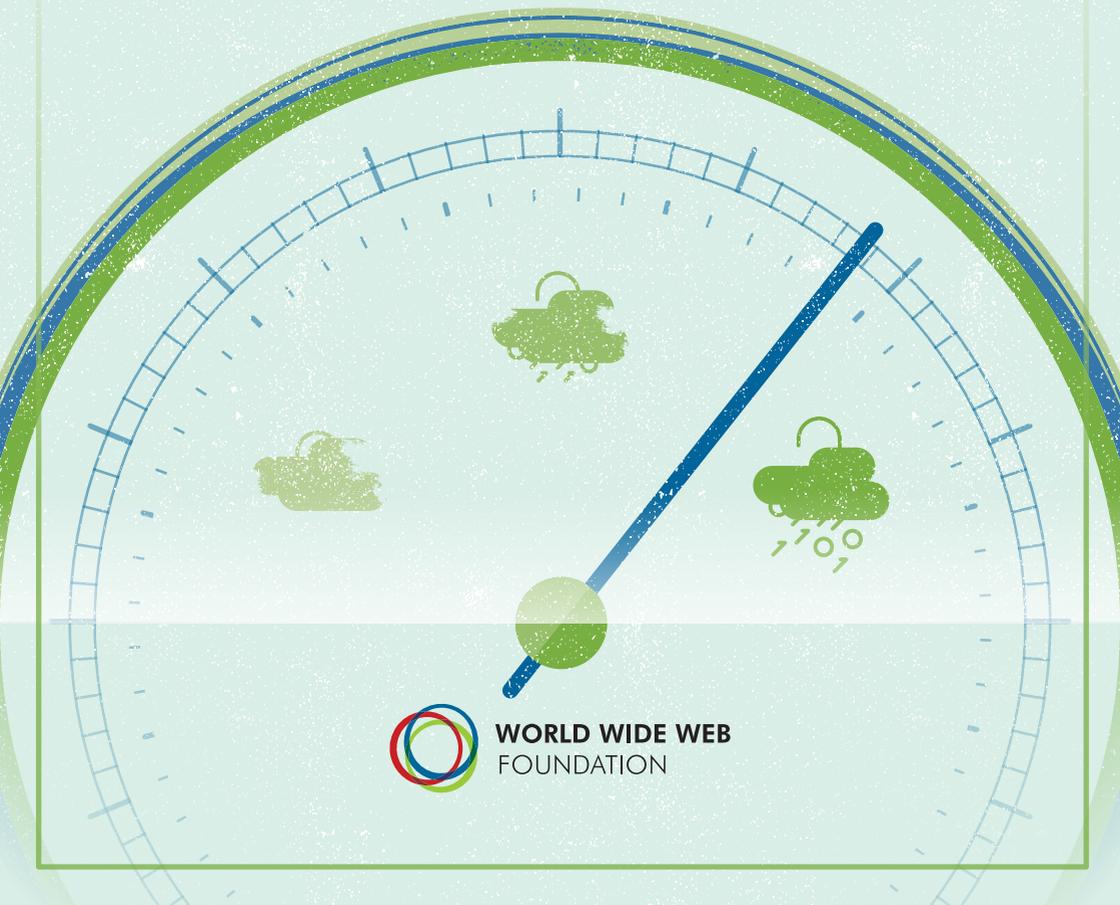




# OpenData Barometer

 a **Snapshot**

[www.opendatabarometer.org](http://www.opendatabarometer.org)



**WORLD WIDE WEB  
FOUNDATION**

The last edition of the Open Data Barometer was made possible through generous funding by



The IDRC (International Development Research Centre)  
by means of the Open Data for Development - OD4D program

You can contact the Barometer team by emailing: [project-odb@webfoundation.org](mailto:project-odb@webfoundation.org)

Members of the media can contact and request further information by emailing: [press@webfoundation.org](mailto:press@webfoundation.org)

## What is the Open Data Barometer?

Produced by the **World Wide Web Foundation**, the Open Data Barometer aims to uncover the true prevalence and impact of open data initiatives around the world.

Covering **92** countries in the forthcoming edition and expanding up to **120** jurisdictions in next future ones, the Barometer ranks nations on:

- **Readiness** for Open Data initiatives
- **Implementation** of Open Data programmes
- **Impact** that Open Data is having on business, politics and civil society

The present edition of the Barometer will be the third, after two successful pilots, currently in transition towards a global policy making tool with a more participatory and inclusive process, stronger regional focus and the assessment of the International Open Data Charter principles.

It is put together by a global team of **more than 150** researchers and **government representatives**. It takes **over 6** months and **more than 8,000** hours of research work to compile. We address **more than 14,000** questions and respond to **more than 5,000** comments and suggestions.

## Why is the Barometer important?

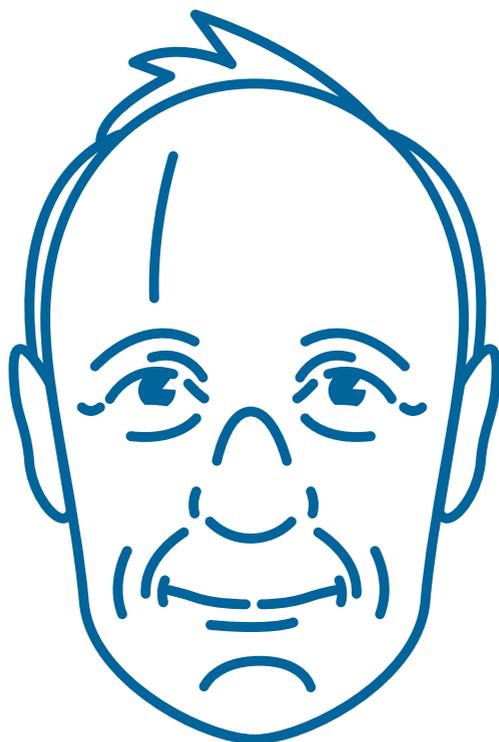
- 🌐 Open Data, accessed through a free and open Web, holds transformative potential.
- 🌐 It can enhance transparency - allowing citizens to participate more fully in the democratic process and hold leaders to account.
- 🌐 It can highlight inefficiencies and uncover solutions - allowing governments and development workers to tackle tough challenges more effectively.
- 🌐 Entrepreneurs can build new businesses that generate profit and improve the lives of millions.

But, to realise these benefits, we must be able to **measure** progress and **understand** what models work best in different contexts.

“ The Open Data Barometer is an important part of the puzzle and a good snapshot of where we are now.

**Sir Tim Berners-Lee**

*inventor of the World Wide Web*



## What Did the 2014 Barometer Uncover so far?

**Governments are failing to use open data to deliver true transparency and accountability.** In more than 90% of countries surveyed, data that could help beat corruption and improve government services remains locked away: inaccessible or in closed formats.

**G7 countries are not leading by example.** In 2013, the G8 (now the G7) signed an Open Data Charter, pledging to become ‘open by default’. But almost half of these countries are still not publishing the key datasets they promised to release in 2013, with just two (UK and Canada) publishing land ownership data in open formats and under open licenses, and, amongst the G7 countries, only the UK having an open company register.

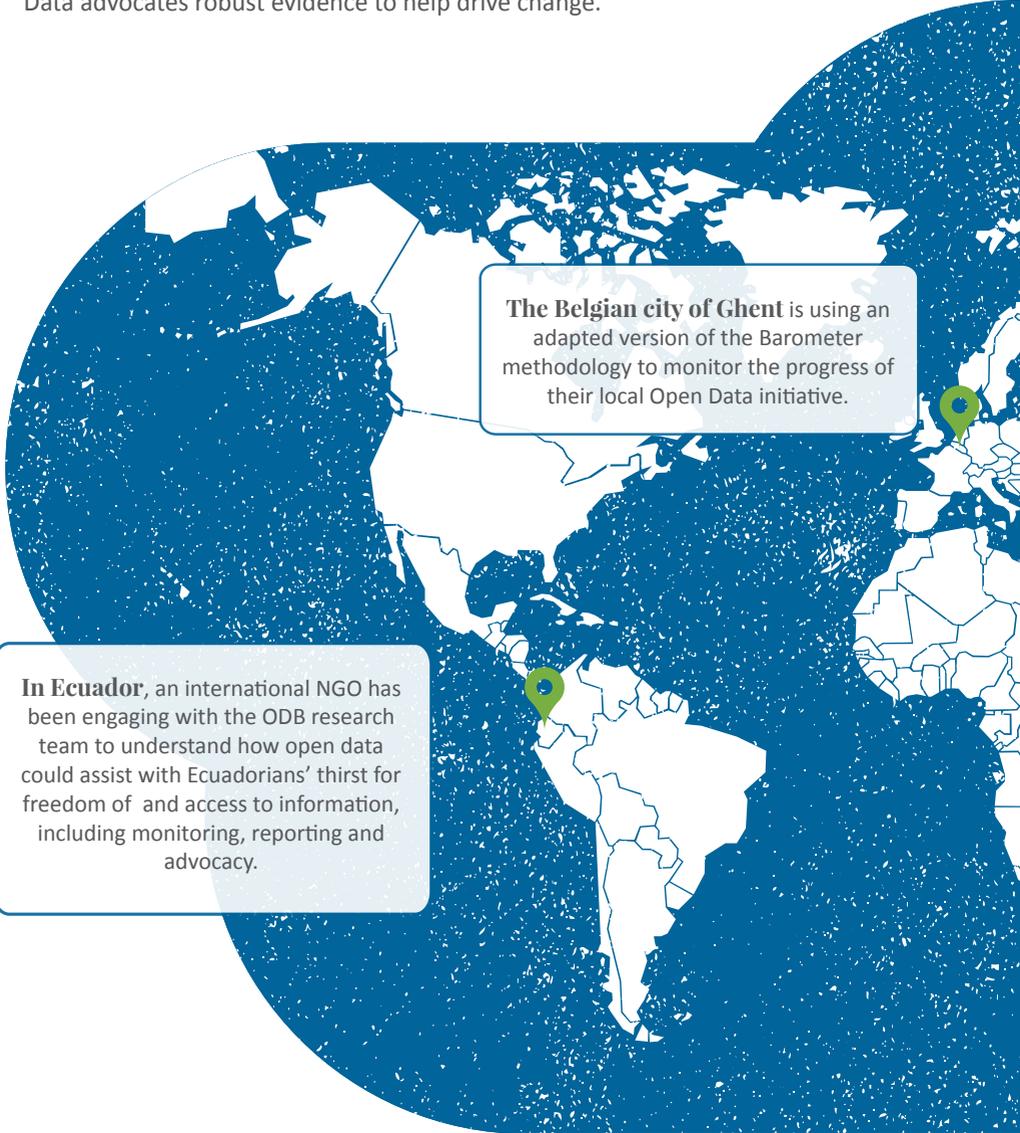
Country	Rank	Score	Change	Economic	Political	Social
UK	1	100	0	80	98	77
US	2	92.66	0	100	98	54
France	4	80.21	6	79	74	60
Canada	7	74.52	1	39	50	60
Germany	10	67.63	-1	46	65	26
Japan	19	53.58	-5	20	17	43
Italy	22	50.58	-2	39	43	9

**True evidence of impact from Open Data remains rare.** Entrepreneurial open data use has overtaken accountability as the most observed impact. Transparency and accountability impacts are the second most observed impact, though within ‘emerging and advancing’ countries transparency and accountability impacts come top. The effective use of open data to increase environmental sustainability and support greater inclusion of marginalised groups remains extremely limited.

**The UK is number one at harnessing open data for social and economic benefit.** ...followed by the US, Sweden, France, and New Zealand. France was among the biggest climbers last edition, rising six places. Among developing nations, Indonesia, Nigeria, and Brazil are all making strong progress.

## What impact is the Open Data Barometer making?

The Barometer is already sparking real world change in **over 20 nations**. It has directly influenced policies for the better around the world, and is giving Open Data advocates robust evidence to help drive change.



**The Belgian city of Ghent** is using an adapted version of the Barometer methodology to monitor the progress of their local Open Data initiative.

**In Ecuador**, an international NGO has been engaging with the ODB research team to understand how open data could assist with Ecuadorians' thirst for freedom of and access to information, including monitoring, reporting and advocacy.



**In Myanmar**, transparency activists are using the country's low ranking on the Barometer to urge Government to accelerate progress on Open Data.

**Qatar** is using the Barometer to develop and improve their national Open Data policy.

**The Malaysian government** is explicitly using the Barometer study and ranking as a policy target for their Open Data efforts.

## Who's Listening?

- 🌐 The Open Data Barometer has reached **policy makers** and the open data community... and it has also helped to put Open Data's potential as a tool for transparency and development into the public eye.
- 🌐 The launch of the last Open Data Barometer saw hundreds of stories in the press, including a story on the front page of the BBC website which generated **1,000 user comments**.
- 🌐 **7550 users** delved into the report on our dedicated website **in just three days** around launch.

BBC

WIRED

GIGAOM

Le Monde

Forbes

The  
New York  
Times

THE TIMES OF INDIA

MYANMARTIMES

Daily Times

 AllAfrica

  
GhanaWeb



#OpenDataBarometer reached over 800,000 impressions on Twitter on launch day

## Tweets #OpenDataBarometer



**The Web Foundation**   
@webfoundation

Seguir

The 2nd edition of our #OpenDataBarometer is now out! Read the report & explore the data- [barometer.opendataresearch.org](http://barometer.opendataresearch.org)

Ver traducción



RETWEETS

114

FAVORITOS

61



19:44 - 19 ene. 2015



**Steve Peters**  
@Open\_Data

Seguir

@datagovuk just featured on main BBC evening news. Now we're getting somewhere #opendata #localgov

Ver traducción

RETWEETS

6

FAVORITOS

5



10:24 - 20 ene. 2015



**Mark Easton**   
@BBCMarkEaston

Seguir

"Dumping data ticks the box but doesn't do the job." @Meg\_HillierMP warns transparency is not accountability on @BBCNews at 6.

Ver traducción

RETWEETS

9

FAVORITOS

4



9:53 - 20 ene. 2015



## What's Next?

- 🌐 **Building the Global Open Data Agenda:** The Barometer is already being used as an agenda setting document at regional and inter-governmental level, and we'll continue to improve its effectiveness as a policy tool.
- 🌐 **Growing the Barometer to a global policy making, advocacy and accountability tool:** The Barometer is completing adaption as the reference tool for upcoming International Open Data Charter implementation monitoring efforts.
- 🌐 **Driving standardisation of Open Data Assessment methods:** The Barometer is helping to drive global efforts towards increasing standardisation of Open Data assessment methods, leading the development of a shared agenda for measuring Open Data and enhanced collaboration.
- 🌐 **Expanding capacity at the regional level:** The Barometer is exploring a new research model to build the study from the regional to the global. This will lead to expanded capacity at the regional level to drive forward future improvements in the medium term, as well as improved accuracy and relevance for the Barometer itself.
- 🌐 **Sparking further research:** The Barometer has already been used as the basis for other research frequently, with continuous requests from researchers for different insights of the method and the results. Further secondary desk and empirical research projects building upon the Barometer are also expected.

## Want to get involved?

There are various opportunities - from helping us to fund, broaden and finesse the research, to taking part as a country and thematic expert researcher.

Email: [project-odb@webfoundation.org](mailto:project-odb@webfoundation.org) to start the conversation.

Only 7% of countries in the Open Data Barometer release open data on health services



Just 12% of countries in the Open Data Barometer publish open data on education



## Some of our work in the open data arena



Co-leading the International **Open Data Charter** since inception to promote the adoption of global principles for the release of data and co-chairing the accountability working group.



Co-chairing the **Open Data Working Group of the Open Government Partnership** (200 members – 80 governments and 120 civil society organisations).



Being a member of the **Open Data for Development - OD4D - Network** to scale effective and viable open data solutions for economic and social development.



Harnessing the Data Revolution for inclusive growth and sustainable development through the formation of the **Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data** together with more than 20 other organisations.



Building the **Open Contracting Data Standard** to make contracting information more useful and accessible, enhancing and promoting disclosure and participation in public contracting.



Running the **Open Data Research Network** – 17 organizations plus 11 expert mentors from 25 countries. Key outputs include the Open Data Barometer and the ongoing Open Data in Developing Countries Research.

Only 8% of governments in the Open Data Barometer publish open data on public spending



Only 6% of countries in the Open Data Barometer release open data on government contracts





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## About the Barometer and the World Wide Web Foundation

Established in 2009 by the Web's inventor, Sir Tim Berners-Lee, the Web Foundation exists to advance the open Web as a public good and a basic right.

We believe that everyone should be able to use the Web to participate in decisions and demand accountability. Opening up the data held by governments and corporations is crucial to achieving this. Why? Open data makes complex and opaque problems intelligible to citizens, not only fostering greater accountability and transparency, but also enabling 'crowdsourced' innovation in solving difficult social problems.

We continue to seek funding, support and partnerships to ensure the sustainability of the Open Data Barometer.

