



[Open] Fiscal Data

Sander van der Waal, July 2018

[Open] Fiscal Data Package

[Open] Fiscal Data Package Mission Statement

An open standard for publishing fiscal data.

- Open by nature
- Supported by open tools
- Simple to use
- Defines standard file formats, data types and metadata
- Is able to work with whatever data is currently being published
- Doesn't carry an opinion on the fiscal system or process
- Flexible and extensible so that to fit as many different government use cases and scenarios

Key features of OFDP v1.0

Minimise assumptions about data, while flexibly supporting extensions

- Moved away from complex fiscal modelling we trialled
- Adapt to support any classification or dimension - no longer predefined
- Extension of the Tabular Data Package - all optional
 - Based on Frictionless Data - <https://frictionlessdata.io>



Recent improvements of OFDP

- Richer structure:
- Added concept of 'constant fields', for implicit knowledge / metadata
- Added built-in facility for de-normalising the source data
- Use of Foreign Keys for allowing use of code-lists as part of the spec
- Lightweight taxonomy 'column types' for describing the columns of a fiscal data file

Can convert to single structure to allow for easier comparison

Open Spending

Search over **3,029** data packages from **80** countries
with over **107,974,979** fiscal records.

Search for available fiscal data (e.g. Berlin, Mexico, ESIF, etc.)



What is OpenSpending?



OpenSpending in-a-box

- Support for on-premises installation of OpenSpending
- All features from OpenSpending available and customisable
- Retain full control over infrastructure and data availability
- Access to data for end users via similar API as central OpenSpending
- Synchronise with central Open Spending if desired

Fiscal Helpdesk

Fiscal Helpdesk - 2 levels of support

- Light touch support
 - Work together to define use cases to understand critical issues and what can be done with fiscal data
 - General introductions to [Open] Fiscal Data Package and OpenSpending
 - Identifying approaches for converting data from existing systems to OFDP
 - Suggesting existing tools and services which may help governments publish and use Fiscal Data Packages
 - Providing guidance on mapping data structures to the specification
 - Giving feedback on draft data files, and support with validation of data
- Scoping and requirements support
 - More in-depth bespoke support to publish high quality budget and spending data
- Email openspending-support@okfn.org (or talk to me after the session)
 - Support in English and Spanish

Connect ODFP with [OCDS]

More than the sum of our parts

- Value arises from being able to compare data across datasets
 - Not JUST budget data and spending data
 - Not JUST contract data
 - Not JUST [insert favourite dataset here]
- The problem is that data is still often:
 - ... scattered across different portals and sites
 - ... unconnected
 - ... incomplete
 - ... unfindable
 - ...
- Lots of work needed to turn transparency into accountability

Connect ODFP with [OCDS]

Connect ODFP with [EITI]

Connect ODFP with [IATI]

Connect ODFP with [...]



Thank you!

Sander van der Waal

sander.vanderwaal@okfn.org

@sandervdwaal