

Workshop practicalities

- Click on « connect audio » but please mute your microphones
- Please share your questions & comments via the chat
- The webinar will be recorded





Towards a data space



The new Transition Pathway for Tourism identifies 5 actions which are based on data sharing:

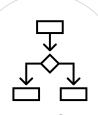
- Improving access to data to produce official statistics (Topic 3)
- Common data sharing principles and practices between stakeholders under a Code of Conduct (Topic 9)
- Increasing use of data sharing in providing personalised tourism services and destination management, including creation of new platforms by SMEs (Topic 9)
- Improving the availability of online information on tourism offer (Topic 10)
- Technical implementation to set up a tourism data space (Topic 14)



A data space for tourism at EU level: we are in the exploratory phase



What does it take for a successful data space? And what should the exact role of the European Commission be?



DATA MODELS

Adapt existing, develop new data models & provide validation tools

SEMIC Support

The goal is to deliver pragmatic support that helps build an Interoperable Europe



RECOMMENDATIONS

Taking on board the recommendations of experts



STUDIES

Research into the costs and benefits of semantics for the public sector

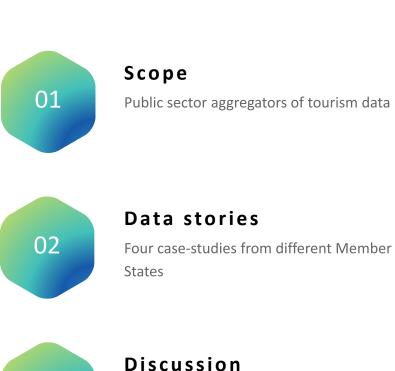


SUPPORT CENTRE

Resources to help onboarding and communication on both

L1 and L2 level

Agenda





Input from participants



Next steps

How can we co-operate on this file?









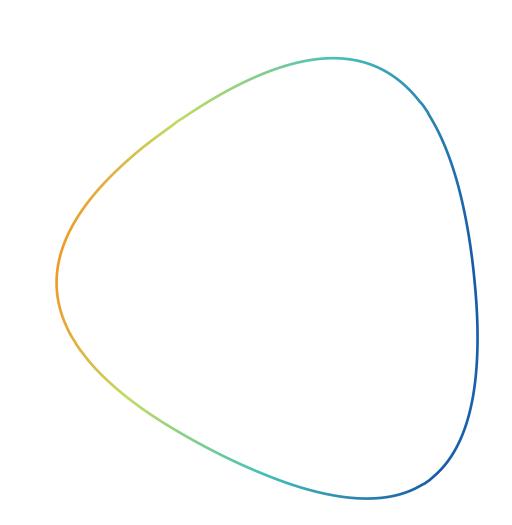
Data stories focused on opportunities & challenges of semantics for the exchange of tourism data:

Flanders – Digitaal Vlaanderen, Provincie Antwerpen & Westtoer

Finland - Business Finland

France – ADN Tourism

The Netherlands – Touripedia





Tourism data space & semantics

- Locally defined semantics need to work globally on the Web, e.g. capacity is expressed in number of beds or people?
- Let's build on existing work & experience :
 - Virtual Tourism Observatory & existing legal basis for tourism statistics (Regulation (EU) 692/2011)
 - Leverage existing standards (e.g. <u>Schema.org</u>) and knowledge bases (e.g. <u>Wikidata.org</u>)
- Ensure multilingualism & EU values
- Need to be pragmatic & focus on concrete use cases for the cross-border exchange of data
- Cross-DG collaboration: GROW, CNECT, DIGIT, ESTAT, OP & JRC



Flanders - Digitaal Vlaanderen, Provincie Antwerpen & Westtoer



Exercise in Flanders (2015)









































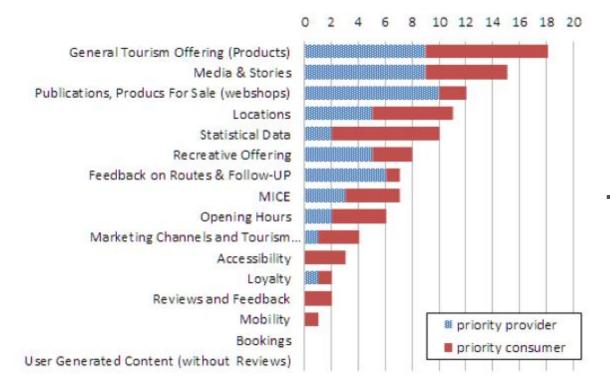






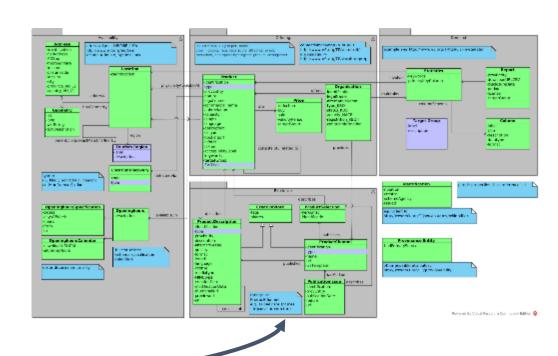


Exercise in Flanders (2015)



De Vocht, L., Verborgh, R., Mannens, E., Van de Walle, R., Van den Bosch, W., Buyle, R., & Koninckx, B. (2016, March). Providing interchangeable open data to accelerate development of sustainable regional mobile tourist guides. In Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance (pp. 195-198).

http://dx.doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.1.1947.1122/1







Strategic goal

Promoting and making the province more attractive as a travel destination for visitors to Flanders and its surrounding areas

-> Providing accurate, promotional up-to-date tourism data, to be used as

basic for content for marketing promotion and product development

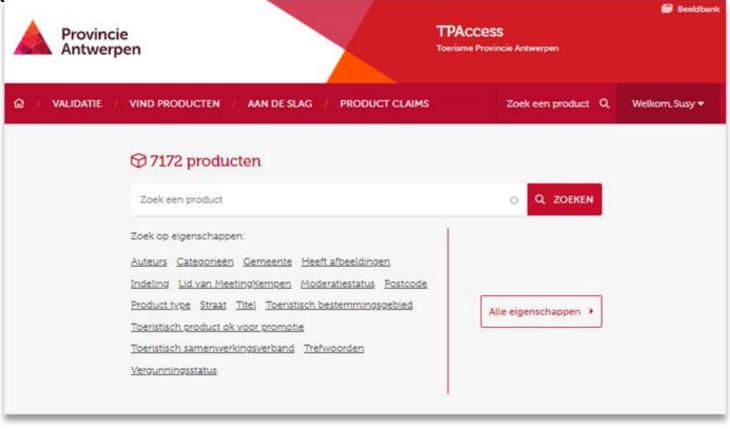
TPAccess

7.200 products

- 3.900 accomodations
- 1.630 POI's

Types of data

- Accommodations (hotel, camping,...)
- POI's (attractions, sightseeing,...)
- Tourist information offices



API Connections - Import

Open data Tourism Flanders

Accommodations

Open data

Content

contact information

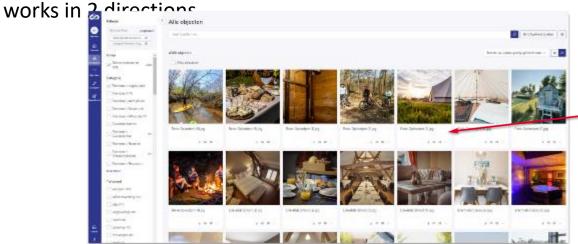
licensing data

contact persons

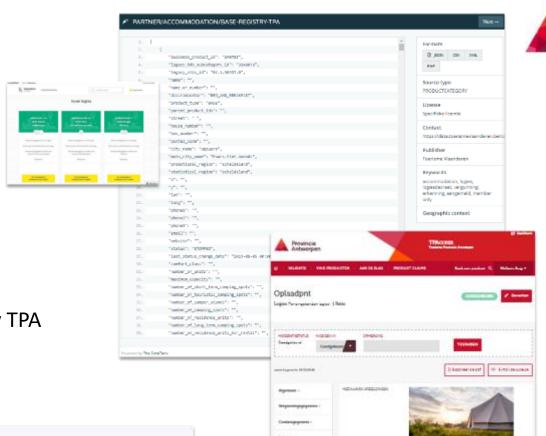
accessibility data

-> promotional data = to be provided by TPA

Connection provincial image database









API Connections - Export

Linking with websites and digital

applications

Data sharing

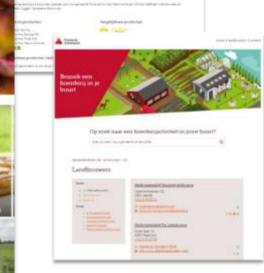
Automatic data updating

Examples

Toerismezuidrand.be Bezoekdeboerderij.be Lekkersmetstreken.be Routeplanner Lannoo



ERREN DE KOUDE BEEK MET GIDS OF ZONDAG 1



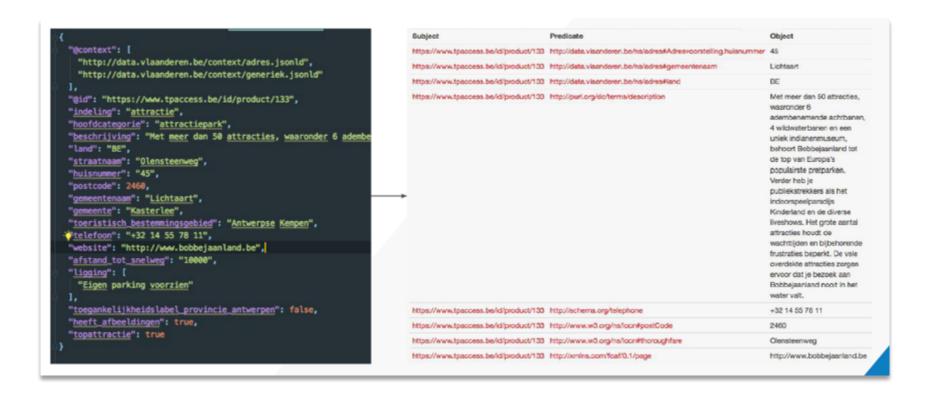
Op zoek near lekkers in jouw buurt?



API Connections - Export

Open data export

- Facilitated during the construction of TPAccess
- Minimal performed due to lack of data model (part of accommodation)
- No clear rules how to make open data exports available









Partnerships

Collected data stops usually at the borders of a city, a province, a country...

Tourists don't...

Tourists should be able to travel across borders, without noticing that they are getting into another provider's data.

Flanders

How to make open data sets for Flanders available?

- -> Each province uses its own datasets, in its own data systems
- -> Each system uses its own vocabulary, its own semantic



Vlaamse provincies

Partnership touristic region 'Tourisme Scheldeland'

- part in province of Antwerp
- part in province of East-Flanders
- -> Each province uses its own datasets, in its own data systems
- -> Working together to develop marketing campaigns, or build websites exposes a number of problems





Kerncijfers Kust 2020



2,2 miljard euro bestedingen = 22 900 VTE werkgelegenheid (direct + indirect)

> 3,0 miljard euro bestedingen = 31 679 VTE WGH

	2020	2019	
bedden	635 153	629 787	+1%
aankomsten	4,0 miljoen	5,5 miljoen	-27%
Comm. logies	1,6 miljoen	2,7 miljoen	-39%
overnachtingen Comm.	23,2 miljoen 8,2 miljoen	27,7 miljoen 11,7 miljoen	-16% -30%
logies dagtoeristen	10,0 miljoen	17,2 miljoen	-42%





hindsight

foresight







supply

demand















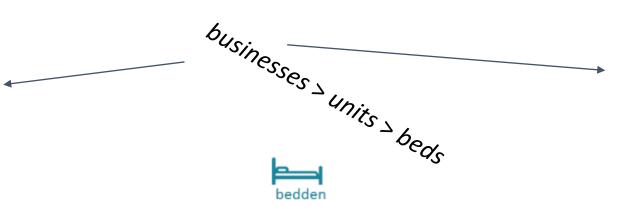


hotel?



holiday home or secondary residence?

nights / sleeper nights / occupied beds / ...





to be or not to be a campsite?

arrivals / guests / ...



occupied units → occupancy rate



overnachtingen Occupied nights







Challenges

- Consensus building with a broad stakeholder group (including private sector)
- Increasing stakeholder knowledge
 (both data providers and data consumers)
 → need for capacity building
- Tailoring to a wide variety of stakeholders and use cases
- Stability versus agility



Conclusion

Need for recap of requirements exercise

Initiation of a trajectory on standardisation for tourism data on all interoperability levels (semantical, legal)

Share and reuse best practices

Finland – Business Finland



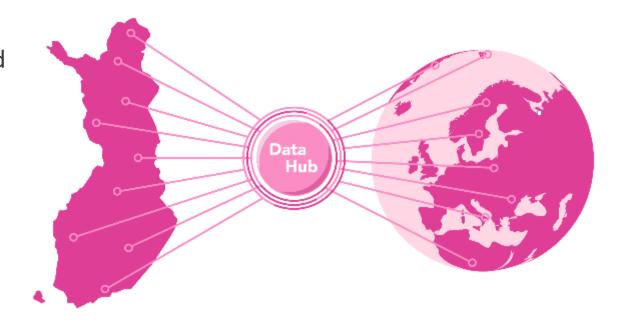
Visit Finland DataHub

What is Visit Finland DataHub?

 Database – finnish travel companies can register and insert data of their company and travel services and products

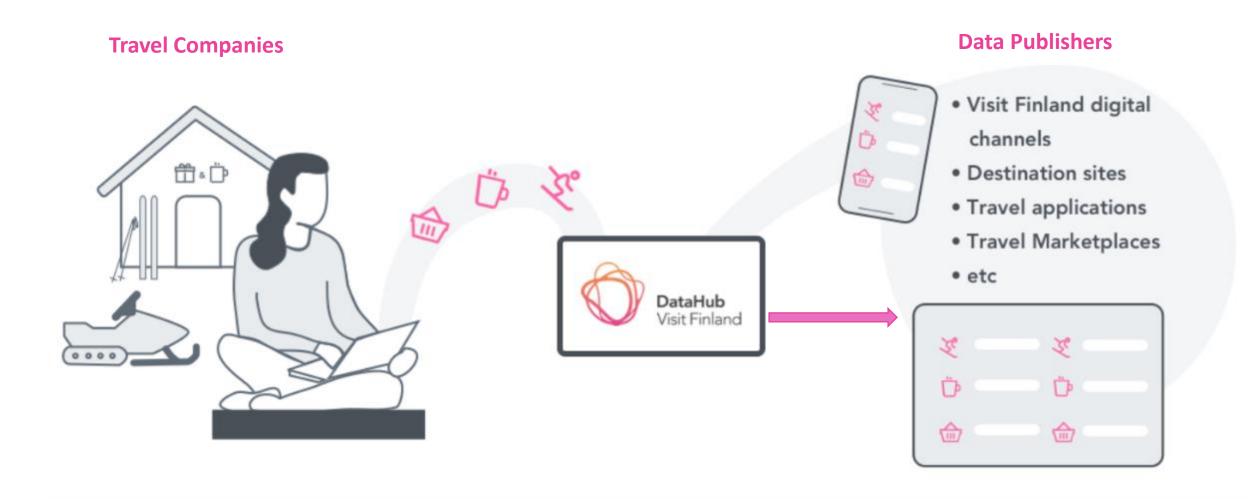
(*data = non bookable data = marketing content)

• Interface (API) – different digital publishers can retrieve and publish travel data





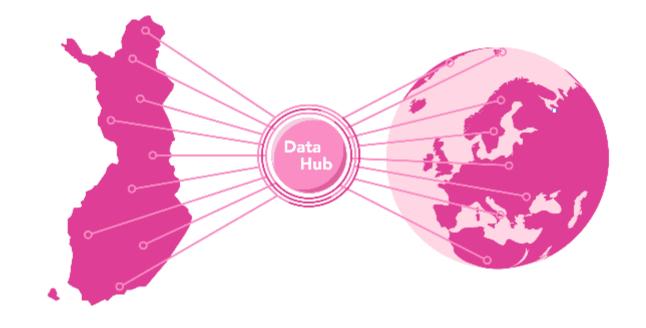
How does DataHub work?



06/04/2022 First name Last name 30

Why Visit Finland DataHub?

- Travel product content is needed in a lot of different digital channels – multichannel visibility is a key to findability and building demand
- Travel product content was previously stored in lots of local databases
- Data needs to be easily updated, ie pictures, contacts etc, travel companies can manage own content





DataHub product types

Select product type





Accommodation

Short-term bookable accommodation



Attraction

Natural, cultural, or entertaining tourist destination or sight



Experience

Activity, excursion or packaged tour



Event

Event attracting tourists



Rental service

Short-term bookable equipment or vehicles



Restaurant

Establishment for eating or drinking



Shop

Establishment selling goods or services



Venue

Meeting and event venues



Language versions: German / English / Spanish / Finnish / French / Italian / Japanese / Russian / Swedish / Chinese

Product name

Arctic Hilltop Boutique Hotel Iso-Syöte

Product description

The Arctic Hilltop Boutique Hotel Iso-Syöte is standing grandly on a hilltop in one of the snowiest areas of Finland next to a peaceful national park. In the relaxing spa, all the senses are calmed down and the high-quality panoramic Restaurant Hilltop offers nourishment both for the soul and the body. Hotel Iso-Syōte also offers joyful experiences of a true winter wonderland, such as skiing, snowshoeing, downhill skiing as well as snowmobile, reindeer and husky safaris.

The boutique hotel rooms and Aurora View Suites offer stylish and customised options. Comfort and design are found in the elegant experience suites: the Bear Cave Suite, the Eagle View Suite and the Phoenix Suite.

The Fell Top Cottages and Kelo cottages offer ambience, surrounded by unspoiled nature as far as the eye can see.

External Links

Product webshop 2 Product webpage 2

Product information

Sustainability certified

Accessible

Product type

Accommodation

Target group

Individual, Group, B2C, B2B (tour operator)

Categories

Specialty accommodation

Season

January	August
February	Septembe
March	October
April	Novembe
June	December

July

Opening hours

Monday	08:00-22:00
Tuesday	08:00-22:00
Wednesday	08:00-22:00
Thursday	08:00-22:00
Friday	08:00-22:00
Saturday	08:00-22:00
Sunday	08:00-22:00

Contacts and location

Company Name

Arctic Hilltop Boutique Hotel Iso-Syöte

Phone number

+358201476400

Email

myyntipalvelu@isosyote.fi

Location

Isosyötteentie 246, 93280 Syöte

Coordinates

65.624505, 27.609032

See location on Google Maps



Product name

Arctic Forest Sauna and Hot Tub with Northern Lights

Product description

Head to a very traditional and special place located in the arctic forest, surrounded by magic landscapes and ice lakes. Discover the traditional sauna and an open-air hot tub. There is also an Arctic lake where you can try ice swimming.

Sauna is such an important part of Finnish culture that is irreplaceable by other things. It has been a place for physical and spiritual cleansing for centuries. Dipping in the icy lakes and rolling in the snow are said to be good for your blood circulation.

You can lie in the hot tub and look at the magical Northern Lights. After the sauna experience, go to the frozen lake to hunt for the Northern Lights with hot drinks and gingerbread.

External Links

Product webpage 2 Product webshop 2

Product information

Sustainability certified

-

Accessible

No

Product type

Experience

Target group

Individual, Group, B2C, B2B (tour operator)

Pricing (incl. VAT)

Price from 99,00 € to 139,00 € - pricing unit missing

Duration

3 hours

Categories

Local lifestyle Forests Northern lights

Natural site Ice swimming

Sauna experience

Season

January September February October March November April December

May

Opening hours

 Monday
 18:00-21:00

 Tuesday
 Closed

 Wednesday
 18:00-21:00

 Thursday
 Closed

 Friday
 18:00-21:00

 Saturday
 18:00-21:00

 Sunday
 Closed

Contacts and location

Company Name

Nordic Unique Travels Oy

Email

info@nordictravels.eu

Phone number

+358 401453300

Location

Maakuntakatu 29-31, 96200 Rovaniemi

Product photos



7.6.2021



Beautiful Canal Route

Stromma Finland

O Helsinki

Elämys

7.6.2021



Helsinki Pizza Cruise

Stromma Finland

O Helsinki

Elämys

12.8.2021



Helsinki City Highlights

Stromma Finland

O Helsinki

Elämys



Travel Info About Finland Destinations Seasons Experi

DESTINATIONS V

SEASONS V

ACCESSIBLE



Beautiful Canal Route

SPRING / SUMMER / AUTUMN

On this popular boat sightseeing tour you will get to see the beautiful shorelines of Helsinki. We pass many famous sights, including the historic Suomenlinna Fortress, Helsinki Zoo on Korkeasaari Island, the fleet of icebreakers and Degerö Canal. Along the way you will hear fascinating stories about the archipelago. Recorded commentary via loudspeakers in Finnish, English, German and Swedish. Written information is available also in Russian, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Estonian, Japanese and Chinese.

☑ VISIT WEBSITE

☑ GO TO SHOP

CATEGORIES

Culinary Highlights. Activities. Boating, Sailing, Cruising, Attractions, Sightseeing

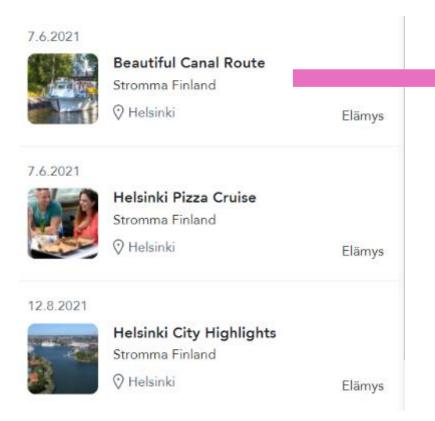
SERVICE IS

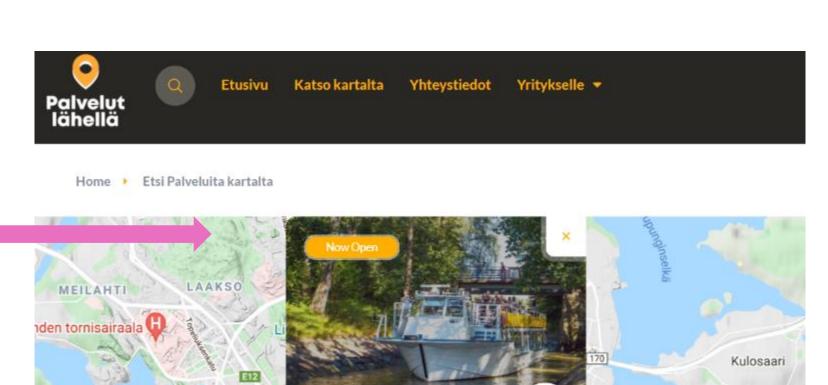
& Accessible ✓ Sustainable

CONTACT

Market Square / Kauppatori Helsinki \$ +358922881600







Q Katrinegatan 9, 00170 Helsingfors, Finland

Kaunis Kanavareitti

KLUUVI-

Helsinki

Lisätietoja ->

TÖÖLÖ

Suomen kansallismuse

Temppeliaukion kirkko

Sibelius-monumentti

saari

06/04/2022 First name Last name 36

Helsingin tuomiokirkko

yötävä Puisto

läintarha



7.6.2021



Beautiful Canal Route

Stromma Finland

O Helsinki

Elämys

7.6.2021



Helsinki Pizza Cruise

Stromma Finland

O Helsinki

Elämys

12.8.2021

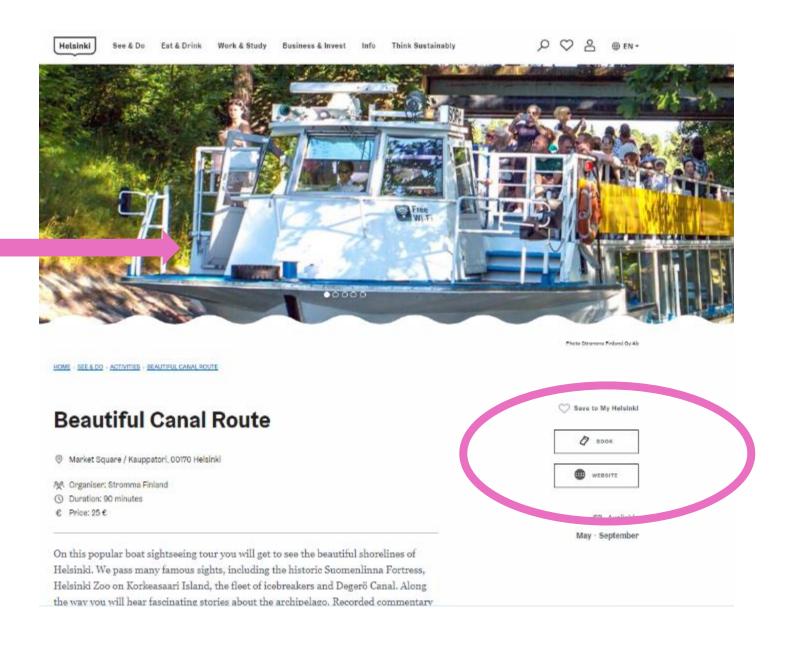


Helsinki City Highlights

Stromma Finland

O Helsinki

Elämys



06/04/2022 First name Last name 37

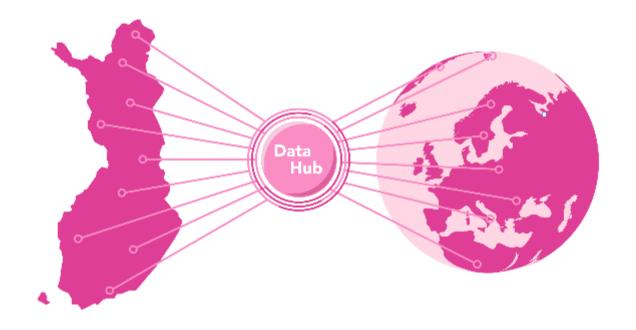
Next with Visit Finland DataHub?

Visit Finland DataHub is a batabase for all travel and tourism content in Finland

1 Products

2 Packages

3 Destination content



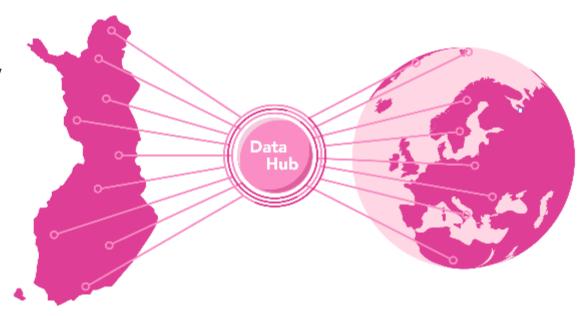


Lets work together to harmonise the travel data!

Next we will build an API-in

 Challenge is that there is over 20 different inventory management systems, booking engines etc in use – no standard data structures

 Lot's of international channels retrieving the content / data



Lets harmonise the travel product data tables in EU level





Annakaisa Ojala - Visit Finland, Business Finland

<u>Annakaisa.ojala@businessfinland.fi</u>

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France – ADN Tourism





Workshop on the importance of semantics for the Tourism data space March 30th

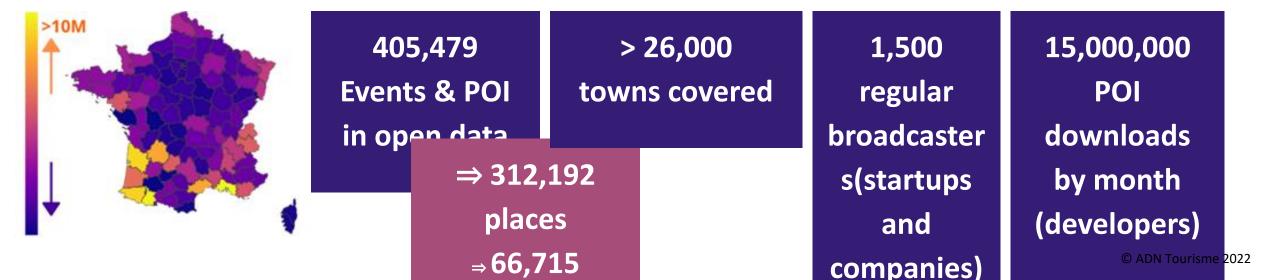
Case from France

Pascale Vinot (ADN Tourisme)

What is DATAtourisme?



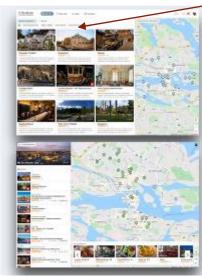
- Official Open Data Platform for collecting the whole inventory of Events and Point of Interest
- Made of several parts :
 - the ontology (data format)
 - the platform (agregate + standardize + openly disseminate)
 - o some additional services : automated translation, quality control monitor, linked data services
- First supported and paid by FR gov (2015-2021), the device is now driven and supported by ADN Tourisme (FR federation for official tourist offices)



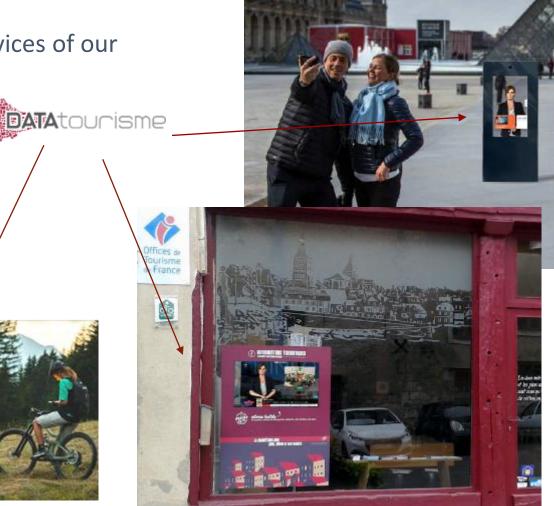
The use of this platform is available to anyone (public or private) who wants to develop digital services (free)

- Daily press website or webapp: what could I do today?
- DMO devices : prepare my stay, my route
- Virtual advisor thanks to IA, completing the services of our agents on strategic locations ...





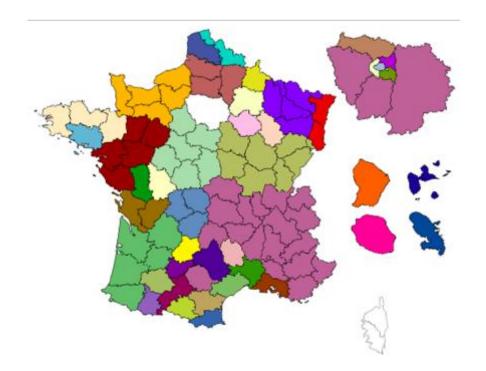


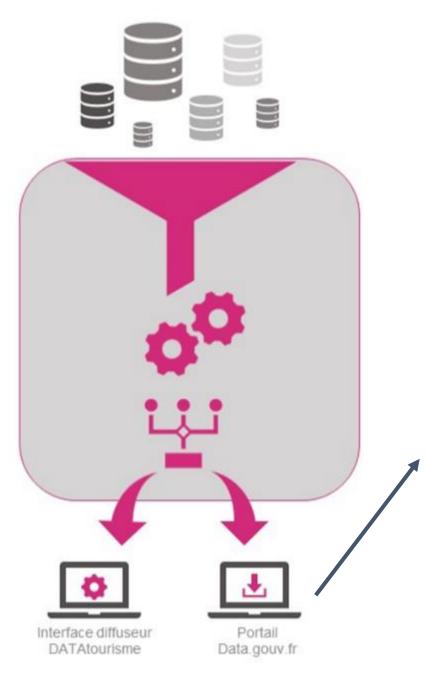


Focus on the importance of the semantic brick of this project

- Context: no single database in FR: more than 30 official public data bases depending on the area
- Data is collected and produced on the field by 1.500 of tourist offices
- Interoperability issue: no single format. Standardization was needed.
 - >> as we saw that the existing standards did not cover all the typologies of data produced by tourist offices, we decided to **create a complete ontology for tourism**: based on existing standards (schema.org) and completed with new concepts when necessary
- Thanks to this ontology, the national platform is able to agregate the data from 33 local bases and to unifie the format (ontology), to enable interoperability

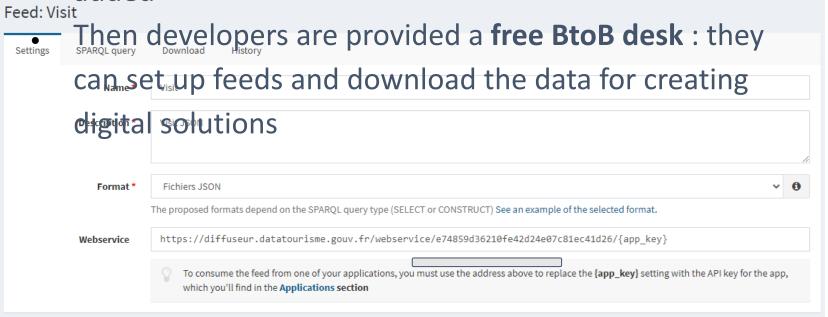
Official local French data bases (2019)





How does the semantic brick allows the unique desk and helps reuses?

- Each public tourist office sends its data feeds into the national platform thanks to webservices
 - >> automatic format standardization
 - >> automatic data **enrichment**: translation and pictures added



Focus on the ontology: attributes and relationships overview

Classification: 4 main classes

- **Event** (ephemeral)
- **Place** (museum, castle, hotel...)
- **Tour/route** (composed of stopovers)
- **Product** (activities, rooms)

More than 80 sub classes (4 levels)

- **natural heritage :** lake, cave, natural park, beach ...
- service provider: taxi company ... sports and leisure place: cinema, sport hall, ice skating rink ... tasting provider: wine cellar,
- farmer ...

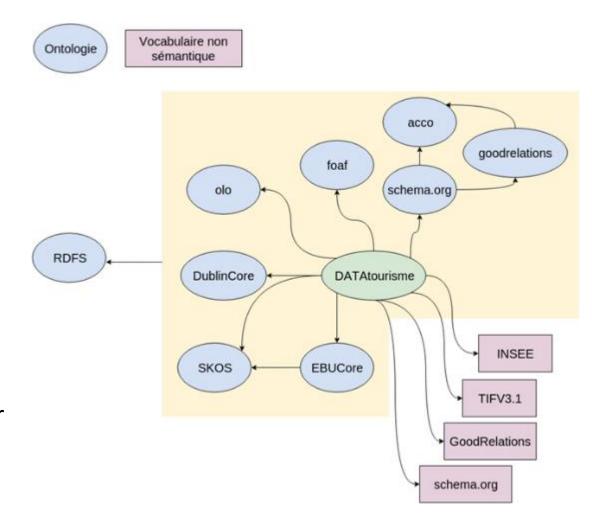
Several dozens of qualifying attributes PriorSpec licator

Dictionary > 1500 words to describe universally each POI

Our approach: first build on schema.org and other standards

The FR ontology is being modeled in order to **interconnect** with standard or recognized semantic ontologies :

- we had to create our own ontology because schema.org did not cover all types of POI we produce
- but we paid attention not to create twice any existing concept, property, or relationship
- we tried to ensure the best level of interoperability with other semantic systems
- therefore we especially strongly linked DATAtourisme to schema.org (through the modelling of the POI, their location and pricing)



Our approach: when necessary, complete the schema with additional branches and vocabulary





About 18 work months!

- set up a bottom-up organisation / collaborative project
- create working groupes involving all stakeholders : producers and reusers, public and private
- observe and benchmark practices in each local data base + in each existing schemas
- need to agree on a single vocabulary: if no consensus, discuss and decide collectively which classes and words should be considered as official
- helped by experts of ontology creation: they guided us and transformed our needs into a technical deliverable: the DATAtourisme ontology
- update the ontology several times a year

Next steps: enriching the ontology and extend its scope

- a "Point of interest" is a **universal concept** used by all of us worldwide
- the concepts and vocabulary selected for the FR ontology are ready to be shared
- each brick of our project is "Open Source"
- **interoperability** will be more efficient if a single standard is shared between EU states
 - having a unique european standard is the required first step for sharing our data and maybe
 create one day a unique desk for tourism offer data

⇒ we propose to define the EU standard using our work, in order to take advantage of the 4 years of work already done (scope of offer inventory)

1- Complete the schema with new needs from EU

2- Still focus on
POI inventory
(cold data)
as a 1st step

3- Languages: EN-DE-ES-IT-NE-PO available thanks to DG GROW. Could be completed.

4 - **Promote** it collectively to any data producer

5 - **Next steps**:

- EU offer catalogue
- Hub : connect to
 wider types of data





Pascale VINOT

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Linkedin: @pascalevinot

>> our idea is to share our expertise and agree on a semantic common base that will be considered as a reference for describing any Point of Interest - anywhere - by anyone - and reach a maximum EU interoperability!

What is DATAtourisme?

Video 1 : https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H0qdFv87lxg

Video 2 : https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15CfVLt246E

Video 3: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qmMgwpr 2 0

Official website: https://www.datatourisme.fr

Complete technical details, schemas and files: https://gitlab.adullact.net/adn-tourisme/datatourisme

Examples of websites fed by DATAtourisme:

- https://www.france.fr/fr/campagne/cetetejevisitelafrance-cartographie
- https://www.eterritoire.fr/evenements
- https://www.alltrails.com/trail/france/haut-rhin/parcours-vtt-des-trois-lacs
- <a href="https://www.francevelotourisme.com/pratique/loueurs-reparateurs-de-velotourisme.com/pratique/loueurs-de-v
- https://kidiwe.fr/



TO LEARN MORE:

Classification: 721 (universal) classes and sub classes

Entertainment and events:

- cultural events: exhibition, conference, artist signing, concert, reading...
- sports events : competition, demonstration, ...
- social events: local animation, traditional celebration, carnival, ...
- sale events : fair, market, open day...
- business events : congress, training workshop...

Tours:

- Cycling Tour
- Fluvial Tour
- Horse Tour
- Road Tour
- Walking Tour

Products:

- Visit product
- Practice product : course, traineeship, testing ...
- Rental product : equipment ...
- Accomodation product : room, camping pitch...

TO LEARN MORE:

Classification: 721 (universal) classes and sub classes

Place of interest:

- natural heritage: lake, cave, natural park, beach
- service provider : taxi company ...
- sports and leisure place: cinema, sport hall, ice skating rink ...
- **store**: supermarket, craftsman shop...
- tasting provider: wine cellar, farmer ...
- **tourist information center :** tourist office, travel agency...
- **transport**: airport, train station, parking...
- accomodation: hotel, camping, guest house ...
- **business place :** convention center ...
- convenient service : ATM, public lavatories, electric charging point ...
- **food establishment :** restaurant, bakery, bar ...
- medical place: healthcare place, pharmacy...

• cultural sites:

- o archeological site: ruins...
- o religious sites : church, temple ...
- remembrance sites : military cemetry...
- o remarkable buildings : bridge, castle...
- o technical heritage : lighthouse, mill...
- o city heritage : distinct ...
- defence site : fortified castle, dungeon...
- o interpretation center
- o museum
- library
- o park and garden

TO LEARN MORE:

Vocabulary: 1507 entries (universal and specific to FR)

Main categories of vocabulary:

Architectural Style - People Audience - Cuisine Category - Food Product - Room Layout - Type Of Bed - Geographic Reach - Tour Type - Scale Rating -Label Rating - Label Review System - Scale Review -System - Common Amenity - Camping And Caravanning Amenity - Room Amenity - Catering Amenity - Cultural Heritage Amenity - Natural Heritage Amenity - Accommodation Amenity -Informative Amenity - Cultural Theme - Park And Garden Theme - Sports Theme - Health Theme -Route Theme - Spatial Environment Theme -Entertainment And Event Theme - Pricing Policy -Cycle Route Theme - Catering Pricing Offer - Pricing Mode - Activity Pricing Offer - Rental Pricing Offer -General Pricing Offer - Accommodation Pricing Offer - Pricing Season

some examples (random):



The Netherlands — Touripedia



Workshop on the importance of semantics for the Tourism data space

March 30th

The case from the Netherlands:

A typical country starting off with Open Tourism Data

Ype Poortinga & Merijn de Boer

Who we are

Three professionals - but civilians - as well, who temporarily have set aside their personal ambitions for realising an open tourism environment in the Netherlands



Bouke Nielsen

communication

retired economy journalist

fulfilling intellectual challenges with support to social-cultural startups



Merijn de Boer

innovation

director IT-Gaming platform

organises exhibitions artin-games

gaming hackathons

became a dad last jan.



Ype Poortinga

realisation

solled Java-developer Wisdom

IT hackathons

fulfilling intellectual challenges with social-cultural IT-startups

Fact #1: 2022 Holland has no centralised Open Tourisme Data at all ... yet ... but ...

Touripedia: selected out of 900+ ideas to improve Tourism

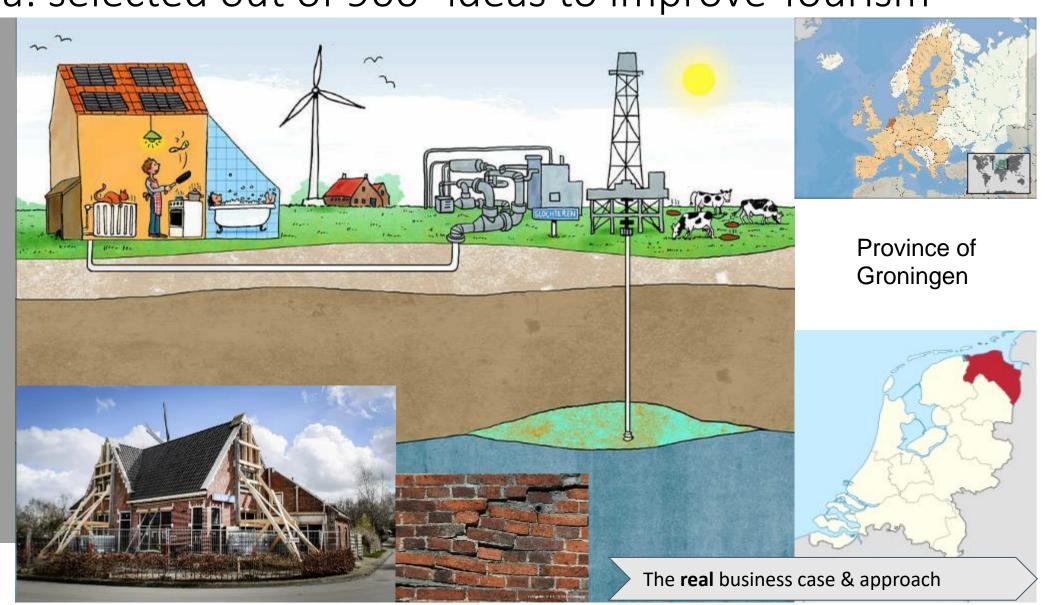
50 years of gas exploitation

Earthquakes since 2012

Houses have to be repaired

€ 100.000.000,- as compensation for community

Governmental contest > 900+ ideas

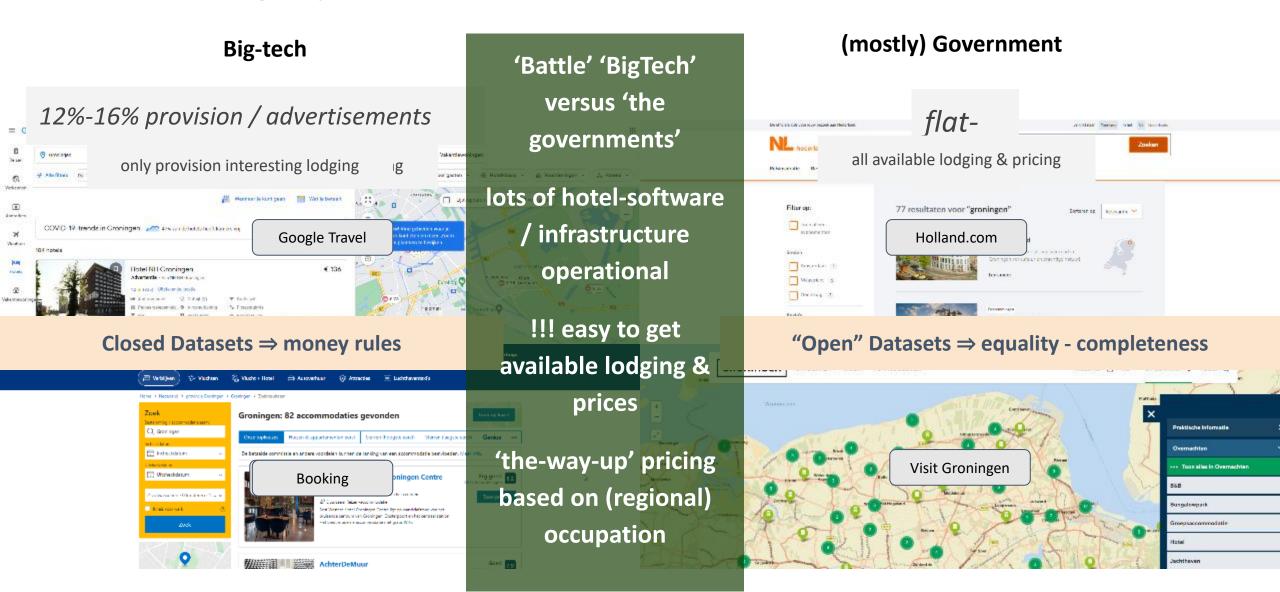


250 churches (11th-13th century) with unique organs and concerts



Problem area#2: bigtech milks-out the hotel management => less money for tourist services

Marketing options of the Hotel-owner



Approach of the Dutch

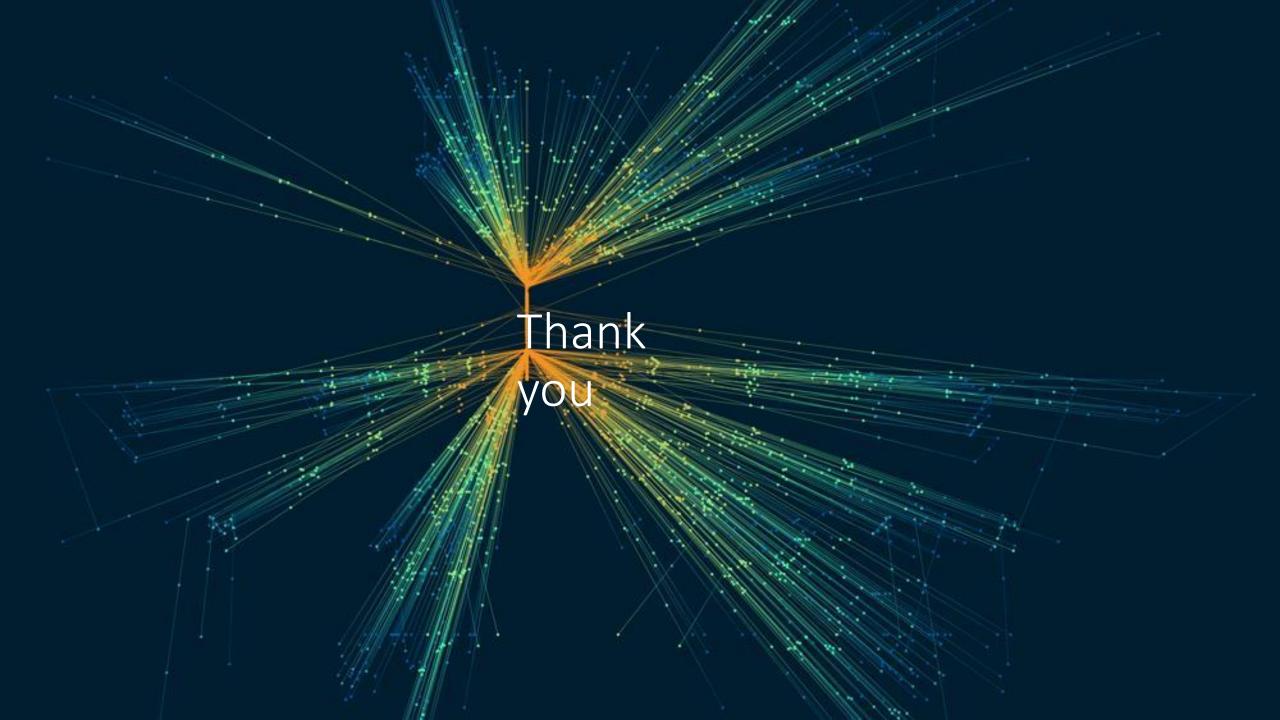
- small steps & starting with low hanging fruits: events
- focus on completeness and actuality => expanding autonomous small regions
- tackle the problem of having local governmental funded organisations now setting up their own closed tourism environments
- practical: copy/paste the **French** approach / semantics / open source scripts / ...
- expected outcome of centralised EU-Tourism initiatives
 - semantic EU-Tourism datamodel;
 - cookbook with best-practice guidelines and recipes with step plans for regional implementations;
 - moderated library with open source scripts for implementing regional data-hubs;
 - one central hosted open european touristic datahub environment filled with data from the regional hubs

the real business case for having an EU-approach for open tourism data

1) multinational marketing organisations (like Expedia) will **only connect** to an open data on EU-level 2) with open tourism EU-data startups can **compete equally** on quality of services/prices towards the tourist









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