

Governments and Databases

James Love

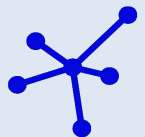
Knowledge Ecology International (KEI)

5th COMMUNIA Workshop

Accessing, Using, Reusing Public Sector Content
and Data

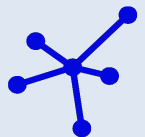
26-27th March 2009

London School of Economics



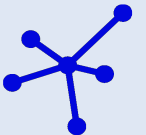
Recommendation 1

Governments should routinely solicit public comments, asking if changes in the ways that data is collected, stored and disseminated would be useful, and why.



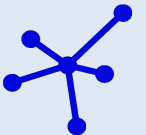
Recommendation 2

Governments should store and disseminate data in formats that follow open standards that can be implemented by multiple applications on multiple operating systems.



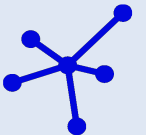
Recommendation 3

Governments should support the development of tools and platforms for databases that are based upon user generated data elements.



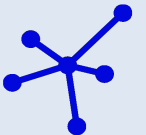
Recommendation 4

The development of databases that rely upon user generated data should include processes of consultation to allow discussion of possible uses and future extensions of the database, interoperability, and other issues of interest to the public and potential users of the database platform.



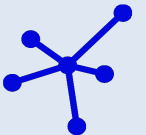
Recommendation 5

Government agencies need to develop better database tools to facilitate transparency of private sector contacts and communications with high level government officials.



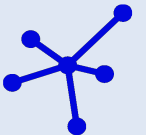
Recommendation 6

Governments should maintain databases of private sector employment before and after agency employment, to inform the public about revolving door issues.



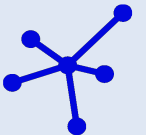
Recommendation 7

All new drug registrations should include disclosure of (a) all clinical trials, and the results of those trials, (b) the costs of conducting those trials including total costs and cost per patient.



Recommendation 8

Companies selling drugs should be required to report national and global sales for the product, in units and revenue.



Recommendation 9

The development of databases is expensive. Many databases have global audiences. The WTO should undertake work on an agreement to address the supply of global public goods. This agreement should include, among other things, commitments to collaborate in the development and funding of databases that are global public goods.

