

About Me

Current:







Past:







I'll try to cover:

- A brief timeline of Open Data in Israel
- Current state of open data:
 - Good stuff (with examples!)
 - Bad stuff (with rants!)
 - What's actually open
- Finally, some friendly advice





Timeline of Open Data in Israel

1998 - FOI Act

Early 2000s – FOI representatives in all gov't offices

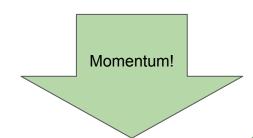
2004 - Movement for Freedom of Information (an NGO) is born

2009 - 2013: Ministry for Improvement of Service to Citizens

2011 – Israeli Social Justice Protests, HaSadna is born

2012 - Freedom of Information Unit is created

2015 – data.gov.il launches



2016 - Government decides that all information should be open by default

The Good Stuff:

A steady trickle of government databases opening up

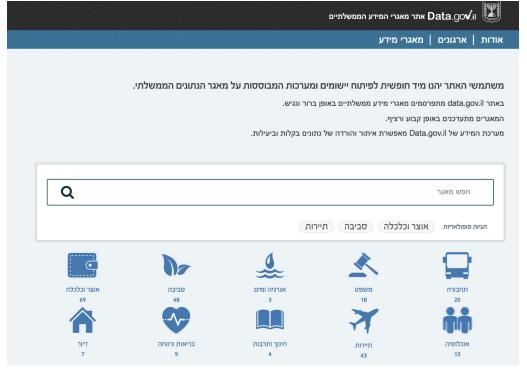
Success stories of people using up gov't data (examples coming up!)

- A growing understanding of the importance, benefits of opening up data:
 - making gov't more efficient, transparent, interoperable and accountable
 - creating new processes and even business models around data innovation



Data.gov.il, estd. 2015 (BETA)

The Government's IT organization took on itself to open up as many government databases as possible





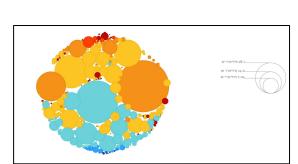
People are building beautiful Open Data apps



Open Pension



Open Knesset (our parliament)

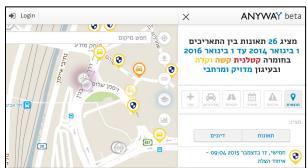


Anyway - maps
Traffic accidents

"Budget Key" - opening up the National Budget



Open Taba - opening up City planning

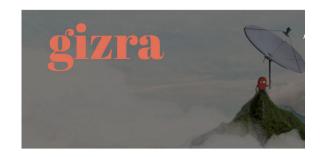




... Even companies are created using gov't data!













Even better, THIS just happened just last week!

All government databases
WILL BE OPEN BY DEFAULT

(meaning that gov't offices will need to justify why NOT to open up data to the public)

למען השקיפות: הממשלה אישרה את הנגשת כל מאגרי המידע הממשלתיים לציבור

בנוסף, ייאסר על משרדי הממשלה לבקש מהציבור אישורים או מידע שמשרד ממשלתי כבר ביקש מהאזרח בעבר ■ ראש הממשלה נתניהו: "הגיע הזמן שהסטארט אפ ניישן יגיע גם לסטארט אפ נוורמנט"

> מוטי בסוק | אם התראות במייל 14:14 30.08.2016

כו וי פוליטי







But... there's room for improvement

Reading the fine print...

כו וי פול יטי

למען השקיפות: הממשלה אישרה את הנגשת כל מאגרי המידע הממשלתיים לציבור

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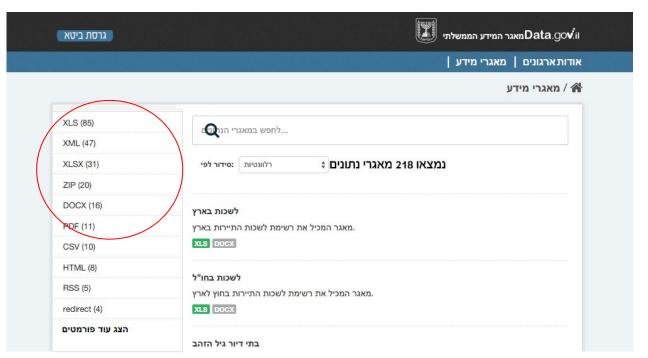
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Data.gov is too small and too proprietary







Sometimes, you still have to sue to get your data



VS.







Outcome: we are reconciling, data will be released to the public via an open API



We (still) hear a lot of these usual excuses:

- (1) But what about privacy??
- (2) It's copyrighted! / Proprietary!
- (3) We're going to make \$\$\$ off of it!
- (4) But what if people will misuse it?
- (5) It's not feasible (or: what's an API?)
- (6) We can open it, but only this time / just for you





We also hear a lot of: "Let's make a hackathon!..."

Exciting, huh?... right!

But, if you want to participate, just know:

- You submit your idea 2 months ahead of time
- A committee(!!!) has to pre-approve it
- You need to only code in a certain time period
- You must use the data provided
- You have to declare you're not violating any rights
- All prizes (=2,500\$, 1250\$, 500\$) are tax deductible...
- No other guarantees...



Think I'm bluffing?

<u>Take a look</u>



So, what IS open for use?

- All transportation <u>data</u> (buses, trains...)
- Air quality <u>information</u>
- Budgets <u>State</u>, Municipal (only condensed)
- Tenders <u>data</u> Only exemption from tender (sole source)
- Ministry of Tourism <u>data</u> (hotels, guides, attractions...)
- Tel Aviv Municipal <u>Data</u> (only city of 257 municipalities to truly open)
- And 200+ additional datasets in <u>Data.gov.il</u>





Advice from a friend - Gov't official version

So, you want to open up data?

- Establish an <u>urgent</u> reason (it's crucial to open up this data because...)
- Try to **find partners** in and out of government
- **Communicate** your intent
- Empower others to use the data incentivize!
- **Celebrate short-term wins**, even if these are small
- Repeat...



Advice from a friend - Hacker / Data activist version

So, you want to open up data?

- If you can, **find a champion** / ally
- Acknowledge that gov't processes are slow and cumbersome
- Acknowledge that it's <u>psychologically difficult</u> to let go of data
- Don't take it for granted! Give credit a little :-)
- Only if all else fails, **go to (legal) battle**, the law and public benefit should usually be on your side...







Talk to me @ ido@zencity.io





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