UN Public Administration Programme

Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM)
UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

OGD Pilot project design

Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

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Best practice approach for OGD Pilot projects

Potential OGD pilot projects should be discussed with stakeholders and assessed against the following criteria:

1. Availability of data
2. Ease of release as open data
3. Ease of implementation
4. Relevance to solve a specific problem (previously identified)
5. Relevance to the country's sustainable development goals
6. Presence of government official/s who will champion the project
7. Available resources

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Alignment with OGD objectives

Pilots should be aligned to one or more of the main objectives of OGD:

Enhancing Public Governance

Empowering People

Creating Opportunities

Solving Public Problems

Start from the desired results

Start with a problem statement: Identify a specific need or problem and the results you would like to achieve.

A problem statement related to OGD can look like this:

"We want to help reduce dengue fever infections in the city/region XY.
We need to know where and when dengue fever outbreaks happen.
→ We can create a mobile SMS service to inform the public.
→ We need to work with the main mobile operators to push SMS
free of charge to all mobile phones in areas having infection risks.
We will also carry out a campaign to educate the public on dengue fever
and how to protect themselves and fight dengue fever."

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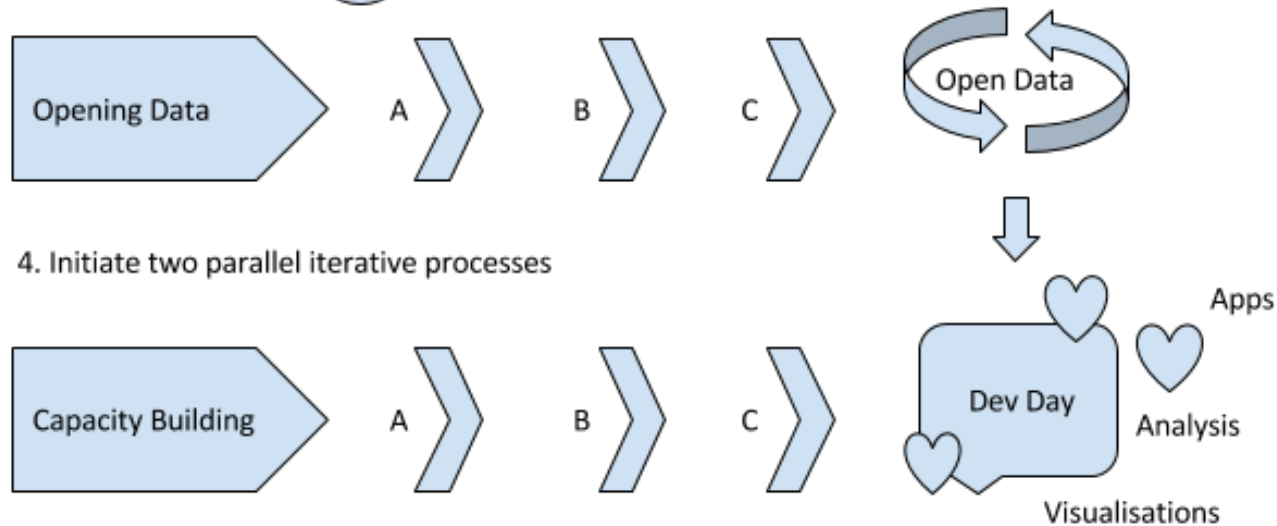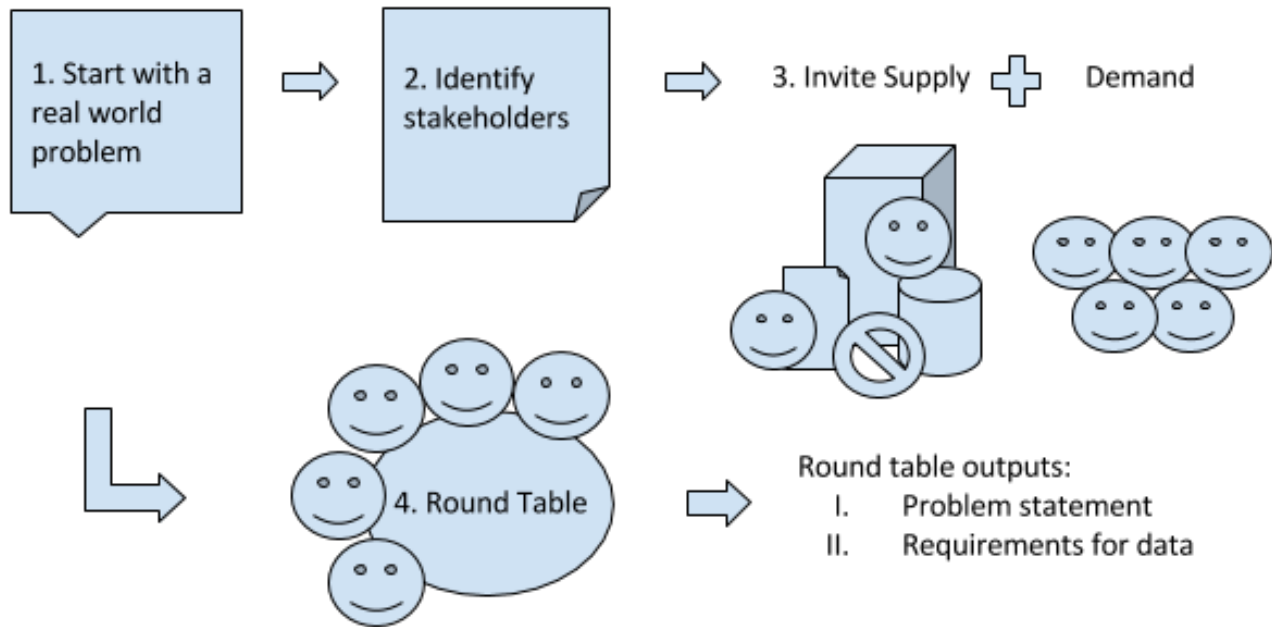
Stakeholders, resources and prerequisites

From the problem statement, start thinking backwards to identify **stakeholders, resources and prerequisites** needed to actually solve the problem. This usually includes:

1. Stakeholders and their needs and interests
2. Human/financial resources and time requirements
3. Data and technology needs
4. Other prerequisites based on local conditions, opportunities and challenges

With this information you can start designing your prototype

Step by step approach

1. Identify a societal need/problem that could be solved with data
2. Identify your stakeholders and assess their needs and interests
3. Initiate a multi-stakeholder round table, including those who want to solve the problem (e.g. CSOs and those who have the data needed to solve the problem). The round table has two outputs:
   - ➢ a clear problem statement (describing the problem and the approach to solve it);
   - ➢ a detailed list of data that can be used and in what quality/granularity/format it is needed.

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Step by step approach

4. Initiate a parallel process, by sending expert teams to:
   ➢ Provide technical assistance and training to the data supplying agency on how to open identified datasets
   ➢ Provide capacity building for the reuser group aligned with the problem statement
5. Arrange events (e.g. data expedition, hackathon, workshop) to promote collaboration on producing data-based products/services (e.g.-analytical reports, applications, visualisations) to help addressing the previously identified problem
6. Gather user feedback and if needed do a second iteration of the process
7. Evaluate and disseminate the results to stakeholders and the general public

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Thank you!

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OGD Project and OGDCE Guidelines
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