

Part I
Publishing Linked Government Data

Linked Data, RDF, OWL and other Semantic Web research has resulted in a tremendous number of academic publications, totaling over two hundred thousand results on Google Scholar⁵ as of this writing. Introductory material, on the other hand, has been relatively scarce. It is appropriate that this book begins by attempting to rectify that oversight.

The first two chapters provide introductions to open government initiatives using Linked Data and present general methodological guidance concerning the flow of a Linked Data project. The similarities found in these chapters may give some solace to those worried about unknown complexities; they were written on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. The experiences gathered from Linked Data projects seems to have been remarkably uniform to date.

The following two chapters offer a deeper look into some real world governmental Linked Data projects. Again these experiences span the Atlantic. The projects address two critical use cases for government agencies; the conversion of data from traditional sources and the reuse of governmental geographic information.

⁵ <http://scholar.google.com>