Government Data on the Web

José M. Alonso
eGovernment Lead
W3C/CTIC

eGovernment at W3C

- Public Open Interest Group
- Collective effort
  - Governments, Industry, Citizens, Civil Societies, other International Bodies
- Identification and description of existing challenges
- Propose ways to address them
- Read/Comment
  - http://www.w3.org/TR/egov-improving

Will portals disappear?

Read Government Data and the Invisible Hand

How do citizens search?

- They try going to a one-stop shop
  - (a few, and if known)
- To the given agency Web site if not
  - (even less ones)
- They often use a search engine
- They get pointers to non-gov sites
- Happy with what they get

Why limit interactions?

need to move from ownership to stewardship

Open Government Data

"Public Sector Information (PSI) in **free standard open raw** formats and ways that make it **accessible to all** and allow **reuse"**

more specific? ex. see the 8 principles

EU Ministerial Declaration

http://eups20.wordpress.com

Improving Public Policies

- Inclusion
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Efficiency

More Benefits

- Multiple views, not just one
- Syndication
- Reuse
  - "the coolest thing to do with your data will be thought of by someone else"
- Improved Web Search
- Data Integration
- Foster innovation

Ex. Facts and Figures

- Austrian Mapping Agency (BEV)
  - prices 97% down
  - downloads 7000% up
  - stable turnover!

The Three Steps to Reuse

"**identify** the data that one controls, **represent** that data in a way that people can use, and **expose** the data to the wider world."

Jeni Tennison

The road ahead

Linked Data

Semantic Web

XML

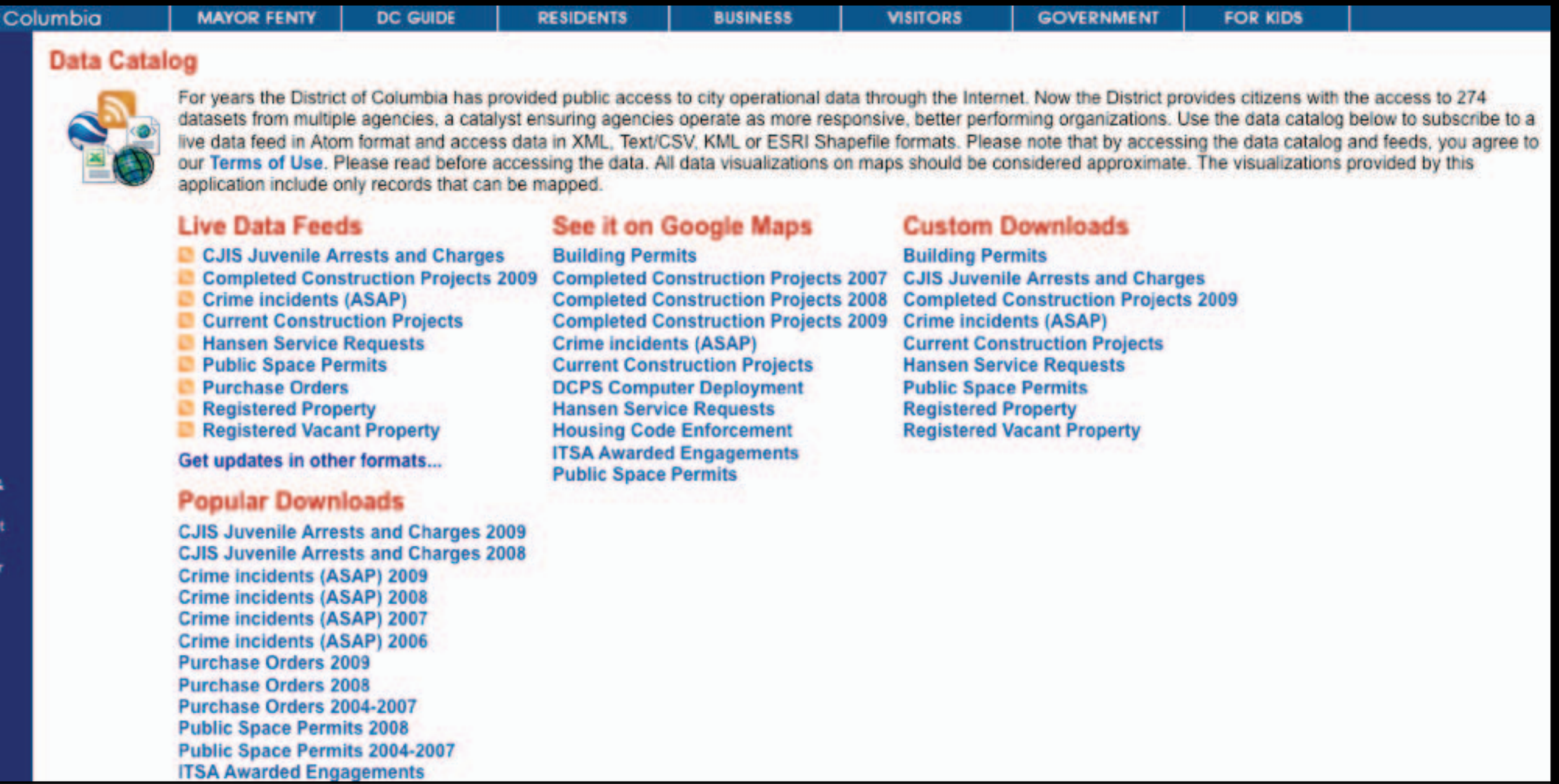
RDFa

API

RSS/Atom

HTML Scraping

Example: DC.gov



- Data Catalog (CSV, Atom, XML, ESRI, KML)

Example: DC.gov

Metropolitan Police Department

MPDC HOME

SERVICES

INFORMATION

Police Districts
Welcome
The Community
Commander's Letter
District Calendar
District Commander
District Roster
Success Stories
Annual Crime Statistics
Directions
District Boundaries

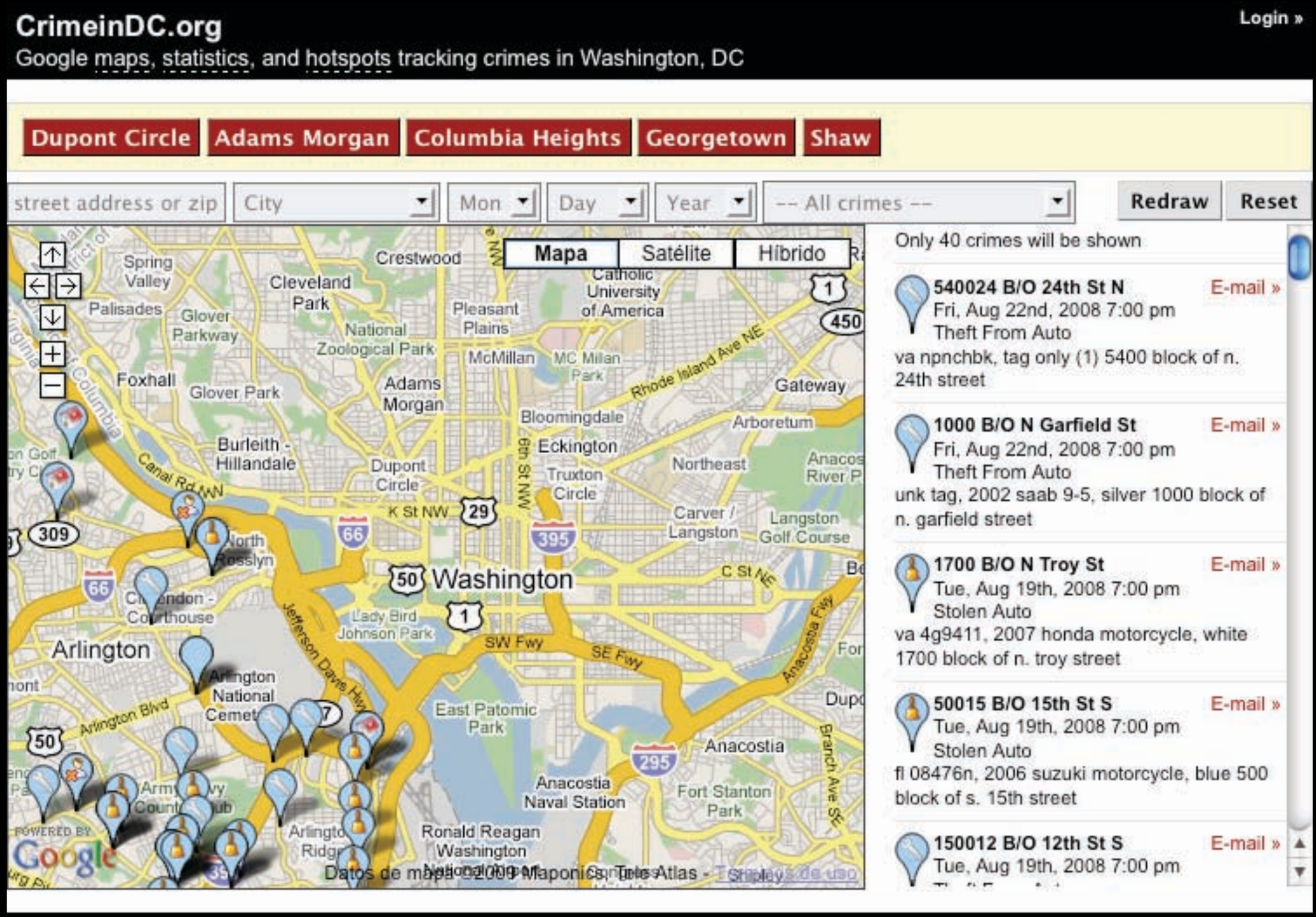
ONLINE SERVICE REQUESTS

Sixth District Monthly Crime Statistics
January 2008

	Year-to-Date Comparison			Monthly Comparison		
Crime	Thru 1/07	Thru 1/08	% Change	1/07	1/08	% Change
Homicide	3	4	33	3	4	33
Sexual Assault	1	3	200	1	3	200
Robbery	48	49	2	48	49	2
Assault with a Deadly Weapon	46	25	-46	46	25	-46
Burglary	33	29	-12	33	29	-13
Theft	35	25	-19	35	25	-29
Theft from Auto	53	46	-13	53	46	-13
Stolen Auto	89	86	-3	89	86	-3
Arson	0	0	NC	0	0	NC
Total	308	267	-13	308	267	-13

This data is subject to change due to late reporting.

Example: DC.gov



Example: DC.gov

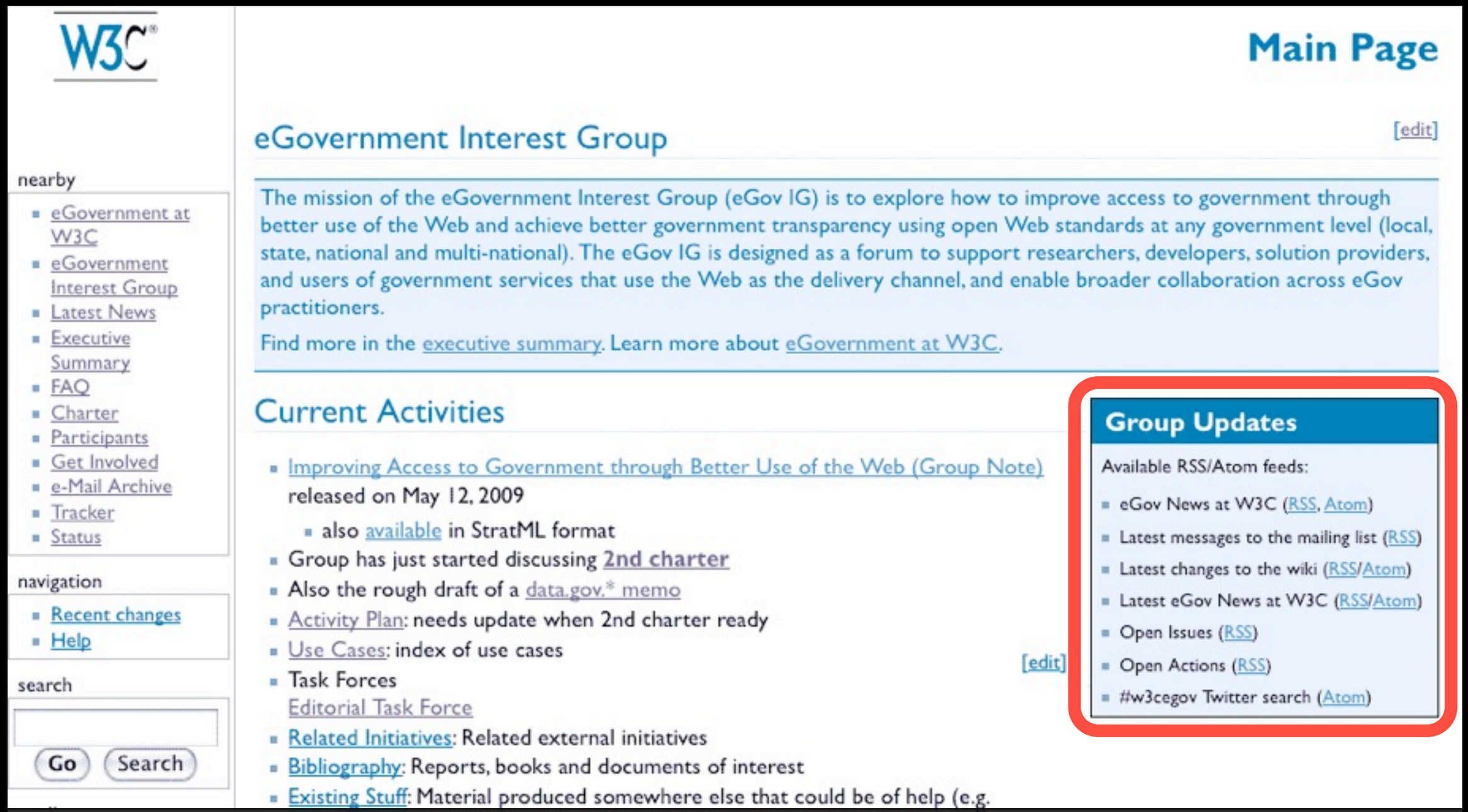
Example: DC.gov

- many more at Apps for Democracy (ROI = 4000% ?)
- see also work of MySociety (UK) and Sunlight (US)

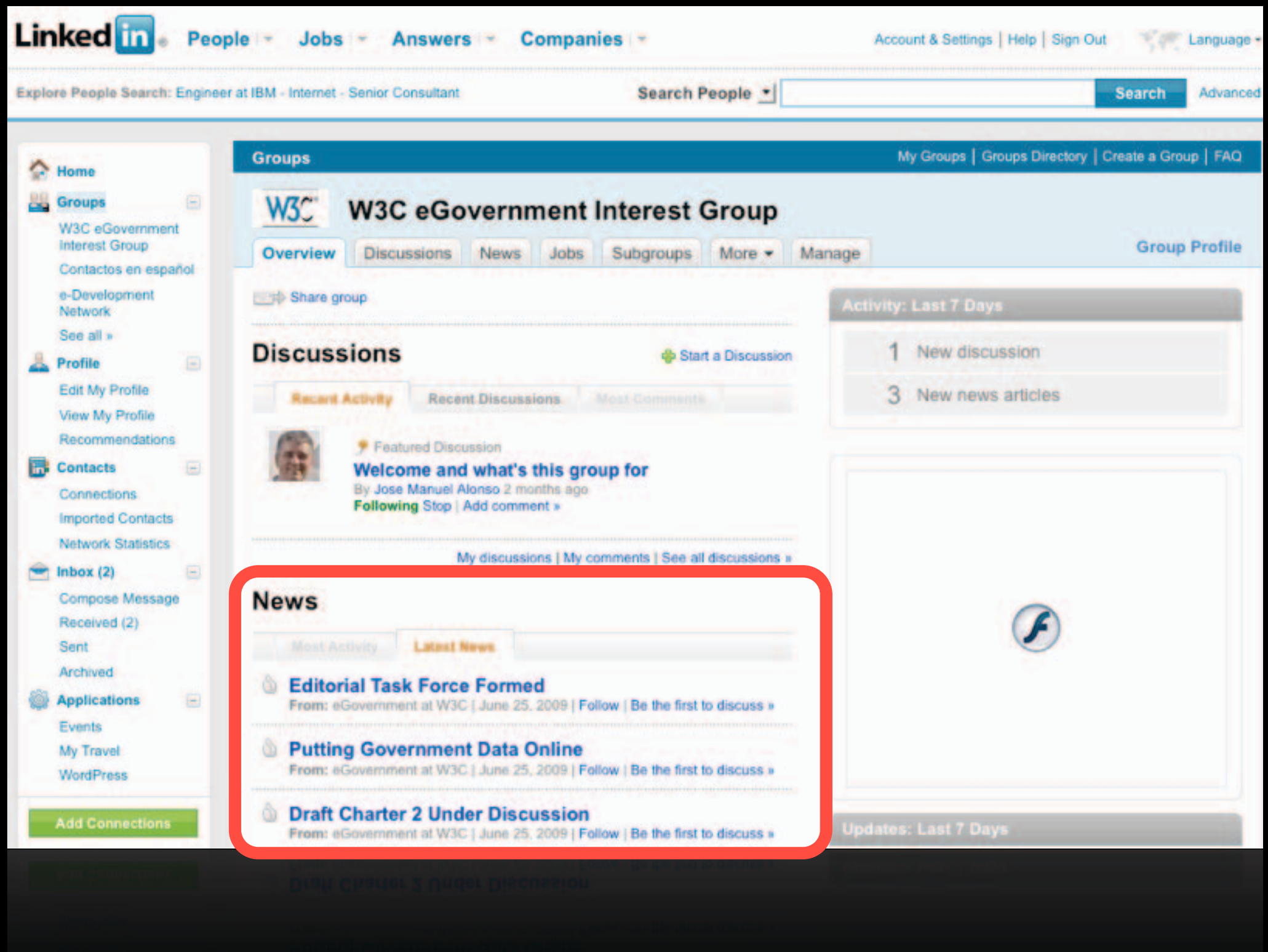
Data.gov

still way to go...

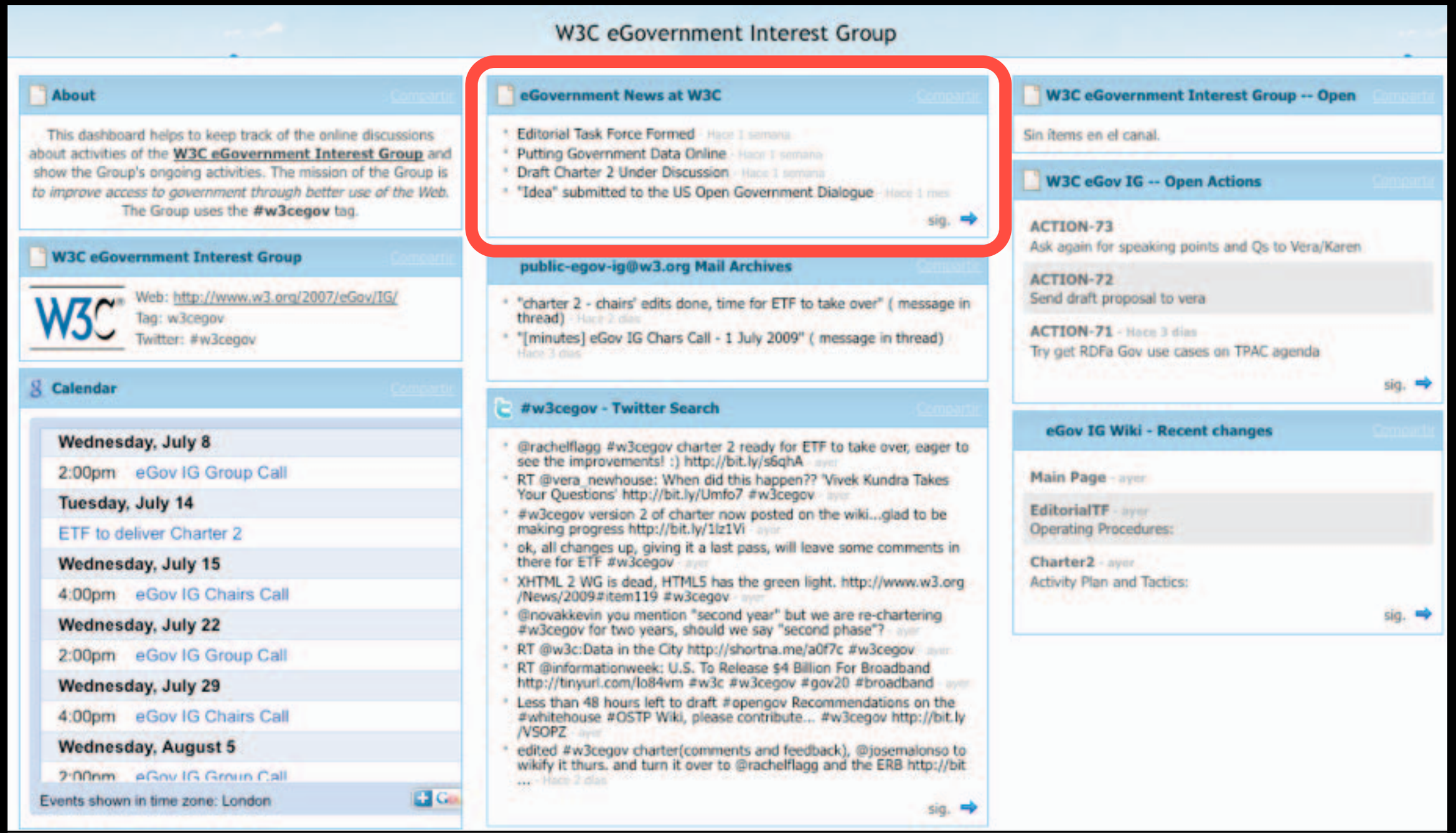
Syndication



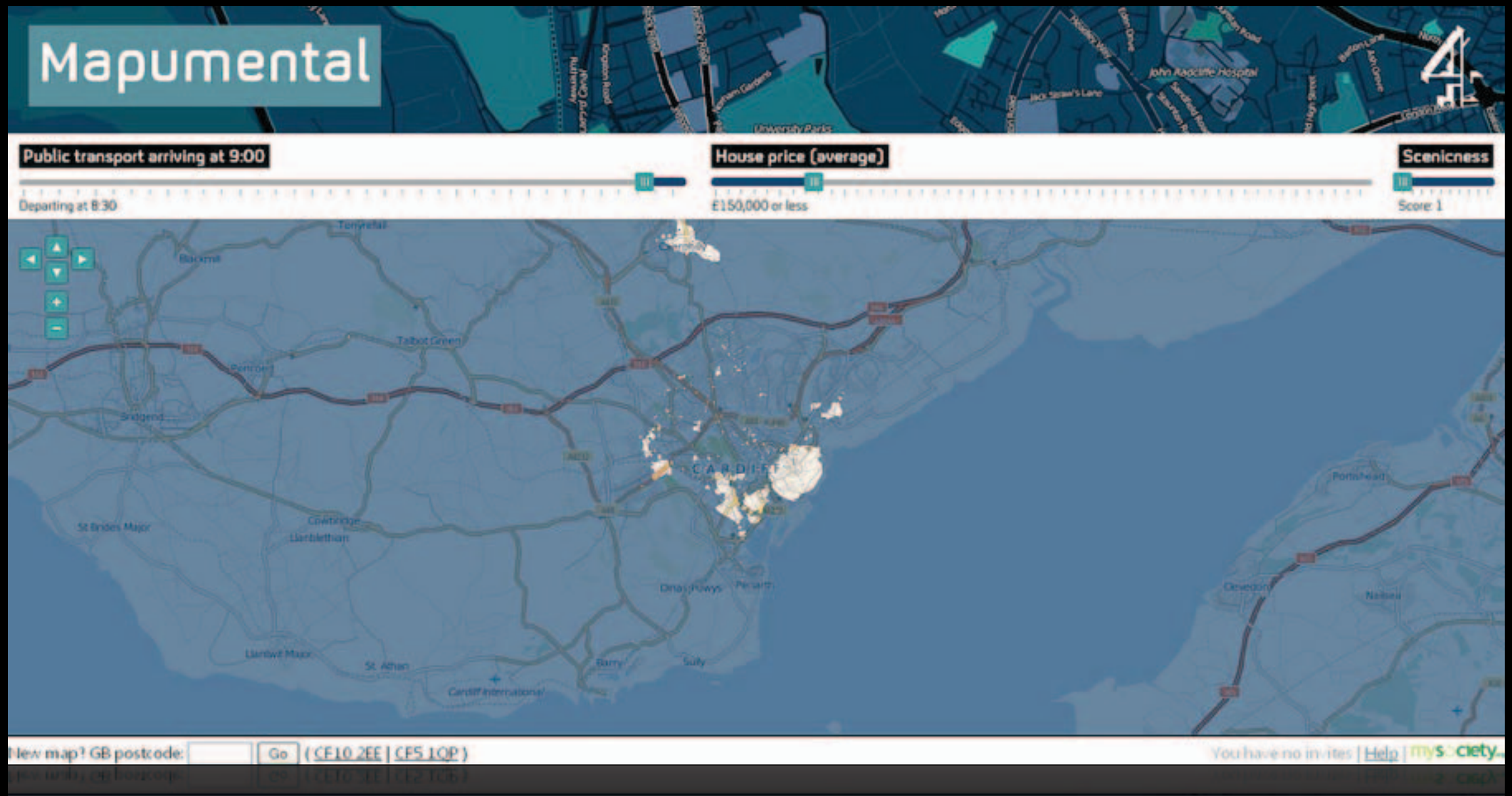
Syndication



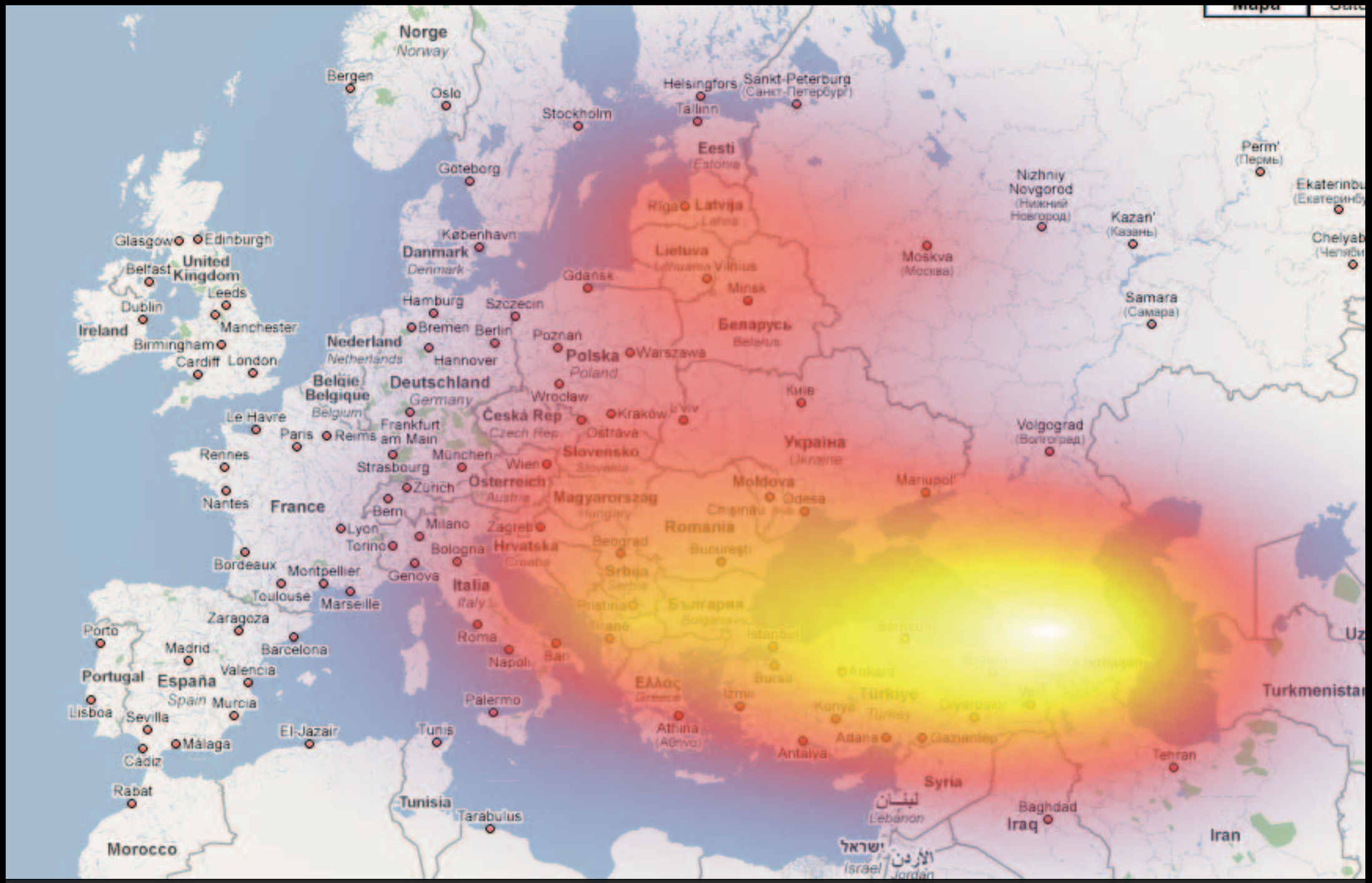
Syndication



Mapumental


Mapumental
Public transport arriving at 9:00
Departing at 8:30
House price (average)
£150,000 or less
Scenicness
Score: 1
CARDIFF
New map? GB postcode:
Go
(CF10 2EE | CF5 1QP)
You have no invites | Help | mysociety

New office in EMEA?

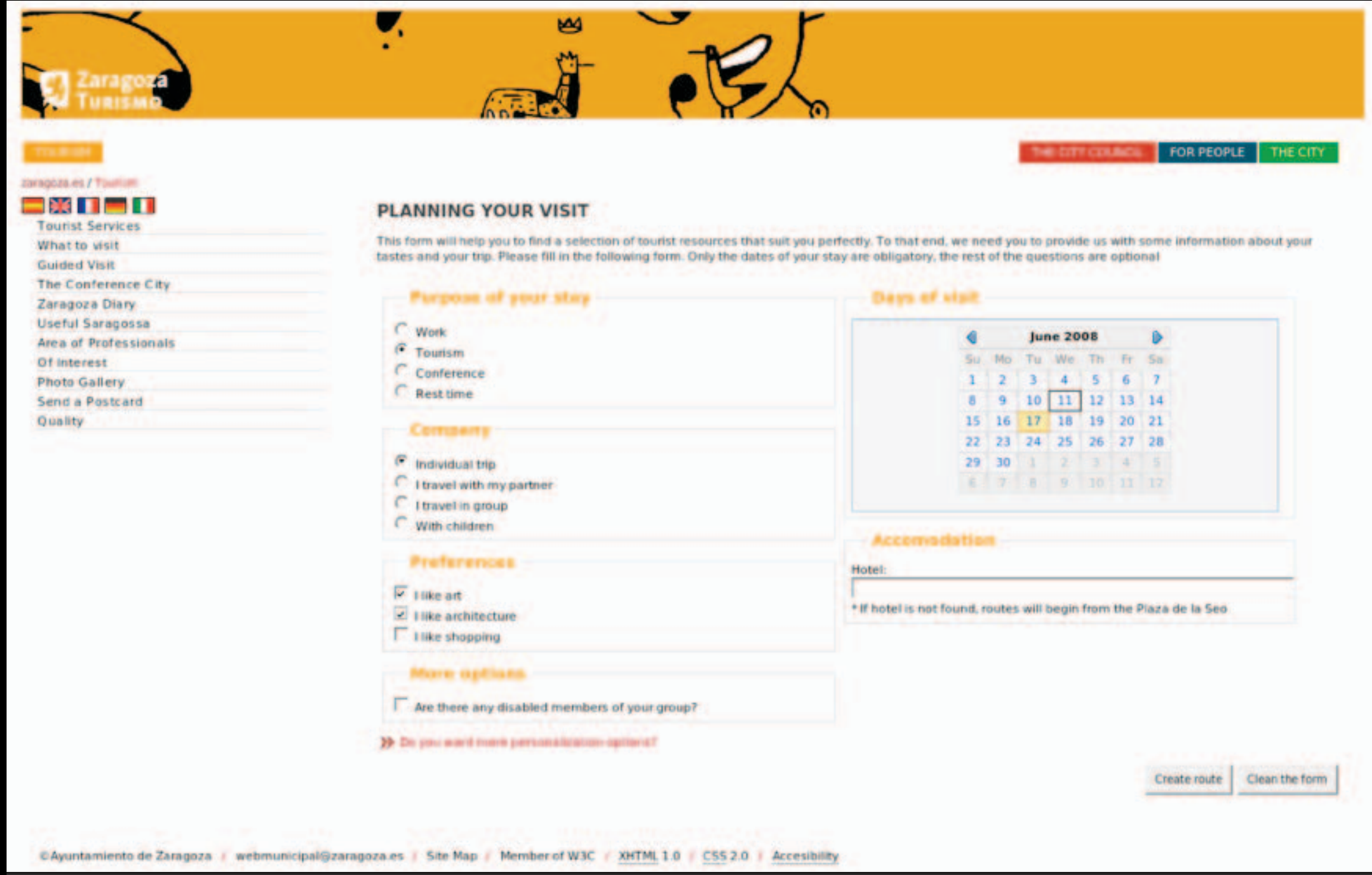


SW Example: RDFa

- Google announced RDFa and microformats support (Yahoo! already supported it)

RDFa in UK Gov

Cruzar (CTIC/Zaragoza)



Cruzar (CTIC/Zaragoza)

Zaragoza street plan

Tourist site

BASILICA OF THE PILAR

Full accessibility

The construction of the current Basilica of the Pilar is closely linked to the increase in devotion to the Pilar throughout the 17th century. The previous Gothic-Mudejar building was not big...

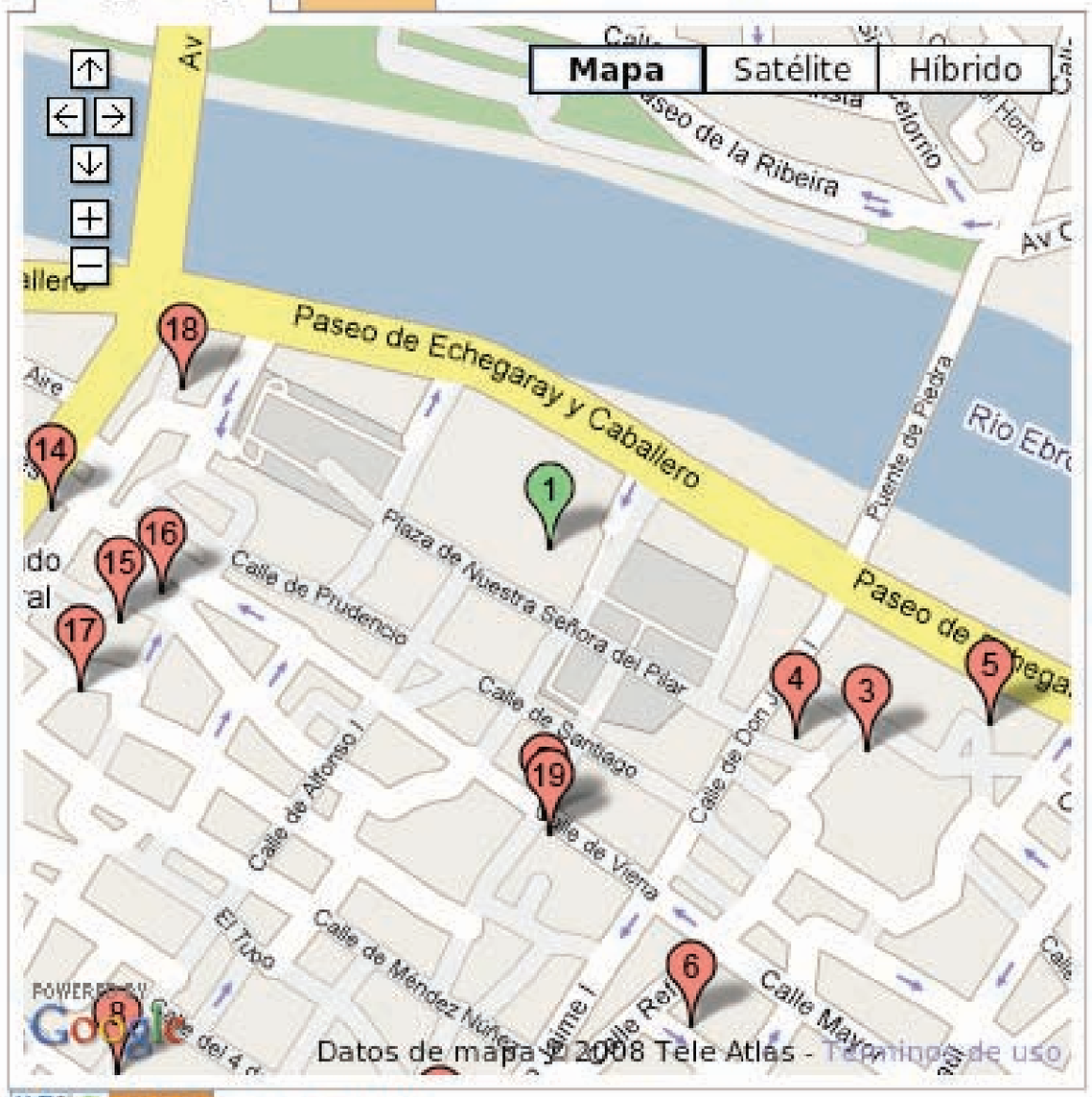
Know more...

It doesn't interest me

At another time

Why are you recommending it?

Google Maps | IDEZar



W3C RDF | Export to KML

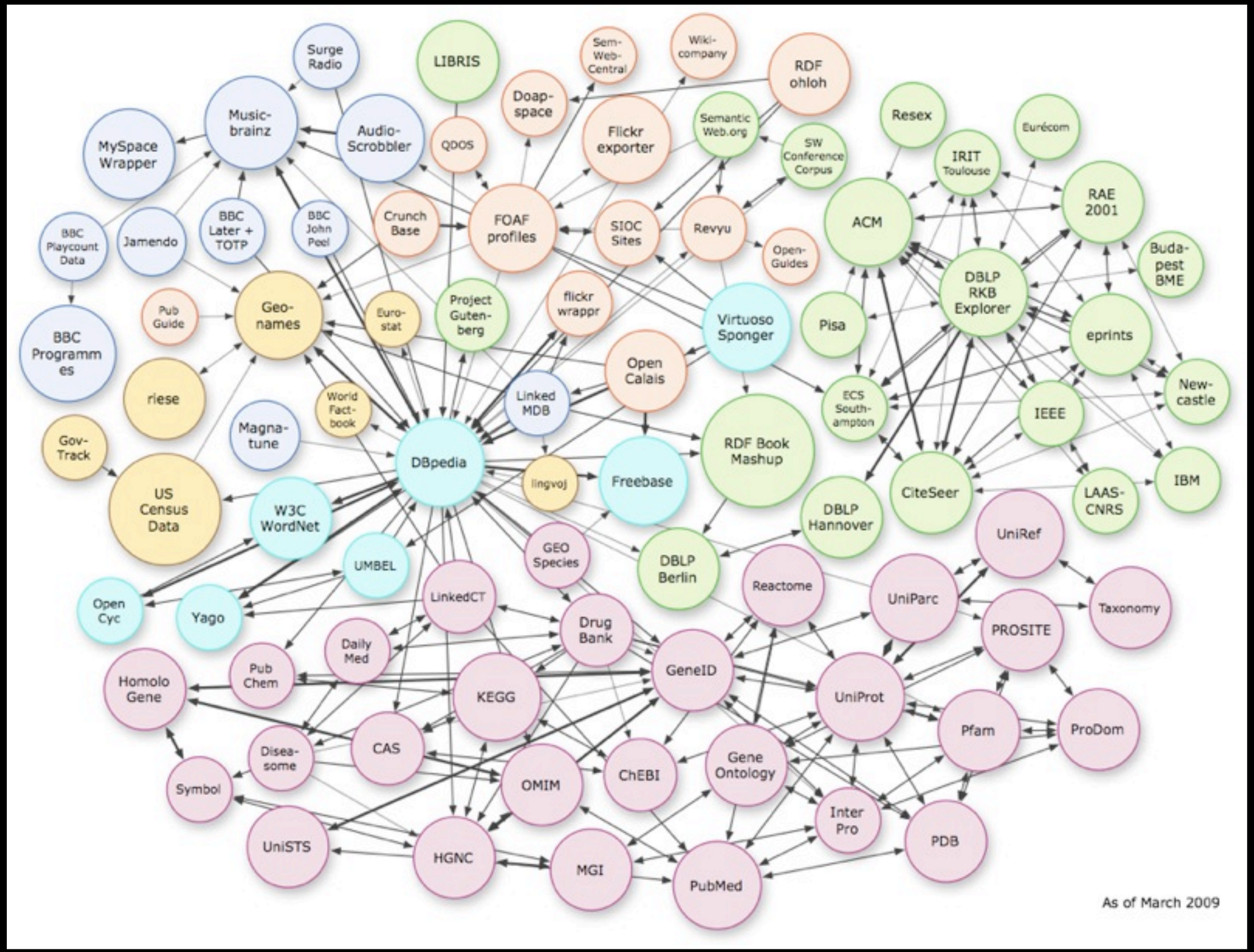
Meet Linked Data

1. Use URIs as named for things
2. Use HTTP URIs so that people can look up those names
3. When someone looks up a URI, provide useful information
4. Include links to other URIs, so that they can discover more things

More on Linked Data

- Empowering Data
- Can be built on top of existing systems
- Metadata are the goal (data mashups)
  - Linking Open Data project
- TimBL talk at TED (slides, video)
  - Raw Data Now!
  - Putting Government Data Online

Linked Data Cloud



Challenges

- Mission and Strategy
- Capabilities
- Authoritative Source, Provenance, Trust
- Security
- Integrity
- Persistence
- Licensing Models
- Legacy Systems
- Standardization

Thanks and Q&A

http://www.w3.org/2007/eGov/

http://www.w3.org/2009/Talks/0707-BCN-JA/

josema@w3.org

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