Data for Community Development and Decision-making

Ayoung Yoon, Ph.D. | School of Informatics & Computing, Department of Library & Information Science, Indiana University Indianapolis (IUPUI)

RDA US/Data share fellow 2016-2017

Data for Community Development and Decision-making
Section 1

Background: Data for current societal problems
Motivation

• The potential for data to help address current societal problems (e.g., education, health, economic development, environment) in smaller communities (and/or under-resourced communities), neighborhoods, and individual lives.

• “Data are the lifeblood of decision-making” for developing countries (A World That Counts, Mobilizing the Data Revolution)
Problem

• Not all data are shared
• Data not shared beyond the creators’ community of practices
• Sharing & reuse challenges
Section 2
Regional Study: U.S. Context
Study Context

This project aims to examine **how data are reused among regional communities for their community development**.

1. Understand communities’ data needs and investigate the challenges and barriers that community data reusers face; and

2. Explore strategies for community data reusers to work with existing data infrastructure in order to support cooperative data exchange and integrate communities into the open data landscape.
Interview Participants

- 15 community data reusers in a small city in Midwest
- From community foundations, educational centers, community development corporations, and city governments.
Findings

- Community data reusers had different practices, strategies, and needs than scientific researchers for reusing data and had limited interaction with the existing infrastructures.

- Regional community research centers (e.g., CRI) played a significant role in connecting community data reusers with data sources, bridging partnerships, and providing consultation.

- Surprisingly, existing knowledge infrastructure (e.g., public libraries) were not part of the community data reusers’ network given their long history of efforts to engage with their communities’ information needs.
Future Study: Data Reuse for Local Community

- 3-year project funding by IMLS (Oct 2017 to Sept 2020)

- The goal is to support community members’ data reuse by facilitating their connection with existing resources and data infrastructure

- Major output includes:
  - A theoretical model of a community-inclusive data exchange or workflow
  - A prototype data service for public library users
  - Educational resources for public librarians
Section 3

The Data Sharing Practices and Challenges in Uganda

With Tomusange Isaac & Norman Mukasa
Muteesa Royal University, Uganda
Study Context

• The goal of this study is
  • to uncover the **current practices of and efforts for data sharing in the public sector in Uganda** and
  • to understand the **relevant stakeholders’ perceptions** of data sharing and reuse practices/services.
Uganda Context

• Reformed its ICT policy in 1996 which led to the development of a platform for effective information sharing and reuse.

• Efforts to build data exchange platform.

• Still, data sharing and reuse culture is not fully developed, and there are numerous barriers that inhibit these practices.
A Mixed Method Study

- An interview study with the key staff at the following four institutions that have a major impact on data sharing and reuse:
  - Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBoS)
  - Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) under the Ministry of ICT and National Guidance
  - The Ministry of Internal Affairs
  - Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA)

- A survey study with public sectors and general public (employers and clients of the four institutions)
Currently collecting data…

Questions | Now or Later

Ayoung Yoon

ayyoon@iupui.edu