



PUBLISH WHAT
YOU PAY

PWYP Open Data Position 2017

Draft

Definition

- Publish What You Pay aligns its Open Data Position with the Open Definition,¹ which can be summed up in the statement:

“Open means anyone can freely access, use, modify, and share for any purpose (subject, at most, to requirements that preserve provenance and openness)”

- PWYP offers this Open Data position for its coalitions to use and encourages its partners in civil society, local and national government, and other sectors to do the same.
- Open data should be used as default by PWYP coalitions.

Open Data Objectives

By adopting a position on open data, PWYP endorses the following objectives:

- To encourage the use of open data, as it enhances civil societal engagement, opens up the pool of data to a wider public and increases oversight, accountability, transparency, and potential for coalitions and collaborations to emerge.
- To improve governance procedures.
- To spur civic engagement by allowing citizens and civil society groups to access data, and to demand accountability from governments and the private sector.
- To make public our own data and analyses for review, in order to improve our own methods of analysis and data collection.
- To maximise the use of open data by widening the pool of users.
- To spur public debate and discussions on contemporary policies in the extractives sectors and transform extractives regimes into ones that provide citizens with fair shares of benefits derived from the extractives industries and provide adequate safeguards against negative impacts.

¹ www.opendefinition.org



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Implementation

We plan to implement our objectives by:

- Endorsing the Open Data Charter.²
- Encouraging the use of open licensing: Open domain and open licensing regimes enable anyone to freely access, modify and share. We follow the guidelines as suggested by the Open Definition.
- Endorsing technical openness: We support using the most accessible formats. We strongly recommend the release of machine-readable and bulk-downloadable data in commonly-used formats, such as CSV, (Geo)JSON, XML or other file formats which can be interpreted by multiple, also freely available software packages. Such formats attributes include being non-proprietary, interoperable and machine-readable.
- We also encourage the increased adoption of commonly-accepted identifier schemes and code lists within data, such as international budget and accounting classifications and corporate identifiers (and national tax identifiers). These standards ease comparability, save time for investigations, and assure a common language between global actors.
- We acknowledge the role of consent, privacy, security and ownership, which we respect alongside our mission for openness and transparency. Such is the formulation as laid out by the Responsible Data Forum.³

² <http://opendatacharter.net/principles/>

³ <https://responsibledata.io/about/>