

Open Data and E-science

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Abstract: While the world's first freedom of information act (FOIA) dates back to 1766, the issue of re-use of data contained in these documents emerged in the 90s, with the spread of the Internet. In general, those two questions, access and re-use of data, are treated separately but we accept the postulate that if the FOIA did not exist, it would be unthinkable to re-use this data produced by the Public Sector. The difference lies in the issues: the freedom of information deals with democracy and transparency, while the reuse of this data deals with socio-economic issues. From a political point of view, access to these data is supposed to enable individuals to protect their rights, to erect a barrier against abuses, mismanagement and corruption in the various countries and especially improve governance models. From a socio-economic perspective, the wide availability of this data can foster innovation, create opportunities for businesses and can be a key driver to develop the research field and E-Science. In this workshop, we are going to try and understand the issues of this movement and how the librarians and information managers can be key players in this field.