Specialised Government Publishing: The Law Pocket and Linked Legal Data in the Netherlands

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Topics

• Linked Governmental Data
  – The business case
  – The project & the architecture

• The Law Pocket
  – The business case
  – The app

• Public versus Private Sector.
The Business Case

• Public data available on a massive scale
• Available for reuse
• But the civil servant is just drowning more
  – Disparate and scattered
  – Not properly identified and tagged
  – Not linked.
The Project

• Don’t build a meta search engine, but collect and create Linked Data
• As base material for dedicated solutions within the public sector
• Assist public bodies and government officials to use this infrastructure.
The Architecture

• ETL architecture: Extract Transform Load
  – Extract open data from public bodies / repositories
  – Transform to Linked Data (RDF triples + provenance)
    • Link extractor
  – Load into triple store
• Based on Apache Cocoon, XSLT.
The Law Pocket: Business Case

• Civil servants (esp. jurists) need their legislation:
  – Up-to-date
  – Sometimes with previous versions
  – On very specific domains
  – Annotated
  – With related documents
  – Shared with colleagues
  – Portable

• Commercially not profitable.
The Law Pocket: the App
Splash screen
My Pockets and Bundles

**Law Bundles:** Generated collections of legislative families, or regulations of one specific municipality, province or water board.

**Law Pockets:** Edited collections of national or regional legislation on (very) specific topics. With annotations, annexed documents and links.
Search for More

Currently: 3,500 Bundles 65 Pockets.
The Table of Contents of a Bundle
Nifty Functionalities
Make your own notes
Notes and bookmarks
Metadata on the Web
TOC Always at Hand
TOC Always at Hand
Extra Features in the Pockets
More Granular Content
Editorial Notes
Additional Documents and Links
Linked Data
Linked Data
The Portal
Public vs. Private?

- Added value product with taxpayers’ money?
- Meant for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the public sector
- The App is free
- Pockets and bundles can be downloaded by everybody
- Pockets can only be edited by civil servants.
Thank you