

Topic 1 - Network / Collaboration



What's the biggest obstacle in this space?

What are the best ideas you've seen?

What are the next steps?

(Mike Childs facilitating)



Topic 2 - Visualisation / Mapping Data

What's the biggest obstacle in this space?

What are the best ideas you've seen?

What are the next steps?

(Joachim Farncombe facilitating)

Non Geo-referenced datasets or data only in an output format

Obstacles

Visualisation tools/libraries don't always do the job - need to custom code

Access to data

Armchair analysts.

Skills / Training. Especially for web-based and interactive visualisations

large datasets that are difficult to refine/map clearly

Cost of off-the-shelf tools

Proliferation of data is positive generally, but does come with risks about misuse

Best ideas

ONS Census 2021 data vis for population change (scrolly animation)
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/visualisations/censuspopulationchange/E06000043/>

Some examples I worked on/with
www.pct.bike,
www.carbon.place
<https://mapmaker.cdr.ac.uk>

Energy Performance Certificate database - opened up the data

<https://www.rgs.org/geography/geovisualisation/>

Game designers have been way ahead with viz/mapping for years

Next steps

Metaverse

Standard platforms for visualising data. Often with data platforms

Data flowing through EVERYTHING we do

Real time data availability

Governments dashboards

Still need to unlock data silos (eg soil, MOT)

Shift in attitude around open source - Government has embraced this (free market principles)

Skills shares/training among network

Topic 3 - Robust Decision Making

What's the biggest obstacle in this space?

What are the best ideas you've seen?

What are the next steps?

(Jess Martin facilitating)

Data people can sometimes miss the decision-making part of the journey

Lots of people need total and 100% proof before they change the way they make decisions, which often can never happen

It's not necessarily about more decision making or faster, but BETTER

The people don't like societal change, but we need it to get on a low carbon path... I worry about climate change but I also love my Jeep and I drive it everywhere.

Behaviour around low carbon impacts on society isn't unpicked.

Doing something is better than doing nothing because you're afraid of doing it wrong - lets have a generous conversation about climate

Enable/show people that they can make a difference

Training in climate literacy often leaves out decision making now too

Getting decision makers to change the NOW is incredibly hard, they often want to look back or look forward but not NOW

Decision making is often steps removed from 'you' - in hierarchical systems

Big business buying offsets for example is where data can come in and shine a light on what they're doing

Carbon is a problem of privilege

Political will is lacking / outright ignoring people (e.g. heatpumps)

There's an inaccurate and inordinate amount of pressure on poorer societies to fix their homes etc

Everyone [climate action groups] is doing this on their own and we don't need to

Climate View produce live climate action boards - they help open collaboration and enable people. Their platform is very well thought out. Potential to train everyone on the same platform

Training people on what key carbon terminology, questioning green claims, use their purchasing power

we need more decisions made on a granular level - e.g. it's not 'do we switch from petrol to electric', it's 'how to we share road space between active travelers and car commuters'

How do we make new technology work for us? E.g. pushing a 1:1 switch of fossil to electric vehicles isn't the best foot forward...we need to think about better and fairer transport services

Using Teams and Zoom has improved networking in green spaces (and others) that didn't happen before and made it reach wider circles (no expensive travel to events)

Make sure decision-making for net zero is part of climate literacy, especially for people who make or influence key decisions

Creating frameworks for reviewing net zero plans of business e.g. are they dodging the issue of supply chain, green tariffs and offset and being able to call them out on weak plans

Topic 4 - Well-being / Nature

Ideas for areas of discussion: Green space, Woodland, rewilding, access to nature, meat & dairy, fuel poverty, green jobs, support eg climate groups, elected representatives....

What's the biggest obstacle in this space?

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(Claire Mistry facilitating)

Obstacles

Challenge: campaigns that are formulated for headlines/ mass engagement eg tree planting - instead of more appropriate habitat creation

Need to think about more than just environmental data - eg: data about people

Devolved data - different countries have different administrative structures, record different data etc

Marrying up differences between environmental data and attitudinal data

How do you quantify mental health? Different things to different people on different days

Importance of narrative/ story telling - can't quantify these things

How to quantify benefits of nature on well being eg leaving grass verges unmown - how do we measure that? All councils record data differently / if

Can you separate mental health benefits from physical benefits (of nature eg more trees)? More trees easy to quantify benefit on physical health not so easy to measure effect on

Best ideas

Importance of story telling: Postcode tool that shows effect on pollution / green space etc on house prices (Hazel Trenbirth - ONS publications)

whoownsengland.org - incredibly basic data, but important!

wearepossible.github.io/parklet-plotter/

3000 people responded to survey asking about experiences with trees (woodland trust - tree charter for uk campaigning). People love telling stories!

Next steps

Map nature stories - audio clips, pictures, words - how do you represent this kind of data?

peat restoration project - asked for people to take photo that summed up their visit - got lots of positive responses.

Topic 5 - Open Data / Licensing

Best ideas

Obstacles

Making data available completely openly, even commercially

What about businesses or people trying to make a living out of the data?

Costs of maintaining the data?

Can't use data that can't be shared on

Possibility to pay for access to the data, at least for maintenance?

Companies could add value to open data and sell it - is that OK?

Data Trust / Data Marketplace - to allow data to be made available openly, whether that is free or not

Next steps

Data Trust / Marketplace for Environmental Data? Eastern New Energy / Dave Reynolds is working on this - join up, with the network / collaboration?

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(John Bell facilitating)

Topic 6 - Water Consumption

(Alan Gibworth facilitating)

What's the biggest obstacle in this space?

Capacity to think about water consumption, particularly if you're not paying the bill

Water companies willingness to share data

Lack of quality data - water companies don't know household occupation rates to work out consumption

Focus on trying to educate primary age children, rather than on systemic & behavioural change

What are the best ideas you've seen?

Using infographics to visualise the data and show trends over time (wildlife trusts?)

Linking water consumption and food & agriculture data to highlight potential impact in the future to farming sector

Getting a foothold in a local school can help generate positive news stories on changes that have been made - can create FOMO from others in the sector

Education needs to be focused on getting people into the water industry and educating them

What are the next steps?

Getting better data from water companies

Linking water consumption data at a low level to catchment data

Highlighting the importance of using grey water

