

SELF DATA CITIES

ROADMAP FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SELF
DATA BY CITIES IN FRANCE AND EUROPE





After the experimentation playbook in 2019, Fing launched in 2020 the drafting of a roadmap to promote the implementation of Self Data Cities in France and in Europe. Accompanied by its territorial partners; La Rochelle agglomeration and Greater Lyon, as well as the MyData community. Fing coordinated a collective exploratory process through workshops and meetings, of which the roadmap is the result.

This roadmap is based on a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) of the cities in regards to data of Self Data cities issue, and the recommendation of a series of strategic actions to accelerate its implementation. It aims to equip territorial actors who wish to offer innovative, responsible and meaningful services to citizens!

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DATA AS AN ESSENTIAL RESSOURCE FOR PUBLIC ACTION

As cities around the world experience a sharp increase in their population, they are facing unprecedented challenges.

According to experts, the world's population living in cities will be 6 billion in 2041, compared to 4.2 billion in 2018. This increase can also be observed in France. Apart from the demographic issue, cities face enormous challenges at all levels: economic, social, environmental, etc. As a result, cities, as local authorities, have to find ways to maximise the effectiveness of their action, and data is an essential resource.

On the one hand, data allows cities to improve their public services (transport, waste, lighting, etc.), to encourage the development of innovative –so called intelligent– services and, above all, to make decisions with a better understanding and knowledge of the territory.

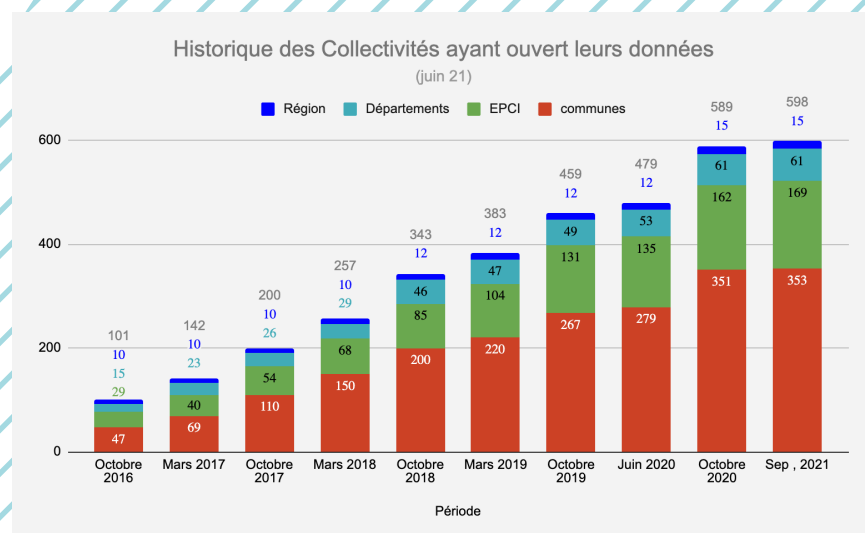
On the other hand, the exploitation, management and control of data respond to a fundamental challenge for cities and territories; that of sovereignty and governance. In fact, through various legal and technical measures and choices, cities must ensure the autonomy and independence of their public policies by controlling the data produced on their territory and preventing it from falling under the exclusive control of private players. As Antoine Courmont noted in his thesis on urban data: "Through the governance of data, it is more widely the capacity of the public actor to govern the city in the digital age that is at stake." The Covid-19 crisis has acted as both a demonstrator and an accelerator of the issues surrounding data. All over the world, local and national authorities had to use data to deal with the crisis. On the one hand, to contain the spread of the virus (contamination rate, clusters location, number of patients in hospitals, etc.), and on the other hand, to manage the many upheavals caused by the lockdowns on education, mobility, employment, etc. In our recent work Numériques Tous Risques (all-risks digital) we mention the need, in a world where crises are a common reality for the territories and urban areas, to imagine a mechanism that allows the exploitation of data for the general interest in emergency situations.

Open Data, Big Data, IoT... from the Smart City to the Data City!

In France, cities have been taking steps to use data for the past ten years, particularly through Open Data initiatives. As early as 2010, Rennes Metropolis opened its data, followed in 2011 by the State, which took up the issue by creating the Etalab mission and the data.gouv.fr portal. This principle of opening up data, which was initially a choice made by pioneering players convinced of the capacity of open data to be a source of innovation and democracy, became an obligation for all actors with a public service mission thanks to the NOTRE law in 2015 and the law for a Digital Republic in 2016. This is a principle that MP Eric Bothorel reaffirms in his [report For a data public policy](#). In this document submitted to the Prime Minister in December 2020, he returns to the importance of opening up data to guarantee the autonomy of territories; this unlocking must take place within a legal framework that combines innovation and protection of fundamental rights.

Ten years after the first open data initiatives, through the Open Data Impact expedition, we reviewed the outcomes of this first decade and evoked in [this synthesis](#) the benefits of the open data on different levels: economic (data market, new service offers, cost reduction, etc.), democratic (transparency of public action) and cultural (dissemination of data for more power to act). These benefits demonstrate the strategic dimension of data for cities.

Cities, who have moved from a storage logic to a flow logic, also use Big Data and IoT (Internet of Things). It is a matter of processing and analysing massive quantities of data, in particular thanks to the many connected devices deployed on their territories; cameras, sensors, meters, microphones, not to mention the smartphones of citizens themselves. In his book [Ne laissez pas Google gérer nos villes](#) (Don't let Google manage our cities), Jacques Priol draws up a fairly complete list of the uses of this data: traffic modelling and regulation, water and energy saving, air quality measurement and detection of pollutants, but also vehicle identification, tracking of abandoned objects and facial recognition. Undeniably, all of this raises questions in terms of surveillance, privacy and ecological impact.





Public data and personal data

Open data according to the law are generally non-nominative data "contained in administrative documents" relating to the general interest missions of public authorities. Personal data is governed by another legal framework, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which aims, among other things, to protect access to personal information and to provide individuals with opportunities to control the collection, retention and use of data concerning them.

Self Data is about personal data. However, uses and services frequently combine personal and non-personal data. This is why cities' action on data should combine two approaches: Open Data for non-identifying public data (sharing information and facilitating its re-use) and Self Data for personal data (providing citizens with the means and tools to control and even use their own personal data).

SELF DATA

What is Self Data?

Convinced by the need to restore the balance between individuals and organisations (public and private) with regard to the exploitation of personal data, Fing began exploring the concept of Self Data in 2013.

Defined as "the production, exploitation and sharing of personal data by individuals, under their control and for their own purposes", this concept has been put to the test through the MesInfos project and its various experiments (MesInfos 2013-2014, pilot 2017-2018) and exploration phases (MesInfos Energy, MesInfos Health). Each stage had its own technical, legal and economic challenges.

The work carried out on the Self Data has made it possible to build an innovation ecosystem in France made up of private companies (communication, insurance, energy), public organisations (metropolises and agglomerations), reusers (service providers and third-party applications) and researchers. It has also strongly contributed to the building of the MyData community and association, which promotes the idea of a human-oriented approach of data at the international level and in particular with the European Commission. Indeed, when the commission published its European Data Strategy in February 2020, it saw this approach as a serious alternative for building "a model of society where data enables better decision-making, in business and public sector."



Why Self Data Cities ?

2018 was a pivotal year in which, on the one hand, the MesInfos pilot experienced its most intense test phase, and on the other hand, Self Data needed to become autonomous so that it could be supported by players other than Fing. It was at this point that the cities became a serious option, as we were convinced that they had the cards in hand to play a leading role in the implementation of Territorial Self Data.

Indeed, cities have a unique position:

- **As data controllers:** developing data sharing processes, deploying their own data reuse platforms and applications; applying and enforcing Self data rules; requiring their suppliers and partners to take the Self Data path, etc.
- **As innovation actors:** encouraging Self Data compatible projects, creating a framework of trust, facilitating cooperation between actors, etc.
- **As democratic organisations with a general interest mission:** giving citizens the power to decide what they do with their data, co-designing scenarios for the use of personal data, facilitating digital mediation, etc.

The Territorial Self Data path opens up a whole field of possibilities. Combining citizens' personal data (under conditions of consent, anonymisation and security) with the open data represents an alternative with high innovation potential for cities that are looking for solutions that are transformative, inclusive, empowering and protective of fundamental rights.

The high use value of Self Data allows citizens to be actors of their territory by contributing, for example, individually or collectively, to urban planning, public transport management or public health projects.



For cities, this is a win-win situation; by sharing data with their citizens, they take a step towards a relationship of cooperation and exchange. As we pointed out in the Self Data Territorial experimentation kit: "this approach represents a bet on the future of cities. Yes, services will emerge from an ambitious Self Data programme in the territories. But above all, this implies a radical transformation of the way we look at personal data, to create an ecosystem that creates more distributed value with multiple uses". The local public actor has to take hold of this subject and guide all cities policies and actors towards this paradigm shift, otherwise other players, particularly those in the digital sector who have built their business models on the exploitation of data, will do it for them. The role of local authorities as guarantors of the general interest must be protected.

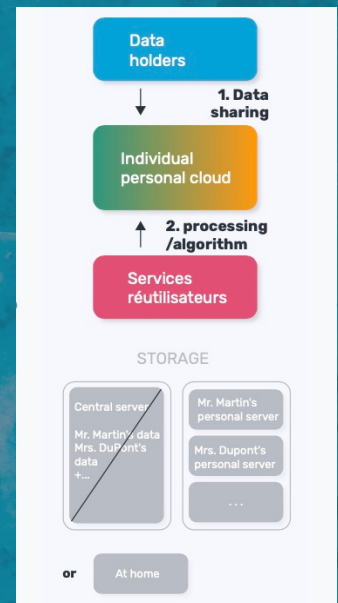
Our initial work on Self Data Cities led us to examine the role of Lyon metropolitan area, Nantes metropolitan area and La Rochelle agglomeration in the implementation of Self Data experiments. We were able to identify possible use cases in the first instance, and then governance models. These use cases were imagined in connection with local public action (administrative services in Lyon, energy and local consumption in Nantes, mobility in La Rochelle). If we want to build Self Data projects that are useful to the various stakeholders, it is essential to design them as complementary/to the service of local priorities. Only then, will they make sense.

GOUVERNANCE MODELS

The exploration of the Self Data cities conducted through the playbook was an opportunity to look at the different possible governance models for cities/territorial authorities:

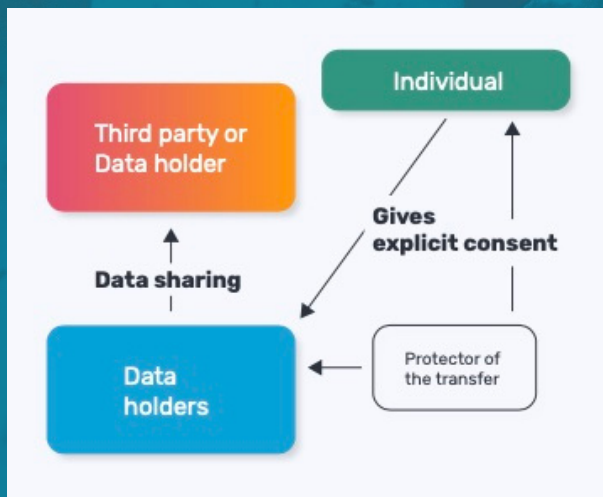
Personal Cloud model

The personal cloud is like a digital home: a space where individuals can aggregate their data from different sources on their personal server, not one run by an organization. The advantage of having a personal server is that any services designed to help them derive value from their data will run on that server — a process known as on-board computing — the data don't leave the server. With a personal cloud, the services come to the data, and the data stays put. Such services can be developed by anyone based on synthetic datasets, which are representative (in form), but not actual (in detail). No data needs to leave their digital home, and yet individuals can still enjoy services and apps that mobilize and triangulate their data that they find on their cloud's "Store". Individuals have complete control over their data, which is stored on their machine, virtually or locally (self-hosting is also a possibility).



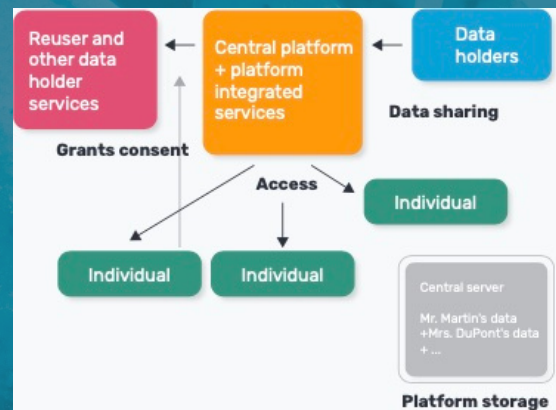
Direct transfer model

Direct transfer is grounded on a key principle: consent. Data sharing takes place directly between data controllers with the explicit, revocable consent of individuals, for services provision or so they can participate in public interest projects or research projects. For example, energy provider Enedis created the "Enedis Data Connect" project. Customers who have a Linky smart meter are offered services that will connect, with their consent, to Enedis' information system and help them derive use from their consumption data. This model has a great advantage: fewer actors, and therefore less complexity as regards implementation. A contract can potentially be signed between the data holder and the reuse service to specify processes, levels of data protection, usage of the bearer's infrastructure to retrieve data (volume, regularity, etc.). Some services could potentially be "blacklisted" and hence not allowed to connect to the data holder's system for security reasons, for example.



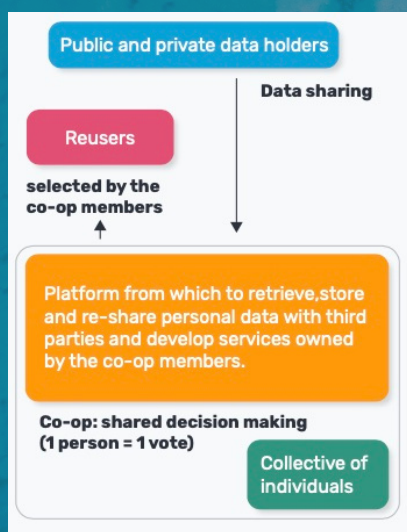
The third party platform model

A key facet of this model is basically that it is the 2.0 version of a digital vault: a portal platform/ personal space where users can retrieve and organize documents and data from multiple sources, share them and also take advantage of services from third parties or ones that have been integrated into the platform. So how is a personal cloud different? Storage. On a personal cloud, data storage is centralized on a server, and data processing by third parties is performed elsewhere than locally. France's Shared Medical Record is an example of a "trusted third party" platform, although today it supports mostly document rather than data aggregation, and is used chiefly by users to share data with health professionals rather than reuse them via dedicated services.



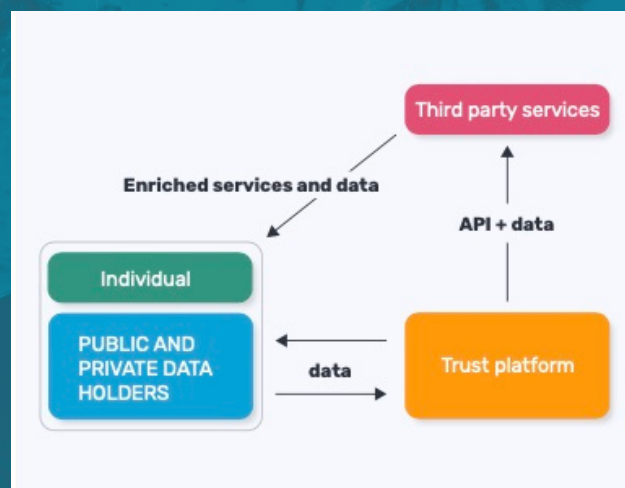
Data cooperative model

What if individuals formed a group to jointly manage their data, and then decided how they wanted to use them and share them, collectively? This is the route of the (still rare) data co-operative. Based on the principle that 1 individual=1 vote, data co-op members jointly develop tools and services (chat apps, search engines, etc.) that eventually grant them control over their data from A to Z. The collective might also simply decide together to share them via a platform, for example to contribute to public knowledge creation. In this model, individuals regain control of how their personal data is used by others (sharing) and of the uses they themselves will make of them (services creation). They might adopt existing open source, free-standing services (email or chat services, etc.) or develop their own. This model is particularly supportive of collective initiatives that require data pooling.



The civic data trust

According to the Open Data Institute, a civic data trust is "a legal structure that allows independent management of data by a trusted third party". The trustee body can comprise public actors, private actors and members of civil society. Its governance rules can be multiple, but those rules must facilitate consensus on the trust's use of the personal and non-personal data entrusted to it by individuals and data holders. The data can be physically stored and accessed via a platform (see our diagram), or can be left where they are, and the trust becomes the "trusted guarantor" who oversees private and secure data transfer — for example to contribute to causes that serve the public interest, public policy discussions, etc. — according to the conditions defined by the group. This model also represents a step beyond Open Data. Public data on their own do not really facilitate the emerging services market, especially ones designed to serve the public good, but crossing public data with personal data may contribute to the creation of entirely new uses.



THE "SELF DATA CITIES ROADMAP" APPROACH

The scenarios imagined in the framework of the "Territorial Self Data Playbook, 2019" were thought of in an "individual" way, meaning specific to each city, and what we wish to do through the roadmap is to examine the possibility of mutualisation and co-designing of a Self Data project by several cities. Indeed, the various exchanges with local and regional players have led us to the conclusion that, although they face the same challenges (energy, mobility, education, etc.) and share the values of Self Data (transparency, innovation, capacity building, etc.), they are not all in a position to undertake concrete Self Data actions, either because they do not have the necessary financial resources, or because they do not have the human resources (with all it includes in terms of knowledge/expertise of Self Data, technical skills to develop a service or application in this area, experience to carry out an experiment, etc.). The question of pooling efforts then arose and appeared to us as one of the avenues likely to encourage the implementation of Self Data cities projects in France and in Europe. We will approach it here from the angle of mutualisation (between multiple cities/local authorities) and co-design (between local authorities, private partners, citizens, associations, etc.).

The approach implemented

First, we set up SWOT (strengths-weaknesses, opportunities-threats) workshops (with multiple French cities and in Helsinki) to assess the internal and external factors, as well as the current and future potential of cities to develop Self Data projects. Subsequently, we initiated meetings and interviews on the opportunities and conditions for pooling efforts, and this roadmap presents the results and conclusions.

SWOT ANALYSIS

(Dedicated workshops conducted with La Rochelle agglomeration, Greater Lyon, Greater Paris and the city of Helsinki, as well as open workshops with a large audience from different cities).

STRENGTHS

- Data holders
 - Cities have large amounts of data.
 - Cities have a variety of data (personal, non-personal and different sectors and living situations).
- Expertise/experience
 - Cities already have expertise in the management and use of personal and non-personal data through a number of services.
 - Increased awareness of personal data issues since the GDPR (2018).
 - Some cities have already embarked on Self Data projects (conviction, knowledge, tools, experience).
- Legitimacy/trust
 - Local authorities are guarantors of the general interest and enjoy the trust of citizens, which gives them the legitimacy to take up the subject of Self Data.
 - Projects that bear ethical and democratic values.
 - Increasingly strong political support for the responsible use of personal data.
- Engage/Mobilise
 - Experience in setting up multi-stakeholder technological projects.
 - Ability to mobilise citizens (participatory approach).
 - Ability to launch a laboratory-type initiative to explore the subject from different angles (technical, economic, cultural, democratic, etc.).

WEAKNESSES

- Lack of structure
 - Fragmentation of data between different departments and lack of transversality.
 - Poor quality data, unreliable or insufficiently updated in some cases.
 - Legacy of certain old practices (closed databases, etc.).
 - Difficulty in making data interoperable between different specialised software.
- Disparity of expertise
 - Heterogeneous expertise on the subject of personal data and Self Data (some cities are much more advanced than others).
 - Lack of familiarity with the subject among city officials, elected representatives and citizens, a subject that remains fairly complex.
 - Lack of internal resources (financial, human) to manage Self Data projects.
- Distrust
 - Distrust and concern on the part of citizens regarding the use of their personal data (whoever holds it).
 - Doubts as to the legitimacy of the city to carry out this type of project.
- Divergence of interests
 - Complexity of federating a multi-actor project with divergent interests.
 - Diverse typologie of city, which makes it difficult to transpose Self Data projects.

SWOT ANALYSIS

OPPORTUNITIES

- Co-design
 - Projects that can federate territories (regions more specifically) affected by the 2015 Territorial Reform (Self Data can be a joint project to mobilise around the same cause).
 - Involving different actors: public, private, citizens in the same project.
 - Take advantage of the experience of cities already involved to bring others on board and transfer skills.
 - Pooling the efforts and resources of several cities around the same project (common use cases, tools, infrastructure) for more impact.
- Innovation
 - Self Data projects are an opportunity to :
 - Develop new innovative, ethical, useful and value-adding services for citizens.
 - Evaluate and adapt local public policy, contributing to the prosperity of the territory.
 - Build a new relationship with citizens.
- Favourable environment
 - Favourable regulatory framework: GDPR (portability in particular), public data, etc.
 - Self Data experiments and projects underway in France and elsewhere.
 - Need for a response to the trust crisis linked to the use of personal data, particularly by the public authorities.
 - Concept of Self Data known and supported within the EC.
 - Citizens' desire to be involved in projects in their territory.
 - Emergence of an ecosystem of "re-users".

THREATS

- Technical difficulties
 - Lack of standardisation of data and APIs.
 - Complex link with identity and consent management.
 - Difficulty in anonymising personal data.
 - Lack of interoperability between cities' technical tools.
 - Potential security gaps (platforms, third party applications, etc.)
- Unfavourable conditions
 - Self Data projects not considered as a priority, which do not get political support.
 - Environmental impact of data multiplication and duplication.
 - Unproven business models.
 - Reluctance on the part of citizens (concerns about the risks of intrusion or centralisation of data, time-consuming use, etc.).
 - Difficulties in financing joint projects.
 - Political and democratic crisis not conducive to medium- and long-term strategic thinking (particularly in relation to personal data).
- Weight of the GAFA
 - The GAFA are making public opinion tense around personal data (so any project on this subject becomes suspect).
 - Positioning of private players (especially GAFA) who would come to deploy a service offer competing with that of cities, but without the "general interest" aspect.
 - Internet giants are becoming faster, more powerful and better organized.
- Self Data washing
 - Risk that Self data remain as experts projects without the adhesion of the large public.
 - Risk of aggravating the digital divide (only digital skilled people able to have access or use Self Data tools).
 - Risk that organisations only embark on the process to collect more data (without any real sharing or use value).

ACTIONS TO PROMOTE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SELF DATA CITIES PROJECTS

1- Encourage small-scale experimentation

Objective

This first "trial run" will enable cities that are starting out to clear the ground by testing the capacities of stakeholders to implement this type of project (human resources, financial resources, usefulness for citizens) and to respond to a number of technical, legal and economic challenges, etc. This is a first learning stage before moving on to a larger scale deployment.

What does this answer to?

The need to learn, gain knowledge and experience on the subject before engaging in bigger investments.

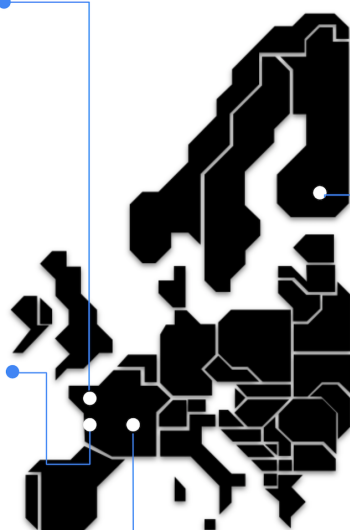
What does it rely on?

- On the capacity of cities to implement and coordinate complex, multi-part projects.
- On the expertise of some cities that have already started and gained experience.

Examples

RUDI in Rennes: supported by Rennes Metropolitan and funded by the *UIA* program. This project is conducted in collaboration with 12 partners with different skills: data producers committed to an open and shared approach, associations with expertise in digital uses and collaboration, and research laboratories. RUDI's objective is to foster territorial innovation through data.
More information about [RUDI](#)

TraceMob, La Rochelle: committed to a zero-carbon territory, La Rochelle is experimenting a Self Data mechanism that allows citizens and city's agents to better understand their mobility habits and act to reduce their CO2 emissions. This system is based on the use of the mobile application *TraceMob* for the recovery of mobility traces, on the access to the *Cozy Cloud* for the storage of these traces, and soon, on *Coach CO2* for the calculation of the carbon impact of their mobilities.
More information about [TraceMob](#)



CitiCap in Lahti

A project set up by the City of Lahti in Finland, this initiative enables residents to track their carbon emissions when travelling, thanks to an application that detects whether they are travelling by car, public transport, on foot or by bicycle. Each week, volunteers are credited with a "carbon quota" which, if not used on time, is transformed into "virtual euros" that can be exchanged for swimming pool tickets, bus tickets and other benefits.
More information about [CitiCap](#)

Ecolyo in Lyon: this tool allows its users to control their energy and water expenses in their home, all they need is to be equipped with a Linky and/or Gazpar and/or Téléo meter to take advantage of it!
They can visualize, in a very simple way, their electricity, gas and water consumption in the same place (in euros, kWh & liters) and at different time scales.
More information about [Ecolyo](#)

2- Giving citizens a say

Objective

More than a general principle, it is a question of designing and implementing a process (practices, actions, tools) which involves citizens in Self Data projects by giving them real decision-making power throughout the project. For example, by giving them the possibility of putting an end to an experiment if they believe that it does not meet their needs and /or the initial objectives.

What does this answer to?

- Citizens' distrust towards public authorities.
- Citizens' fears regarding the use of their personal data.
- Citizens' desire to be consulted and involved in public policies decision making.

What is the basis for this?

- On the capacity of cities to play an active role in local democratic life and to guarantee the general interest.

Examples

- Consensus conference on the use and protection of members' data - Harmonie Mutuelle
<https://vosdonneesontlaparole.fr/la-demarche/>
- Consensus conference on the management of personal data in Brest Metropolis
https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/download/pdf?id=5olhWfpRZdg0JfX7gfl7RpucZL3Mlbpj7jP75Oh_3g=
- CitizenLab's citizen engagement toolkit
<https://www.citizenlab.co/platform-online-engagement-toolbox>

3- Setting up learning expeditions for city officials and elected representatives

Objective

Learning expeditions among other cities and/or private players who are already involved in Self Data projects will enable city staff and elected representatives to build up their skills in this area.

What does this answer to?

- The necessity to overcome the lack of expertise about Self Data, a relatively new and complex concept.

What is it based on?

- Existing projects and experiments, as well as project leaders informed and trained in Self Data who are willing to share their experience.
- The Fing's expertise on the subject.
- The international association MyData expertise.
- The French reform of training for elected representatives of January 2021, which aims to give elected representatives access to training adapted to their needs.

Example

- Learning expedition organised by Ouishare in Scandinavia to build the mobility of tomorrow
<https://www.ouishare.net/case-studies/to-scandinavia-and-beyond-how-a-learning-expedition-fostered-a-community-around-mobility>.
- Series of learning expeditions organised by Transdev on digital and data
<https://www.transdev.com/en/news-en/on-the-launch-pad-2-first-learning-expedition/>.

4- Get a national player such as France urbaine, ADCF or les Interconnectés to carry the concept.

Objective

The aim is to make Self Data a priority subject with strong political support (like open data) and to speed up its implementation on a national scale thanks to the commitment of a player whose action covers all the national territory and not only a city. It will thus be able to take on board, coordinate and involve many local and regional authorities and disseminate Self Data more widely.

Various players can take on this role, France Urbaine for political support (trust/citizenship) and/or les Interconnectés for technical support (information systems) in cooperation with operators such as Ekitia (formerly Occitanie Data), which have strong expertise in the subject of data.

What does this answer to?

- To give a boost to the deployment of Self Data.

What does it rely on?

- Experience in technological projects.
- Greater human, financial and technical resources.
- Ability to guide public policy in the long term.
- France will hold the Council of the European Union presidency in 2022, with the digital development as a priority.

Examples

- Include the Self Data as a priority in the Proposal for a digital roadmap for local authorities, especially the "innovative digital services - data strategy" axis.
https://www.adcf.org/files/AdCF-Direct/1017/210709_CCVFFeuillederouteNumerique.pdf

5- To perpetuate the projects and/or solutions already developed by allowing their duplication

Objective

Ensure the availability of services already developed in the long term so that citizens can use them, domesticate them and make them part of their daily lives.

What does this answer to?

- The need to make Self Data projects useful initiatives for users by promoting their dissemination and availability to the greatest number.
- Avoid wasting time and resources on redeveloping tools that already exist.

What does this rely on?

- An ecosystem of Self Data technical solutions that has already been created, such as CozyCloud, Digime, Meeco, Fair&Smart, and many others.

6- Integrate the principle of Self Data by design into public procurement

Objective

Take advantage of the renewal of public service delegation contracts and/or new calls for tenders to integrate the principles of "Self Data by design".

What does this answer?

- The necessity to establish the Self Data as an obligation and not an option.

What does it rely on?

- Existing regulations; Privacy by design, Article 25 and 32 of the GDPR.

7- Developing "data" charters

Objective

The aim is to limit the influence of the GAFA, which are increasingly positioning themselves on "services to citizens", by drafting, in a collective manner, charters stipulating responsible and reasoned use of personal data, as well as the possibility for public authorities to have access to and mobilise data produced by the use of private services, in order to set up actions of general interest.

What does this answer to?

- Building a framework of trust between the different stakeholders.
- Protecting cities against predatory actions by private actors.
- Encouraging responsible, ethical and frugal use of personal data.

What does it rely on?

- Examples of existing charters.
- Digital Republic" law on data of general interest.

Example

- Occitanie Data ethical charter, Principles applicable to data production, collection, hosting or processing activities.
<https://www.occitaniedata.fr/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Charte-Occitanie-Data-V1.1.pdf>

FOCUS ON THE EFFORTS MUTUALIZING AND CO- DESIGNING OF SELF DATA COMMON USE CASE ACTION

Objective

This action was one of the strong proposals made during the workshops, therefore we decided to explore it further. It aims to unite several cities (and local authorities more widely) around the development of a common use case. This approach will enable efforts to be pooled so that large and small cities, with and without less financial and human resources, experienced and less experienced, can provide their citizens with an innovative, useful and empowering service. As identified by the Mobicoop cooperative in its 2020/2021 report on shared mobility, pooling efforts when it comes to data has several advantages (provided there is a clear use value and an appropriate regulatory framework):

- Cost reduction through shared investments as they can be very important (especially for infrastructures) which is a significant asset ⇒ this was actually the starting point of the whole "mutualization" idea.
- Forming a collective to weigh up against the big private players, particularly the GAFA.
- Limit the environmental impact (in the case of shared data storage).
- Make it possible to process data that would make sense only with a use case (e.g. collected geolocation data that become useful only through a route planner).
- Essential for the development of services that require a certain "critical mass" of data to achieve their objective.

What does this answer to?

- Lowering implementation costs by sharing them between several cities.
- Find short and long term funding.
- Avoid the risk of scattering efforts by implementing the same service in different places, but rather gather energies around one impactful initiative.

What does this rely on?

- Ongoing projects and experiments.
- Growing interest in Self Data from several cities.
- A nascent innovation ecosystem in France and internationally.
- Support from the European Commission.

Example

Urban Data Exchange

Urban data sharing platform allowing cities and urban infrastructure operators to transform their "data lakes" into data-driven innovation ecosystems.

<https://www.urbandatacollective.com/projects/udx>



The stages of a Self Data use case mutualizing and co-designing scenario

Step 1:

Identify the actors wishing to build a Self Data cities project and ready to engage in a co-designing process.

Associate a national actor to embrace the role of leader and coordinator, we have mentioned above examples such as France Urbaine.

Distribute the roles between the players involved, in particular according to their expertise/means on the subject of Self Data: technical expert-coordinator, legal expert-coordinator, digital mediation expert-coordinator, etc.

Step 2:

Identify a theme of common interest that would unite the players around a joint action. The various workshops, meetings and discussions that took place within the framework of the Self Data cities project have, for example, made it possible to highlight the theme of reducing carbon impact through cleaner mobility and better waste management.

Step 3:

Identify the existing tools or those under development to be mobilised in a mutualizing and co-designing scenario, and train/acculturate all the actors to the value, utility, interest and the use of these tools.

Step 4:

Create and develop “commonalities”: intention, understanding, narrative, common language, etc., disseminate them among all actors and stakeholders so that they can embody them.

**Step 5:**

Share (story telling) the actors' commitment and communicate nationally and internationally in order to spread the word and enable other actors to join the project or a group of actors (e.g. cities) to replicate it.

Step 6:

Go through an experimental stage with a small number of citizens in order to test the tools, check the relevance of the data mobilised, better situate the roles of the partners and, finally, see to what extent the tools really meet the initial objectives... In short, to learn! As Self Data projects are complex socio-technical objects, between a technological solution, a strategic transformation within organisations and a change in behaviour for users. There are many parameters to be taken into account, applied and adjusted. This learning phase is therefore essential before going to scale.

→ Find our advice for experimenting in the [Self Data Cities playbook](#) (page 73)

Step 7:

Open up the project to other actors who wish to join it in order to allow for new fruitful relationships, wider support and more extensive implementation.

Furthermore, all these stages can take place, for example, within the framework of a space such as the Citizens' Data Lab that the Greater Lyon is currently building. This Lab is intended to be an inclusive space where the various Self Data actors (holders, reusers, researchers, activists, citizens) can meet to learn, test, experiment and develop.

Conditions for success:

- Strong political support
- Convergence between individual and collective interests
- A driving force leader
- Simple and interoperable technical tools
- Iterative collaboration process



Checklist to get started with mutualizing and co-designing action

Self Data Culture

- Are all the partners at least aware of the Self Data issue?
- Do the partners share the values of transparency, cooperation and empowerment?

Intention

- Do all the partners have the same vision of Self Data and do they pursue the same objective?

Resources

- Technical
 - Do one or more of the cities involved have technical tools (personal cloud, reuse applications) that can be mobilised to meet the project objective?
- Financial
 - Are the contributions made by the partners sufficient to cover the cost of the Self Data project?
- Human
 - Do the partners have or can they recruit (from the project budget) the human resources needed to run the project?

Partnerships

- Is there a sufficient wide range of partners involved?
- Do all partners have specific roles to play?
- Do the sum of the roles lead to the implementation of the project?

Risk management

- Have the risks of a Self Data cities project been identified?
- Have solutions been anticipated?

Fing, an open network!

The Fondation Internet Nouvelle Génération (Fing) is an association and a think & do tank on digital transformations. Born in 2000, it brings together a network of entrepreneurs, public actors, researchers and experts committed to imagining a concrete digital future centred on human capacities.

It looks at the digital technology itself and its interactions with political, economic and social transformations: data and algorithms, trust and attention, democracy and public action, work, education, environment, cities and territories...

Its primary vocation, exploratory and prospective, is embodied in its InternetActu media and in its Expeditions: critical and creative work aiming at bringing out new ideas and avenues for action, research and innovation.

In 2019, Fing took on a second mission, transformative and impact-oriented, characterised by the multi-year collective programme #Reset 2019-2022, with shared governance, of which Fing is the initiator and one of the operators.

Fing's productions are freely accessible and reusable.

Self Data Cities - Fing

Sarah Medjek - Daniel Kaplan

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CREATIVE COMMON

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