(Open) Data in the City of Vienna

Urban Data Platform smartdata.wien

Franz Xaver PFAFFENBICHLER, City of Vienna, Austria
Gerhard HARTMANN, City of Vienna, Austria

Open Government Data

A city has a huge amount of data that it urgently needs for various tasks. This data is not only used for internal processes but is also offered to the public in various ways. Vienna was actually the first city in the German-speaking world to publish open government data already in 2011. Data represents the stable and long-living core of information management in the City of Vienna, the digital IQ of the City is increased by the data. They form the foundation for information and knowledge and are an essential production factor for a "smart, intelligent and digital" City. The precondition for this is the defined Data Excellence Strategy—a data strategy that includes all necessary measures for the timely provision of reliable data in the required quality, with the vision that the City of Vienna will become a "Data excellent" Data Capital City.

Open data bring transparency and participation to society by being used for projects or by data journalists. They enable fact-based participation and objective discussion. The city's open data and open interfaces have led to remarkable innovation, as more than 280 new apps have been developed by third-party software engineers using Vienna's Open Data. The scientific community uses Open Data as a database for research projects. For students, open data are more exciting than any sample data sets. For the economy, Open Data is the fuel for innovation and the basis for new business fields and diverse applications, such as apps, websites, analyses or other services. The administration itself also benefits from open data, for example because it can easily use data from other agencies or as a basis for digitisation projects. The data is thus part of the departments' knowledge management.

As this is a very important point for public administrations, we synchronize our open data with the European Data Portal and are part of the cooperation "OGD D-A-CH-LI", which is an Open Government Data movement in the German-speaking world.

Urban Data Platform

The guiding principle "Open by Default" is essential for access to public data of the City of Vienna: The city administration opens up publicly classified data, documents and services in a machine-readable form and free of charge since 2011 on https://data.wien.gv.at. For integration of multiple

datastreams from IoT devices and Open Data on the same datalake we use the FIWARE based platform solution https://smartdata.wien.gv.at.

The urban data platform Vienna (https://smartdata.wien.gv.at) takes open data to a whole new level. Its data aggregation and analysis capabilities are based on the European Commission's Context Broker building block, which can sort through data of all sorts and sources from all across the city.

Smartdata.wien was developed as part of the joint EU project "Smarter Together" of the cities of Lyon, Munich and Vienna on the topic of Smart City, and will continue to be used for various smart city projects in areas such as energy, buildings and mobility.

The technical core of the urban data platform is the FIWARE Context Broker, which allows the platform to offer real-time information through visual dashboards that cater to the needs of all stakeholders from residents to city officials and software developers. The platform can facilitate day-to-day activities, such as urban mobility, environmental monitoring, urban infrastructure, energy efficiency and more.
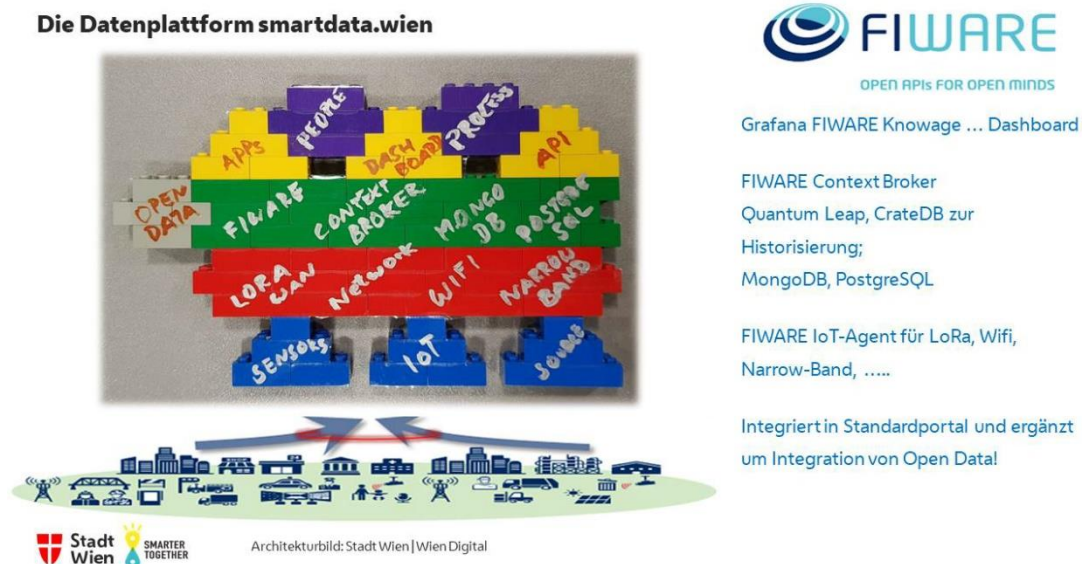

Fig. 1. architecture picture data platform Vienna smartdata.wien. (© City of Vienna).

References

European Commission, City of Vienna (2020). 'The number one smart city in the world uses CEF Context Broker to effectively manage Big Data, Success Story CEF Digital Building Blocks', Brussels/Vienna, Available at https://ec.europa.eu/cefdigital/wiki/display/CEFDIGITAL/2020/02/06/The+number+one+smart+city+in+the+world%2C%20+Vienna%2C+uses+CEF+Context+Broker+to+effectively+manage+Big+Data (Accessed: 13 January 2019).