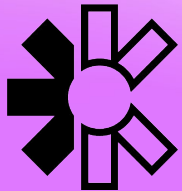


Data management for humans

Open Data Editor (beta)

Concept Note

September 2023



Open Knowledge

FOR A FAIR, SUSTAINABLE AND OPEN FUTURE

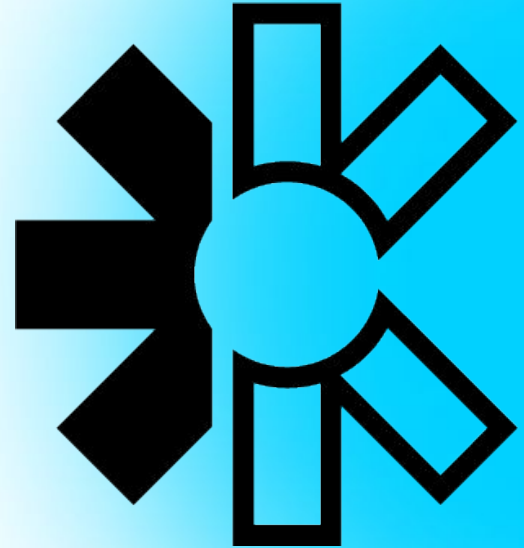
okfn.org
@okfn

About OKFN

The **Open Knowledge Foundation** (OKFN) is the world's ultimate reference in open digital infrastructures and the hub of the open movement. As a global not-for-profit, the organisation has been **establishing open standards for the last 20 years** and providing services, tools and training for institutions to adopt openness as a design principle.

OKFN is the **technology arm of a wide range of institutions** creating, managing and publishing open data. Its most popular product, CKAN, is the tool behind open data portals such as those of the US, Brazilian and Indian governments, and the UN refugee agency.

Learn more – okfn.org



What we do

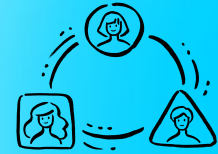
OKFN creates digital tools, equips people with skills, and expands digitally savvy networks that understand **the transformative power of openness**. We are the organisation behind the Open Definition, Open Data Commons, the Global Open Data Index, School of Data, and cutting-edge tools like CKAN and Frictionless Data.

Beyond tech, we have a number of exciting initiatives in the fields of **advocacy and standards**, such as Open Data Day and the coalition to develop Digital Public Infrastructures for Electoral Processes.

Learn more – okfn.org/services / okfn.org/tools



We provide services for opening data



We can help you develop your skills and unlock your potential



You can partner with us and be part of the global movement

What we do

Software



The world's most adopted solution for open data portals



A no-code, easy-to-use application to maximise data and metadata interoperability

Standards



Open Data Commons

Legal tools and licenses to help publish, provide and use open data



Open Definition

Principles that define “openness” in relation to data and content



Frictionless Data

Open-source toolkit (standards + software) for data and metadata interoperability

The problem

Public officers, gender, social and environmental justice activists, and journalists, **currently lack a tool that enables publishing data** without requiring sophisticated equipment, connectivity or programming skills.

When they want to do so, they either need specialised support or dedicated resources to do so. Without being able to try by themselves and use the data to add value to their work, **the conversations around data ownership, access, and sharing are abstract.**

“Today, there is no easy tool to manage and publish data.”



Introducing



Open Data Editor

Initial version of a no-code, easy-to-use application to maximise data and metadata interoperability. It's optimised for non-tech people, small organisations, municipalities, GLAM, Global Majority, and more.

[Download link](#)

[Learn more](#)

The screenshot shows the Open Data Editor interface for a project named 'current'. The main area displays a table with the following data:

id	name
1	english
2	中國人

Below the table, there is a 'SCHEMA' configuration panel with the following fields:

- id**: INTEGER (REMOVABLE)
- name**: STRING (REMOVABLE)

The interface also includes a file explorer on the left, a top navigation bar with 'Editor', 'Metadata', 'Report', 'Source', and 'Errors' tabs, and a bottom bar with 'CREATE', 'MANAGE', 'DELETE', 'SAVE AS', 'PUBLISH', 'REVERT', and 'SAVE' buttons.



Local files: no clouds; no vendor lock-in

Tables

Use AI e.g. "create csv with 10 most populated cities in the world"

Sort, pagination, etc

Frictionless Application beta | table-cars.csv | SQL VIEW | CHART | VALID

Project: current

Editor | Metadata | Report | Source | Errors

	brand	model	price	kmpl	bhp	type
2	Volkswagen	Vento	785	16.1	104	Sedan
3	Hyundai	Verna	774	17.4	106	Sedan
4	Skoda	Rapid	756	15	104	Sedan
5	Suzuki	Ciaz	725	20.7	91	Sedan
6	Renault	Scala	724	16.9	98	Sedan
7	Suzuki	SX4	715	16.5	103	Sedan

Page 1 of 1 | Results per page 50 | Showing 1 - 42 of 42

```
1 brand,model,price,kmpl,bhp,type
2 Volkswagen,Vento,785,16.1,104,Sedan
3 Hyundai,Verna,774,17.4,106,Sedan
4 Skoda,Rapid,756,15,104,Sedan
5 Suzuki,Ciaz,725,20.7,91,Sedan
6 Renault,Scala,724,16.9,98,Sedan
7 Suzuki,SX4,715,16.5,103,Sedan
8 Fiat,Linea,700,15.7,112,Sedan
9 Nissan,Sunny,699,16.9,98,Sedan
10 Fiat,Linea Classic,612,14.9,89,Sedan
11 Toyota,Etios,603,16.8,89,Sedan
12 San,Storm,595,16,59,Sedan
13 Chevrolet,Sail,551,18.2,82,Sedan
14 Volkswagen,Polo,535,16.5,74,Hatchback
15 Hyundai,i20,523,18.6,82,Hatchback
16 Honda,Amaze,519,18,87,Sedan
17 Suzuki,Swift DZire,508,19.1,86,Sedan
18 Ford,Classic,506,14.1,100,Sedan
19 Skoda,Fabia,503,16.4,75,Hatchback
20 Toyota,Etios Liva,500,17.7,79,Hatchback
```

CREATE | MANAGE | DELETE | SAVE AS | PUBLISH | REVERT | SAVE

table-invalid.csv (invalid)

Type Error

1	LatD	LatM	LatS	MS	LonD	LonM
124	45	26	23	8	54	23
125						

Fields

ADD FIELD | GRID VIEW | Search

id	INTEGER	REMOVE
name	STRING	REMOVE

Charts

Use AI e.g. “create bar chart for table @cities ordered by population”

The screenshot displays the Frictionless Application interface. At the top, the header includes the application name "Frictionless Application" with a "beta" badge, a "CHART" tab, and the file name "chart.json @chart". A "CREATE" button with a pencil icon is highlighted by an arrow from the text above, and a "VALID" button with a checkmark is also visible. Below the header, the interface is divided into several sections:

- Project:** fdapp
- Navigation:** Editor, Metadata, Report, Source, Chat AI
- File Explorer:** A list of files including article.md, chart.json (selected), datapackage.json, image.jpg, json.yaml, map.geojson, oil-prices.json, schema.json, script.py, table-cars.csv, table-invalid.csv, table.csv, text.txt, and view.json.
- Chart View:** A grouped bar chart with "value" on the y-axis (0.0 to 1.1) and "category" on the x-axis. The chart shows three groups of bars for categories 'a', 'b', and 'c'. Each group contains three bars representing series 'x' (blue), 'y' (orange), and 'z' (red).

Category	Series x	Series y	Series z
a	0.1	0.6	0.9
b	0.7	0.2	1.1
c	0.6	0.1	0.2
- Chart Configuration Panel:** A "Chart" section with a dropdown menu. It includes fields for:
 - Channels: (inline)
 - Width: 600
 - Title: (empty)
 - Height: 300
 - Mark: bar
 - Tooltip: No
- Help:** A section titled "Chart" with the text "Set properties of the chart." and a "LEARN MORE" link.

At the bottom of the interface, there are buttons for "ADD", "MANAGE", "DELETE", "SAVE AS", "PUBLISH", "REVERT", and "SAVE".

Maps

Use AI e.g. “create a map with all the capitals in Latin America”

The screenshot displays a web application interface for creating maps. The top navigation bar features the text "Frictionless Application" with a "beta" badge, a "MAP" button, and a "CREATE" button. Below the navigation bar, there is a "Project: fdapp" dropdown and a set of icons for "Editor", "Metadata", "Report", "Source", and "Chat AI".

The left sidebar lists several data files:

- article.md @article
- chart.json @chart
- datapackage.json @datapackage
- image.jpg @image
- json.yaml @json
- map.geojson @map
- oil-prices.json @oil_prices
- schema.json @schema
- script.py @script
- table-cars.csv @table_cars
- table-invalid.csv @table_invalid
- table.csv @table
- text.txt @text
- view.json @view

The main area shows a map of Europe with two red location pins. The bottom navigation bar includes buttons for "ADD", "MANAGE", "DELETE", "SAVE AS", "PUBLISH", "REVERT", and "SAVE".

Files

Use AI e.g. “draw a picture cartoon style with Mara the football player”

The screenshot displays the Frictionless Application interface. At the top, the title bar reads "Frictionless Application" with a "beta" badge. The current file is "file-image.png". Action buttons include "SQL VIEW", "CHART", and "VALID". Below the title bar, the interface is divided into several sections:

- Project:** A dropdown menu showing "current".
- Navigation:** Buttons for "Editor", "Metadata", "Report", and "Source".
- File Explorer:** A list of files on the left side, including "chart.json", "file-document.pdf", "file-image.png" (highlighted), "metadata-dialect.json", "metadata-resource.json", "metadata-schema.json", "package.json", "table-5x100k.csv", "table-cars.chart.json", "table-cars.csv", "table-invalid.csv", "table.csv", "text-article.md", "text-data.json", "text-data.yaml", and "view.json".
- File Viewer:** The main area displays a photo of a ginger cat.
- Licenses Panel:** A section titled "Licenses" with tabs for "RESOURCE", "CHECKSUM", "LICENSES", and "CONTRIBUTORS". The "LICENSES" tab is active, showing a table with one entry: "MIT". Buttons for "ADD LICENSE", "GRID VIEW", "LICENSE", and "REMOVE" are present. A search box is also available.
- Help Panel:** A section titled "Licenses" with the text "The license(s) under which the resource is provided." and a "LEARN MORE" link.
- Bottom Bar:** Action buttons for "CREATE", "MANAGE", "DELETE", "SAVE AS", "PUBLISH", "REVERT", and "SAVE".

Articles

Use AI e.g. “write an article about the history of Portugal”

The screenshot shows the Frictionless Application interface. At the top, there's a blue header with "Frictionless Application" and a "beta" badge. Below the header, there's a navigation bar with "ARTICLE" selected, a file name "article.md @article", and buttons for "CREATE" and "VALID". The main workspace is divided into three panels: a file explorer on the left, a code editor in the center, and a preview area on the right. The file explorer shows a list of files including "article.md @article", "chart.json @chart", "datapackage.json @datapackage", "image.jpg @image", "json.yaml @json", "map.geojson @map", "oil-prices.json @oil_prices", "schema.json @schema", "script.py @script", "table-cars.csv @table_cars", "table-invalid.csv @table_invalid", "table.csv @table", "text.txt @text", and "view.json @view". The code editor shows a markdown document with the following content:

```
1 # History of Portugal
2
3 @image
4
5 Portugal, located in southwestern Europe on the Iberian Peninsula, has a rich and diverse history that spans over thousands of years. From ancient civilizations and Roman rule to a powerful maritime empire and modern democracy, Portugal's history is filled with significant events and cultural developments.
6
7 ## Ancient Civilization and Roman Rule
8
9 @map
10
11 The history of Portugal dates back to prehistoric times, with evidence of human presence as early as 30,000 BC. Throughout the centuries, various civilizations inhabited the region, including the Celts and the Phoenicians. In 218 BC, the Romans conquered the Iberian Peninsula and established the province of Lusitania, comprising the territory of modern-day Portugal.
12
13 ## Moorish Influence and the Reconquista
14
15 @chart
16
17 In the 8th century, the Moors, an Islamic civilization from North Africa, invaded the Iberian Peninsula, including Portugal. The Muslim rule lasted for over four centuries and left a lasting impact on the language, culture, and architecture of the region. However, in the 11th century, the Christian kingdoms of Portugal initiated the
```

The preview area on the right shows a map titled "Ancient Civilization and Roman Rule" and a chart titled "Moorish Influence and the Reconquista". The map shows a geographical view of Europe with markers for London and Paris. The chart is a bar chart with three groups (x, y, z) and three bars (blue, red, red) for each group. The y-axis ranges from 0.0 to 1.0. The chart shows that group 'z' has the highest values across all three bars.

Arrows from the text "Use AI e.g. 'write an article about the history of Portugal'" point to the "CREATE" button and the code editor. An arrow from the text "Insert files" points to the file explorer and the code editor.

Datasets

Use AI e.g. “create a dataset including all the tables and articles”

The screenshot displays the Frictionless Application interface. At the top, there's a blue header with 'Frictionless Application beta' and a 'package.json' breadcrumb. Navigation tabs include 'SQL VIEW', 'CHART', and 'VALID'. Below the header, a toolbar shows 'Editor', 'Metadata', 'Report', 'Source', and 'Clear'. The main area is divided into a left sidebar with a file explorer, a central workspace, and a right sidebar with help text.

Left Sidebar: Lists files like 'chart.json', 'file-document.pdf', 'file-image.png', 'metadata-dialect.json', 'metadata-resource.json', 'metadata-schema.json', 'package.json' (selected), 'table-5x100k.csv', 'table-cars.chart.json', 'table-cars.csv', 'table-invalid.csv', 'table.csv', and 'text-article.md'. Below are options: 'UPLOAD FILE', 'UPLOAD LINK', 'UPLOAD FOLDER', 'CREATE FOLDER', and 'CREATE PACKAGE'.

Central Workspace: Shows 'Resources' with 'ADD RESOURCE' and 'GRID VIEW' buttons. A modal 'Select Resources' is open, showing a grid of files with checkboxes. 'text-article.md' is selected. Buttons 'CANCEL' and 'SELECT' are at the bottom.

Right Sidebar: Contains 'Help Package package' and a description: 'A simple container format for describing a coherent collection of data in a single package. It provides the basis for convenient delivery, installation and management of datasets.' A 'LEARN MORE' link is present.

Bottom Bar: Includes 'CREATE', 'MANAGE', 'DELETE', 'SAVE AS', 'PUBLISH', 'REVERT', and 'SAVE' buttons.

Annotations: An arrow points from the top text to the 'VALID' button. Another arrow points from the 'ADD RESOURCE' button to the 'Select Resources' modal. A third arrow points from the 'Ready to publish' text to the 'PUBLISH' button in the bottom bar.

Ready to publish

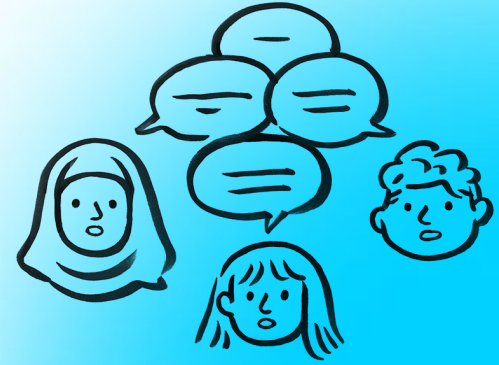
The problem can be solved together

We hope the **Open Data Editor** will become in the future, with the feedback and contributions of interested developers and a broader community, a no-code, easy-to-use application to make data management accessible to everyone everywhere.

Open Data Editor (beta) was released in September 2023 for public testing and validation. We are looking for feedback and help in testing the application and showing all the potential this tool offers.



We want your feedback



On this stage the application **is ready for exploratory testing and simple data publishing scenarios**. All the experimental functionality, like SQL view, AI support, and data storytelling, are in the state of a working prototype, meaning that it works and can be tested but it is not yet production-ready.

We want to encourage organisations, developers and users to test it. We are also inviting UX designers and developers to help finalise it or take the code and customise it to serve specific communities.

Get in touch with us at <https://github.com/okfn/opendataeditor/issues>.



Thank you!

Ways to join the conversation:

- Website – okfn.org
- Email – info@okfn.org
- Twitter/X – [@OKFN](https://twitter.com/OKFN)
- Newsletter – okfn.org/newsletter

