



OPEN DATA FOR CITIZENS' WELLBEING

Putrajaya, 30 January 2018 - The Big Open Wrangle, an online campaign organised by Asia Online Publishing Group (AOPG) and supported by The Malaysian Administrative Modernisation and Management Planning Unit (MAMPU) to encourage Malaysians to make more use of open data, is into its third month.

Vibrant use of open data is viewed as one of the ways for nations to become truly data-driven and take advantage of the global digital economy. By making government data open and accessible to all, the hope is that everyday citizens will use their creativity, skills and imagination to harness this data for the greater good.

By promoting the www.bigcommunity.net subscriber base, The Big Open Wrangle campaign is promoting this idea to the people who can really make a difference among Malaysians.

Supporting this initiative are NetApp Malaysia, Cloudera and TechData. All of whom are providing expertise and resource to help Big Open Wranglers execute on their ideas to better harness the open data we have.

“Our intention is to promote the open data portal www.data.gov.my to citizen. We want to get them involved, either to use the open data that’s available in their own apps and projects or to get their ideas about how we can make the open data we have available even better,” said Dr. Suhazimah Binti Dzazali, Deputy Director General (ICT) of MAMPU.

Melina Hwang, General Manager at AOPG, publisher of the Big Community Portal, told us, “So far we have over 120 people that have signed up to be big open wranglers. We are already seeing the results and very soon, we will be sharing some of the work they have been doing to demonstrate just how open data can be used for the nation’s betterment.”

YBrs. Dr. Suhazimah continued, “Globally, we have seen open data used to give remote communities better and cheaper access to medicine and healthcare, improve traffic congestion and also help with public security. Our aim is to harness the creativity of our own local data experts and challenge them to use the open data we have available today in new and innovative ways.”

To encourage this, Cloudera and Tech Data are helping us to run a workshop on open data and solving traffic gridlock and NetApp will be helping us run a workshop on using open data to make cities smarter. We plan to use the results of those workshops to get our volunteer big open wranglers working on real-world projects that will actually contribute to the national betterment in those areas.

YBrs. Dr. Suhazimah concluded with a call to action, “Everyone and anyone can be involved in this great open data initiative. If you are an analyst that wants to run your

own project on an open data set, we want to hear from you. But even if you have no data skills but would like to contribute data to the open data community, we can help you with that too. Just sign up for the Big Open Wrangle at <http://bigcommunity.net/events/big-open-wrangle/>".

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MAMPU

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