**README File**

This README file is related to the research data underlying the journal article entitled ‘Why open government data projects fail to achieve their objectives: categorizing barriers through a global survey’. This README File contains the following elements:

1. Data format
2. Software needed to read the data
3. Codes and variables used
4. **What is the data format?**

The first dataset entitled ‘Final OGDI dataset (20201009)’ is stored as a .sav file.

The second dataset entitled ‘SPSS Output’ is stored as a .sav file.

The third dataset entitled ‘Questionnaire’ is stored as a .doc file.

The fourth dataset entitled ‘Overview of the OGDIs’ is stored as a .xls file.

1. **Which software can be used to read the data?**

The first dataset entitled ‘Final OGDI dataset (20201009)’ has been created using SPSS and can be read using this software.

The second dataset entitled ‘SPSS Output’ has been created using SPSS and can be read using this software.

The third dataset entitled ‘Questionnaire’ has been created using MS Word and can be read using this software.

The fourth dataset entitled ‘Overview of the OGDIs’ has been created using MS Excel and can be read using this software.

1. **Which codes and variables are used and what do they mean?**

The first dataset entitled ‘Final OGDI dataset (20201009)’ contains the raw data underlying our study on OGDI barriers. The .sav file consists of two tabs: the data view and the variable view. In the variable view, the column entitled ‘Label’ refers to the questions in the questionnaire that have been used to collect the data. In this column, we also refer to the related sections of the questionnaire, so that they can easily be traced back.

The second dataset entitled ‘SPSS Output’ provides the results of a first round of analysis. It shows the SPSS output of the Exploratory Factor Analysis.

The third dataset entitled ‘Questionnaire’ contains the questions that have been asked in the questionnaires distributed in 2016 and in 2017. There are some small differences between the questions asked in these years. However, these differences do not concern the barriers of Open Government Data Initiatives (OGDIs), that we investigated in this study.

The fourth dataset entitled ‘Overview of the OGDIs’ provides an overview of the 171 individual OGDIs that have been assessed in our study. In our study we focus on the assessment of the barriers for OGDIs. The ID-numbers / references numbers given to the OGDI can be seen from the first column of the Excel spreadsheet. This OGDI-number corresponds to the OGDI-ID used in the first column of the first dataset (the .sav file).