



USING SEMANTIC ANALYSIS TO TRACK INDICATORS OF GOVERNANCE IN AFRICA

*Presentation of the OECD to the Geneva Trialogue on
knowledge and the SDGs, Geneva, November 14, 2016*



1996-2016: Governance Indicators – original method

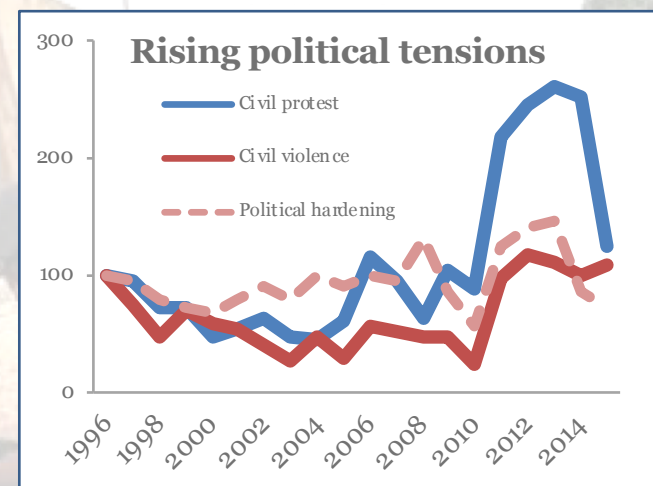
- **Political indicators**
 - Featured in African Economic Outlook (AU/UNDP/OECD)
 - Manual tallies of events recorded by newspaper articles (protest, violence, hardening, softening)
 - Objectivity + authoritative source + transparent methodology
 - Motivations
- **Why semantic analysis?**
 - Reduce labour intensity: reduce cost, or increase coverage – apply to other continents
 - Reduce cost of data cleaning, checking, backcasting
 - Improve scheduling of resources
 - Semantic analysis already used in other OECD projects
- **Constraints** – data needs to be credible and legitimate for knowledge transfer to occur

Political legitimacy

- Partner with African institutions for credibility
- Careful interpretation
- Prepare to defend legitimacy of methodology
- Transparency
- Comprehensible methodology

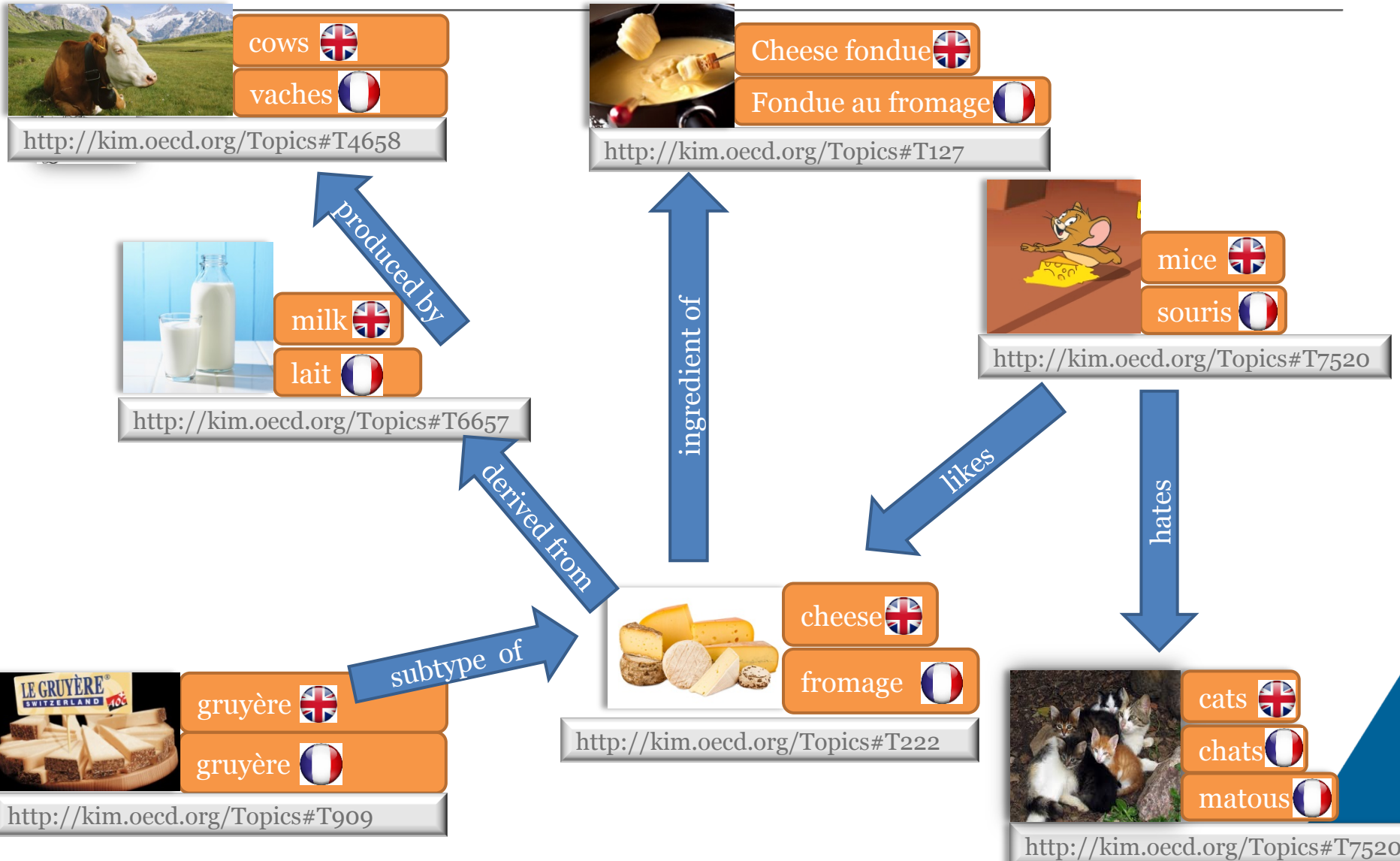
Statistical validity, consistent time series

- Documentation
- Validation by reputed experts
- Training, and overlapping teams for continuity
- Backcasting, data entry of past years





Managing Taxonomies and Ontologies





Governance Indicators Ontology for Text Analysis

Indicator 1 – Strike in the Public sector

Must contain

Sector: Public

Event: Strike

5 May 2016 18:44 South Africa RA000001 2016-05-04

Workers at South Africa's Post Office strike over pay 2016-05-04 Location Motivation Comment Close

JOHANNESBURG, May 5 (Reuters) - Workers at state-owned South African Post Office (Sapo) launched a two-day strike on Thursday demanding payment of annual increases dating back to 2014 and the permanent employment of casual workers, company and union officials said.

Members of the Communications Workers Union (CWU) said they plan to march on Friday to the ruling party's African National Congress headquarters to press for their demands. The union said it met with the Sapo management on Thursday afternoon over the dispute, adding that the two parties would meet again. It warned of further action if the talks failed.

CWU president Clyde Mervin said the union would call for an indefinite strike if Sapo failed to respond to the workers' demands within seven days. "We agree there are challenges in the post office, we asked government to intervene ... but at the same time I also say people in management positions should be held accountable," he told Reuters. Sapo, which is supported by a 4.4 billion rand (\$295.02 million) state guarantee, said it already had plans in place to address the union's demands. It was awaiting further state funding. Sapo has said it expects to record a loss of more than 1 billion rand in the 2015/16 financial year. "We will try and get the money into the company and then be able to sit down and cut a deal with labour," said Post Office Group CEO, Mark Barnard. "We are literally weeks away from raising the capital and being able to sort this out."

It was not clear how many workers were on strike, but Barnard said Sapo's operations had not been greatly affected. Many of South Africa's 300 or so state entities are a drain on government finances and threaten the nation's credit rating, already at the lowest investment grade.

Sector: Public

Event: Strike

Indicator 1 – Strike in the Public sector



Rules to increase Precision

Attack owl returns in Oregon, targeting government workers

PORTLAND, ORE. | BY COURTNEY SHERWOOD



An owl that achieved notoriety last winter for attacking joggers in an Oregon park has returned and is now turning its talons on government workers, state officials said on Wednesday.

The barred owl has clawed at least three people outside the state Capitol in Salem in a series of attacks since late November, city parks department spokeswoman Tibby Larsen said.

Mon Feb 8, 2016 8:34am EST

Scientists investigate suspected meteorite death in Tamil Nadu

CHENNAI | BY SANDHYA RAJESHANKAR



Indian scientists are investigating whether a man was killed by a meteorite, which if confirmed would be the first recorded death from falling fragments of space rock in almost 200 years.

Jayalithaa Jayaram, the chief minister of Tamil Nadu, has said a bus driver at a college in her state was killed by the meteorite and awarded 100,000 rupees (\$1,470) in compensation to his family.

Goat detained over armed robbery

LAGOS



A magician performs with a goat during the opening ceremony of the 33rd Monte Carlo International Circus Festival in Monaco January 15, 2009.
REUTERS/ERIC GAILLARD

Police in Nigeria are holding a goat on suspicion of attempted armed robbery.

Vigilantes took the black and white beast to the police saying it was an armed robber who had used black magic to transform himself into a goat to escape arrest after trying to steal