LAWA audience conversation

Summary

On 10 May, our second audience conversation took place in Nelson.

Kati Doehring (Cawthron) convened a group of active river users to share their insights into what a new LAWA tool might deliver.

The participants have not been identified in this report for confidentiality reasons, but they included a forestry worker, a farmer (and associated enterprises) who also works with stakeholder groups on land and water issues, a teacher and conservation volunteer, a Fish & Game employee, a Cawthron employee and a retired lawyer who is also a regular fisherman. Unfortunately the Iwi representative and the outdoor pursuits enthusiast did not attend as planned.

As in Palmerston North, participants were asked to chat to another person and then to introduce the other person to the wider group, explaining how they engage with water and water issues. The two groups then undertook an exercise to identify their four most important requirements for a website tool, and these were discussed within groups, then collectively.

As with the previous workshop, there was a great deal of overlap in the requirements identified by participants. The only significant addition to the Palmerston North requirements was whether the user could trust the entity providing the information (not just trust the data itself). There was more emphasis placed on trustworthiness generally, but this may have been because it was almost treated like a given in the Palmerston North group.

There was also a tendency to see stories as a way of empowering the user. Though this came up in Palmerston North, it was even stronger in Nelson.

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Open Lab staff present

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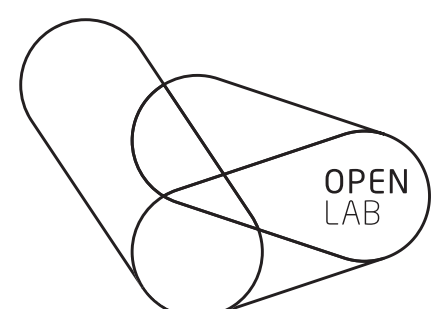Massey University

Jo Bailey
Senior Designer
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Other LAWA staff present
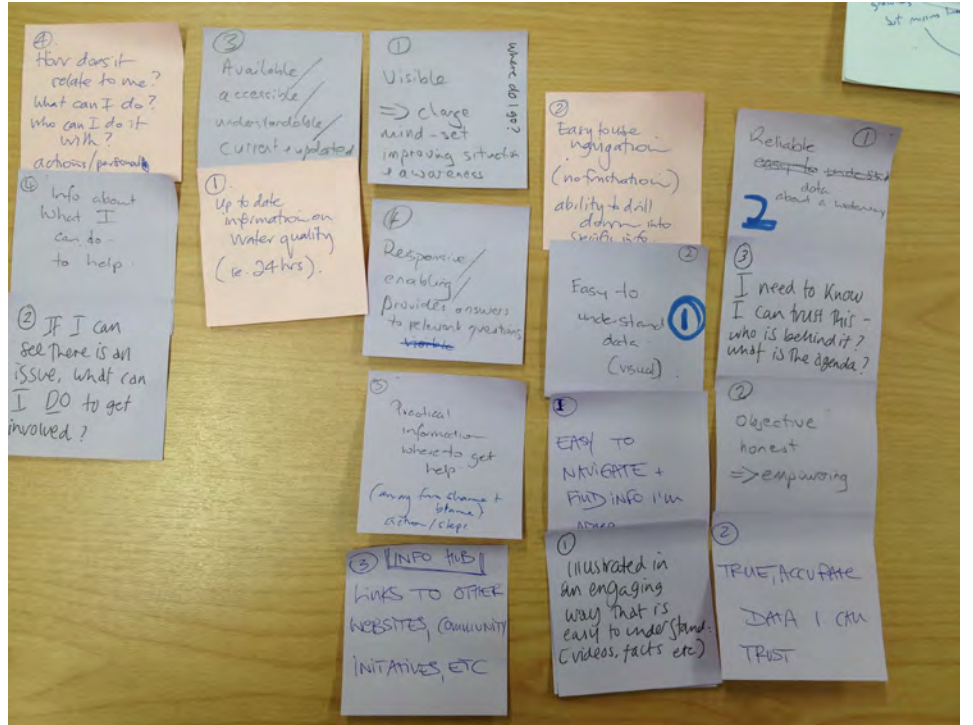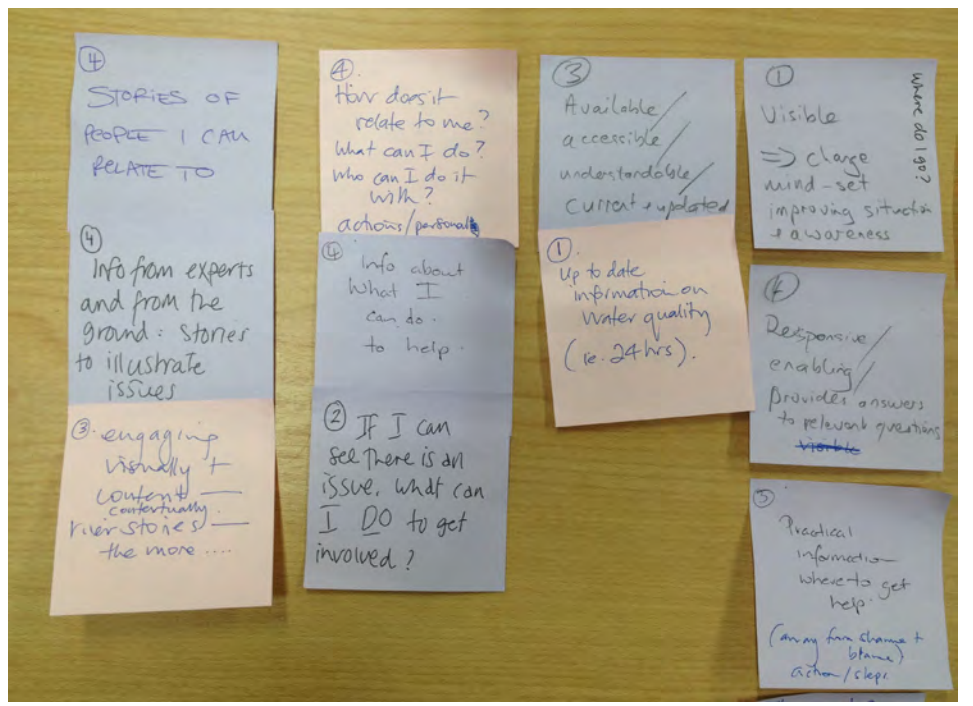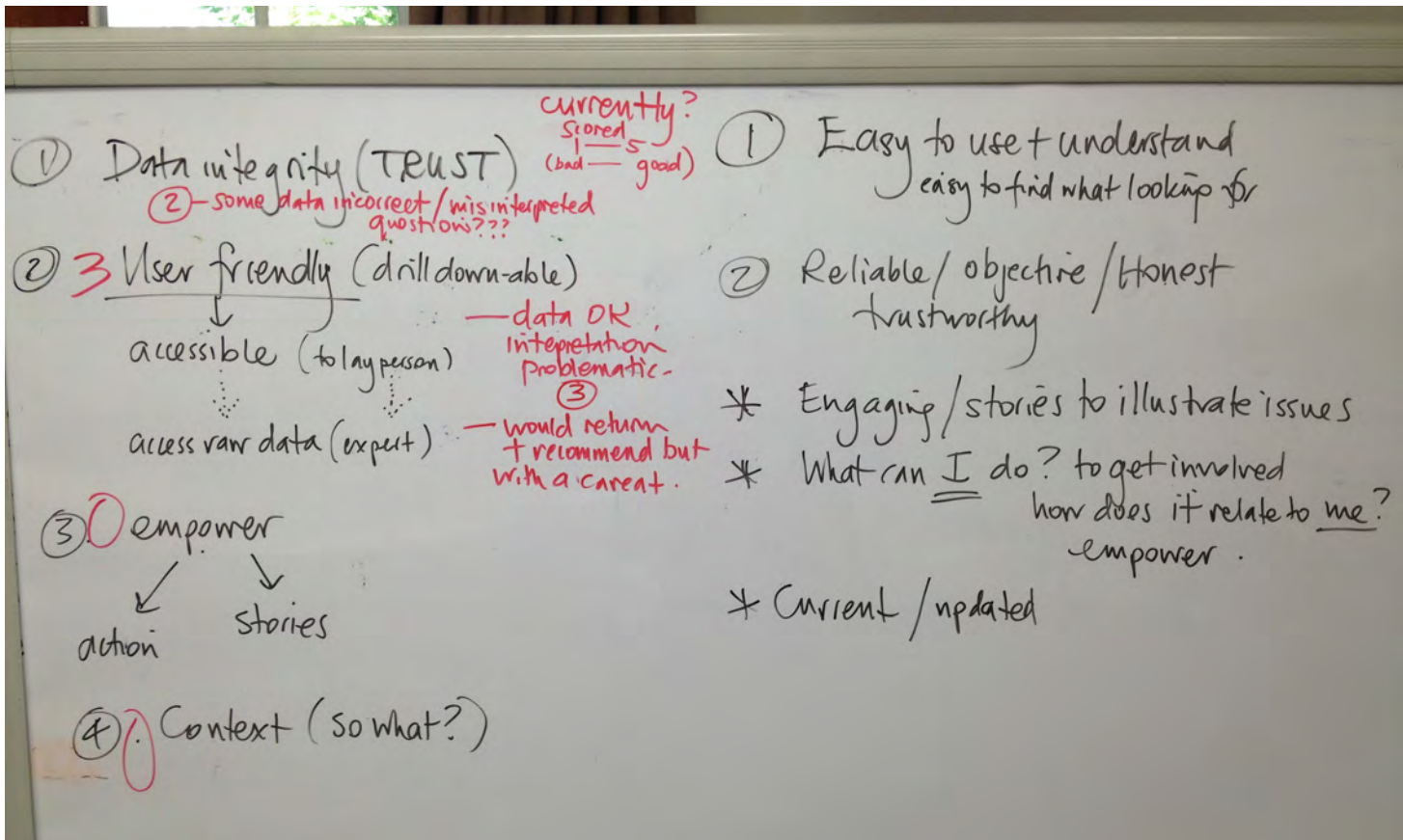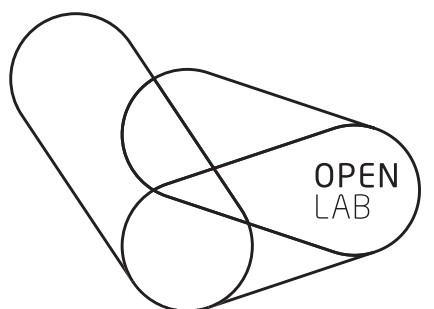

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Group 1 Post-Its

Group 2 Post-Its

Transcribing and discussing the
must-haves

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Key categories identified by groups

Topline areas that the points were broken down into:

Trustworthy

Accurate and validated data, conveyed without an agenda and with integrity by a transparent body.

Trends

What's the picture over time?

Localised

Show me what I want.
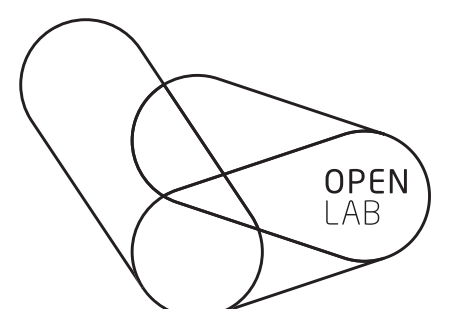
Connecting

Enabling users to get involved with communities already doing things.

Access

Explain the data clearly.

Timely

Where possible, live data.

Functional

Easy to use and attractive.

Empowerment

Balance data with narrative.

Context

Put this info in context. 'So what?'

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Distilled points indetified by participants

These are the unedited the must-have items identified by the participants, grouped into categories.

Trustworthy, integrity

True, accurate data I can trust.

Objective, honest, empowering.

I need to know I can trust this? Who is behind it? What is their agenda?

Reliable data about a waterway.

Is there bias? Who is the moderator? Are they neutral?

Do we trust Cawthron? Why?

Seen as objective; balance across all sectors.

Data integrity (trust).

Data integrity.

Accurate.

Clear mission statement as to what it needs

Timely, up to date

Ip to date information on water quality (24 hours).

Current and updated.

Up to date and accurate information on water quality or changes.

Real time aspect so information is relevant on a day-to-day basis.

Functional, visual, contextual

Engaging visually and content contextually.

Illustrated in an engaging way that is easy to understand (videos, facts, etc).

Visible; change mindsets through improving situation and awareness.

Easy to understand data (visual).

Easy to use navigation (no frustration).

Ability to drill down to specific info.

User friendly. Give me access to raw data.

Reliable, easily located information.

Easy to understand.

Clear, user friendly.

Looking at the region / big picture.

Trends

Current data and predictable trends.

Trends over time, accurate, chronic. Examples of biodiversity change from introduced species.

Connecting, empowering

If there is an issue, what can I do to get involved?

Info about what I can do to help?

What can I do? Who can I do it with?

Information HUB. Links to other websites, community initiatives, etc.

Practical information – where to get help.

Where do I go?

Empower through actions.

Empowering people to know how they can help.

Assistance on what I can do, who I can talk to.

Access, explanation

Accessible, available, understandable.

Easy to navigate and find the info I am after.

Responsive enabling. Provides answers to relevant questions.

What does the info mean? Can we translate it?

Empower me.

Explain what good looks like.

Case studies: impacts and recovery, actions and improvement.

Tourist issues to inform outsiders.

Education of the public.

Data accessibility, layers.

Localised

What does the data mean for me? Can I swim, fish etc.

Historical background on the area/ catchment. Contextualisation.

Context: "so what"?

Stories

River stories.

Info from 'the ground': stories to illustrate issues.

Stories of people I can relate to.

No 'blame and shame'.

Water is a leveller – not us and them.

Empower through stories.

Stories from the community about what they value.

Exemplars of "good". Role models.

Activity

Can I swim, fish etc.

Political context

All NZers are polluters. Everyone has a footprint. 'Team NZ' approach to the situation. We all want a good economy AND environment.