Converting WHO's Global Health Observatory Data to RDF

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Outline

- Background
- What is SCOVO?
- Semi-automated approach
- OntoWiki's CSV Import plug-in
- SCOVOfied WHO data
- Challenges and Future Work
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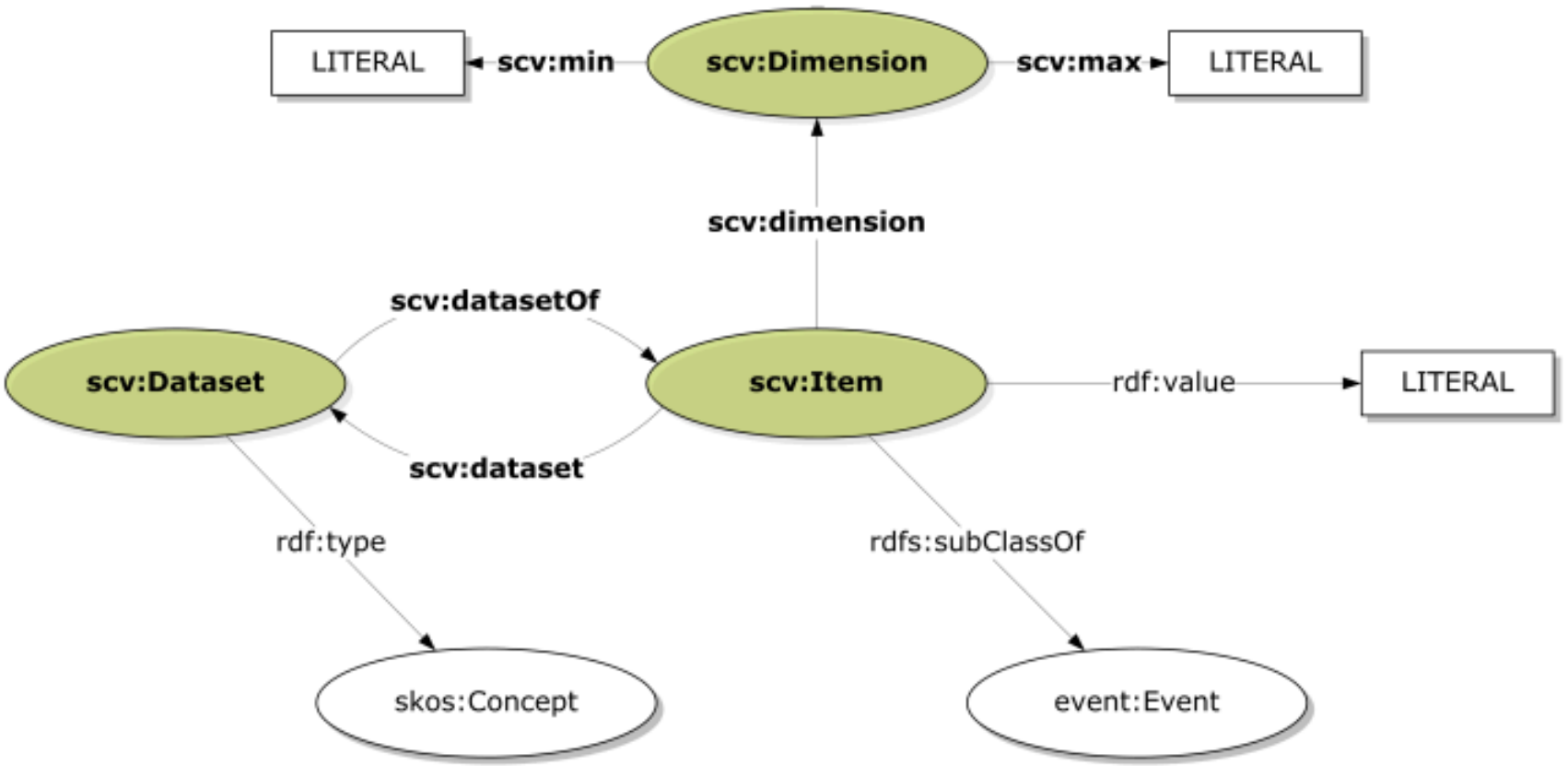
Background

- Biomedical statistical data
  - Published as Excel sheets
- Advantage
  - Readable by humans
- Disadvantages
  - Cannot be queried efficiently
  - Difficult to integrate with other data (in different formats)
- Our approach
  - Converting data into a single data model - RDF
  - Using SCOVO (Statistical Core Vocabulary)*
    - designed particularly to represent multidimensional statistical data using RDF.

**Michael Hausenblas, Wolfgang Halb, Yves Raimond, Lee Feigenbaum, and Danny Ayers. Scovo: Using statistics on the web of data. In ESWC, pages 708–722, 2009.*

What is SCOVO?



The Statistical Core Vocabulary (scovo)
http://purl.org/NET/scovo
v0.3@2008-05-15

scv: <http://purl.org/NET/scovo#>
event: <http://purl.org/NET/c4dm/event.owl#>
skos: <http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#>
rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#>
rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#>

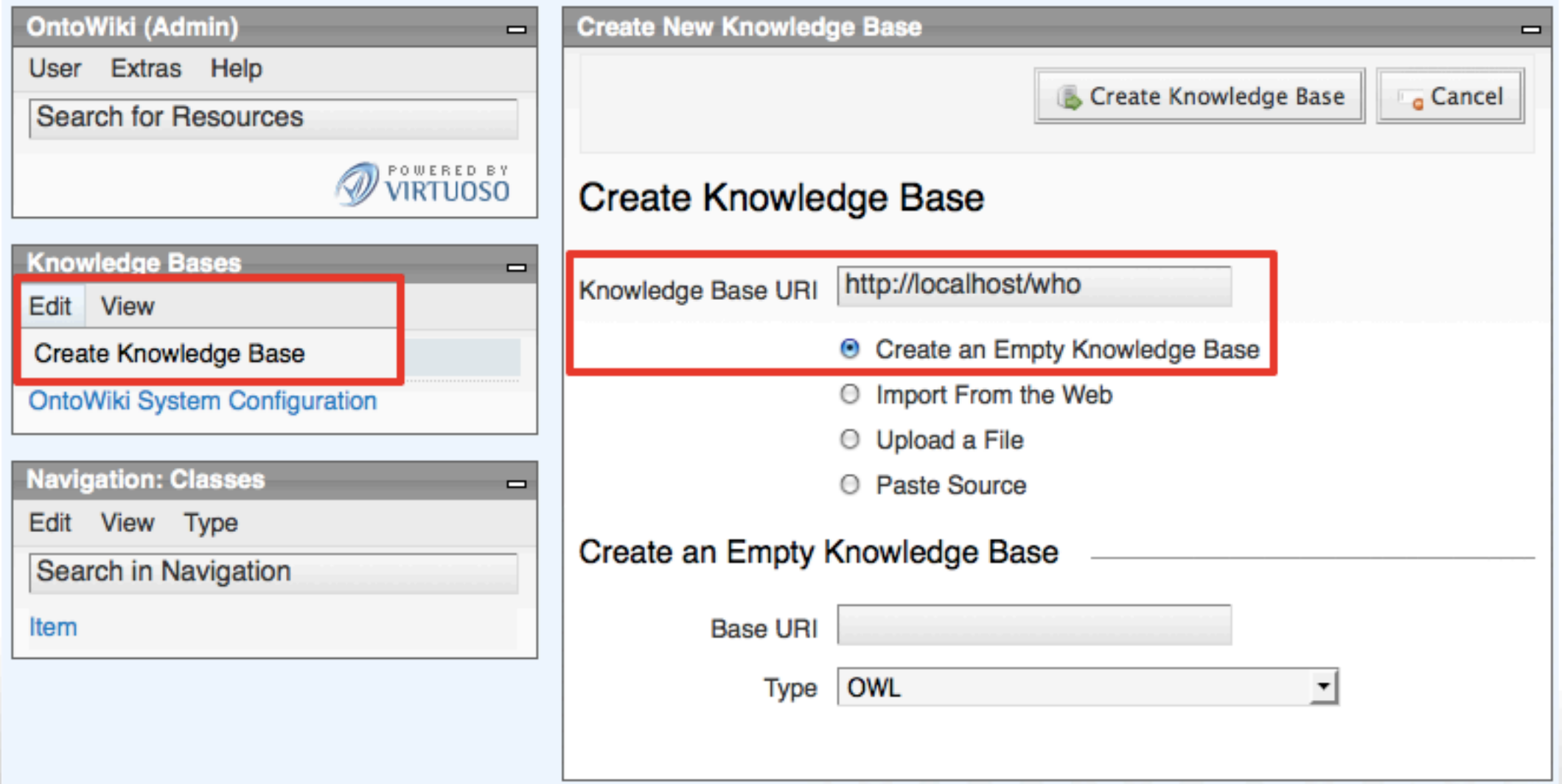
Fig.: The Statistical Core Vocabulary (scovo)

Semi-automated approach

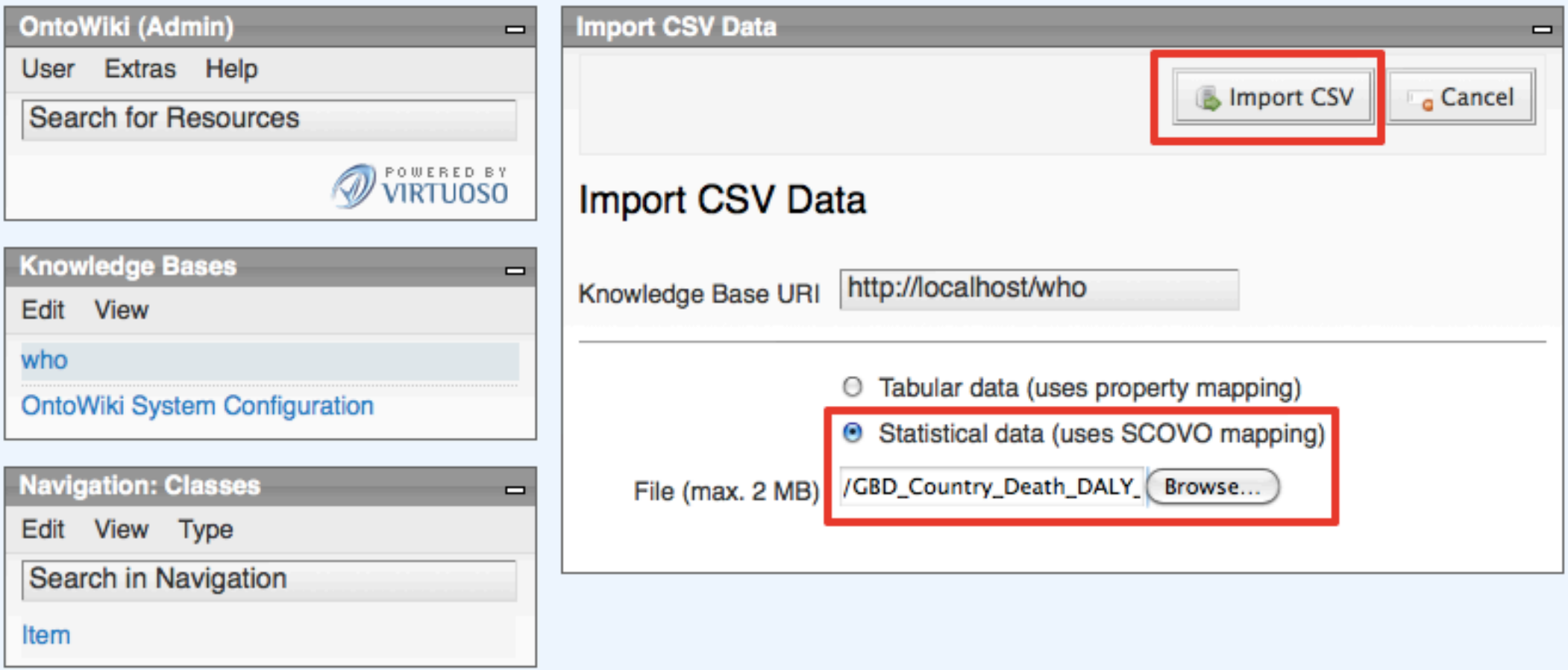
- Transforming CSV to RDF in a fully automated way is not feasible.
    - Dimensions may often be encoded in heading or label of a sheet
- Our semi-automatic approach:
    - As a plug-in in OntoWiki#
        - a semantic collaboration platform developed by the AKSW research group.
    - A CSV file is converted into RDF using SCOVO

 # Sören Auer, Sebastian Tramp (geb. Dietzold), Jens Lehmann, and Thomas Riechert: OntoWiki: A Tool for Social Semantic Collaboration In: Proceedings of the Workshop on Social and Collaborative Construction of Structured Knowledge CKC 2007 at the 16th

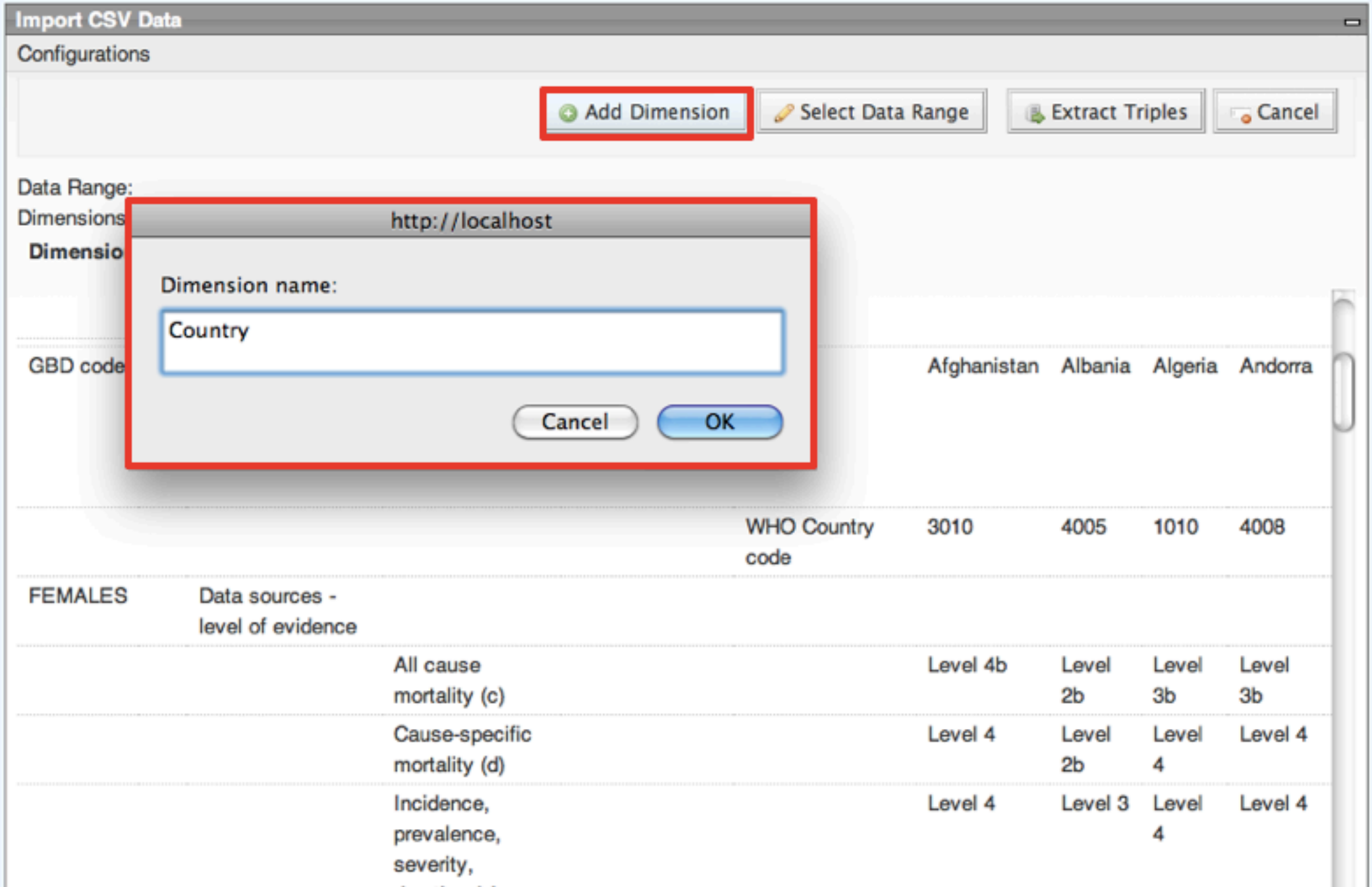
1. Create Knowledge Base



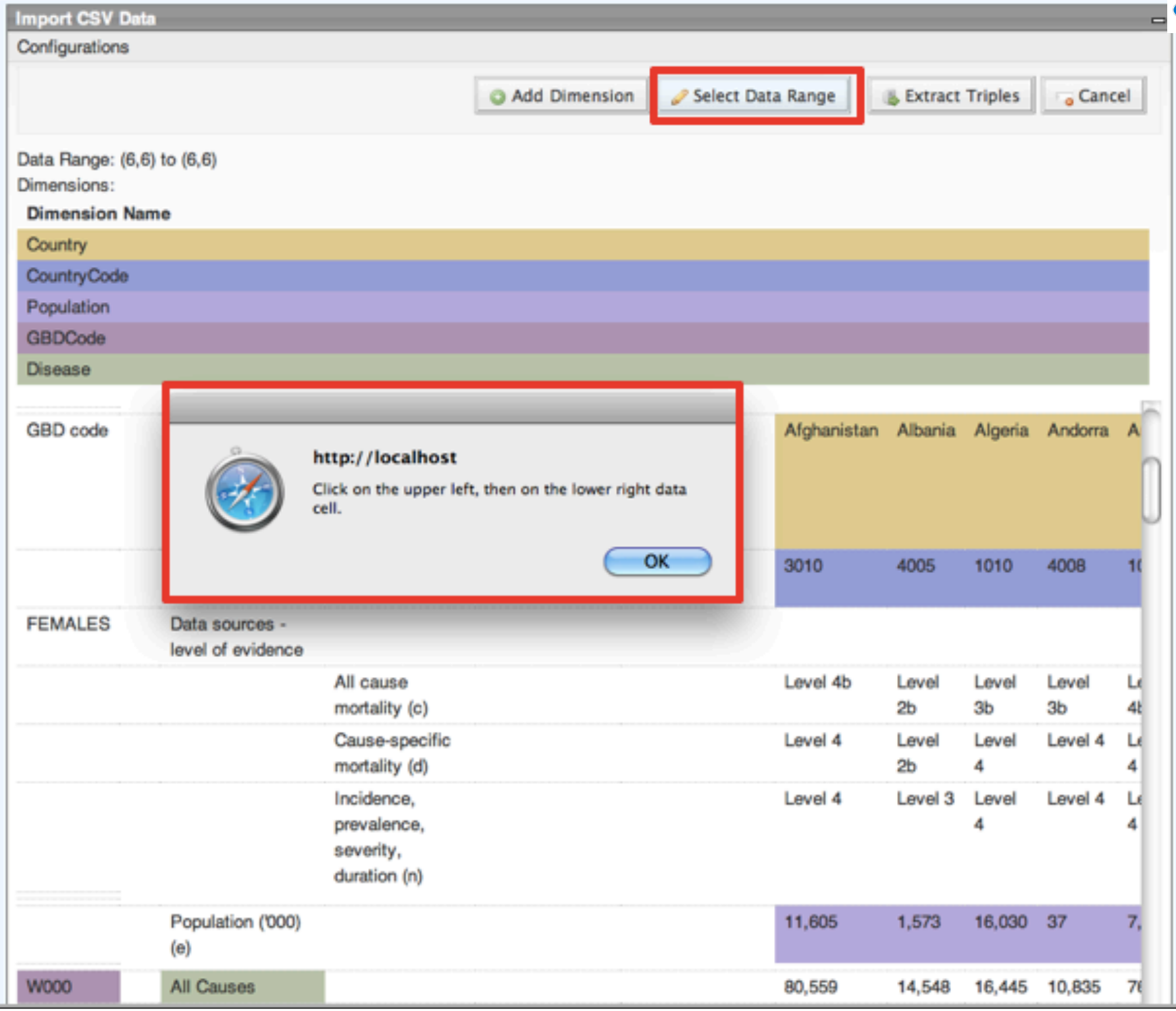
2. Import a CSV file



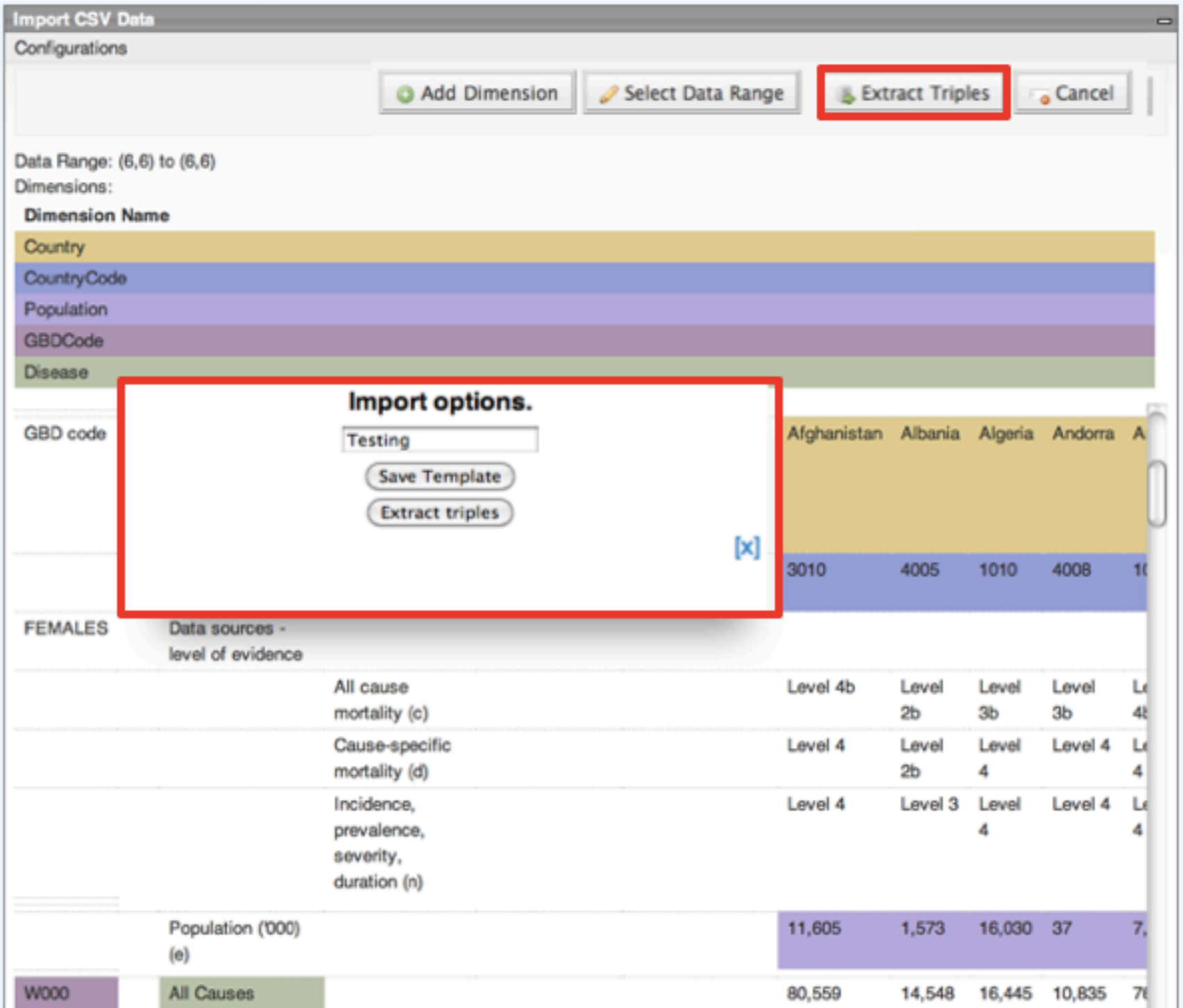
3. Define dimensions



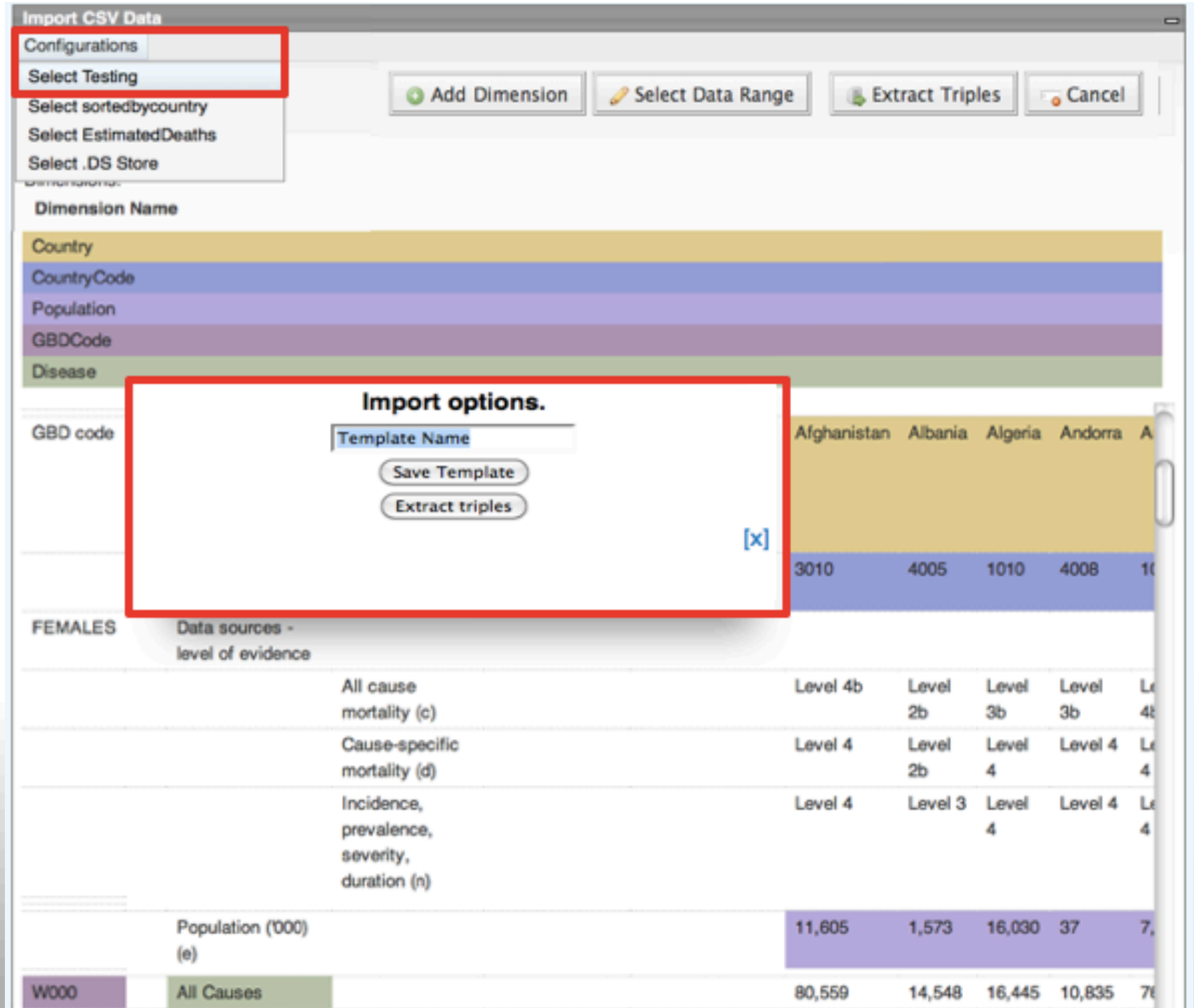
4. Define data range



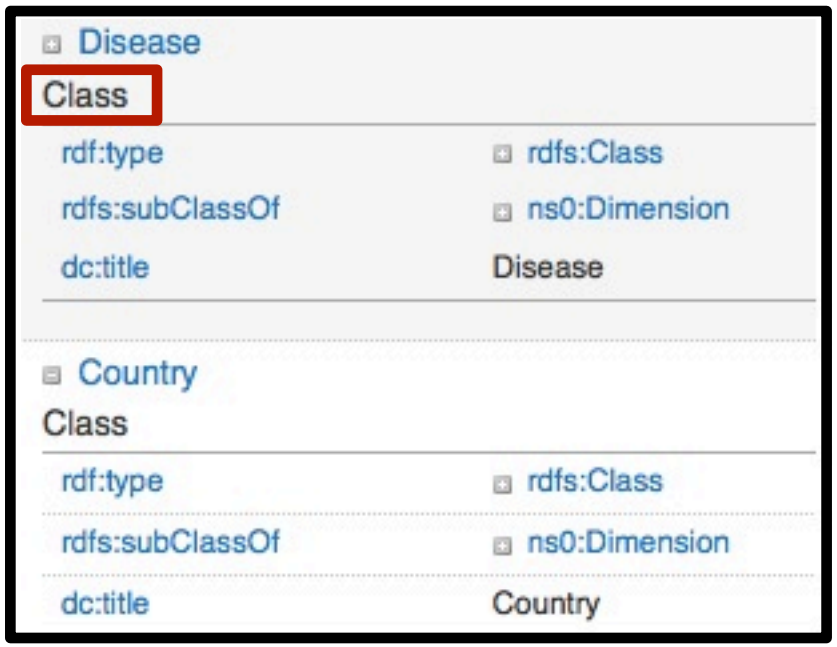
5. Save template, extract triples

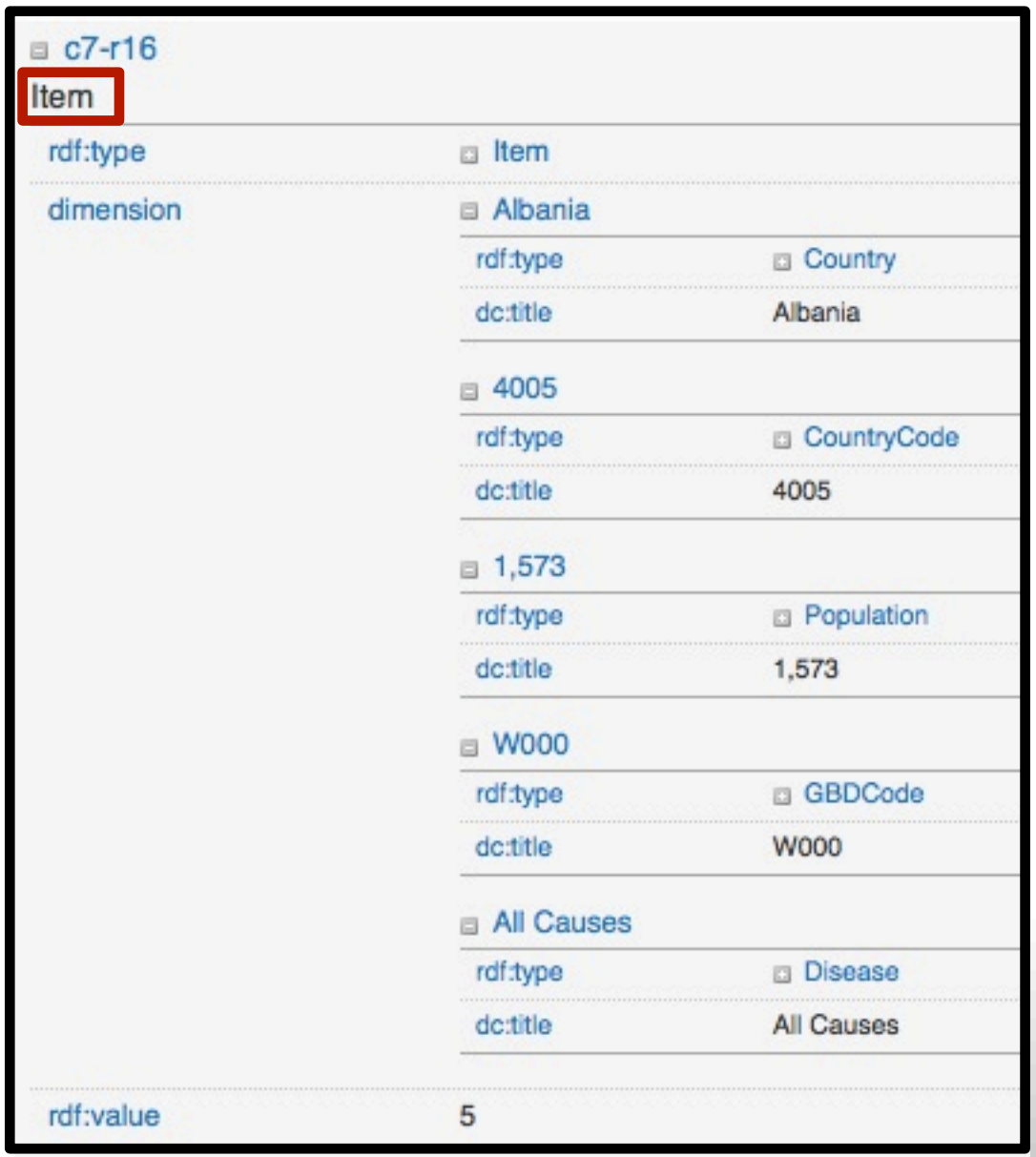


6. Re-use template for similar files



7. View resources





SCOVOfied WHO's Global Health Observatory Data

```
prefix ex:<http://example.org/who-data>
prefix scv:<http://purl.org/NET/scovo>

ex:Country              rdfs:subClassOf     scv:Dimension;
                        rdf:type            rdfs:Class;
                        dc:title            "Country".
ex:Disease              rdfs:subClassOf     scv:Dimension;
                        rdf:type            rdfs:Class;
                        dc:title            "Disease".
ex:CountryCode          rdfs:subClassOf     scv:Dimension;
                        rdf:type            rdfs:Class;
                        dc:title            "CountryCode".

ex: Afghanistan         rdf:type            ex:Country;
                        dc:title            "Afghanistan" .
ex:Tuberculosis         rdf:type            ex:Disease;
                        dc:title            "Tuberculosis" .
ex:3010                 rdf:type            ex:CountryCode;
                        dc:title            “3010”.

ex:c1-r6                rdf:type            scv:Item;
                        rdf:value           127;
                        scv:dimension       ex:Afghanistan;
                        scv:dimension       ex:Tuberculosis .
                        scv:dimension       ex:3010
```

After converting a file containing 5 dimensions and 22384 statistical data items, an RDF model containing

Challenges and Future Work

- There may be some Excel sheets that contain taxonomies only readable by humans.

	All Causes			
I.	Communicable, maternal, perinatal and nutritional conditions			
	A.	Infectious and parasitic diseases		
		1	Tuberculosis	
		2	STDs excluding HIV	
			a.	Syphilis
			b.	Chlamydia
			c.	Gonorrhoea
		3	HIV/AIDS	
		4	Diarrhoeal diseases	
		5	Childhood-cluster diseases	
			a.	Pertussis
			b.	Poliomyelitis
			c.	Diphtheria
			d.	Measles
			e.	Tetanus
		6	Meningitis	
		7	Hepatitis B (g)	
			Hepatitis C (g)	
		8	Malaria	

Future Work

- Converting other WHO datasets
  - WHO Global InfoBase Online
  - Global Health Atlas
  - Regional Statistics
- Evolution patterns$
  - Facilitate seamless evolution of knowledge-base

$ *Christoph Rieß, Norman Heino, Sebastian Tramp (geb. Dietzold), and Sören Auer: EvoPat -- Pattern-Based Evolution and Refactoring of RDF Knowledge Bases. In: Proceedings of the 9th International Semantic Web Conference ISWC2010*