UN Global Platform

Overview

Participants in the UN Global Platform may be a provider or consumer within the wider statistical community who support the network of data innovation for statistical modernisation. Organisations may be in one instance a provider of platform assets to participate in the UN Global Platform, and in another instance a consumer of trusted services. Some organisations will be both providers and consumers. Participating organisations are initially NSO's and their trusted partners, which include institutes from public and private sector.

Trusted partners are entities who have been authenticated to participate and collaborate in the UN Global Platform. Trusted partners contribute and consume platform assets such as services, data, methods or learning. They are statisticians, data scientists, researchers and academics.

Platform assets enable the four 'pillars' of the UN Global Platform. The four pillars are trusted partners, trusted data, trusted methods, and trusted learning. Trusted data are transparent in the way they are generated and are accompanied by comprehensive meta-data. They may be open data sets, or sensitive data sets with appropriate access control. Examples of such data sets are mobile phone data, satellite or other geospatial data, scanner or other transactional data and other new sources of big data. Trusted methods are developed and tested following state of the art scientific procedures. The methods are fully documented and peer reviewed. Trusted learning consists not only of accredited training materials and training methods, but also of recognized trainers and consultants. It will enable the UN Global Platform to provide high quality training services and materials for capacity building across the statistical community.

Stakeholders come from all sectors: public sector, civil society, research and academic, commercial sector, and funding providers. Public sector institutes are publicly owned bodies, whereas civil society includes charitable organisations and not-for profits. Research and academic organisations are universities, institutes, private research organisations and individuals. The commercial sector are private companies including technology infrastructure and software application suppliers, also air travel, mobile, retail and other commercial sectors with big data sets. Commercial organisations may also supply trusted learning.

Trusted partners can set up data collaboratives with NSIs and others to conduct research in the public interest and derive benefits such as access to data, reduction in the cost of trusted partner management, and joint funding in exchange for contributing platform assets. Different types of trusted partners are expected to contribute in different ways on the basis of their ability to contribute, so that no-one is left behind. Data collaboratives will be agreed and monitored by the UN Global Working Group.

 UN Global platform stakeholder groups will be governed by rules for engaging with the platform in exchange for contributing platform assets. The rules set out what must be contributed by stakeholders in order to gain benefits. The rules of engagement will reflect the fact different stakeholder groups

will have different expectations of how they engage with the UN Global Platform. The engage rules table sets out the engagement for stakeholder groups within their sector.

Stakeholder groups

The UN statistical community is drawn from trusted partners across the public, private and third sectors as well as academia and commercial research from activities such as marketing, R&D and corporate strategic policy development.

At the heart of the UN Global Platform is the UN Global Platform organisation. This is currently the UN Global Working Group and its task teams. The UN Global Platform organisation will evolve into an entity that will support the management, improvement and operation of the UN Global Platform.

Organisations may fall into more than one stakeholder group. For example, an IT application provider may also be a provider of open data. Commercial technology infrastructure partner organisations may also have a philanthropic arm.
The UN global platform will enable data collaboratives between partners to be co creators and gain innovation through co-developing assets with trusted partners.

Public Sector	The initial group of stakeholders are the NSI's from the official statistics community and their trusted partners. NSI's can be grouped into NSI's from developed regions and developing regions.
Civil Society	This group includes foundations for public and social good, public interests groups and other non-governmental organizations
Research & Academia	The research and academia sector consists of academics who contribute research and opportunities to collaborate through joint research, or who validate UN Global Platform assets like methods to provide trust. Other bodies and individuals perform research underpinned by statistical methods and data, such as market research also fall into this category
Commercial	Consist of commercial organisation who provide infrastructure services such as cloud services and data integration, software application providers, as well as data providers. Data providers may provide open trusted data sources or sensitive data sets. Commercial geospatial data providers are a group of data providers that are treated separately from providers of other data sets
Funding	Funding partners are philanthropic foundations, funds and bodies who will largely contribute funding for the UN Global Platform. Google.org is a philanthropic entity where the larger Alphabet organisation could also provide technology infrastructure as a commercial technology infrastructure partner.

Stakeholder contribution

Stakeholders will contribute a combination of platform assets: trusted data, trusted methods, technical infrastructure, funding, services, trusted software applications and trusted learning for consumption by trusted partners and to underpin the UN Global Platform. The funding mechanism still needs to be developed.

All stakeholder groups would expect to contribute to a category of platform asset.

Public Sector	Partner organisations contribute core services to develop, administer and oversee activity within the UN Global Platform marketplace. Core services include trusted partner management, supplier management, service development and transaction management. Core services also provide commonly used trusted methods, trusted data and trusted software applications to consumers. Ministries and other government agencies International organizations NSI's may contribute toward trusted data, methods and learning. NSI's may provide funding towards the UN Global Platform.
Civil Society	Not-for-profit institutes for public and social good Public interest organizations Other charity organizations
Research & Academia	Academic researchers contribute trusted data, trusted learning and trusted methods. Academic research can provide opportunity for collaboration with trusted partners, making research initiatives available. Academic research may additionally contribute funding to the UN Global Platform. Academic reviewers provide quality assurance to trusted methods development. Commercial researchers provide funding and make trusted data available.
Commercial	Commercial stakeholders provide several types of services and platform assets. Technology infrastructure organisations, such as Alibaba, Google, Amazon and Microsoft Azure contribute cloud services to the UN Global Platform. Commercial software development organisations make trusted applications available for consumption, building on utility services and incorporating trusted methods and trusted data into solutions. Data providers provide trusted data sets. Data sets may be sensitive and treated securely. The provision of open data that can be shared widely, as well as data sets that are derived from data integration through the platform, will be encouraged to be open as much as possible. Data providers may contribute additional data services though providing insight, aggregation and other data management functions.

Funding	Some funding partners may fund match. DFiD in the UK will fund match for up to 50 percent in addition to funds previously raised. Funding partners may wish to target specific platform capabilities, initiatives or trusted data sources, in alignment to organisational aims.

Stakeholder benefits

The rewards for participants of the UN Global platform will increase with greater overall participation within the network. This network effect means that as platform use grows each member of the network gains. Trusted participation will strengthen statistics networks for participants from all sectors.

Platform assets support the four pillars of trusted partners, trusted data, trusted methods and trusted learning. Trusted partners are expected to jointly develop statistical solutions and will gain benefits from participation in exchange for contribution of assets. In other words, collaboration on the platform is based on the principle that partners are expected to not only gain benefits from participation but will contribute at least one of the platform assets.

Trust under the UN umbrella is the trade mark and comparative advantage of the UN Global Platform.

Other benefits are an increase in quality and decrease in the total cost of ownership for trusted partners, trusted data, trusted methods and trusted learning.
Additional benefits may be financial, reputational, branding and philanthropic. Benefits received must adhere to the principle 'leave no one behind'.

The types of advantages from being part of the UN Global Platform are described in the tables below:

Data Access	Partners will enjoy the benefits of access to trusted data sets, including global data sets
Analytic Capabilities	Partners will enjoy the benefits of access to analytics processing capabilities
Collaboration	Partners will enjoy the benefits of engaging with trusted partners to collaborate on innovative data projects.
lowering the costs of development	through access to platform catalogues. Lowering the costs of innovation through collaboration will lead to an increase in the rate and quality of product development
Trusted partner status	will have reputational value for commercial organisations that will translate into positive messages for organisational promotion. In addition for competitors who participate in the UN Global Platform, there maybe an organisational risk from a lack of participation

Data providers	suppliers of global or other large data sets gain benefits in a variety of ways, including a possible reduction in cost of integration of proprietary and sensitive data sets with other trusted data
Data Integration	Big data sets of sensitive mobile, retail and geospatial data can be integrated with other trusted data and incorporated into new products offering additional utility as part of commercial activity

Public Sector	NSI's will receive the benefit of capability building through access to big data sources and expertise through the network of trusted partners. NSI's will all benefit from reduction in cost of development of methods and datasets. The drive towards commoditisation and standardisation of platform products will improve their capability while enabling resources to be focused on innovative and customised statistics. Ministries and other government agencies International organizations
Civil Society	Not-for-profit institutes for public and social good Public interest organizations Other charity organizations
Research & Academia	Academic and commercial researchers will enjoy the benefits of access to trusted big data sets and analytics processing capabilities as well as engaging with trusted partners to collaborate on innovative insight. Collaborating across the UN Global platform will reduce the cost of research through increasing access to sensitive big data sets
Commercial	Commercial organisations will benefit from participation in the UN Global Platform by lowering the costs of partner management through access to catalogs of trusted partners. Lowering the costs of innovation through collaboration will lead to an increase in the rate and quality of product development. Commoditisation of platform products can lead to a new market for commercial organisations who can benefit from the UN Global Platform Marketplace. Trusted methods and data can be incorporated into products made available through the UN Global Platform marketplace. Trusted partner status will have reputational value for commercial organisations that will translate into positive messages for organisational promotion. Commercial suppliers of big data sets gain benefits of a reduction in cost of integration of proprietary and sensitive data sets with other data sets.

	Sharing data across a trusted platform means that an expanded user base of trusted users can be rapidly grown at a reduced cost. Big data sets of sensitive mobile, retail and geospatial data can be integrated with official statistics and incorporated into new products offering additional utility from big data gathered as part of commercial activity..

Engagement Rules

The way that stakeholders interact with the UN Global Platform relates to the organisation sector and contribution to trusted data,trusted methods, trusted application software and trusted methods that the stakeholder makes. For example providers of commercially sensitive data, such as mobile network operators will need to be engaged with in a manner which would constitute a win-win for the provider and the platform.

The participation rules adhere to the principle that everyone should contribute something to gain benefits from the UN Global Platform. This includes all NSI's.

The following table shows the participation rules across each sector:

Public Sector	NSI's will need to contribute to trusted data, methods and learning to be able to gain entry to the UN Global platform. NSI's, especially from developed countries, can also contribute funding as a condition of entry. Ministries and other government agencies International organizations
Civil Society	Not-for-profit institutes for public and social good Public interest organizations Other charity organizations
Research & Academia	Academic entry to the UN Global Platform will be through contribution of platform assets to get access to platform benefits. Provide evidence of trust. Products may be packaged as research initiatives for collaboration. Access to data and methods is through data collaboratives.
Commercial	Commercial research participants must contribute to platform assets and provide evidence of trust. Platform benefits are accessed through data collaboratives. Any derived platform products will be made widely available to users. Data usage is by bilateral agreement . Commercial technology infrastructure partners provide at least one asset to receive benefits and must show evidence of trust. Provision of

		assets will be non exclusive for each provider. Platform specific products and services must become widely consumed by platform users. Early entry to the platform will mean early access to benefits. Commercial IT Software partners contribute trusted software applications. Market place participation means access to collaboration on product improvements and opportunity to capture finance from the platform. Common products will be made available widely to platform users. Early entry means early access to benefits. Commercial open data providers must make data widely available. Derived platform products made widely available. Evidence of trust must be provided. Access to data through data collaboration. Sensitive or Proprietary data providers contribute data usage is through bilateral agreement . Access to data and methods is through data collaboratives. Commercial geospatial data partners must contribute granular and preferably global data. Derived data sets and products to be widely available before access to benefits. Early entry will mean early access to platform benefits. Commercial geospatial data providers must provide evidence of trust. Sensitive data sets will be available through bilateral agreement. Data set will be open by default.
	Funding	Funding partners will provide evidence of trust. Organisations providing funding may not want direct access to the UN Global Platform. However a philanthropic arm of a technology partner may gain access to early entry in order to derive platform benefits.

Examples of trusted partners, their interest and possible collaborative initiatives

1.   UNICEF
UNICEF is an intergovernmental organization and would fall into the Public Sector category. It is a large organization with presence in all countries around the world. They have particular interest in any issue involving Children, which ranges from Education to Health, Poverty, access to sanitation and vulnerable groups, like migrants.
UNICEF's Magic Box group (see https://www.unicef.org/innovation/Magicbox) is interested to collaborate with or on the global platform teams.
UNICEF can bring data (see https://www.unicef.org/innovation/school-mapping), expertise (data scientists) and potentially some funding. Moreover, they are an attractive partner also since they have

physical presence in many countries, which potentially could help in getting access to local ground truth data.

In the first instance, UNICEF showed interest to work with the mobile phone task team, but there is potential as well for collaboration on crop yield estimates in, for example, Malawi, where UNICEF works with WFP, see https://mw.one.un.org/drone-images-help-farmers-to-predict-crop-yields-in-malawi/

2.   UNDP Venezuela

UNDP Venezuela is part of UNDP, which is an intergovernmental organization and would fall into the Public Sector category. It is a large organization with presence in all countries around the world. They have interest in any issue involving developing countries.

UNDP Venezuela is interested in the various underlying dimensions of poverty and the perception of it by the population in Venezuela, see http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/VEN for an overview of country data.

Collaboration with UNDP Venezuela is potentially problematic because the direct NSO partner of the platform (INE, see http://www.ine.gov.ve/) may not necessarily agree with the project proposal of UNDP Venezuela. This needs to be verified.

Mexico (INEGI) and Colombia (DANE) are willing to cooperate. They also lead the task team on Social Media data. UNDP Venezuela would like to use Twitter data to measure perception of poverty. UN Global Pulse would then also be a logical platform partner.