

UN Data Science Leaders Network

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8th November 2022

Outline

- Introduction
- Terms of Reference (Purpose and Governance)
- Questions/Comments on TOR
- 1st sprint topic



Introduction

- The United Nations Data Science Leaders Network (DSLNL) is an initiative of the UN Committee of Experts in Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics (UNCEBD)
- Response to [Decision 53/124](#) of the Statistical Commission in 2022



Terms of Reference

PURPOSE

- DSLN is a global and inclusive network, which convenes data science leaders within the community of official statistics
- DSLN aims to enable strategic discussions on big data and data science issues, to share experiences and knowledge, to strengthen NSO decision making and leadership, and to accelerate research collaboration and technical partnerships



Terms of Reference (cont.)

PURPOSE

- DSLN will provide input to the mandates of UNCEBD in the formulation of an overall vision, coordination, guidance, prioritization and direction in the area of data science for official statistics.
- The expected outputs are concrete strategies and roadmaps with a view to achieve coherent and integrated programmes of work in this area.
- Execution of programmes of work are redirected to existing groups, if possible



Terms of Reference (cont.)

GOVERNANCE

- DSLN is led by a dedicated Bureau and chaired initially by UK ONS
- Initial members of the Bureau are: UK, Switzerland, Canada, China, Denmark, Netherlands, Rwanda, Brazil, Indonesia, UAE, IMF, UNECE, UNECA and UNSD
- The activities of DSLN will be Sprints on priority topics, which will allow fast results and allow addressing emerging issues
- All members of DSLN are invited to participate in the Sprints
- DSLN reports to the UNCEBD



QUESTIONS / COMMENTS – 1 set

- Purpose
- Key functions and activities
- Scope and responsibilities



QUESTIONS / COMMENTS – 2 set

- Governance and reporting
- Membership
- Ways of working



First Sprint Topic/Owner (Discussion)

1. Produce workplan with key deliverables for the first year of the network, with clear ownership and intended impact
2. Produce guidance (“business models”/“business plans”) on the areas where capability gaps would justify proactive co-investment
3. Understand the position of Data Science within the wider Government set up
4. Changing role of Statistical offices and how to continue to provide relevant Official statistics
5. How to support NSOs to evolve to the next level of data science maturity



First Sprint Topic/Owner (Discussion)

6. Engage strategic discussions on key issues supporting and advocating on why NSOs should aspire to have a data science team and highlight requirements, and short and longer terms benefits of such an investment
7. Provide guidance through global and regional user consultations on innovative ways of engaging young statisticians and data scientists in global and regional consultations shaping the future of official statistics
8. Provide guidance and influence key priorities and deliverables of the UN Regional Hubs
9. Bridge the gap between organisations with a mature DS capability and those that are just starting to explore



Conclusion and next steps

Next Steps:

- Agree on first sprint topic with the DSLN bureau
- Agree sprint dates
- DSLN report back to UNCEBD for 54th Statistical Commission in 2023

