



UN Datathon
Pre-Datathon Webinar

Agenda

- **Welcome**
- **Theme of the 2023 UN Datathon**
- **Practical information**
 - Examples of problem statement
 - Datasets
 - Expected deliverables
- **Datathon timeline**
- **Communication Platform**
- **Judging Criteria**
- **Opening and Closing Ceremonies**
- **Q&A Session**



The 2023 UN Datathon in numbers...



67 hours



110 countries



429 teams



1600+ participants



2023 Theme - [Click here for the full document](#)

In the last eight years, we've implemented the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), making some progress on crucial fronts. Halfway to the 2030 deadline, we are just 15% of the way to achieve the SDGs.

Research highlights **SIX KEY TRANSITIONS** that can have catalytic and multiplier effects across the SDGs and which are supported by 5 enablers, one of which is SDG localization.

The UN Datathon 2023 will focus on SDG LOCALIZATION, to support the collective action of the UN System and its Member States to accelerate the progress towards achieving the SDGs.

These are six key transitions:

- (1) [food systems](#);
- (2) [energy access and affordability](#);
- (3) [digital connectivity](#);
- (4) [education](#);
- (5) [jobs and social protection](#); and
- (6) [climate change](#), [biodiversity loss](#) and pollution.

YOUR CHALLENGE as a participant of the UN Datathon is to **create an innovative data solution which tackles local sustainable development challenges, and which leverages one or several of the six transitions.**

Everything happens somewhere. Therefore, by using geospatial or geocoded data and combining it with other data sources your solution should support local action and monitoring in an innovative way. And as we are all interconnected in this world, your solution – even though focusing on a local issue – should ideally be adaptable to other regions, and hence be scalable at the global level so that as many people as possible can benefit from your solution.



Datasets

Suggested datasets with various datasets related to the themes will be provided. You can also use any open-source dataset even if it is not provided in the database.

The only requirement for datasets used in your projects is that they must be publicly and openly available datasets and must be available for free during the period of the UN Datathon.

Make sure to include the references of any datasets you will be using in your final submission.

Suggested datasets.

Datasets by Source

- Geospatial datasets
- International Statistical Institutes datasets
- National Statistical Institutes datasets

Datasets by Theme:

- ★ Air emissions
- ★ Climate Change
- ★ Education
- ★ Energy
- ★ Employment
- ★ Food
- ★ Population
- ★ SDG
- ★ Social Protection

Expected Deliverables

Each team must submit the following items through the **submission survey**

1. Presentation or Story Map explaining your solution
2. Video with maximum length of 10 minutes = voice-over of the presentation
3. GitHub Repo with MIT License (*the text can be found in the Submission Guide section*)
4. **Optional:** Any additional information (e.g. link to dashboard...)

If one of these deliverables is missing, the team will get a penalty

Example of Story Map

Datathon Submission

Team Name
September 20, 2023

[Problem Statement](#) [Methodology](#) [About our team](#)

How to edit this StoryMap (delete before submission):

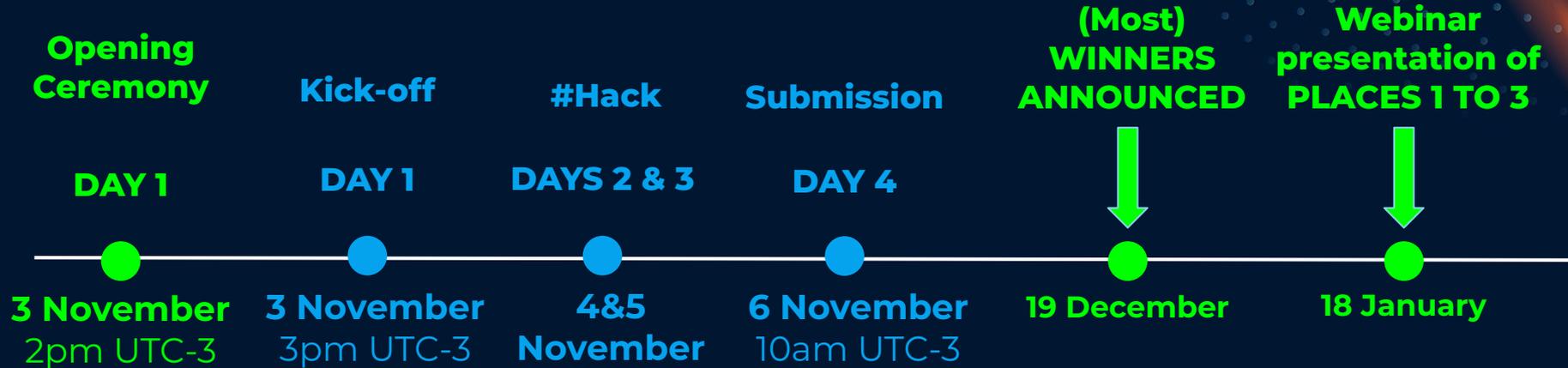
Getting started with ArcGIS StoryMaps

Looking to create your first story? Here's a basic guide to using the ArcGIS StoryMaps builder.

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com>



2023 UN Datathon



- Access to the databases will be granted starting from **3 November at 3:00 PM Uruguay Time (UTC -3)**.
- Proposals must be submitted on **6 November at 10:00 AM Uruguay Time (UTC-3)**.

[Click here to check your local times](#)

Also note daylight savings time ends in the US on 5 Nov



Communication Platform

DISCORD

General channels

- Channel **“announcements”**: countdown, important information...
- Channel **“datasets”**: share useful data insights or link to newly found public datasets or ask questions about the datasets
- Find the channel **“technical-issues”** to seek technical support related to platform access
- Ask any questions that doesn't go into the other categories in the **“submission-questions”**
- Set up a call with a mentor or ask an open question that isn't in the **“mentorship”** channel
- Relax and get to know other participants in the **“undatathon-lounge”** channel

Teams can create a private channel to have a collaborative work.

**Teams can support each other through Discord at any time. The Datathon Mentors from different regions will support teams on Discord pretty much 24/7.*

Judging Criteria

Criterion	Description
Theme	Does the team develop a solution that is in line with the event's theme? Is the solution realistic and scalable?
Innovation	Does the team's idea show "Out of the Box" thinking? Is the team's solution groundbreaking? What methods or products did the team use for the first time?
Usefulness/Impact	Can the team's idea help address one of the SDGs? Does it fulfill a real need people have? Will it make it possible to create immediate impact? Can the idea be further developed?
Presentation & Information Graphics	How well was the project presented? Does it make the idea more appealing? Does it show true teamwork and collaboration?
Communication/ Story Telling	Did the team make a compelling story and a strong narrative?

Penalty

- Did the team submit all expected deliverables (presentation, video, scripts)?
- Did the team use private data in the project?

Awards

Best Overall team

- Places 1, 2 and 3

Best Youth team

- Places 1, 2 and 3
- Student / high-school

Best Teams by Region

- Sub-Saharan Africa
- MENA
- Asia and Pacific
- Latin America and Caribbean
- North America
- Europe
- Oceania

- Recognition of the winning team achievements
- Attendance of one or more team members at main event in 2024
- Partner organizations, which are interested to give a follow-up on the data solution

Opening and Closing Ceremonies

**Opening Ceremony - Friday, 3 Nov 14:00-15:00 local time Montevideo (UTC-3)
streamed worldwide**

- Welcome by Diego Aboal, Director of the INE Uruguay
- UN Datathon video
- Stefan Schweinfest, Director of the United Nations Statistics Division
- Risenga Maluleke, Chair of the UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics (UNCEBD)
- Barbara Del Castello, Chair of UN Major Group for Children and Youth
- Short video on SDG Localization (our theme)
- Fredy Rodriguez Galvis, Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD)
- Pablo Ruiz Hiebra, UN Resident Coordinator for Uruguay
- Rolando Ocampo, Director of Statistics at the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN ECLAC / CEPAL)
- Start of the UN Datathon at 15:00 local time

**Closing Ceremony - Monday, 6 Nov 10:00-10:40 local time Montevideo (UTC-3)
streamed worldwide**

Links will be shared via email and in the wiki shortly

Last advice

1. Have a good communication strategy with your team!
2. Start populating the slides as you go; don't leave it for the last day!
3. Manage your time carefully: 4 days is a short amount of time
4. Divide and conquer: each team member shall work on different tasks and sync regularly so you can get the best results
5. If you're stuck, don't stop: reach out to us and mentors on Discord or by email! Finishing is better than abandoning :)



Q&A Session

Do you have additional questions?
un-datathon@unmgcy.org

Follow us on:

<https://unstats.un.org/bigdata/events/2023/un-datathon/>



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