UNBigData

United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs

The UN Global Platform

A global collaboration platform to harness the power of data for better lives

14 June 2024

UNBigData

United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Our vision

We aim to grow and develop our partnerships with the Regional Hubs and NSOs to expand access to data, services, and applications that:

- Provide powerful data analysis tools that might not be readily available within NSOs.
- Offer training in cutting-edge technologies to develop NSO capacity to mainstream data science in production.
- Support collaboration and sharing across NSOs to foster a global community of practice.
- Enable actionable insights from diverse data sources, including non-traditional datasets.
- Embrace privacy-focused solutions and modern privacy-enhancing technologies (PETs).

UNBigData

United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs

UNGP value proposition for Data Science teams

Access to data

- Ensure that machine learning practitioners have secure, easy access valuable datasets
- Promote use of privacy-enhancing technologies (PETs) to facilitate secure data sharing and federated learning models

Provisioning environments

- Enable self-service provisioning of necessary environments for data science activities.

Modern tooling and resources

- Provide access to modern machine learning environments and tools in the cloud.
- Ensure availability of comprehensive documentation, tutorials, and use cases.

UNBigData

United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs

The UN Global Platform currently provides access to:

Advanced analytics tools.

- Cloud-based Jupyter notebooks integrated with NetApp for seamless, high-performance data science workflows
- Apache Spark clusters for large-scale data processing and machine learning

Public and private big data sets

- AIS data from 2018
- Data from AWS Open Data Registry (Sentinel-2, Landsat, common crawl, many more)

Tools for collaboration and data sharing

- Gitlab (pre-configured with runners)

Identity, access and security

- Robust identity and access management to ensure secure and controlled access to data and services.

High performance & scalable computing environment

- Serverless
- Low-cost spot instances

UNBigData

United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs

UNGP approach for effective collaboration:

- Focus on the platform needs of data science teams from NSOs and regional hubs
- Agile, human-centric design and software engineering processes
- Time-boxed UNGP sprints focused on developing platform services and enhancing data offerings.

UNBigData

United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Invitation

We invite users from NSOs and partner international organizations to collaborate with the UNGP

UNBigData

United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Collaboration Opportunities

1. **Platform Engineers:**
   - Role: Develop and maintain platform services tailored for data scientists and statisticians.
   - Skills: AWS, Kubernetes, ML-ops, cybersecurity, and advanced data services.
2. **Application Developers:**
   - Role: Integrate open-source data science tools and develop applications that leverage platform services for robust data analysis, enhanced ML ops and quality data science experience.
   - Skills: Software engineering, integration of data science tools, and building scalable solutions.

Collaboration Opportunities

3. **Data Engineers:**
   - Role: Design and maintain cloud-native ETL pipelines for efficient data ingestion and processing, ensuring data scientists have access to clean, well-structured data for their analytical work.
   - Skills: ETL processes, cloud-native technologies, and data pipeline automation.
4. **Data Scientists:**
   - Role: Utilize platform services to conduct advanced data analysis and contribute to expanding platform capabilities, driving innovative uses of data and collaborate on developing new platform features.
   - Skills: Data analysis, machine learning, statistical methods, and domain-specific expertise.

Benefits of collaborating with UNGP

- Ability to leverage diverse datasets and powerful computing resources to gain deeper insights and improve statistical accuracy
- Ability to use to the latest analytics and machine learning tools without the need for local infrastructure investments.
- Access to training programs and resources to stay updated with the latest technologies and methodologies.
- Participation in a global network of statistical offices and ability to contribute to a shared vision of modernized, data-driven decision-making.

UNBigData

United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs

How to get involved?

- Reach out to our support line, support@officialstatistics.org
- We will respond to you with access credentials and information on how to access the platform services
- Access is granted in general to teams with at least one active member from an NSO
- Services that are immediately available include: Apache Spark, Jupyter Notebooks, and the Gitlab code repository