



DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | 22-24 OCTOBER 2018

MEDIA ADVISORY

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## UN World Data Forum 2018 gears up to boost innovation and financing, harness data revolution for public good

### *Media registration closing for Forum, to take place in Dubai 22-24 October*

**Who:** Over 1,500 data leaders from national statistical offices, the private sector, the scientific community, international organizations and NGOs. See <http://www.undataforum.org> for schedule and speakers.

High-level opening speakers include: UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed; UAE Vice President and Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum; and Esri CEO Jack Dangermond.

**When:** 22-24 October 2018

**Where:** Madinat Jumeirah Conference Centre, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

**What:** The UN World Data Forum will bring together major producers and users of data, to launch initiatives and examine challenges to deliver better data and use innovative data sources – all to improve data on health, migration, poverty, hunger, the environment and other aspects of sustainable development.

The 2018 Forum will include: A high-level session on improving data on migration \* Focus on financing and implementation of the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Data launched at the first Forum \* A discussion on the political economy of statistical capacity building \* Examination of the benefits and risks of using new data sources to support sustainable development, including issues of data privacy and governance \* How better gender data is making a difference \* How data journalists can work with national statisticians to keep the public informed \* Over 80 sessions on a wide range of initiatives and issues covering six thematic areas.

See press release at [undataforum.org/media](http://undataforum.org/media) for details.

**Why:** Despite big strides in data collection, huge data gaps remain: e.g. over 100 countries still lack comprehensive birth and death registration data. A lack of funding and capacity are serious constraints for many countries. At the same time, new data sources, such as big data and geo-spatial information, are growing rapidly. By bringing together data leaders from the public and private sectors and NGOs to collaborate, the Forum aims to spur solutions that harness the power of the data revolution to address the data needs of the 2030 Agenda and to achieve sustainable development.

**Media wishing to cover the Forum on-site should write to [dataforum@un.org](mailto:dataforum@un.org) by 19 September 2018 to request registration.** More information for media can be found at [UNDataForum.org](http://UNDataForum.org), or on Twitter [@UNDataForum](https://twitter.com/UNDataForum).

**Opening press briefing:** Sunday, 21 October, 2pm local time, at Madinat Jumeirah Conference Centre, Dubai

Plenary sessions and press briefings will be livestreamed, and selected video interviews will be made available online and via social media.

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