



TA1

High-level plenary –
Thematic area 1:
Innovation for better
and more inclusive data

13 November 2024
9:40 - 10:55AM

CONCEPT NOTE

Datutopia: what does an innovative, integrated, inclusive, enabled data ecosystem look like so that we to achieve sustainable development for all?

Moderator: Mr. Camilo Perez, Director of Global Management, Universidad EAFIT, Medellín, Colombia

Scene setting: Mr. Stefan Schweinfest, Director, UN Statistics Division, DESA

Speakers

- **Ms. Ola Awad**, President, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), State of Palestine,
- **H.E. Óscar Mauricio Lizcano Arango**, Minister for Information Technologies and Communications of Colombia
- **Mr. Prem Ramaswami**, Senior Director of Product Management, Google
- **Ms. Luísa Franco Machado**, Young Leader for the SDGs
- **Mr. Steve MacFeely**, Chief Statistician and Director of Statistics and Data, OECD

We constantly hear terms like innovation, integration, inclusion, enabling environments but how do they translate into reality? What does an innovative, integrated, inclusive, enabled environment for providing data and statistics to achieve sustainable development for all look like? In this plenary session, we will tackle the “datutopia”, the utopian ecosystem for data and statistics.

Background

The global and national data ecosystems have evolved as more data sources and methodologies have become available. Data and statistics coming from a vast array of data producers provide the evidence needed to respond to global challenges and spread light on all population groups. Data integration tools will help to harvest the vast data fields. Yet, attention needs to be given to data privacy and security which are essential to building trust with citizens (more in TA3). We need to take bold action that applies innovations across the system to germinate an enabling environment for data integration and use.

Working together toward solutions to achieve the sustainable development for all requires bringing the vast experiences from all sectors together to build synergies that move us toward a data

ecosystem that supports the full range of data needs. This requires an organized approach to data governance. With forethought, we can effectively build data ecosystem that utilize the best of artificial intelligence while providing the privacy and confidentiality of populations.

There are 17 parallel sessions under Thematic Area 1 addressing the various aspects of *Innovation for better and more inclusive data*. The parallel sessions draw on experiences ranging from leveraging open data and the use of new technologies, including AI, to tackle pressing development and humanitarian challenges at the global level to empowering vulnerable entrepreneurs and marginalized communities through digital transformation.

The outcome document (updated Cape Town Global Action Plan) and the Commit to Data campaign offer opportunities for longer lasting impacts of the Forum on innovation. This thematic area has garnered several impactful commitments from organizations actively working in this space. As the SDGs progress, there is growing demand among data users for inclusive datasets that truly reflect the lived experiences of marginalized and vulnerable populations. Notable commitments to date focus on addressing multidimensional poverty, building inclusive data systems, amplifying marginalized voices through citizen-generated data, and engaging indigenous youth, among others. This area has seen widespread representation, generated significant interest and driven collaboration across numerous organizations. These areas of work will become increasingly important in the time remaining to implementation the SDGs to leave no one behind as well as in the post-2030 era.

Key objectives of the plenary session are:

- **Datutopia:** to highlight what an ideal data ecosystem enabling sustainable development could be
- **Innovation:** to draw upon experiences that explore how the integration and utilization of data from diverse sources and producers can enhance data quality, relevance, and timeliness.
- **Inclusion:** to discuss strategies to adapt data collection and dissemination methodologies to ensure they meet the evolving needs of all user groups, including marginalized and vulnerable populations, to leave no one behind.
- **Use and reuse:** to address the imperative to respond swiftly and effectively to emerging global challenges through the use and reuse of data, promoting efficiency and sustainability in data management practices

The conversation under this high-level plenary will be framed under the outcomes of the Summit of the Future, specifically on the Global Digital Compact, and how does this outcome can establish the pillars for a datutopian future.

The High-Level Plenary Session aims to catalyze actionable strategies and collaborations towards leveraging innovation for more inclusive and responsive data ecosystems. By harnessing the power of integrated data sources and adapting methodologies to leave no one behind, we can collectively advance towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and ensuring no part of society is left unseen or unheard.

Guiding questions

1. What does an inclusive data systems look like?
2. What role does innovation play in maximizing the effective use of new data sources with a view to ensuring relevance to all users and addressing the needs of all population groups?
3. How do we get there?
4. Could you please share some final thoughts before we go to the parallel sessions? What are you looking forward to over the next days?

Annex: Parallel sessions under Thematic Area 1

ID	Title	Primary organizer
TA1.2	Leveraging AI & open data to address pressing global and local development challenges	Google
TA1.3	Empowering Vulnerable Entrepreneurs: Data-Driven Business Strategy for Inclusive Digital Transformation	UNDP
TA1.4	Improving access to civil registration services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and asexual (LGBTQIA+) communities globally by strengthening national and regional laws and data systems and ensuring legal identity.	Global Health Advocacy Incubator
TA1.6	Citizen Data as a framework to nurturing the SDG Agenda: From Global frameworks to Local action	UNDP
TA1.7	Technological Innovations in Census and Surveys: CAWI and Smart Geospatial Tools (preEA)	INE-Uruguay
TA1.8	Data Innovations on Housing and Environmental Statistics: Combining Alternative and Official Data to Map Informal Settlements	University of Twente
TA1.9	What's next for statistics on ageing and older people? Lessons from SDGs and beyond.	WHO
TA1.10	Ensuring equity and inclusion in humanitarian action: Integrating intersectionality and accounting for Forced Displacement in subnational population estimates	UNFPA
TA1.11	Strengthening administrative data-based children's statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean	UNICEF
TA1.12	Data and Persons with Disabilities: Innovative and Recent Efforts from Different Stakeholders	CBM Global Disability Inclusion
TA1.13	Children on the move: exploring the gaps, needs and solutions for better quality data	IMPACT Initiatives
TA1.14	Taking Data Into Our Own Hands: co-creating the roadmap to implement the Copenhagen Framework on Citizen Data	Danish Human Rights Institute
TA1.15	Invisible no Longer: Data Solutions to LNOB Dilemmas	UNFPA
TA1.16	Enhancing CRVS Systems: Intersectional Approaches and Resource Mobilization for Inclusive and Sustainable Development	Global Health Advocacy Incubator
TA1.17	Moving forward to the development of dissemination platforms based on an interoperable data banks ecosystem.	UNECLAC
TA1.18	Step forwards the measurement of violence against children for better policy decision	Italian National Institute of Statistics (Istat),