**MEDIA ALERT**

**Highlights of Today's Events and What to Look for Tomorrow**

**Below are some highlights from the press briefing and opening ceremony on Sunday, 15 January, as well as selections from the UNWDF program for Monday, 16 January, showing a number of sessions and speakers that may be of interest to media. For additional sessions and speaker bios, please see undataforum.org.**

**15 January**

**Opening Press Briefing**

- Remarks by Mr. Wu Hongbo, United Nations Under- Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs
- Remarks by the Honourable Jeff Radebe, MP, Minister in the Presidency responsible for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation and Chairperson of the National Planning Commission
- Launch of the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data

**Opening Ceremony**

- Webcast

**16 January**

**9:00 am - 10:30 am, Auditorium 1**

**The first UN World Data Forum – Harnessing the power of data for sustainable development**

This session, consisting of two panels, will aim at providing the background on how the importance of data has gained an unprecedented recognition over the last few years. The panels will also address the changing nature of the data landscape to address the new data requirements and to reflect fast development in technology and data tools.

Speakers:

- Michael Gerber, Swiss Ambassador and Special Envoy for Global Sustainable Development
- Wu Hongbo, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs
- Ning Jizhe, Commissioner of the National Bureau of Statistics of China and Minister-level of the National Development and Reform Commission
- Clint Brown, ESRI
- Enrico Giovanni, Co-chair of the UN Secretary-General's Independent Expert Advisory Group on the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development
- Stefan Schweinfest, Director, UN Statistics Division
- Gabriella Vukovich, President of the Hungarian Central Statistical Office and co-chair of the UN Statistical Commission's High-Level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for post-2015 monitoring
- Moderator: Teresa Clarke, CEO of Africa.com

## 10:45 am - 12:15 pm, Auditorium 1

## Big data innovations

An overview presentation on harnessing big data both to measure and to achieve sustainable development in today's complex, ever-changing world. This session will showcase presentations of operational data innovation projects from UN Global Pulse Labs in New York, Uganda and Indonesia. A panel discussion on opportunities and challenges with implementing and scaling proven approaches, with representatives from the Office of the President of the Republic of Indonesia, United Parcel Union, BBVA Data & Analytics and the World Food Programme.

**Key speakers:**

- Robert Kirkpatrick – Director of UN Global Pulse
- Daniel Runde - William A. Schreyer Chair and Director, Project on Prosperity and Development, Center for Strategic and International Studies, CSIS
- Enda Ginting - Assistant Deputy – Analysis and Management of Priority Programs, Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Indonesia
- Juan Murillo Arias - Territorial Analysis Manager, BBVA Data & Analytics
- Mallory Solder - Advanced Analytics Manager, United Parcel Service, UPS
- Paula Hidalgo-Sanchis - Manager of Pulse Lab Kampala
- Benjamin Kumpf - Policy Specialist – Innovation, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, Development Impact Group, UNDP New York
- Arif Husain - Chief Economist & Director of Food Security Analysis and Trends Service, UN World Food Programme, WFP
- Rebecca Furst-Nichols -Deputy Director, Data2X at United Nations Foundation
- Bitange Ndemo - Associate Professor, University of Nairobi Business School Kenya and former Permanent Secretary of the Kenyan Government's Ministry of Information and Communication
- Sriganesh Lokanathan - Team Leader, Big Data for Development, LIRNEasia
- John Quinn -  Data Scientist at the United Nations Global Pulse lab in Kampala, Uganda.

**10:45 am - 12:15 pm, Meeting Room 2.64**

**State of the art in data visualizations and dashboards to support the 2030 Agenda**

Data is at the center of successfully achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. However, if the stories inherent within these data are not communicated effectively, the true impact of these data to effectively inform decision-making and formulate policy will not be realized. Data visualization is an important method for bringing these stories to life.

- Alexandra Silfverstolpe, Founder and Managing Director, Data Act Lab
- Craig Mills, CEO of Vizzuality
- Rebecca Firth,  Community and Partnerships Manager, Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (HOT)

- Rafik Mohjoubi, Senior International Consultant, African Development Bank
- Charles Brigham, Account Executive, Esri Global
- Richard Kaufholz, Solution Architect at Esri South Africa
- Aditya Agrawal, Technical Manager, Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data

## 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm, Auditorium 1

## Rethinking capacity development

Despite increased demand for more timely and granular data, the question on how to best build national capacity in terms of data production, dissemination and use remains largely unanswered in many countries. This calls into question traditional approaches to capacity development.

## Key speakers:

- Michael Gerber - Ambassador and Special Envoy for Global Sustainable Development at the Swiss Federal Council
- Emmanuel Nnadozie - Executive Secretary of the African Capacity Building Foundation
- Ola Awad - President of the International Association for Official statistics (IAOS)
- Oliver Chinganya - Director of the African Centre for Statistics at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).
- Hernán Muñoz - National Director of Statistical Planning and Coordination in the National Institute of Statistics and Census of Argentina (INDEC).
- Johannes P. Jütting - Manager of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21)

## 3:15 pm - 4:45 pm, Auditorium 1

## Human rights in the work of statisticians: Integrating Human rights with data collection and dissemination

In order for states to ensure the human rights of their citizens are upheld, data is required to understand key population groups and their experiences. In the current environment, human rights are a key area of focus in the development of measurement approaches for the Sustainable Development Goals.

**Key speakers:**

- Brad Petry – Operations Manager, Crime Statistics Agency, Victorian Department of Justice and Regulation, Australia
- Isabel Shmidt –  works for Statistics South Africa
- Erica Potts – from UN OHCHR

**5:00 pm - 6:30 pm, Meeting Room 2.61**

**Recent initiatives to improve capacity on migration and refugee statistics**

The session will focus on on-going efforts to build countries' capacities to collect, analyse, manage and report migration and refugee data. The importance of such activities is increasingly recognized, particularly in light of the historic inclusion of migration in the Sustainable Development Goals, whereby Target 10.7 urges countries to facilitate orderly, safe and regular migration.

**Key speakers:**

- Frank Laczko – Director of IOM's recently established Global Migration Data Analysis Centre.
- Kimberly Robertson - Senior Durable Solutions Officer at United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Nepal.
- Sandile Simelane - Chief Director of the Health and Vital Statistics Division at Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)
- Omar Seidu - Social Statistician at Ghana Statistical Services.
- Javier Teran - Statistician at UN OCHA Switzerland.
- Kedar Mankad - Policy Officer for Agriculture & Inclusive Growth at The ONE Campaign.
- Sabrina Juran - Technical Specialist, Data and Population Analysis at UNFPA.