A commitment to ensure that no one is left behind in the pursuit and measurement of social and economic progress

Vision

The global agenda set in 2015 by the Sustainable Development Goals, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the Paris Climate Agreement requires a change in the way we do business to achieve success. Those who are tasked with implementing the ambitions of the 2015 agreements are severely hindered by inadequate, unreliable, or non-existent data and information, as well as the lack of skills, funding and/or support to use data. In particular, in order to live up to the promise inherent within the SDGs, to “Leave No One Behind,” we need timely, comprehensive, and disaggregated data, to better understand the situation of the poorest and most marginalized. Through this, we can make better decisions that positively impact all people’s lives.

We, a global network of governments, NGOs, philanthropists, and businesses, commit to improve and strengthen data disaggregation by signing up to this Charter. Between now and 2030, we will work to improve the quality, quantity, financing, and availability of inclusive and disaggregated data as well as the capacity and capability to produce and use it, in accordance with internationally accepted standards and ongoing processes under the auspices of the United Nations.

“Sustainable Development Goal indicators should be disaggregated, where relevant, by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location, or other characteristics, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics”

General Assembly Resolution 68/261

Principles

Principle One - All populations must be included in the data
We can only achieve the “leave no one behind” goal by empowering the furthest behind. This means ensuring their voices are heard and their experiences are represented through data and analytics. We need to acknowledge all people, make them visible in the data to understand their lives, and include them in the development process.

Principle Two - All data should, wherever possible, be disaggregated in order to accurately describe all populations
We recognize that data should be disaggregated by sex, age, geographic location, and disability status and, where possible, by income, race, ethnicity, migratory status, and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.

Principle Three - Data should be drawn from all available sources
We recognize the need to make high-quality, timely data from official and non-official sources accessible, and that these should include new data sources, where consistent with internationally accepted statistical standards.

Principle Four - Those responsible for the collection of data and production of statistics must be accountable
We will balance the principles of transparency – maximizing the availability of disaggregated data – confidentiality, and privacy to ensure personal data is not abused, misused, or putting anyone at risk of identification or discrimination, in accordance with national laws and the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.

Principle Five - Human and technical capacity to collect, analyze, and use disaggregated data must be improved, including through adequate and sustainable financing
We recognize that collecting and analyzing disaggregated data needs specific skills and these must be built. We recognize the need to finance data collection, analysis, and use appropriately and sustainably so that high-quality data can be collected and used by governments as well as by businesses, civil society, and citizens.

Inclusive Data Charter Champions produce action plans to describe the concrete steps they will take to realize the vision and principles of the Charter. Action plans are available here.