



# EVERYBODY COUNTS



**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.

The Inclusive Data Charter's 10 founding champions commit to implement the vision and principles as outlined in their action plans, summarized in brief below. Action plans can be found in full here: [www.data4sdgs.org/initiatives/inclusive-data-charter](http://www.data4sdgs.org/initiatives/inclusive-data-charter)

### Colombia

- Colombia's National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) is committed to producing quality statistical information at the sub-national level, disaggregated by population groups. Therefore, the National Statistical Plan 2017-2021 promotes the inclusion of differential and intersectional approaches in the production and dissemination of statistics.
- For DANE it is essential to improve disaggregation as a fundamental step to fill data gaps and measure differences among specific population groups. Building on DANE's successful experience of applying a gender approach for improving statistical availability, DANE will apply this experience and its lessons learned as a basis for an Action Plan focused on persons with disabilities.
- As part of the Action Plan, DANE will perform a diagnosis of data available on the disabled population looking at several existing sources of information (surveys, administrative registers, etc.) and their relation to international requirements and concepts so as to better understand the current capacity of Colombia to provide information on the target population, and define follow up actions to address the gaps identified.

### Data2X is committed to:

- Improving gender data across the data value chain in traditional and in new data systems;
- Addressing gender data gaps in key sectors;
- Advocating for better gender data and researching key issues in gender data collection and use;
- Supporting the establishment and training of a network of Gender Data Focal Points from governments.

### Development Initiatives (DI) is committed to:

- Improving the supply of fully disaggregated data by advocating for long-term investment in administrative and registry data, as well as calling for all suitably anonymised microdata to be made openly accessible by national statistics offices;
- Using disaggregated data that is available to its fullest extent in our own research and analysis to increase information on the world's most marginalised people;
- Promoting the inclusion of populations frequently excluded from official statistics including those outside birth registration systems, displaced populations, and those living outside households.

### Ghana is committed to:

- Revising its legal framework to provide the policy environment for the production of inclusive data through a well-coordinated statistical system. The current law does not envisage the amount and types of data that advances in technology bring nor does it adequately position GSS as the central coordinating body of the National Statistical System (NSS) which leads to a fragmented and uncoordinated data production regime. To address these and other issues, a new statistics bill will be passed into law in the next 12 months.
- Putting in place a new Data Quality Assurance Framework (DQAF) in 12-18 months to ensure the National Statistical System (NSS) is positioned to use data from all sources while maintaining the quality dimensions are not compromised. The framework will establish roles and responsibilities of key actors in the data ecosystem and set guidelines and clear criteria against which data quality will be assessed. This will provide the NSS a unique opportunity to use data from government, academia, civil society and private sector for a more comprehensive monitoring of progress against the SDGs and leaving no one behind.
- Strengthening administrative data systems for more inclusive data. Data from routine administrative processes and regular service delivery, is the way for Ghana to have more granular and timely data to inform policy and monitor progress and reduce our dependence on sample surveys that by design do not always produce inclusive data. Automation and digitization will help ensure that we have up to the minute recording of relevant events. We will also leverage the national identification system and other national programmes aimed at automating government services, and strengthen our institutions for robust administrative data systems through a partnership with Statistics Denmark.
- Operationalizing the Local Government Act (Act 936) to ensure the local government planning systems greatly benefit from local level data production, with better focus and targeting to ensure no one is left behind. Low quality local level data has been identified as a major drawback in the production of disaggregated data in Ghana. To mitigate this, Act 936 passed in 2016, has a provision for the establishment of District Statistics Department (DSD) in each Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assembly.

### HelpAge is committed to:

- Putting in place systematic collection, analysis, reporting, and utilization of disability disaggregated data across the organisation;
- Working with the Titchfield City Group to develop guidelines for the production of age-related and age-disaggregated statistics, and advocate for adoption of these guidelines by data producers.

### Sightsavers is committed to:

- Ensuring the systematic inclusion of disaggregated data in project systems and monitoring, and ensuring that data is analysed and used to inform programme implementation and policy.
- Working in collaboration with the Washington Group to test new modules and support ongoing work and advocacy for using the Washington Group Short Set of Disability Questions in censuses and national surveys.
- Continuing to collect, report, analyse, and use data on age, disability, sex, economic status, and location, and sharing tools, guidance and learning with National Statistics Offices, ministries and civil society partners.
- Increasing the capacity of Sightsavers staff and partners to incorporate data disaggregation into their work.

### The Office for National Statistics (ONS) in the UK is committed to continuing its work:

- To develop a global standardised national reporting platform for reporting UK data towards the global SDGs indicators. This includes publishing all data in an open and reusable format, broken down by the specified characteristics, where available.
- Collaborating with geography experts to develop new data sources and methods to fill geographic data gaps – using Earth observation, satellite imagery and geospatial data.
- Work with data experts and scientists to develop new methods, for priority disaggregation and topics, such as: disability disaggregation; age and other ageing related data; food insecurity; and housing quality.

### The Philippine Statistics Authority is committed to:

- Ensuring data is disaggregated by age, sex, location, disability, and ethnicity (indigenous and non-indigenous ethnicity) in the 2020 Census of Population and Housing;
- Exploring methodologies for generating poverty statistics for indigenous people and persons with disabilities and provincial-level poverty statistics for all basic sectors including women and children;
- Improving disaggregation for statistics in the areas of poverty, nutrition, health, education, employment and transport;
- Exploring opportunities to use small area estimation and big data to meet the data disaggregation requirements of the SDGs, with the support of development partners, e.g. Asian Development Bank;
- Integrating geospatial information and statistics.

### UNFPA is committed to:

- Using population and housing census data for disaggregating SDGs;
- Sex disaggregation: Combining census and registry data to assess quality and coverage of civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS);
- Geographic disaggregation: Sub-national mapping of development indicators;
- Support for hybrid censuses to improve population estimates, and disaggregation of data by population metrics.

### UNICEF is committed to:

- Embedding a culture of data demand, supply and use throughout the work of UNICEF and its partners, with a particular focus on "data savvy" capacity development.
- With partners, providing a data foundation in countries irrespective of income or capacity.
- Recognizing disaggregated data as the backbone of system-strengthening and bringing to bear UNICEF's best data expertise to this work.
- Defining common approaches to measurement and data collection protocols across the global community, including on humanitarian situations, adolescent mental health, Early Childhood Development, learning achievement, as well as on children with disabilities, and children living outside of family care.



**INCLUSIVE  
DATA CHARTER**



**Global  
Partnership  
for Sustainable  
Development Data**

#IDCdata4all

@Data4SDGs