November 7-9 2023, Punta del Este, Uruguay

Celebrating data ideas and action that helps people and planet

Rapid innovations in technology and timely data collection, access and use are needed to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Yet the data revolution also raises fundamental tensions around power, privacy and participation. Common spirit, dialogue and advocacy are needed to supercharge progress on the global goals. That is exactly what the Festival de Datos sets out to do.

The Festival de Datos will be the second in-person festival hosted by the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (the Global Partnership), with 400 delegates expected in person and 200 participating remotely. It comes at a critical juncture for our community. As we face global economic, climate, energy and health challenges, this convening is an exciting chance to exchange ideas and drive action with change makers and innovators from our network of 650 partner organizations across 40 countries around the world. Building on the 2018 Data for Development festival in Bristol, the event will connect people and communities in the data space, serving as a platform for announcing new, impactful collaborations to unlock investment and drive innovation.

Taking place in scenic Punta del Este in Uruguay, the festival provides an unmissable opportunity for delegations from the region and beyond, with more than a quarter of our partners based or working in Latin America and the Caribbean. Delegates will participate in thematic events, network with the global data community, and meet the Global Partnership’s Board and Technical Advisory Group. The event will shape the trajectory of the SDGs and the Global Partnership’s future, as well as bolstering the reputation of Uruguay and delegations among the international data community ahead of the next World Data Forum in Colombia in 2024.

A high-profile platform to drive a fairer data future

As the deadline for delivering on the SDGs looms, and as we work to address the climate crisis, conflicts and economic challenges, there is an urgent need to reimagine the relationship between data, power, and development and to build consensus and action around a practical vision for a fairer data future.

The Festival de Datos is the apex of our collaboration and cooperation - where we discuss, debate, demonstrate, train and connect on all aspects of data in our societies. Together we can advocate for well-resourced, inclusive, coherent and impactful data systems that improve lives. We will use the festival to continue a multi-year policy consultation and advocacy campaign called The Data Values Project.
Senior representatives of the host government, the United Nations and other multilaterals like World Bank will speak at and attend the Festival de Datos—providing an opportunity to shine a spotlight on data for good at a moment of unparalleled interest in data innovation as a means to bring the world’s best solutions to the world’s largest challenges.

What we’ll be doing together

Curated networking

Plenary & panels

Data Bazaar impact showcase (including Earth Observation, big data, AI examples)

Policymaking & advocacy planning sessions

Hands-on training sessions (e.g. data viz, user-centred design, privacy & ethics, governance)

Peer learning events

Meet with journalists & press fellows

Donor roundtable

Data visualization & art activations

Bi-lateral VIP meetings

Gala dinner

Opportunities to see data in action in Uruguay’

Live streaming & curated commentary

For more information contact Jennifer Oldfield, Director of External Relations: joldfield@data4sdgs.org