



TWO YEARS of the _____ Inclusive Data Charter



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our work would not be possible without the generous support and valued input from the Inclusive Data Charter co-facilitating organizations:

- Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data
- Sightsavers
- · UK Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office

We thank all IDC Champions for their support and engagement in the network.

2018 CHAMPIONS



2019 CHAMPIONS





Zanzibar's Office of the Chief Government Statistician





2020 CHAMPIONS







Peru's National Institute of Statistics and Informatics







Cover image: Breaking down barriers to eye health in South Asia. Narsingdi district, Bangladesh © Sightsavers / Reza Shahriar Rahman.

FOREWORD

From street-connected children to people with disabilities to indigenous peoples to refugees, millions of people are invisible in data. Across the world, it is the poorest, most marginalized people who go uncounted.

We cannot begin to tackle inequality, poverty, or exclusion without data that reveals marginalized people's realities and does so with their knowledge, consent, and involvement. Only with more inclusive data can advocates, policymakers, and practitioners make decisions that ensure no one is left behind.

The Inclusive Data Charter (IDC) supports a diverse range of governments and organizations to put inclusivity at the heart of their data systems. Bringing together multilaterals advancing global standards, governments pioneering data and policy reforms, and civil society organizations transforming marginalized communities' relationship with data, we unite a wealth of expertise and ambition on inclusive data.

Since launching in 2018, the IDC has encouraged more actors to prioritize inclusive data, supported knowledge sharing across borders, and fostered dialogue on inclusive data - from the grassroots to Presidents' offices. The network has doubled to over 20 Champions. In response, the IDC secretariat has strengthened our approach to advocacy, technical assistance, knowledge exchange, and learning.

This report celebrates the growth and evolution of the IDC network and Champions' progress and impact. Equally, it serves as a call to action and a call to collaboration: with less than ten years to go until 2030 and amid a global pandemic and movement for racial justice, now is the time to prioritize inclusive data. We hope this report will spark interest, inspire new ideas, and spur commitments to inclusive data.

The Inclusive Data Charter co-facilitators:

- Rachael Beaven, UK Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office (FCDO)
- Dom Haslam, Sightsavers
- Jenna Slotin, Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD)

The Inclusive Data Charter secretariat:

- Mike Bolton, UK Office for National Statistics (ONS)
- Tichafara Chisaka, Sightsavers
- Kate Richards, Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD)

INTRODUCTION

The IDC advocates for governments and organizations to take action on inclusive data, providing a framework and support for Champions to level up and work together towards more inclusive data. IDC Champions sign up to the Inclusive Data Charter's high-level vision and set of principles (see below). They then develop and implement tailored action plans, outlining their priorities on inclusive data and the steps they will take to achieve the vision.

The IDC secretariat¹ supports Champions by facilitating strategic technical assistance and strengthening knowledge exchange and learning. It also catalyzes a broad movement for inclusive data by amplifying the progress and learnings of Champions. Details of all current IDC Champions, their action plans, and individual progress reports can be <u>found here</u>.

As a network and secretariat, we have learned, and are continuing to learn, what it takes to build awareness and strengthen commitments on inclusive data.

This report is primarily based on Champions' responses to the annual IDC monitoring survey² and knowledge sharing calls with the Champions' network. It outlines Champions' progress on their action plans in 2020, alongside their responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. The report also explores how the IDC accelerates progress on inclusive data and future plans for the initiative.

KEY MESSAGES

COVID-19 has presented complex challenges, but also sparked adaptation and innovation,

many Champions have pivoted their approach and continue to make progress on their inclusive date action plans despite the difficulties faced during the pandemic.

The IDC has been a catalyst for change both internally and externally, enabling Champions to increase visibility and engagement on inclusive data and strengthen collaboration with others.

IDC Champions commitment continues to deepen,

with more than half of current Champions planning to update their action plan or build on their inclusive data commitments in 2021.

We are scaling up our ambition and our size, in 2021 and beyond, through increasing the number and diversity of Champions.

²The overall Champion response rate to the Y2 monitoring survey was 75%.

IDC HIGH-LEVEL VISION

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.

IDC PRINCIPLES



IDC IN NUMBERS - 2020³



43% of Champions increased capacity to generate and use of inclusive data

52% of Champions are advancing their inclusive data commitments in 2021

CHAMPIONS ON THE IDC

⁶⁶ The IDC has supported and motivated us to develop and launch our guide to mainstream a differential and intersectional approach in Colombia's statistical production, inspired by the IDC's principles. The IDC's secretariat has been a key ally in supporting us in generating engagement at the country level to produce disaggregated and inclusive data.⁹⁹

Colombia's National Administrative Department of Statistics

⁶⁶ The IDC's support in producing an action plan will enable us to strengthen institutional capacity to improve the production, availability, and use of better gender statistics. The IDC has strengthened OCGS strategies to advance our work on gender statistics and enabled us to engage in knowledge sharing opportunities with other Champions. ⁹⁹

Zanzibar Office of the Chief Government Statistician

⁶⁶ Through joining the IDC, we have expanded our work with inclusive data through the development of our action plan, working to increase the availability of disaggregated homelessness data enumeration throughout the world. We have appreciated the partnerships and collaboration with other Champions and the IDC secretariat to increase the availability of inclusive data for the most vulnerable. ⁹⁹

Institute of Global Homelessness

5 NEW CHAMPIONS

7 CHAMPIONS

11 CONVENINGS

Presented the IDC at

with Champions and partners

11 EXTERNAL EVENTS

showcasing IDC progress

Delivered

Published

13 ARTICLES

joined the IDC – Cabo Verde, Equal Rights Trust, Institute of Global Homelessness, Peru, UN Women

directly supported by the IDC secretariat to advance their inclusive data action plan

⁶⁶ The IDC has been a catalyst for IDMC's work to advance inclusive and disaggregated data on internally displaced people, inspiring us to take stock of data gaps in order to provide an inclusive, more precise, and comprehensive picture of internal displacement. ⁹⁹

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

HOW DID THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IMPACT CHAMPIONS' WORK ON INCLUSIVE DATA?

COVID-19 has brought a renewed urgency and focus to the issue of inclusive data, sparking debate and action across the globe. The pandemic has exposed deep-rooted structural inequalities in our communities and societies, with the poorest and most marginalized communities disproportionately impacted. In responding to COVID-19, governments and organizations have urgently factored in multiple dimensions - from age to income, disability, and ethnicity to better understand and address disparities in health and socio-economic impacts.

For IDC Champions, the pandemic has presented a multitude of challenges. Many have pivoted their work to understand the effects of the pandemic on different population groups. The pandemic disrupted data collection efforts, working processes, and capacity building programs and required Champions to adapt work on inclusive data, including piloting and testing new data collection approaches.

This section highlights some examples of the ways in which COVID-19 has impacted Champions' work.

New data insights and adaptation of approaches

Robust data collection is critical to address development needs and inform appropriate interventions. The spread of the pandemic made in-person data collection difficult, leading some Champions to postpone or re-evaluate their activities.

- The closure of schools disrupted the efforts of Sierra Leone's Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education (MBSSE) to access rural pupils' birth records to inform net school enrolment rates.
- The pandemic made the collection of homeless data, especially street counts, more complicated and led the Institute of Global Homelessness (IGH) to provide additional guidance for enumeration methodology. Assessment of people living in shelters and self-contained accommodation has increased for many cities, leading to more robust data and targeted housing placement.
- Christian Aid's data validation activities for their Evidence and Collaboration for Inclusive Development (ECID)
 program in Myanmar, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe were postponed as Christian Aid could not access communities and
 gather groups of people. Some data collection has continued since the onset of the pandemic, although methods
 had to be adapted.

Disruption to data collection

Collecting data from both official and non-official sources is important to build a more holistic, comprehensive picture on the differentiated needs of population groups. Many Champions quickly pivoted their work in response to increased demand for inclusive data.

- The UK Office for National Statistics (ONS) created new data linkages and analysis of COVID-19 impacts on vulnerable groups, such as analyzing deaths by ethnicity.
- To understand the differential impacts of <u>COVID-19</u>, Data2X has been tracking and researching the implications of the pandemic for women and girls.
- Colombia's National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) developed an interactive tool to identify zones that could be more vulnerable to COVID-19 due to their demographics.
- The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) was unable to conduct field research initially planned for 2020, but replaced it with remote data collection and engagement with new partners that helped continue the work on inclusive data, including on the impacts of the pandemic on internally displaced people.

Capacity building

Building the capacity of those responsible for data collection strengthens knowledge and practice, creating the foundations for more and better quality, inclusive data. The pandemic presented barriers to conducting in-person capacity building activities, which led some Champions to explore alternative methods.

- The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) support to national censuses was affected by COVID-19 as countries responded by postponing censuses, adapting methods, and providing personal protective equipment, and UNFPA responded accordingly across programme countries. UNFPA transformed all in-person capacity strengthening trainings and workshops into webinars and online eLearning modules.
- Sightsavers adapted by providing remote training on disability data and have worked on a tool that incorporates basic principles and guidance on budgeting for inclusive data work in their projects and programmes.
- The World Bank worked with partners to design an e-learning course to increase knowledge and capacity of Bank staff and other key stakeholders in the area of disability data disaggregation, analysis, and use for SDG implementation.

WHAT PROGRESS HAVE CHAMPIONS MADE ON THEIR ACTION PLANS?

This section outlines examples of progress that Champions have made to operationalize the principles and advance their inclusive data priorities. Further details can be found in IDC Champions' <u>action plans and annual monitoring reports</u>.

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.

- Kenya's Ministry of Labour and Social Protection is developing an action plan focused on strengthening the collection, analysis, and use of disability data to ensure that Kenya's social protection system meets the needs of people with disabilities.
- Christian Aid published a baseline report for their Evidence and Collaboration for Inclusive Development (ECID) project, looking at the experiences of marginalized communities in Nigeria, Zimbabwe, and Myanmar and the barriers that limit their access to basic and essential services. They are now planning for detailed research to gather inclusive data on the identified priorities. Christian Aid has also begun to discuss with partner organizations working on caste and social exclusion the possibility of reviewing data availability on the impact of Covid-19 on marginalized groups in South Asia.
- Sierra Leone's Ministry of Basic and Senior Secondary Education (MBSSE) strengthened education data, particularly gender and disability disaggregation. More questions on disabilities have been included in national surveys and annual school censuses to better understand marginalized groups' experiences in the education system. Using this more inclusive, reliable, and granular data, MBSSE overturned a ban on pregnant girls in school and designed policies and campaigns focusing on zero learning poverty, zero makeshift schools, and zero irregularities and exam malpractice.

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.

- The Consortium for Street Children (CSC) redesigned their project reporting templates to capture disaggregated data and supported partners to complete these reports. They have continued to raise awareness of the need for more inclusive data, including holding a session at the World Data Forum with other IDC Champions on Vulnerable Children Missing from Data.
- The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) continued to build on their inclusive data work, publishing the first estimates of the number of Internally Displaced Peoples (IDPs) by age and sex. To complement these estimates, IDMC published dedicated reports on internally displaced children, women and girls, youth, and internally displaced people with disabilities.
- The Institute of Global Homelessness (IGH) launched their action plan in late 2020 and are undertaking a global review of homeless data. IGH's <u>Better</u> <u>Data Project</u> increased knowledge on the range of available homeless data and issues in data quality and definition, which will inform further analysis of the quality and disaggregation of the data.
- The Philippines Statistics Authority (PSA) conducted the 2020 Census of Population and Housing and participated in the Data for Development Project with Asia Development Bank to generate disaggregated data for the Sustainable Development Goals and explore using satellite imagery to improve the quality of poverty statistics.
- Data2X, in partnership with UNECA, has built the <u>Africa Gender Data</u> <u>Network</u> which connects gender statisticians in 15 countries. Data2X continued critical research on key issues such as women's economic empowerment, supporting the International Labour Organization to pilot <u>new standards to define and measure work</u> – including unpaid care work that is often done by women and insufficiently captured in official statistics – and releasing a <u>compendium of tools</u> to measure women's economic empowerment.
- UNFPA developed dashboards to monitor the impacts of COVID-19 on census activities and vulnerable populations. <u>The COVID-19 Population</u> <u>Vulnerability</u> dashboard highlights vulnerabilities, including age, sex, isolation, residential density, and access to water, using Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS) census samples for 94 countries, and WorldPop 2020 projections on age, sex, and population density for more than 200 countries. The census tracking dashboard has been launched, and eLearning modules are currently being finalized.

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 Statisics.

- Zanzibar's Office of the Chief Government Statistician (OCGS) launched their IDC action plan in late 2020, which focuses on enhancing the production, availability, and use of gender statistics. OCGS's work on the action plan will include developing a memorandum of understanding between users and producers of gender statistics to enhance participation of different sectors in statistical development, as well as defining quality assurance measures and procedures that can be used by civil society organizations to produce quality gender data.
- The UK Office for National Statistics (ONS) built on their inclusive data commitment to increase openness and transparency on SDG indicator progress reporting and their plans to address data gaps, by continuing to strengthen their SDG platform and sharing their experiences, so that others can also strengthen their reporting mechanisms on SDG indicators. In the past year, ONS has provided support to various countries, including Rwanda, Kyrgyzstan, and Ghana, on the set up of their national level SDG platforms.
- Colombia's National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) advanced their work on inclusive data through the launch of their differential and intersectional approach guidelines that promote the generation of inclusive and disaggregated data across their national statistical system. They increased accountability and scrutiny on the guidelines by establishing a multidisciplinary working group whose members include statisticians, economists, a psychologist, an anthropologist, and other advisers. DANE also undertook an open public consultation with national and international data producers and users to provide feedback on the guidelines.

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 highquality data can be collected and used by governments as well as by businesses, civil society, and citizens.

- The UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) supported countries to strengthen and modernize their national statistical systems. FCDO helped countries to gather, analyze, and use high-quality disaggregated data through programs in Nepal and Malawi and strategic partnerships with ONS in Ghana, Kenya, and Rwanda and the UN Economic Commission for Africa in response to Covid-19. FCDO continues to press the international system for more and better financing for data for development and supports efforts to coordinate through PARIS 21, GPSDD, and others.
- HelpAge conducted internal training on collecting and analyzing data using the Washington Group Questions (WGQ). The training raised awareness of the need for data on disability, ways to produce this data, and the importance of reflecting the diversity and inequality within the older population in advocacy and program design. This has led to improvements across a number of areas, including increased inclusion of the WGQ in data collection instruments and demand for support to produce gender and disability analysis.
- **Sightsavers** continued to increase staff and partners' capacity and inclusive data is now a cross-cutting component across the organization's thematic areas of work. Sightsavers conducted four baseline studies on inclusive eye health projects in Mozambique, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Malawi, with disability data disaggregation. The data has been used to refine Sightsavers' strategic theory of change and inform program direction.

HOW HAS THE IDC ADVANCED CHAMPIONS' INCLUSIVE DATA PRIORITIES?

It takes a combination of different elements to build consensus on the importance of inclusive data. Through a combination of advocacy, technical assistance, knowledge exchange, and learning, the IDC secretariat works with Champions to advance their inclusive data priorities, and amplify progress to demonstrate what can be done and encourage others in the global community to take action.

The 2020 monitoring survey responses showed that being part of the IDC has been a catalyst for internal and external change, enabling Champions to increase visibility, awareness, and engagement on inclusive data, strengthen their capacity to collect, analyze, and make use of inclusive data, and enhance collaboration with others. Some examples of this are highlighted in this section.

Increased visibility and awareness of inclusive data

The IDC has enabled Champions to increase visibility and awareness of inclusive data at local, national, and global levels.

- IGH increased their advocacy on inclusive data through their community of impact webinar series and public events.
- In Senegal, Sightsavers and the Council of Non-Governmental Development Support Organizations (<u>CONGAD</u>) utilized the IDC as an advocacy tool to influence the government to commit to the Charter and develop an IDC action plan, which will be integrated into the national "Leave No One Behind" strategy. They also used the IDC principles to mobilize and engage citizens at the local and national level.
- The IDC increased MBSSE's awareness of the importance of collaboration to strengthen data quality and availability. This includes consolidating data from the Special Needs, Non-Formal Education, and Gender units.
- Being part of the IDC has strengthened ONS' engagement with the international community and enabled constructive dialogue on inclusive data with other national statistical offices.
- Through engagement with the UK Bond network's SDG Steering Group, Christian Aid and Sightsavers have championed the importance of inclusive data and the IDC principles.
- IDMC increased the visibility of their work by developing joint reports and events with IDC Champions, such as the collaboration with UNFPA and CSC on the report on Internally Displaced Youth.
- Awareness of HelpAge's organizational commitments to the IDC and the Global Disability Summit's agenda helped to garner internal support and interest on disability disaggregated data.

Strengthened internal alignment and capacity

The IDC has enabled Champions to build more internal consensus and alignment on inclusive data priorities within their organizations and institutions.

- Engaging in the IDC is enabling the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection in Kenya to improve the collection
 of inclusive and disaggregated administrative data. The IDC secretariat is working with the ministry to facilitate
 the engagement of different sectoral partners and stakeholders, including Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
 (KNBS), the Interagency Coordinating Committee, and others, to co-create Kenya's IDC action plan focusing on
 strengthening disability data.
- DANE utilized the IDC principles to inform guidelines for mainstreaming a differential and intersectional approach to data disaggregation in the Colombian National Statistical System. Their engagement in the IDC supported DANE to clarify their vision and communications strategy on inclusive data at a national level.
- OCGS Zanzibar developed their inclusive data action plan and with support from the IDC secretariat, they are increasing their capacity to strengthen gender statistics with a focus on civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems.
- Christian Aid's commitment to IDC will enable them to align several separate strands of their work that touch on inclusive data, including organizational-wide program quality, responsible data, and advocacy for gender and inequalities.

Increased collaboration, knowledge exchange, and learning

The IDC has enabled Champions to share learnings, increase collaborations with others in the global development community to advance inclusive data priorities, and amplify progress and impact.

- The IDC disability data knowledge exchange brought together UNICEF, HelpAge, Sightsavers, Kenya, OCGS, Christian Aid, and other partners to share successes, challenges, and learning on approaches to disability data collection, analysis, and dissemination in response to COVID-19.
- UNFPA has partnered with various organizations, including other IDC Champions. Current collaborations and partnerships towards furthering their inclusive data priorities include working with other UN agencies through the International Committee on Census Coordination, development banks, the donor community at large, civil society organizations, the private sector, and Member States.
- The IDC secretariat facilitated a peer-to-peer learning session between Ghana Statistical Service and Statistics Mauritius on measuring the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on household poverty levels, food insecurity, and other socio-economic impacts.
- CSC organized a session at the World Data Forum 2020 on Vulnerable Children Missing from Data in collaboration with IDMC, Lumos, and the IDC Secretariat.
- PSA shared and exchanged knowledge on how to utilize citizen-generated data for SDG reporting with partners.
- The IDC secretariat convened a two-year learning session, which was an opportunity for Champions to share experiences and learning on inclusive data and break out into smaller discussion groups. The insights from the learning session were consolidated into a <u>blog</u>, <u>published on the Day of Factivism</u>.

LOOKING AHEAD

The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown a spotlight on the importance of inclusive and disaggregated data, as governments and organizations have rapidly generated and used inclusive data to fight the pandemic. Yet this must be translated into a meaningful, long-term shift in understanding and approaches on inclusive data.

We need to continue to build knowledge on how and when it is appropriate to disaggregate data. As we strengthen best practices and approaches, we must look towards more intersectional approaches to data which allow us to understand how disadvantages overlap to deepen deprivation.

Alongside technical advancements, we cannot overlook the importance of ensuring the process of data collection, analysis, and use is in itself inclusive -- meaning marginalized communities have an opportunity to shape, participate in, and benefit from these efforts. Prioritizing inclusive data will help us to understand people's lived experiences and realities and address the systems and structures that continue to reinforce inequalities and leave marginalized groups behind.

Our 2020 survey shows that Champions remain committed to the inclusive data agenda, despite the challenges presented by COVID-19 and its effects. More than half of current IDC Champions are planning to deepen their inclusive data commitments in 2021. In the coming year, Champions are looking forward to continued knowledge exchange and learning with others, opportunities for joint advocacy, and collaborations to enable them to advance their inclusive data priorities.

As we look ahead, the IDC seeks to nurture and grow our dynamic, open, and collaborative network. We will channel surging interest and momentum on inclusive data into transparent commitments and action that leads to more equitable decisions. We aim to encourage a more diverse range of institutions - from the private sector to local government to foundations - to think and act purposefully about inclusive data and join the IDC.

The IDC will foster more knowledge sharing, learning, and peer-to-peer exchanges across Champions to scale up learnings and best practices. We will continue to support Champions to reach their goals by providing strategic technical assistance and brokering collaborations. Working alongside Champions, we aim to enhance dialogue, understanding, and collaboration between data producers and users to ensure data is used to inform advocacy, policies, and programs.

As IDC Champions' capacity and experience increase, we aim to inspire and encourage them to increase their ambitions and deepen their commitments to inclusive data. As a result, more inclusive data, of higher quality, will be used to shape policies and programs that protect marginalized people and help them thrive, thus enabling the international community to fulfill its commitment to leave no one behind.







Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data