



Unlocking privately held data for public good

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**Global
Partnership**
for Sustainable
Development Data

Agenda

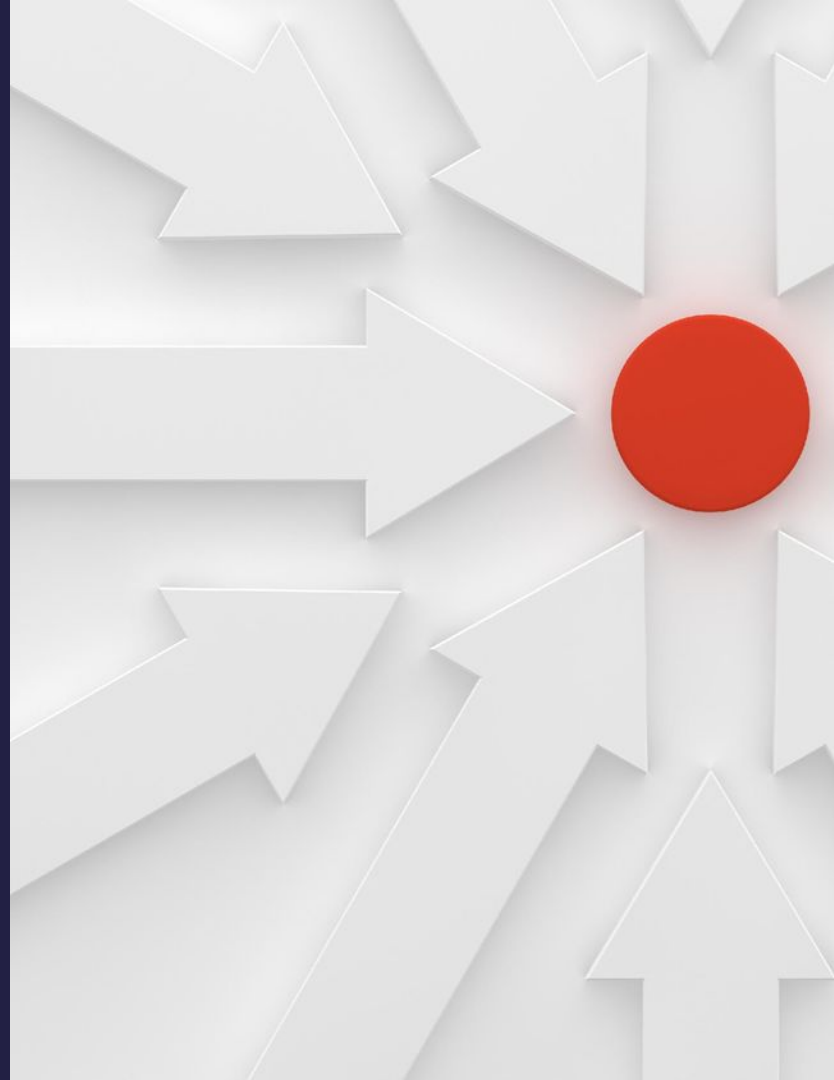
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Where do we stand on unlocking privately held data for public good 1/2

- There is an increasing number of private public data sharing initiatives - NSOs are very often at the core of those!
- However, the potential of privately held data for the public sector is still largely unexplored: data sharing public private partnerships remain very difficult to establish due to challenges (technical and linked to capabilities but also related to business models, replicability and scalability)...
- While some resources and knowledge is available, it is difficult for NSOs to bridge the gap between the theory and the practice..

Where do we stand 1/2

1. **When governance and management skills are strengthened** → NSOs are more able and interested in negotiating access to privately held data
2. **There is limited availability of training / capacity building material** on the governance and management aspects of accessing privately held data ! 99% of what exists is in English
3. **There is a strong appetite from NSOs** to access not only mobile data but also data from retailers, financial institutions, online platforms...



What we did so far...

Since 2021 we have been working on increasing governments' access and use of privately held data by strengthening public sector governance and management skills. In the span of 2 years, with funding from the *Hewlett Foundation* and *Google.org*, we:

- Supported two National Statistical Offices (*INE Uruguay* and *Statistics Botswana*) in acquiring the right skills (through Business Process Mapping and learning agendas)
- Assisted *INE Uruguay* in laying the ground for accessing *MNOs data*, leading to a MoU signed with the telco regulator and an official request to Mobile Network Operators to share the data
- Organized *2 workshops* and *2 tailored learning activities* in Uruguay
- Delivered *3 peer exchanges*, *1 high level webinar* with *UNSD* and *1 High Level Conference* on Effective Public Private Data Sharing for Evidence Based Policy Making (Montevideo, 22-23 November 2022) and published *7 blog posts* and *1 impact story*
- Launched a *CookBook for Effective and Ethical Data Sharing* at scale with key recommendations for multi party data sharing between public and private parties!

Understanding basic cooking

The data sharing food pyramid

The content in this cookbook is organized around five groups of key ingredients for effective data sharing initiatives.

When all stakeholders share in the value and benefits of data sharing, they get the necessary vitamins and minerals (like you'd find in fruits and vegetables) to reduce the risks of initiative-threatening "diseases."

Any healthy diet starts with a foundation of trust among data sharing partners, data users, and other stakeholders.



No diet is balanced without a healthy dose of fats or—in this case—flexibility and adaptability, which facilitate storing energy for when it is most needed.

Dairy helps develop and strengthen human bones. Similarly, knowledge and skills support data sharing functioning and operations.

Just like healthy proteins, data and infrastructure occupy the center of the data sharing plate and must always be accompanied by shared value and benefits.

What are we doing next...

We have identified five areas of work for the next two years (2023-2024)

1. Continue supporting **Statistics Botswana and INE Uruguay** in their journey towards access to data from Mobile Network Operators
2. **Exporting the approach and findings** from Uruguay and Botswana to other interested countries
3. Developing a **capacity building programme for NSOs in EN, ES and FR** - scheduled for May/June/July 2023
4. Supporting INE Uruguay and Statistics Botswana and other interested countries in exploring the possibility **to access other sources of privately held data** (i.e. scanner data, financial data, data from social media platforms...)
5. **Disseminating the knowledge** produced by the project at the global level



What can be learned from others 1/2

The regulatory and policy environment significantly impact NSOs ability to access privately held data!

The European Union has been working on setting up a policy and regulatory framework which favours access to privately held data by NSOs...

Their first efforts date back to 2018 with the establishment of an [Expert Group on Business to Government Data Sharing](#)



What can be learned from others 2/2

Since then, many initiatives were launched in Europe:

- [UNECE position statement on access to data held by the private sector for purposes of official statistics](#) - adopted on 22.06.2022
- [Eurostat Expert group on "Facilitating the use of new data sources for official statistics"](#)
- [Data Act Proposal](#) - imposing mandatory access to privately held data in "*exceptional circumstances*"
- [Study to underpin the revision of Regulation on European Statistics](#) - including provisions on access to privately held data by NSOs
- [Eurostat MultiMNOs project](#) (launched in 2023) - development of a fully open methodological standard for the processing of MNO data for official statistics.

What happens next?

There is a need to develop a LAC specific point of view on access to privately held data by NSOs and to work towards a more supportive policy and regulatory framework!

- We support the adoption of an ECLAC declaration on this topic, providing the overarching vision of the NSOs from the region and suggesting areas where further work at the technical or policy level is needed
- We will continue assisting countries in their journey towards access to privately held data by organizing *capacity building, sharing knowledge* and *providing a platform* for exchanging experiences and engaging in peer learning.



Thank you

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Visit data4sdgs.org for more information.

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