Making Every Life Count:
A Dialogue on Unpacking the Data Revolution at the Country Level

Friday, July 8, 2016
Ford Foundation
320 East 43rd Street, 11th floor, New York

Agenda

9:00am – 9:15 am **Arrival and light breakfast**

9:15am – 9:45am **Welcome and Key Messages of the Post-2015 Data Test**

Minh-Thu Pham, Executive Director for Policy, United Nations Foundation

Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Chair, Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue

Shannon Kindornay, Adjunct Research Professor, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University

9:45am – 11:00am **Who wins and who loses from better, more accessible and more transparent development data?**

- Who should invest in data and how to incentivize these investments?
- What kind of strategies and tools will be needed to support the data revolution in different national and subnational contexts? What is the relative role of international and national players in supporting National Statistical Systems?

Moderator: Jenna Slotin, Director, Sustainable Development Policy, United Nations Foundation

Panelists:

- Mehmet Arda, Centre for Economics and Foreign Policy Studies (EDAM) and Global Relations Forum, Turkey
- Blandina Kilama, Senior Researcher, REPOA—Policy Research for Development, Tanzania

Respondents:

- H.E. Janine Coye-Felson, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Belize to the United Nations
- Serge Kapto, Policy Specialist, Data for Development, UNDP
- Zach Christensen, Senior Analyst, Development Initiatives

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Open Discussion

11:00am – 11:15am **Break for refreshments**

11:15am – 12:30pm **Opportunities for investing in data**

- Getting to zero requires substantial and predictable resourcing and prioritization. Is this adequately reflected in domestic and international development cooperation priorities? Are there examples of good practice?
- Technology is changing the way in which data can be collected and made available. What investments are needed to best take advantage of these gains?
- What are the lowest hanging fruit where early and long-term investments will generate the greatest dividends?

Moderator: Peter Taylor, Associate Director, Think Tank Initiatives, International Development Research Center (invited)

Panelists:

- Samuel Braima, Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics and Commerce, Fourah Bay College, Sierra Leone University
- Juan Léon, Associate Researcher, GRADE, Peru

Respondents:

- Mr. Andreas Pfeil, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations
- Jessica Espey, Associate Director, Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

Open Discussion

12:30pm – 1:00pm **Buffet Lunch**

1:00pm – 2:45pm **Recommendations and implications from "Unpacking the Data Revolution at the Country-Level"**

- What are the common messages coming out of all seven country studies?
- How do these findings translate into practical recommendations that countries, international organizations, and other stakeholders can take to address data gaps, needs and challenges for SDG implementation and monitoring?
- What actions are already underway to strengthen sustainable development data at the country-level?
- What role can partnerships and non-governmental stakeholders (e.g. private sector, academia, civil society, international development partners) play in strengthening data for implementation and monitoring?

Moderator: Minh-Thu Pham, Executive Director for Policy, United Nations Foundation

Panelists:

- Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Chair, Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue
- Maam Suwadu Sakho-Jimbira, Researcher, Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rural (IPAR), Senegal
- Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, Center for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh
- Kate Higgins, Adjunct Research Professor, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University and DataShift, Civicus

Respondent:

- H.E. Mr. Jean-Francis Régis Zinsou, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Benin to the United Nations
- Stefan Schweinfest, Director, UN Statistics Division

Open Discussion

2:45pm – 3:00pm **Summary and reflections**

Jenna Slotin, Director, Sustainable Development Policy, United Nations Foundation