

Conceptual Note
Side event – Data Stewardship
September 26th, 2023 | 13.10-14.25 h (GMT-3) | Santiago de Chile
Modality: hybrid

1. Context:

In recent years, discussions on the term *Data Stewardship* have acquired preponderance in different contexts in Latin American and the Caribbean as a result of the increasing value that statistics and data have acquired and their configuration as public goods. This, in turn, exists within a context where digitization has allowed data generation from a multiplicity of sources other than the National Statistical Offices (hereinafter, NSO) which, parallel to the emergence of new actors, have capabilities in terms of data availability and dissemination. In this regard, official statistics can be complemented and occasionally compete with a variety of alternative data representing challenges as to ethical use, representativeness, privacy, public confidence, among others.

Therefore, within the data ecosystem there is an increasing need of defining new roles ensuring that data generated in certain environments meet the requirements established by international standards for the quality of statistics. Considering the legal frameworks and governance systems in which the NSOs operate, they seem to be the institutions called to assume these new roles as they have authority in the data collection, processing, and dissemination processes; while leveraging their strength in data governance, management, privacy, analytics, and visualization, to take on the role of Data Steward within national data ecosystems.

The role of Data Steward has different interpretations and adaptations that vary depending on the different data communities where the concept is developed. Notwithstanding, Data Stewardship implies a responsibility throughout all the stages that data endure, that is, from its collection to its dissemination and preservation, in order to turn data, their use and their products as an asset, ensuring the adoption of ethical standards and inclusiveness, and to develop a complete governance approach towards them.

Thus, exercising the role of Data Steward represents exerting leadership to ensure the governance, administration, and coordination of the data ecosystem; maintain the exchange and collaboration among data ecosystem actors; build capabilities among these actors to assure the management of high-value datasets and their derived products. In this line, elements arise around data literacy to promote their use and reuse, focusing on the benefits that it represents to make them available, and the impacts data can generate.

Hence, the role of Data Steward includes a wide range of data responsibilities which are constantly changing and reconfiguring in agreement to the emergence of new discussions among the different actors of the system. These data ecosystem dynamics require NSOs flexibility in terms of regulatory frameworks and technology capabilities for adapting to everchanging roles to adopt the role Data Steward. In this way, just as the role of Data Steward raises specific interpretations according to the contexts, the challenges faced by the entities assuming this role vary according to the environments in which they operate, therefore, it is imperative to hold discussions on the concept of Data Stewardship and its national adaptations.

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2. Objective

Based on the different interpretations of the concept Data Stewardship, this event will aim to share the different experiences that countries, international organizations and other actors in the data ecosystem have had in the implementation and adaptation of the Data Steward role.

3. Panelists

- **Marco Lavagna**, Director, National Institute of Statistics and Census (INDEC-Argentina).
- **Dominik Rozkrut**, President, Statistics Poland.
- **Piedad Urdinola Contreras**, General Director, National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE-Colombia).
- **Pam Dixon**, Executive Director, World Privacy Forum.
- **Freddy Rodriguez**, Senior Latin-America & the Caribbean Regional Manager, Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data.
- **Maryam Rabiee**, SDGs Today Director, Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) TReNDS.
- **Shaida Badiie**, Director, Open Data Watch (ODW).
- **Ian Mark Rutherford**, UNSD.
- **Gretchen Deo**, Open Innovation Team, Microsoft.
- **The Data Stewards Network (DSN)**, The GovLab.
- **Rolando Ocampo**, Director Statistical Division, ECLAC

4. Agenda

Timeframe	Activity
15 min	Opening
5 min	Opening of the event: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marco Lavagna, Director, INDEC – CEA Presidency • Piedad Urdinola, Director, DANE
10 min	Topic Introduction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ian Mark Rutherford, UNSD
10 min	Discussions on Data Stewardship in Regional Groups
10 min	UNECE Data Stewardship Working Group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dominik Rozkrut, President, Statistics Poland.
45 min	Discussion – Experiences around Data Stewardship
	Panel 1. Intersectoral perspective at Data Stewardship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pam Dixon, Executive Director, World Privacy Forum. • Freddy Rodriguez, Senior Latin-America & the Caribbean Regional Manager · Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data. • Maryam Rabiee, SDGs Today Director, Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) TReNDS. • Shaida Badiie, Director, Open Data Watch (ODW). • Gretchen Deo, Open Innovation Team, Microsoft. • TBC, The Data Stewards Network (DSN), The GovLab

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Camilo Méndez/Mariano Poledo/Nicolás Petresky <p>Guiding questions:</p> <p>For Pam: <i>From your perspective, what are the tools and regulatory frameworks available to the Data Steward to ensure its commitment to maintaining the balance between data privacy and leveraging?</i></p> <p>For Freddy: <i>How does the Data Stewardship role ensure the representativeness of statistics and data produced by non-state actors?</i></p> <p>For Maryam: <i>From your perspective, how does the Data Stewardship exercise materialize at subnational levels?</i></p> <p>For Shaida: <i>How can compliance with transparency and open data standards strengthen the figure of a Data Steward?</i></p> <p>For Gretchen: <i>From Microsoft's experience, how do you understand Data Stewardship? How can the adoption of the same understanding enable greater collaboration between companies and national statistical offices, or data stewards in each country? What are the biggest barriers to the role of Data Stewards in the private sector?</i></p> <p>For The Data Stewards Network (DSN): <i>What is the role of the academia in establishing links between Data Stewards and data users?</i></p>
5 min	Event Closing
	Closing remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECLAC, Rolando Ocampo, Director Statistical Division, ECLAC