RESPONSIBLE DATA GOVERNANCE FOR DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT

A Reference for International Development Practitioners



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“Data is a precious thing and will last longer than the systems themselves.”

— Tim Berners-Lee, inventor of the World Wide Web



Responsible data governance refers to the application of transparent, rights-respecting, and inclusive data oversight to improve development outcomes and reduce the risk of data misuse.

With the rapid growth of digitalization across all sectors in all parts of the world, responsible data governance is urgent for development practitioners who design and implement digital investments, especially those who manage personal or sensitive data.

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PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

This document highlights key considerations for development practitioners and implementing partners who design and implement data-rich activities in USAID programming. It defines the broad concepts of data governance and responsible data governance, shares common risks associated with under-governed data, discusses the role of responsible data governance in supporting organizational values, provides examples of responsible data in practice, and highlights case studies of USAID activities which include responsible data governance approaches. The document is intended as a resource to support learning and advance knowledge of responsible data governance principles for consideration in international development and humanitarian assistance.

BOX 1

CIO and USAID's Data Governance

USAID staff and implementing partners have additional requirements and considerations for data governance related to contractual and legal regulations, and specifics per country, sector, or activity, as supported by the Agency's Office of the Chief Information Officer (CIO). **Staff seeking more information about policies and procedures guiding USAID's data governance, including contractual and legal requirements governing data owned or funded by USAID**, should reference Data Governance at USAID[1] and contact the Agency Data Services Team dataservices@usaid.gov for additional support.

1 "Data Governance at USAID," USAID, n.d., https://data.usaid.gov/stories/s/Data-Governance/cjcz-4uux.



Photo Credit: ACCESS Development Services

DIGITAL INVESTMENTS RELY ON DATA

With increased data comes a greater need for oversight, to ensure that the digital tools individuals, communities, organizations, and countries depend on are more secure, reliable, transparent, rights-respecting, and trusted.

USAID supports the use of existing and emerging technology to transform industries, governments, and societies to improve development outcomes.[2] More and more, these technologies rely on the conversion of data from analog to digital formats, digital data collection, and data sharing between digital tools. Data—particularly personal data—is also increasing in value. Currently projected to be worth $15 billion by 2030, data monetization is one of the world's fastest-growing industries.[3] The demand for data is so high, scientists estimate that humans have generated more bytes of data than the earth has grains of sand.[4]

The rapid development and adoption of both digitization and digitalization enable new benefits, values, and risks, to expand exponentially. While vast amounts of high-speed data have given rise and promise to increasingly sophisticated digital tools, the uninformed deployment of digital identification, digital government, and artificial intelligence can have implications for the protection of people's rights.

Such technologies and market forces demand that the international development community develop new and strengthened protocols to support data collection, consent, privacy, and use—and raise the question: to whom should these systems be accountable?

2 "USAID Digital Strategy," USAID, n.d.,https://www.usaid.gov/digital-development/digital-strategy.
3 Ofulue, J., Benyoucef, M. Data monetization: insights from a technology-enabled literature review and research agenda. Manag Rev Q 74, 521–565 (2024). https://doi.org/10.1007/s11301-022-00309-1
4 Kalev Koppel, "We have more bytes in the world than sand grains. What are we doing about it?" Cybernetica, November 2, 2022,https://cyber.ee/resources/stories/more-bytes-than-sand-grains/.

WHAT IS DATA GOVERNANCE?

Data governance refers to the people, policies, and processes that provide both direction and oversight into how and why decisions about data are made. These decisions are executed through day-to-day management of the data lifecycle—steps and stages that include planning, acquiring, processing, analyzing, curating, publishing, and sharing data. Unlike data management, data governance also considers the strategic, legal and regulatory frameworks needed to minimize risks, promote accountability and optimize data assets within and across data ecosystems. In the context of digital development, data governance can deploy data to unlock social and economic opportunities while mitigating risk and harm.

To understand how investments in data governance are made, it can be useful to think about **who** makes the decisions (their roles, authorities, and accountabilities); **what** needs to be achieved (such as increasing data availability, integrity, interoperability, confidentiality, accessibility, compliance, etc); and **how** data governance protocols are executed, maintained, and enforced (through frameworks, policies, training, guidance, procedures, and standards).

Data governance tasks include a stocktaking of governance bodies (who is making decisions about what type of data); domain stewards, taxonomies, and master data management; interoperability and data sharing guidance; quality standards for key indicators or data points; and the definition of roles and permissions for access to and use of different types of data. It also includes oversight and accountability standards for data performance, such as meeting transparency, cybersecurity, and privacy requirements. Data governance decisions are often found in guidance for monitoring and evaluation as well as built into software design. For additional literature and resources on the applications and use of data governance, please see this Data Governance Literature Inventory compiled by USAID.



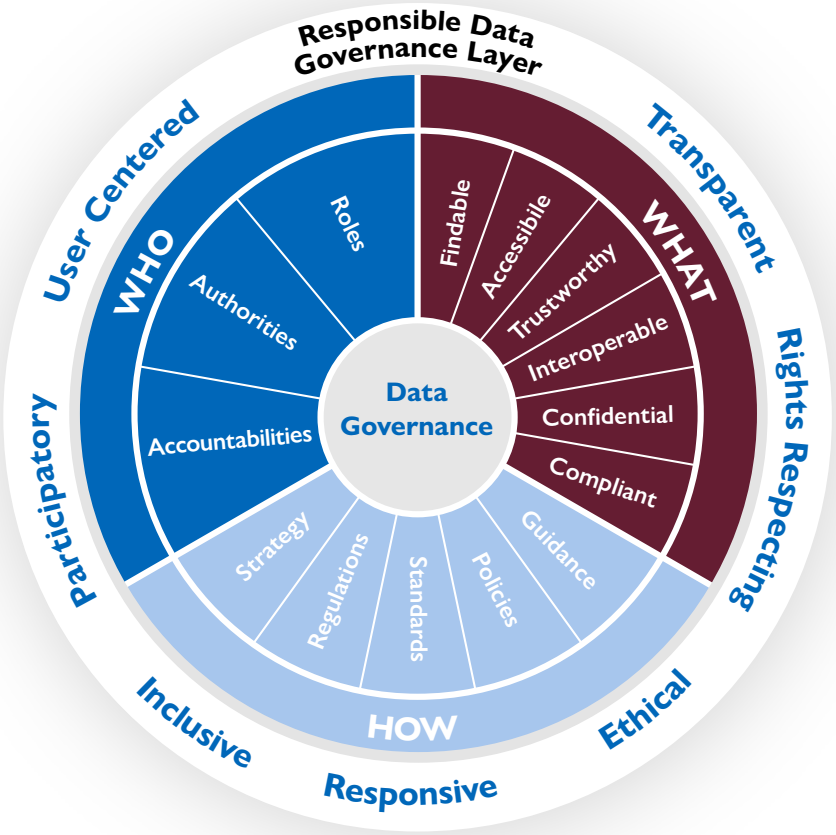
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DATA GOVERNANCE VS *RESPONSIBLE* DATA GOVERNANCE

As mentioned above, data governance refers to the oversight and decision-making necessary to maximize data assets and minimize risks for an organization or entity. By itself, data governance is more efficient than it is ethical. A responsible approach to data governance addresses the underlying values driving data governance decisions—such as an individual's right to privacy—as well as broader commitments to inclusion, participation, and transparency.

Responsible data governance can be a powerful way to integrate USAID's core values, such as respect for human rights and the prioritization of people and communities, in shaping digital development activities. For example, a responsible data governance structure establishes community organization representatives as leaders of data governance design and oversight bodies; or creates and supports non-traditional forms of data ownership (with its associated legal rights) such as through a data collaborative.

Figure 1. Responsible Data Governance for Digital Development



The diagram above (Figure 1) outlines the core WHO, WHAT, and HOW of traditional data governance components (in the center) as well as values-based considerations (in the outer loop) for digital solutions in development and humanitarian programming.

DATA GOVERNANCE RISKS, REWARDS AND RESPONSIBLE DATA GOVERNANCE

Wherever there is a data activity, data governance already occurs, even when it is not explicitly called data governance. Unfortunately, a data governance approach that is merely implied, is not effective. Decisions about the treatment of data can be made by data collectors, stewards, analysts and software engineers who are siloed from comprehensive transparency or considerations around potential harms. Decisions about data can exacerbate economic and political imbalances between a country and its citizens, especially in countries that have underdeveloped digital infrastructure, weak or inadequate regulations, and fragile democracy and governance institutions. Without the proper precautionary measures (also referred to as safeguards), data can be used intentionally or unintentionally, to deepen inequality, suppress marginalized groups, and create political and economic instability.

A data governance approach that is widely adopted and understood can support development and humanitarian initiatives, as well as USAID's commitment to open, secure, inclusive and rights-respecting digital ecosystems. Responsible data governance makes it easier for individuals and communities to leverage digital technology and data-driven development while maintaining privacy, security, and human rights.

BOX 2

Benefits and Risks of Data Governance

RISKS OF UNDER-GOVERNED DATA	BENEFITS OF DATA GOVERNANCE	BENEFITS OF RESPONSIBLE DATA GOVERNANCE
Chaotic data systems: When digital investments do not incorporate explicit data governance approaches, common outcomes include non-interoperable data sets and systems, duplication, and contradiction between data sets, poor data quality, loss of historical data, poor reuse, and insufficient data privacy and security.	**Data-informed decision-making**: Allowing policymakers and organizations to identify and address social, economic, and environmental challenges more accurately and efficiently, to protect and serve broader interests, and to acknowledge which interests are or are not being served.	**Inclusivity and participation**: Promoting equitable access—as defined in different contexts—to resources and opportunities. Responsible data governance frameworks explicitly require participation by diverse stakeholders, outlining their decision-making authority and capturing feedback, and include sharing the financial value of data.
Unintentional and intentional misuse: Can occur in the absence of explicit data governance principles and processes, increasing room for misinterpretation, inconsistency, distrust in the data, and false confidence. Misuse can occur in the absence of legal and procedural accountabilities to prevent harm.	**Collaboration and knowledge sharing**,: Fostering partnerships, and facilitating the exchange of best practices, lessons learned, and innovative approaches across different data actors.	**Human rights and autonomy**: Prioritizing the use of data to promote human rights and human autonomy, particularly for those who are traditionally vulnerable or underserved.
Unintended ethical or humanitarian consequences: Can occur when decisions are made by those who do not have an understanding of the broader vision for the data, with sufficient skills in data protection and legal compliance, or risk mitigation.	**Data standardization and interoperability**: Enabling streamlined data integration, sharing, and comparison, which can lead to improved coordination, reduced costs, and more comprehensive insights.	**Accountability and transparency**: Enhancing accountability and transparency in international development efforts by establishing clear roles, responsibilities, and processes for data management, ensuring the integrity and reliability of data used for program evaluation and reporting.
	Legal compliance: Required to meet transparency, accountability, and data protection requirements, as well as to anticipate and implement effective cybersecurity responses.	**Privacy and human rights considerations**: Addressing privacy and human rights, by protecting individuals' data rights (both those articulated by data protection legislation and those outlined in human rights) and ensuring responsible data practices in the collection, storage, and use of data in international development initiatives, particularly when the digital investment will impact persons needing additional protections, such as children.
	Resilience: Supporting improved adaptation, contextual awareness, sustainability, and resilience of data systems as well as prioritizing the use of data for these outcomes.	

RESPONSIBLE DATA GOVERNANCE IN PRACTICE

Responsible data governance can be used in both micro and macro ecosystems to implement a specific data analysis task, to operationalize a country's national data strategy, or to achieve alignment with international standards for sharing data. Responsible data governance is also applicable for differently sized organizations, groups, or by individuals seeking to regulate their data preferences. Responsible data governance approaches are ideal when they are established early, revisited often, and can interact across dependent and independent domains of implementation. Although each domain has its own considerations, constituencies, and incentives, considering responsible data governance not just within but across ecosystems promotes sustainability and resilience in varying contexts and with diverse stakeholders involved in the management of data assets.

BOX 3

Responsible Data Governance and Cybersecurity

Data governance is inextricable from another key component of effective digital development: cybersecurity. Responsible data governance policy is essential for strong cybersecurity protections and vice versa.

In order to protect critical data, cybersecurity policies and practitioners must take into account:

- how and why an organization collects data;
- what data an organization stores;
- where and how it is stored; and
- who has access to this data.

Each of these cybersecurity questions should be outlined and governed by a strong data governance policy. Likewise, data governance policies should be informed by and frequently updated with cybersecurity best practices and emerging issues. Responsible data governance must include:

- an understanding of the inherent cybersecurity risks within an ecosystem;
- why cyber threat actors might target an organization;
- how well an organization is protected from these potential cyber threats;
- how a data breach or other cyber attack could negatively affect marginalized populations and program implementation; and
- how to respond and initiate recovery when an attack occurs.

To learn more about how to build cybersecurity into USAID programming, see the Cybersecurity Primer[5] and Cybersecurity Technical Briefs.[6]

5 "Cybersecurity Primer," USAID, n.d., https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/2022-05/10-26-21_EXTERNAL_CyberPrimer-CLEARED-accessible.pdf.

6 "Cybersecurity Briefers," USAID, October 17, 2023, https://www.usaid.gov/digital-development/cybersecurity/briefers.

Figure 2. Six Domains of Data Governance



- **Individual:** Individuals (data subjects) are being asked to share more highly sensitive information via digital means, such as social media, location tracking on mobile devices, and electronic health records. This often occurs without their knowledge or consent. Responsible data governance supports individuals by codifying their rights to data consent, privacy, and erasure. For more information on understanding risks and responsibilities associated with the collection of personal data, see Considerations for Using Data Responsibly at USAID.[7]

  Responsible data governance considerations: *How are individuals empowered to advance their data rights, profiles, and interests?*

- **Community:** Communities with shared identities (including underrepresented populations and marginalized groups) have a vital interest in understanding how their data is treated and communicating their needs.

  Responsible data governance considerations: *How do participatory approaches, such as data collaboratives, collective consent, commons, trusts, marketplaces, and youth or cooperatives, enable underrepresented groups to advocate for their rights?*

- **Sectoral:** Data governance frameworks borne out of industry-specific challenges and requirements tend to be highly developed and often offer insights applicable to other domains. For an exploration of data governance's role in agriculture, please see Farmer-Centric Data Governance.[8]

  Responsible data governance considerations: *What sector specific responsible data governance approaches can be applied in other domains?*

- **Organizational:** Organizations are challenged to effectively implement data governance across equities and within complex internal structures, processes, and data management systems. USAID staff and their implementing partners for example, are required to meet agency mandates for data governance. For more information on USAID's Data Governance requirements, please visit Data Governance at USAID.[9]

  Responsible data governance considerations: *How does data governance balance the needs of an organization's various constituencies alongside the needs of the enterprise as a whole?*

7 "Considerations for Using Data Responsibly at USAID," USAID, May 1, 2022, https://www.usaid.gov/responsibledata
8 "Farmer-Centric Data Governance: Towards A New Paradigm," Development Gateway, 2023, https://developmentgateway.org/publication_landing/farmer-centric-data-governance-towards-a-new-paradigm/
9 "Data Governance at USAID," USAID, n.d., https://data.usaid.gov/stories/s/Data-Governance/cjcz-4uux

- **National:** Data governance frameworks are often needed at the national level to ensure consistent and cohesive data oversight, in support of both compliance with existing laws and evolving development objectives. USAID encourages a foundational understanding of local contexts to support digital development through Digital Ecosystem Country Assessments,[10] which include inquiry related to a country's data governance approach.

  Responsible data governance considerations: *How do countries collect and leverage data to reach their development outcomes? Which legislative frameworks for data governance are best suited to the country context?*

- **Transnational:** Data governance frameworks can be used to address cross-border data privacy rules, data free flows with trust, data ownership, and trade. The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) has mapped 10 international data governance frameworks[11] for comparison between their use of key definitions, conferment of individual rights, obligations for data processing and controllers, and principles guiding data consent. For an example of transnational data governance commitments, please see the G20 2022 Digital Ecosystem Working Group Statement.[12] For guidance on how development stakeholders can make data governance decisions in alignment with democratic values and human rights, see the Donor Principles for Human Rights in the Digital Age,[13] which USAID and Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) launched in 2023 with the endorsement of 38 governments.

  Responsible data governance considerations: *What can regional or global actors do to have a role in the increasing globalization and monetization of data?*

These six domains are equally important and data may not flow across them linearly. They are considerably diverse, requiring data governance considerations and agreements across domains, for data collection and interoperability.

The four case studies detailed below illustrate examples of national, sectoral and community-driven data governance in practice.

10 "Digital Ecosystem Country Assessments," USAID, n.d., https://www.usaid.gov/digital-strategy/implementation-tracks/track1-adopt-ecosystem/digital-ecosystem-country-assessments

11 "Data Governance," CSIS, n.d., https://datagovernance.csis.org/

12 "Digital Economy Ministers' Meeting 2022," G20 Indonesia, 2022, https://g7g20-documents.org/fileadmin/G7G20_documents/2022/G20/Indonesia/Sherpa-Track/Digital%20Economy%20Ministers/1%20Ministers%27%20Language/G20%20Digital%20Economy%20Ministers%27%20Meeting%202022%20-%20Chair%27s%20Summary_21092022.pdf

13 "Donor Principles for Human Rights in the Digital Age," Freedom Online Coalition, October 2023, https://freedomonlinecoalition.com/donor-principles-for-human-rights-in-the-digital-age/

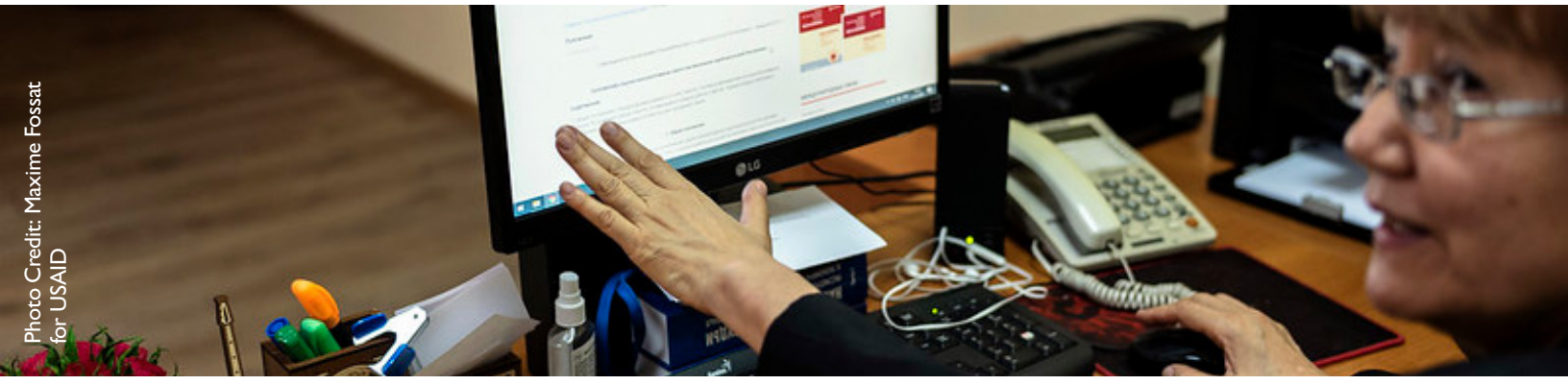


Photo Credit: Maxime Fossat for USAID

NATIONAL DATA GOVERNANCE IN PRACTICE

BOX 4

Digital Government: Transparency and Accountability in Public Administration and Services (TAPAS)

First launched in 2016, USAID and UKAid invested $53.7 million in the Transparency and Accountability in Public Administration and Services (TAPAS) activity, which was designed to support Ukrainian citizens and the Government of Ukraine in reducing or eliminating corruption in key public administration functions and services by three means: 1) supporting Ukraine's public eProcurement ecosystem; 2) promoting the use of open data; and 3) developing and increasing the use of eServices.

To address public procurement reform, TAPAS piloted the Prozorro e-procurement platform along with training for procurement professionals. For the other two program goals, TAPAS partnered with the State Agency for e-Governance (SAEG), the forerunner of the Ministry of Digital Transformation, to reshape how the government of Ukraine publishes data and develops and deploys eServices.

Prior to implementation, TAPAS assessed state registries which found costly duplication, poor data quality, conflicting information, as well as lack of interoperability of systems and data. **TAPAS developed a strategic roadmap and provided technical support on how base registries operate and interact, including supporting the integration of 24 public registries**. The roadmap included which ministry or office "owned" each base registry, which data could be shared with whom, and how to create new data registries. TAPAS and the International Development Law Organization developed legislative language on public electronic registries. Ukraine also received support from the Government of Estonia through the e-Governance Academy for the implementation of Trembita, a data exchange system.

Today, Trembita ensures the secure exchange of data between all state electronic registries. The base registries act as trusted and authoritative sources of information about citizens and the interoperability layer holds the business logic for access and connections to the data underpinning Ukraine's public-facing eServices. TAPAS also worked with SAEG to create Ukraine's e-citizen cabinet, an online portal for government services that preceded the Diia mobile app and web portal. Today, Diia provides more than 120 digital services to Ukrainian citizens.

Foundational investments in data governance saved the Government of Ukraine significant funds, reduced bureaucratic burdens, and has improved resilience against Russian aggression. The country's decentralization strategy was improved through local access and usage of data for regional planning and service provision. Ukraine is now positioned to provide additional sustainable and secure public-facing eServices as well as to give the private sector new business opportunities by leveraging open and interoperable government data. The country was able to build strong privacy and security safeguards for the public through legal regulations on data privacy, privacy-by-design elements of technology itself, and sharing of international expertise.

SECTORAL DATA GOVERNANCE IN PRACTICE

BOX 5

Data-Informed Decision-Making: Strengthening Data Ecosystems in India's Public Schools

In the last two decades, India has made significant progress in its goal of providing a basic education for all, resulting in one of the largest school systems in the world today. However, challenges remain. Seventy percent of the country's schools are government-run and India had the world's longest shutdown of schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During this period, the government reports that up to 30 million users a day were active on the DIKSHA online learning platform. An initial study by Azim Premji University[14] found that by 2021, 92 percent of children on average had lost at least one language ability.

To help close and prevent learning gaps, most states had to fast-forward their adoption of technology to provide remote learning at scale. The use of Edtech has had a sharp uptick in recent years. **Teachers are expected to integrate new technologies into their routine** but the government does not have a capacity-building program for these teachers. Data can be used for punitive purposes, to blame or shame staff, and there is often an inability to corroborate manually collected data (such as attendance records) with EdTech, further complicating data-informed decision-making.

Through the Strengthening Data Ecosystems (SDE) initiative,[15] Aapti Institute and the Mozilla Foundation, with support from USAID, funded five working groups to explore interventions that support data governance, data literacy, data ownership, interoperability, and use in India's public schools. The working groups aimed to strengthen two pillars of need: 1) creating knowledge products and interactive forums that enable decision-makers (school administrators, government officials, teachers) to obtain fluency in data governance and data practices that serve their students; and 2) creating transparency around which data is being collected, how it is being used, and how to report misuse so that those affected by data-driven decisions (students, parents, teachers, and student advocacy groups) can make informed choices.

14 " Loss of Learning During the Pandemic," Azim Premji University, February 2021, https://azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/publications/2021/report/learning-loss-during-pandemic.

15 "USAID, Mozilla, Aapti Institute announce Working Groups to Strengthen Data Ecosystems in Indian Schools," Aapti Institute, September 14, 2023, https://aapti.in/blog/usaid-mozilla-aapti-institute-announce-working-groups-to-strengthen-data-ecosystems-in-indian-schools/.

COMMUNITY-DRIVEN DATA GOVERNANCE IN PRACTICE

BOX 6

Protecting Children and Youth from Digital Harm: Children's Data Governance

Digital tools play an increasingly important role in children's lives—by facilitating birth registration, providing rapid family-tracing, supporting case-management, and by using better, faster analysis of data to inform the effectiveness of these services. They can also play a role in the development and integration of children into larger social and cultural norms by providing a space to share, explore, and test new ideas. Many children are learning how to use a digital device before they even learn to walk. However, we also know that increased digital access means increased risk.

USAID define Digital Harm[16] to children and youth as "any activity or behavior that takes place in the digital ecosystem and causes pain, trauma, damage, exploitation, or abuse directly or indirectly in either the digital or physical world, whether financial, physical, emotional, psychological, or sexual." For the estimated one in three internet users who are children, these include risks that have migrated onto or off of digital platforms to enable bullying, harassment, technology-facilitated gender-based violence, hate speech, sexual abuse and exploitation, recruitment into trafficking, and radicalization to violence.

Digital platforms also generate and share copious amounts of data, giving rise to other risks. Children are prone to uniform consent for data collection. Social media likes, views, and shares are based on highly interactive levels of data use, affecting children's emotional and mental health. Algorithms can be leveraged to profile and manipulate the behavior of children, narrowing exposure to new ideas, limiting perspective, and stunting critical thinking skills. Data leaks and privacy breaches such as doxing, a form of cyberbullying using sensitive information to cause harm, can be orchestrated to cause intentional damage.

USAID and its Protecting Children and Youth from Digital Harm (PCYDH) Digital Youth Council are working to counteract these challenges by encouraging greater awareness of the risks to children's data and ensuring accountability for bad actors, as well as exploring alternative data governance mechanisms, such as data intermediaries, who are entrusted with processing requests for data access and enforcing responsible data use on behalf of vulnerable communities.

16 "Advancing Protection and Care for Children in Adversity," USAID, n.d., https://www.childreninadversity.gov/.

BOX 7

Empowering YouthMappers with Digital Mapping and Leadership Skills: Participatory data governance

The YouthMappers program is a pioneering example of USAID's commitment to addressing digital divides through inclusive engagement and co-creation of geospatial data[17] with local stakeholders. YouthMappers is a network of thousands of students in more than 400 universities across 77 countries. Together, the students have contributed more than 23 million data points and edits to the OpenStreetMap (OSM) platform, a digital public good with more than eight million registered users.

YouthMappers trains university students with geospatial data and leadership skills to positively impact their communities. Grounded in the YouthMappers code of ethics, which ensure YouthMappers use digital mapping technologies securely and responsibly, students learn the key steps in geospatial data management. This work involves YouthMappers learning and applying best practices around data governance tasks. **Whether it is handling personal identifiable information with community members at participatory mapping events or providing appropriate public metadata to their remote mapping edits, YouthMappers take local norms and customs as well as international standards into account**.

OSM being a free and open digital public good means that OSM's governance structures follows an open model allowing for continual refinement. Given the global nature of OSM, data governance norms can vary between countries. This presents challenges in working with people and groups with little knowledge of YouthMappers but also provides opportunities to benefit from the work of others. The YouthMappers network continually works to update and prepare its members for these changes and opportunities.

YouthMappers follows the OSM Foundation's Organized Editing Guidelines. This encourages YouthMappers chapters conducting mapping events to post about their projects on the OSM Wiki, communicate the projects with local OSM communities, train mappers, and provide quality control to the map edits. YouthMappers has also created a Validation Hub to provide quality assurance and feedback on edits that university chapters make.

Because OSM is a digital public good, YouthMappers benefit from data guides and governance practices created by the others in the larger OSM community. For example, an OSM guide on categorizing roads in East Africa can be easily accessed and re-used by YouthMappers who are also mapping roads in countries of the same region.

17 "USAID Geospatial Strategy," USAID, n.d., https://www.usaid.gov/geospatial-strategy.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information or for technical support of your data governance objectives, please reach out to USAID's Digital Societies and Governments Team: digitalsocieties@usaid.gov.

USAID staff seeking more information about policies and procedures guiding USAID's data governance,[18] including contractual and legal requirements, should refer to the ADS 579 and contact the Agency Data Services Team dataservices@usaid.gov for additional support.

18 "Data Governance at USAID," USAID, n.d., https://data.usaid.gov/stories/s/Data-Governance/cjcz-4uux.

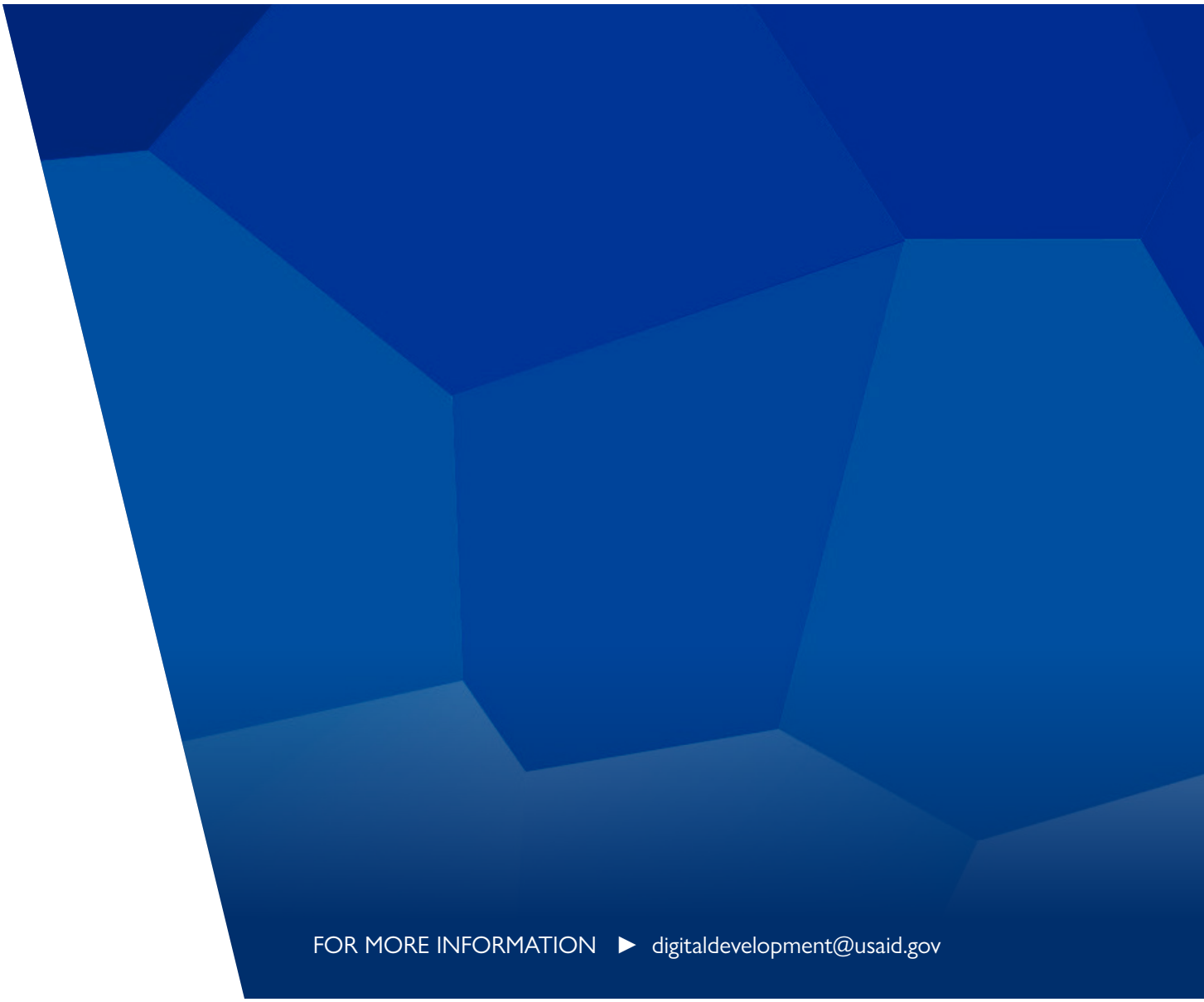


Photo Credit: Ramundo Media for DAI

GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
Data assets	Any data, document, or other information-based resource that is owned, managed, or maintained by an organization and enables that organization to make data-driven decisions and gain valuable insights.
Data broker	A company or individual that collects information from various sources and licenses it for particular or limited use.
Data erasure	A process that permanently deletes files from a system.
Data governance	The people, policies, and processes that provide direction, goals, and oversight into how data decisions are made.
Data integrity	A reflection of the level of accuracy, completeness, consistency, and validity of an organization's data.
Data interoperability	Activities related to making data points exchangeable; allows datasets to be combined or layered for analysis within and among institutions.
Data lifecycle	The key stages and steps in data management processes. In USAID's Data Lifecycle, these stages are Govern, Plan, Acquire, Process, Analyze, Curate, and Publish/Share.
Data management	The execution of day-to-day management tasks within an organization, as outlined in the Data Lifecycle. Sometimes referred to as data processing.
Data privacy	The right of an individual or group to maintain control over, and the confidentiality of, information about themselves, especially when an intrusion results from undue or illegal gathering and use of data about that individual or group.
Data protection	The practice of ensuring the protection of data from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction to provide confidentiality, integrity, and availability.
Digital development	Development programming focused on building and expanding secure, open, inclusive and rights-respecting country-level digital ecosystems and the programmatic use of digital technology in development and humanitarian assistance.[19]
Digital transformation	Digital transformation is the process of adoption and implementation of digital technology by an organization in order to create new or to modify existing products, services, and operations by the means of translating business processes into a digital format.
Digitization	The process of changing an analog process into a digital process without any changes to the process itself.
Digitalization	The adaptation of a system or process to be operated with the use of computers and the internet. A primary objective of digitalisation is making data more structured, more organized, and more easily leveraged.
Domain Steward	Helps define, implement, and enforce data management policies and procedures, for instance, by maintaining reference data and attributes.

19 "USAID Digital Strategy 2020-2024," USAID, 2020, Digital Strategy | Policy | U.S. Agency for International Development (usaid.gov)



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