



Data4Policy

Data for evidence-based and value-driven policy-making

CONTEXT

Whether through social media use, job seeking on employment platforms or mobile navigation, there has been rapid growth in both the volume and quality of data collection worldwide in recent years. This has made it possible to make increasingly better predictions about human behaviour, social, economic and environmental developments, and future trends. This information can be used to improve government services, strengthen human rights, protect the environment and secure the livelihoods of future generations. However, policy-makers often do not have these data at their disposal or lack the skills required to use complex data in a meaningful way.

OBJECTIVES

Data4Policy, a policy initiative of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), addresses this challenge. It seeks to develop the following solutions in collaboration with partners from the public sector, civil society and the private sector:

- **develop scalable application scenarios that show how data gaps can be filled and data can be used in policy-making;**
- **identify deficiencies in data literacy among political leaders and develop training opportunities;**
- **establish a network of political, civil society and private sector actors to share new insights and experiences.**

The Data4Policy policy initiative continuously monitors the risks and limitations involved in handling data, especially at the political decision-making level. Risks include the failure to observe data protection standards and discriminatory use of data. Limitations are found, for example, in the fact that data are often distorted, not objective and difficult to interpret out of context.

Democratic values and human rights – both offline and online – are guiding principles for implementation of the project and cooperation with partners.

IMPLEMENTATION

Project objectives are pursued in a collaborative and open-ended way. Hence, the process involves partners with various interests across different departments. It is also considered acceptable for any solutions developed to fail, so long as valuable insights are secured and lessons learned.

Key global and regional implementation partners have already been recruited in the first phase of the project. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Open Data Institute (ODI), and the Data4Now initiative of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) each promote the project objectives using different approaches.

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is responsible for project management and implementation. It promotes direct bilateral partnerships and exchange with partner organisations.

Published by Federal Ministry for Economic
Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Division 113:

As at 05/2022

Contact RL113@bmz.bund.de
www.bmz.de

Address of
BMZ offices

BMZ Berlin
Stresemannstraße 94
10963 Berlin, Germany
T +49 (0)30 18 535-0

BMZ Bonn
Dahlmannstraße 4
53113 Bonn, Germany
T +49 (0)228 99 535-0