First UN World Data Forum: Lessons learnt and update on follow-up activities

United Nations Statistics Division

A few lessons learnt

- More sessions should have clear desired outcomes and deliverables

- More detailed guidance to the PC members on structure and timing of the thematic areas/sessions

  - More diverse representation of speakers (e.g., draw from multiple stakeholder groups, better regional and gender balance)

  - Ensure that all thematic areas include the different session formats (data labs, knowledge sharing, etc.) and do not use all spaces as simple panels

  - Develop descriptions of room layouts (e.g., beehives)

  - Require to have one unique breakout such as beehive under each thematic area
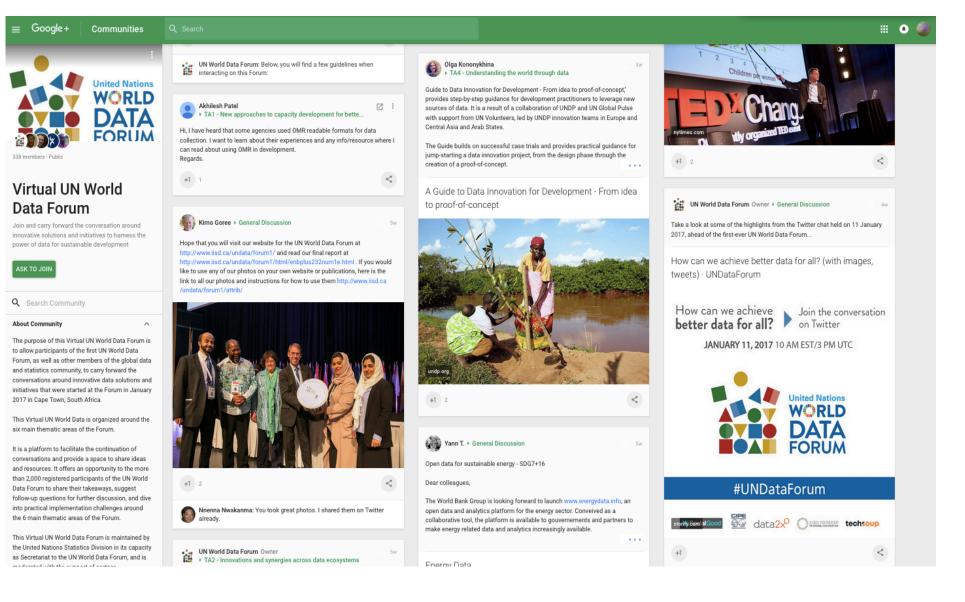
A few lessons learnt (cont.ed)

- Important role of PC co-chairs and secretariat to ensure overall balance, adequate representation of all stakeholders, adequate regional representation, gender balance in each sessions, etc.

- Engage more policy makers – stronger link between the data and policy worlds

- Clarify oversight role of the HLG on the work of the PC, including regular updates from Secretariat and PC to the HLG

- Better coordination of communication strategy between secretariat, host country and partner organizations (commonly agreed key messages from day 1)

A few lessons learnt (cont.ed)

- Planning and organizing time should not be less than a year
- Budget should be clearly defined from the beginning to address the multiple requests from unfunded speakers
- Communication specialists were very effective/needed
- Additional staff needed at Secretariat side – event planner only needed from the side of the host country

Virtual Forum

Work streams from the first forum

- New **partnerships**
- Consensus on **data principles** and other policy issues (**open data, work on FPOS**)
- Launch concrete solutions for innovative ways to use the **new sources (data interoperability)**
- Not a one-time event, but the beginning of a new process involving **actors in all data communities (create workstreams)**
- Launch of the **Global Action Plan (implementation)**

48th Session of the UN Statistical Commission

- Exhibit on the 1st UN World Data Forum
- Side event Wednesday night hosted by the Permanent Mission of the UAE
  - Highlights from 1st Forum
  - Presentation on the 2nd Forum
  - Introduction by Stefan Schweinfest
  - Speakers: Ola Awad (HLG), Hernán Muñoz (PC), DG of FCSA UAE