DATA FOR NOW

Accelerating implementation of Data For Now

United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs Statistics

THE WORLD BANK
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Development Economics • Data

Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS NETWORK

The Data for Now initiative

- Strengthens countries' capacity in the **use of innovative data sources, technologies, methods and partnerships** for better, more timely and disaggregated data for sustainable development

- Co-led by United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), World Bank, Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD), Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN Trends) and UNDP

- Technical assistance support from e.g. UN-Habitat, Statistics Norway, FAO, Digital Earth Africa….

- Initiated in 2019

Innovative Approaches

Partnerships

- CSOs
- Academia
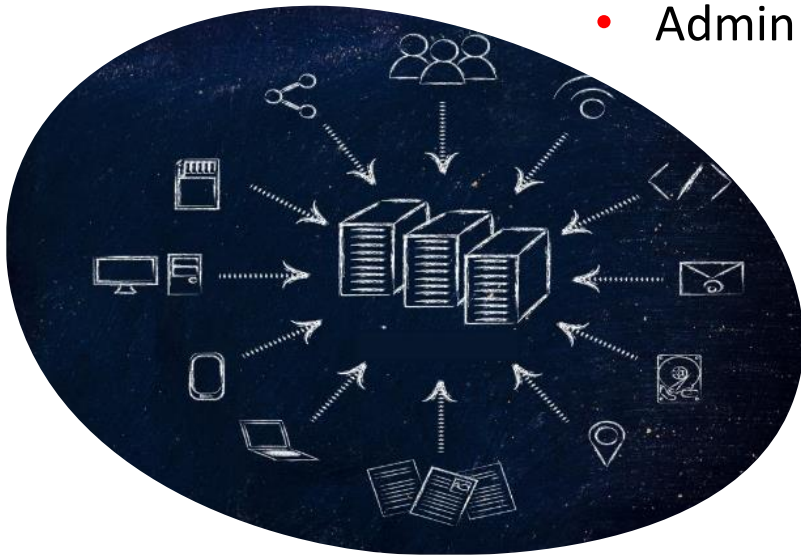- Private sector...

Data Sources

- Social media data
- Satellite imagery
- Telecom data
- Citizen generated data
- Admin data....

Methods

- Probabilistic Record Linkage
- Small Area Estimation
- De-Identification, PET
- Web Scrapping
- Natural Language Processing
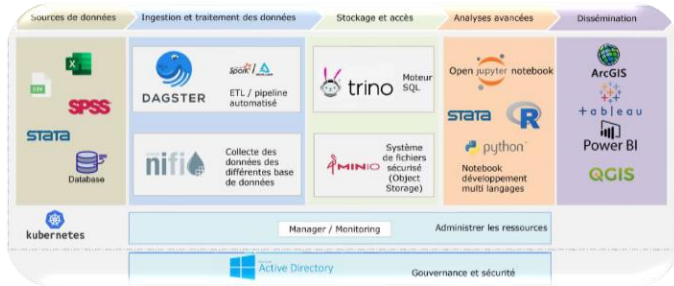- Machine Learning....

Tools

- Data Collection: Pentaho, R, Python, Batch/Stream Processing...
- Preparation: ata warehouse, data-lake, Apache Parquet, R, Python...
- Analysis: Google Earth, QGIS, ArcGIS, R & Python libraries (NumPy, Pandas, BeautifulSoup...)...
- Presentation: Dashboards, DataMarts, DataAPI, ...
- Dataflow Automation....

Few examples

- Use of geospatial information for education-related indicators on home-to-school distance and drop-out (Colombia)
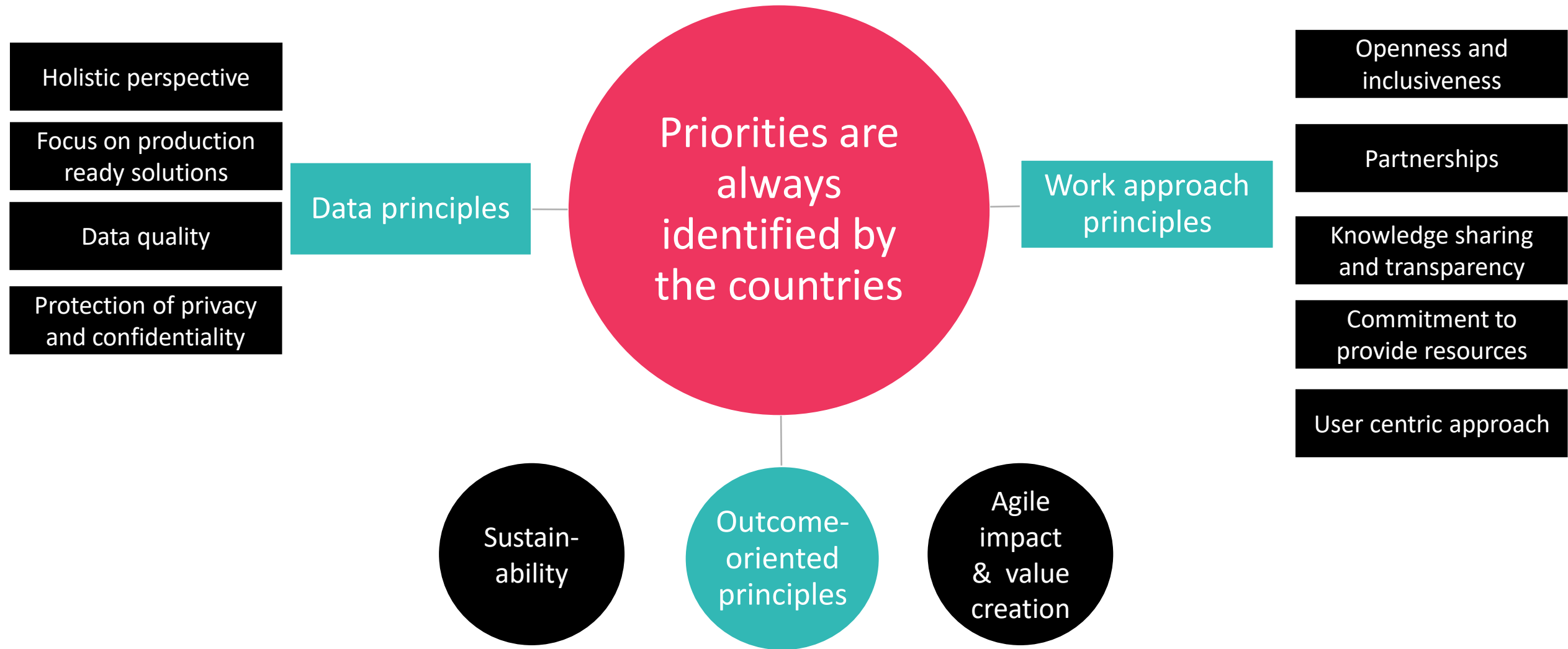
- Modernization of IT architecture to move away for manual dataflows and support innovative approaches (Senegal)

- Use of satellite imagery, OpenStreetMap and statistics to produce SDG 11.7.1 on access to open public spaces (Palestine)
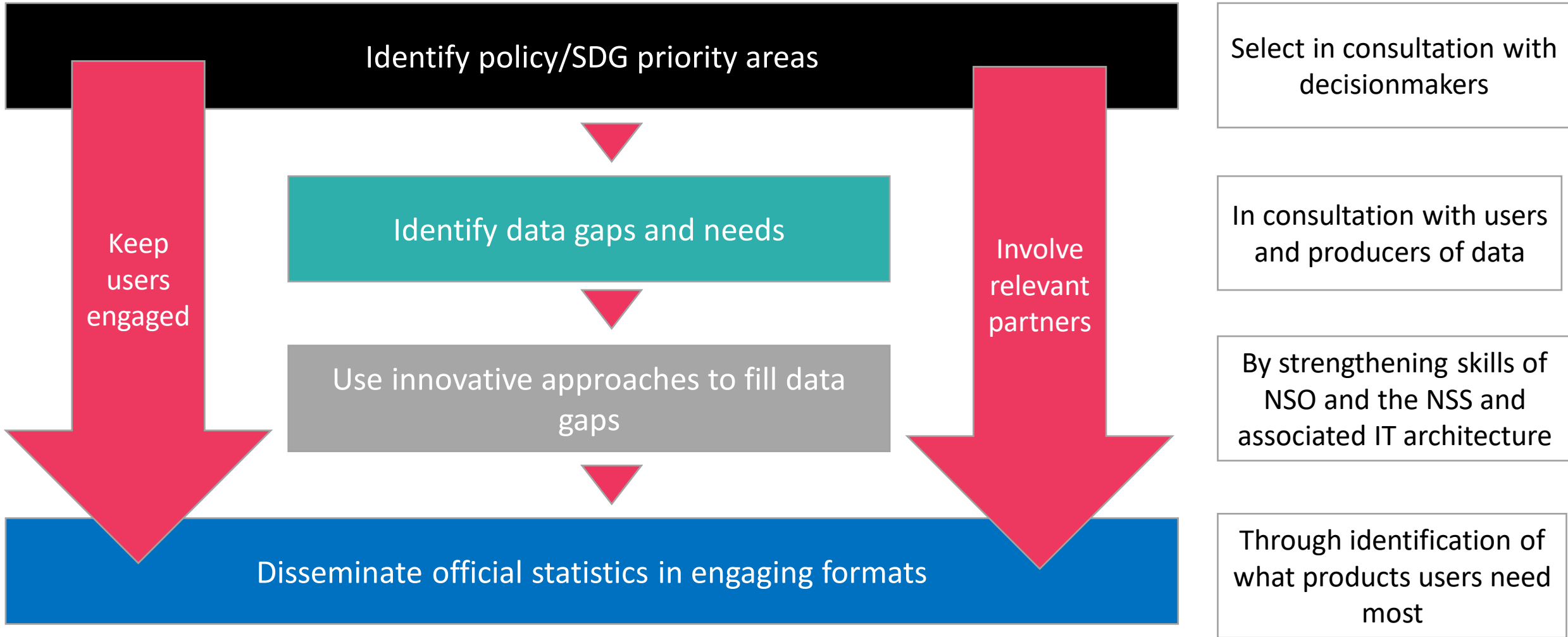
- Use of small area estimation and satellite imagery to produce local level estimates on poverty (Bangladesh)

- Use of social media and machine learning to assess discrimination to support SDG 16 perception indicators (Colombia)

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Implementation process

Identify policy/SDG priority areas

Identify data gaps and needs

Use innovative approaches to fill data gaps

Disseminate official statistics in engaging formats

Keep users engaged

Involve relevant partners

Select in consultation with decisionmakers

In consultation with users and producers of data

By strengthening skills of NSO and the NSS and associated IT architecture

Through identification of what products users need most

D4N project - managed by UNSD

Countries

- Funded by Italian and Norwegian Governments
  - Morocco: SDG 11 (satellite imagery), CPI (web scraping)
  - Palestine: SDG 11 (satellite imagery), citizen generated data (probably for SDG 11)
  - Jordan: SDG 2, 9, 11, 15 (satellite imagery) – to be confirmed
  - Tunisia: Internal migration patterns using mobile network data; CPI (web scraping and scanner data)
  - Kyrgyzstan: Integration of geospatial and statistics information / citizen generated data
  - Vietnam: Poverty in children; agriculture (small area estimation / geospatial information)
  - Bangladesh: SDG 11 and 9 (satellite imagery / national coordination re. geospatial and stat integration)
  - Sierra Leone: Marine litter data (citizen science), SDG 15, 16 (admin data)
  - Kenya: User engagement
  - Ethiopia: Poverty; agriculture (small area estimation / satellite imagery)