

Session Guidance Note

Session 4

Strengthening Data Governance for Better Data-Driven Policy Making

Day 2

10:50-13:00 5 June 2019

1. Background & Objective

Government innovation and digital government are in most cases driven by data. As a result, the volume of data generated, collected and analyzed has grown exponentially, enabling government to make better informed and evidence-based policy-making. Many countries including LDCs, SIDS, and LLDCs have been experimenting with using open and big data and data analytics to better understand the needs and demands of their citizens and improve the responsiveness, efficiency and effectiveness in public service delivery. More and more countries are using disaggregated data and open government data in policymaking to ensure that their public services are inclusive and accessible by the poorest and most vulnerable.

Yet, despite the benefits of harnessing data for evidence-based decision making, data security and privacy issues have become significant concerns for both policy makers and citizens. Recent cases of data breaching and malicious intrusion of personally identifiable information (PII) heightened fears of citizens on privacy violation and raised their concerns over government's ability and responsibility to protect citizens' personal data. As the lack of digital trust in government regarding the storage and access to personal data has constituted one important barrier for many citizens not using digital government services, it is thus critical to strengthen data governance for ensuring data protection and building digital trust. Digital trust enhances transparency and accountability of government as well.

This Session will review and discuss the trends and challenges in utilizing data for data-based policymaking by LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs. It will also highlight the data security and privacy concerns that define digital trust and discuss how data governance could be strengthened to ensure effective and safe use of data in digital government. It has been generally recognized that the data governance could only be instituted through partnership and collaboration with different stakeholders, including the private sector, IT sector, civil society organizations and citizens, this Session will discuss the modalities and approaches to the collaboration between governments and other stakeholders to institute data governance.



2. Main Questions to be Addressed during the Session

- What are the general trends and challenges of using disaggregated data and open government data in policymaking in LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs?
- What are the experimental approaches to using big data in public service delivery in LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs?
- How can data privacy and data protection be enhanced while using the data from public and private sources? How can data governance be strengthened to build digital trust?