

## Leveraging Big Data for Sustainable Development

Join the people-centred Big Data revolution! This training programme is designed to strengthen the skills of UN staff and development practitioners in selecting, creating, using and interpreting data in support of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**#Sustainable Development #2030 Agenda #SDGs #Country support #Data and measurement #face-to-face #Up to 1 week**

### Introduction

The course aims to help practitioners and policy-makers to develop and implement Big Data innovation projects, policies, and partnerships in support of sustainable development objectives. Through a blend of teaching formats, including traditional instructor-led teaching, keynote speakers, and interactive and hands-on technical sessions, participants will learn the foundations of Big Data in the context of sustainable development and explore how to engage with Big Data in their daily work and life.

The course is designed and delivered in partnership with the Data Pop Alliance, a global coalition on Big Data and development created by The Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, MIT Media Lab and the Overseas Development Institute along with the Flowminder Foundation. The coalition brings together researchers, experts, practitioners, and activists to promote a people-centred Big Data revolution through collaborative research, capacity building, and community engagement.



**Where** MIT Media Lab - Cambridge, MA



**When** 28 Mar - 31 Mar 2017



**Fee** 2500 USD



**Duration** 4 days



**Enrollment deadline** 21 Mar 2017



**Contact** sustainable-development@unssc.org



**Language** English

## Objectives

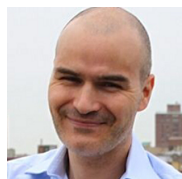
At the end of the course, participants will have

- Heightened awareness of and interest in the main applications and implications of the most recent debates and advances in Big Data and sustainable development;
- An increased understanding and capacity to actively and constructively engage in and with Big Data in their work
- Motivation and ability to create partnerships with various stakeholders within and outside of their organization to develop effective, sustainable solutions using Big Data sources and methodologies;
- Skills to help apply course lessons and key concepts towards policy implementation and project development through session activities and adaptation of the Big Data and sustainable development course toolkit.

## Course Contents

- **Day 1: Contexts and Concepts:** Understanding key Big Data ideas in order to translate sustainable development-related problems into specific data objectives.
- **Day 2: Methods and Tools:** Applying Big Data methods and tools to yield insights for specific sustainable development-related problems.
- **Day 3: Design and Strategy:** Operationalizing Big Data as inclusive projects, partnerships and policies & Ethics and Engagement: Engaging key stakeholders and communities through ethical practices and effective story-telling.
- **Day 4: Big Data for Sustainable Development in Action:** Data partnership and project development lab.

## Faculty



Emmanuel  
Letouzé



Alex "Sandy"  
Pentland



Natalie Shoup



Patrick Vinck

## Course Methodology

The training programme will use a blend of teaching and learning modalities, including traditional presentations, a keynote, interactive technical tutorials, group work, and a Data Expedition.

## Target Audience

The course is open to UN and Non-UN participants with an interest in Big Data and sustainable development-related issues and innovation. The course is designed primarily to the needs of project management professionals and staff with introductory to intermediate skills in statistics and economics.

## Cost of participation

The course is offered at a fee of 2,500 USD per participant, covering the following:

- Four days of training with a balance of presentations, full group and small group work on case studies and exercises;
- Exclusive access to online resources on Big Data and Development;
- All course materials, resources and contacts.

Certificates of attendance from the UN System Staff College and Data-Pop Alliance will be awarded to participants who complete the course.