LEVERAGING BIG DATA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

29 November - 2 December 2016 (4 days)
Bogota, Colombia

A course by

United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC)

in partnership with

Data-Pop Alliance
Data-Pop Alliance is a global coalition on Big Data and development created by the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI), MIT Media Lab and the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), and the Flowminder Foundation that brings together researchers, experts, practitioners, and activists to promote a people-centred Big Data revolution through collaborative research, capacity building, and community engagement.

The United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC), through the establishment of the Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development, facilitates comprehensive learning, training, and knowledge management on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
Course Overview

The course will be offered with a view to strengthen the skills of UN staff and other key partners in selecting, creating, using and interpreting data and statistics, and this will be done with a particular focus on public policymaking and implementation, building on both traditional methods of data analytics as well as more recent applications related to, for instance, mobile technology, crowdsourcing and big data. The broader and longer term objective is contributing to making the Big Data revolution people-centered - i.e. help shape the emerging Big Data ecosystem in ways that foster social progress and citizen empowerment across the globe, especially of poor and vulnerable communities.

Learning Objectives

- Increase understanding and capacity to actively and constructively engage in and with Big Data in their work within and outside of their organizations;
- Learn and discuss key terms and parameters, applications and implications of the most recent debates and advances in Big Data and development;
- Build skills to help apply course lessons and discuss key concepts with colleagues and anyone interested in learning about Big Data and development.
Course Agenda

Day 1: Crumbs
- Session 1 | Welcome and Introductions
- Session 2 | Framing Big Data and Development
- Session 3 | Synthesis of Research and Practice
- Session 4 | Learning from our Social Networks: Big Data and Social Physics
- Session 5 | Big Data and Development in action

Day 2: Capacities
- Session 6 | Technical tutorial 1
- Session 7 | Technical tutorial 2
- Session 8 | Technical tutorial 3
- Session 9 | Data Expedition: Analyzing and Interpreting Development Data in Context

Day 3: Communities
- Session 10 | The Ethics and Politics of Big Data
- Session 11 | Technical tutorial 4
- Session 12 | Lightning talks
- Session 13 | Data Expedition: Feedback
- Session 14 | Wrap-up

Day 4: Partnership and Big Data
- Session 15 | Public-Private Partnership (case study)
- Session 16 | Due Diligence and Big Data
Cost and Registration

Cost of Participation
The course is offered at a fee of **USD 2,500** 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.

Participants are expected to cover all travel costs related to their attendance in the course. Accommodation in a hotel in town will be booked in advance by the UNSSC; however, the accommodation costs will be borne by the participants.

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

Target Audience
The course is open to UN and Non-UN participants with background and interest in big data and development-related issues and innovation. Knowledge of quantitative development backgrounds or roles is desirable.

Registration
In order to register for this course, please click [here](#) to go to the course webpage. On the course webpage, please click on ‘Sign Up’ and fill in the online registration form. The enrollment deadline for this course is **21 November 2016**.
The United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC) is the primary provider of interagency training and learning for staff of the United Nations system. Its overall objective is to promote and support UN inter-agency collaboration, increase the operational effectiveness of the UN system as a whole and provide UN staff with the required skills and competencies to face today’s global challenges.

UNSSC conducts a variety of learning and training activities, in Turin and Bonn, UN Headquarters as well as at the regional and country levels. All such activities effectively respond to the cross-agency, far-reaching reform agenda of the United Nations.