Clearinghouse for Financing Development Data

Purpose

The Bern Network, a multi-stakeholder alliance created in 2019 by the Swiss Government, is developing a ‘Clearinghouse for Financing Development Data’ to help countries, donors and development partners identify funding opportunities, bring projects to scale, advocate for support to data and statistics and connect to new partners.

The online platform will provide information and services to match the supply and demand of financing for data and statistics to foster transparency, accountability, and alignment, and facilitate coordination among donors and partner countries.

Donors can use it to identify key data funding gaps in recipient countries, benchmark their country’s data funding, and highlight opportunities for joint projects with other donors. Recipient countries can use it to understand how much aid they are receiving for statistics across the board and plan investments accordingly, assess their funding gaps to lobby for more resources from government and donors, and access best practices to improve efficiency and effectiveness of investments in data and statistics.

The Clearinghouse will fit the needs of diverse user groups. An official at a national statistical organisation can discover the trends in international support for data, as well as opportunities for funding by various doors. A project manager at a donor agency can learn about which countries and sectors are well funded and which are under-funded, or deep dive into a range of specific country data. Researchers can analyze overall trends in financing for data and forecast future trends. Civil society organizations advocating for better data can review the funding landscape and identify who the top donors/recipients are and which countries are increasing their own investment in data and statistics.

What aspect of the National Statistical System is strengthened by this tool?

(b) Committing to strengthen and develop, where appropriate, a national monitoring framework, including an indicator set to produce robust evidence for policy development and monitoring and to integrate the framework into planning and budgeting processes;

(g) Resolving to improve communication with regard to statistics and to strengthen statistical literacy and culture to facilitate accurate and impactful analysis for evidence-based policymaking and transparent governance in pursuit of achieving the ambition of leaving no one behind;

(h) Committing to advocate for the expanded use of official statistics for evidence-based policymaking and transparent governance, including, where appropriate, regular organization of statistical awareness programmes with governments and decision-makers;
What part of the regional Collective Vision and Framework for Action does this tool support?

(a) Engaging users and investing in statistics
(b) Assuring quality and instilling trust in statistics
(c) Integrated statistics for integrated analysis
(e) Modernizing statistical business processes

Experiences to date

A first visual preview of the pilot clearinghouse was given at the virtual UN World Data Forum in October 2020, and a fully operational Clearinghouse is expected to be launched at the UN World Data Forum in October 2021. Components under consideration include visualizations of funding levels and opportunities based on analyses of financing flows and needs, including by sector and SDG area; nowcasting and forecasting of resource allocations for data and statistics; and profiles that highlight the financing flows from and to countries around the world.

Where can I find more information?

Read about the Clearinghouse.

To learn more about the Bern Network visit https://bernnetwork.org/