

THE BERN NETWORK

A GLOBAL ALLIANCE TO STRENGTHEN
DEVELOPMENT DATA

The Bern Network on Financing Data for Development is an open, multi-stakeholder collaboration to support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by promoting more and better financing for data. It focuses primarily on poor countries and fragile states who need the most support with the production and use of life-saving data and statistics.

The Network brings together different development partners—aid and development agencies, national statistical offices, ministries, international organizations, private sector and civil society entities—to strengthen basic blocks of national data systems serving the public good.



More than 110 countries under-record or fail to record vital events of specific populations such as births and deaths.

Even today, almost a third of the way to 2030, data to measure and track the SDGs are largely not available. This is preventing 'leave no one behind' from becoming a reality.

The poorest countries do not even have the basic building blocks of data—such as on agriculture, poverty and health—necessary to understand the scope of the challenges, let alone create solutions.

The Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data, adopted by the UN Statistical Commission in 2017, provides strategic areas to strengthen development data.

Despite the interest of national statistical offices to take on modernization challenges, many remain severely underfunded.

By doubling financial support to statistics to 0.7% of ODA per year, we could achieve significant progress. Over the past six months, the Bern Network has developed the contours for a new Data Financing Facility that will be further developed over the coming months.

The facility proposes two thematic funding windows.

Window 1 would provide national statistical authorities with a credible multi-year match

funding response for most urgent data capacity gaps.

Window 2 would provide seeding and blend financing for transformative, leapfrogging data architecture and service delivery applications.

Over the past six months, the Bern Network has developed the contours for a new Global Funding Mechanism, which should build on existing schemes as well as on lessons from other Global Funds. Its main emerging features are:

- improve existing funding schemes by providing incentives for better co-ordination and alignment with national strategies
- raise additional funds (domestic and external) to support national statistical authorities and other actors with a credible multi-year match funding for most urgent data capacity gaps
- work to time-bound impactful goals and widely agreed results metrics.



Only 0.33% of ODA went to funding statistics in 2016.

More work needs to be done and we need your help! Please get engaged and join our conversation on Twitter @ContactParis21