

# Measuring and Understanding Data Use: Report Launch and Panel Discussion

Thursday, December 6, 2018  
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM EST

OpenGov Hub  
1110 Vermont Avenue Northwest #500  
Washington, DC 20005

DEC  
06

## Understanding and Measuring Data Use: Report Launch and Panel

by Open Data Watch, AidData, PARIS21

Free



### DESCRIPTION

To close the gap between the production of official statistics and their dissemination and use, development partners and funders need a better understanding of the barriers that national statistical offices (NSO) face. To assist the modernization of statistical systems, it is equally important to analyze usage statistics from national data portals and NSO websites.

Open Data Watch, AidData, and PARIS21 have collaborated to address these needs in an exciting two-part research study, with financial support from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Our recently launched report *Counting on Statistics: How can national statistical offices and donors increase use?* presents the findings from the surveys and recommendations for both NSOs and donors to increase the use of official statistics and be more responsive to the needs of one domestic user group: government ministries. The soon-to-launch report *Measuring Data Use* will present an analysis of data portal web traffic, which provides an example for analyzing web traffic on NSO websites and data portals, along with recommendations for improving the collection of these data. Together the two parts of this project offer a holistic understanding of the barriers to the access and use of official statistics and what NSOs can do to overcome them.

Join us December 6th for an engaging discussion about the report's findings and implications for the future of official statistics for sustainable development. We'll hear reactions from leaders that fund, produce, promote, and use official statistics in their work. Please bring an ID with you for check-in.

### Agenda

- 12:00-12:30 PM: Networking Lunch
- 12:30-12:40 PM: Opening remarks by Shaida Badiee, Managing Director of Open Data Watch
- 12:40-12:50 PM: Presentation of "Counting on Statistics" findings by Tanya Sethi, Senior Policy Analyst at Aidata
- 12:50-1:00 PM: Presentation of "Measuring Data Use" findings by Amelia Pittman, Data Scientist at Open Data Watch
- 1:00-2:00 PM: Panel discussion moderated by Samantha Custer, Director of Policy at AidData with Norma Altshuler, Program Officer, Hewlett Foundation; John McArthur, Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution; Jon Clifton, Global Managing Partner, Gallup; José Antonio Mejia-Guerra, Inter-American Development Bank

### Links to Reports and Resources

- ["Counting on Statistics: How can national statistical offices and donors increase use?"](#)
- [Executive Summary](#)
- [AidData Blog Post](#)
- [Measuring Data Use: An Analysis of Data Portal Web Traffic](#)
- [Measuring Data Use Brochure](#)
- [World Data Forum Blog Post](#)

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## Open Data Watch, AidData, PARIS21

### Organizer of Understanding and Measuring Data Use: Report Launch and Panel

[Open Data Watch](#) is an international, non-profit organization of data experts working to bring change to organizations that produce and manage official statistical data. We support the efforts of national statistical offices (NSOs), particularly those in low- and middle-income, to improve their data systems and harness the advancements of the data revolution. Through our policy advice, data support, and monitoring work, we influence and help both NSOs and other organizations meet the goals of their national plans and the sustainable development goals (SDGs). Our aim is to make lasting changes to improve the coverage and openness of official statistics. Only with the high-quality and open data will new and ongoing efforts to monitor and achieve the SDGs be successful.

[AidData](#) is a research lab at William & Mary's Global Research Institute. We equip policymakers and practitioners with better evidence to improve how sustainable development investments are targeted, monitored, and evaluated. We use rigorous methods, cutting-edge tools, and granular data to answer the question: *who is doing what, where, for whom, and to what effect?*

[PARIS21](#) promotes the better use and production of statistics throughout the developing world. Since its establishment in 1999, PARIS21 has successfully developed a worldwide network of statisticians, policymakers, analysts, and development practitioners committed to evidence-based decision making. With the main objective to achieve national and international development goals and reduce poverty in low and middle-income countries, PARIS21 facilitates statistical capacity development, advocates for the integration of reliable data in decision making, and coordinates donor support to statistics.

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