OVERVIEW OF SERVICES FOR OCHA INFORMATION MANAGEMENT OFFICERS

OCHA’s Centre for Humanitarian Data is focused on increasing the use and impact of data in humanitarian response. We manage the Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX) and work on data policy, data literacy, and more recently, predictive analytics.

We can support OCHA Information Management Officers (IMOs) with a range of services, including:

- Making it easy to share and use data on HDX
- Creating custom data visualization and data stories
- Developing data sharing agreements
- Assessing data risk through statistical disclosure control
- Webinars and training to improve data skills

Some of our work with OCHA offices has included:

- Creating a custom data visual for OCHA ROWCA, CaLP and local Cash Working Groups on cash and voucher distribution in West Africa.
- Supporting OCHA Yemen and OCHA ROSC with data sharing agreements based on the Working Draft of the OCHA Data Responsibility Guidelines.
- Creating data stories for OCHA South Sudan and an upcoming data story for OCHA Central African Republic.
- Working with all offices to add HXL tags and generate Quick Charts for HNO and 3W datasets on HDX (see example below).

Help us fill the data gaps!

We are especially excited about a new feature on HDX called the ‘Data Grid’ which helps users in their quest for good and relevant data. Data Grids appear at the top of HDX Location Pages. There are currently 14 Grids available: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Indonesia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Philippines, Somalia, Sudan, Venezuela and Yemen.
The Data Grid for Mozambique

Each Grid includes a ‘Data Completeness’ progress bar along with the number of datasets included. The overall Data Grid completeness as of April 2019 was 18%. That is, 18% of the Data Grid categories, across all 14 countries, had a dataset on HDX that fully met the definition. If we also add in those datasets that partially met the definition, completeness climbs to 45%, leaving 55% of the Data Grids empty (no dataset even partially meets the definition).

Data on administrative divisions and baseline population is mostly complete -- well done to IMOs and our colleagues at FIS! We are looking to fill the gaps for the following categories of data: damaged and destroyed buildings; humanitarian access; transportation status; affected schools; affected areas; and missing persons.

Use HXL for data processing and automated charts

The Humanitarian Exchange Language (HXL) is a simple standard for messy data. Save time cleaning and visualizing your data with easy-to-use tools that work with the HXL standard. Try the tools and get in touch if you need support or have feedback on how we can make them better.

We are here to help

Consider some of the following questions and get in touch when you need support:
- What kind of data does your office collect or have access to; what is being shared publicly and privately?
- What are your existing data sharing processes and how might they be improved?
- Are you currently handling sensitive data? Are there any data sharing agreements in place in your context?
- What are your challenges with data and how could data standards or data automation help?

We look forward to working with you to increase the use and impact of data in your country or region!

For more information, please contact:

Javier Teran, HDX Data Partnerships Lead: teran1@un.org
Stuart Campo, Data Policy Lead: campo2@un.org
Lisa Peterson or Katelyn Rogers, Data Literacy co-leads: peterson1@un.org and katelyn.rogers@un.org