



# Economic and Social Council

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### High-level segment

## **Statement submitted by The Data For All initiative of Community Systems Foundation, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council\***

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

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\* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



## Statement

In the 2030 Agenda, “Member States recognized that the dignity of the individual is fundamental and that the Agenda’s goals and targets should be met for all nations and people and for all segments of society.” This commitment to leaving no one behind has broad implications on planning, monitoring and reporting of progress towards the achievement of national priorities. The realization of the 2030 Agenda requires a departure from a business-as-usual approach to sustainable development.

The Data For All initiative of Community Systems Foundation:

1. Acknowledges the critical importance of comprehensive data systems to inform policy and planning decisions and to monitor and report progress in the achievement of national priorities.

2. Recognizes that strengthened administrative data systems, such as OpenEMIS and DHIS2, provide real, or near-real time data, disaggregated to the individual level, ensuring no one is left behind.

3. Proposes equity-focused and sector-specific modelling tools such as EQUIST, to empower planners to make targeted and informed decisions to ensure the achievement of SDGs and national priorities.

4. Advises that results and recommendations from data models could contribute to situational analysis and priority setting, informing targeted plans with equity focus that aim to address all individuals from across society.

5. Recommends linking government agencies and planning and monitoring processes using systems like DFA Monitoring, which seeks to strengthen collaboration, accountability and transparency in planning and monitoring progress of national strategic development plans.

6. Encourages Member States to approach sustainable development holistically, to rely on international standards, and to leverage sustainable solutions to strengthen national and local systems.

7. Motivates Development Partners to work with transparency and in close concert to ensure efforts, particularly in the area of strengthened data systems, are aligned and mutually supportive.

8. Advocates for the international community to invest in information technology to produce global public goods, which can be deployed as sustainable software solutions owned by Member States.

Regarding SDG 16, DFA contributes to the realization of national development priorities, including all SDGs, by assisting Member States to focus on evidence-based planning, monitoring and reporting. DFA promotes the use of decision-making tools which empower the participation of vulnerable groups in the decision-making process, including women, marginalised ethnic groups, and the impoverished. All people are both users and providers of information.

The DFA strategy is based on the fundamental principles of sustainable development, which provide opportunities for communities and individuals to influence their own lives through meaningful participation in decision-making in response to their collective hopes and concerns. The strategy upholds commitments to ensure equal rights for all, equitable distribution of resources, and transparency in the leadership of all political decision-making.