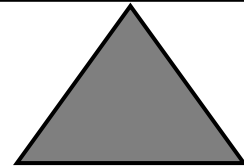
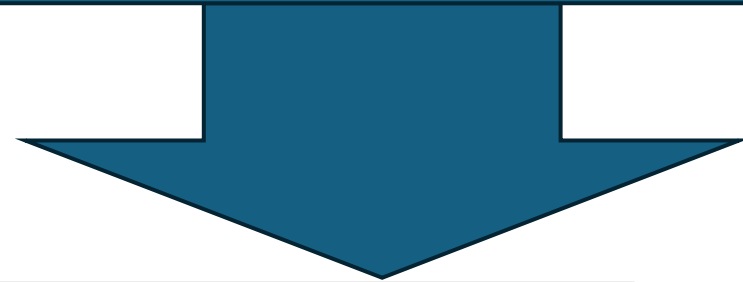
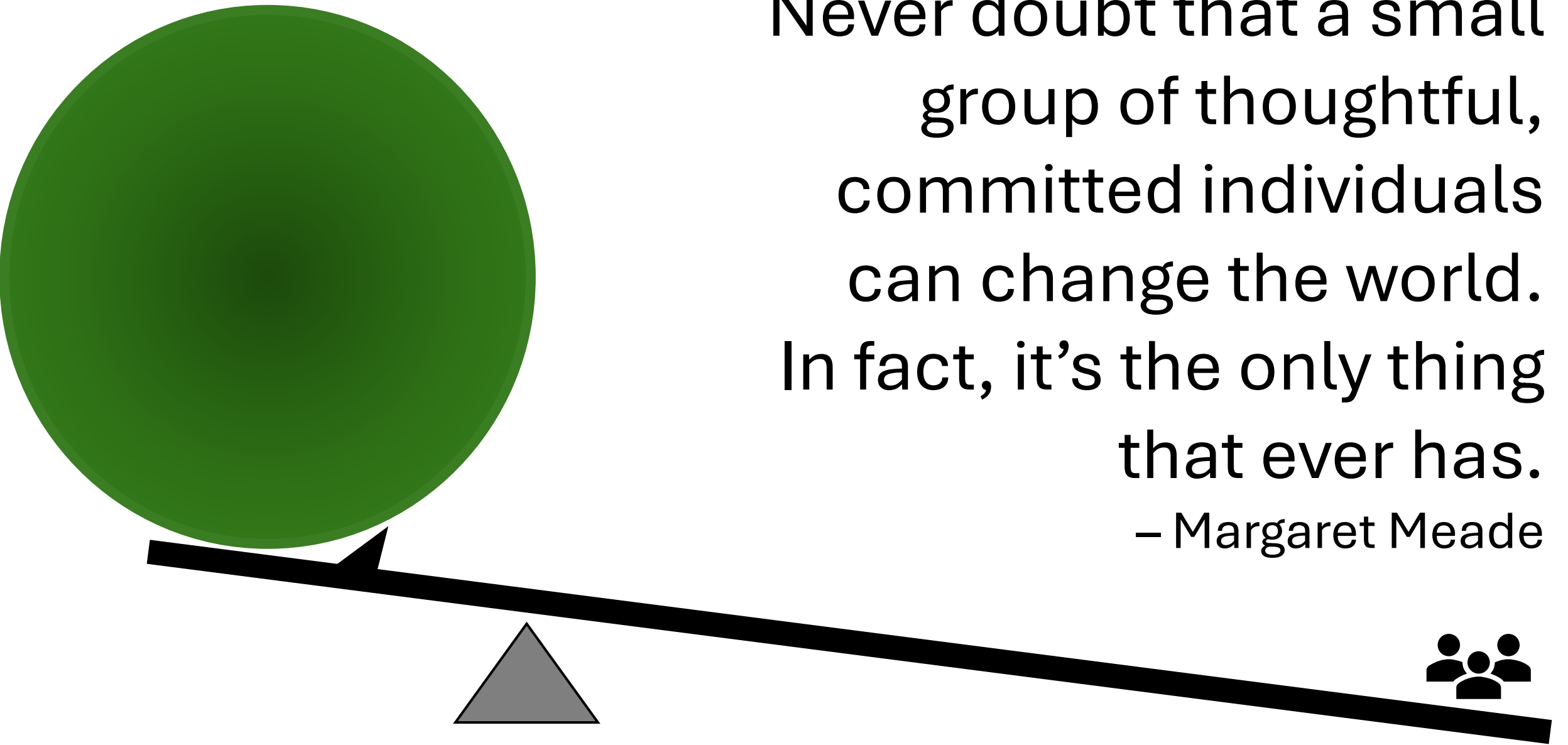


Driving the Africa Information Highway



Gwen Thomas, for IRMUK

Never doubt that a small
group of thoughtful,
committed individuals
can change the world.
In fact, it's the only thing
that ever has.
– Margaret Meade



My re-introduction to the Africa Information Highway



2ND EDITION
INNOVATE
AFRICA SYMPOSIUM

STRENGTHENING DATA GOVERNANCE
IN THE AFRICAN DATA ECOSYSTEM

KIGALI
25 - 27
September 2024

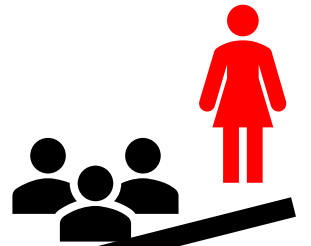


Hmmm...
What was I doing
when they were
laying the foundation
for this?

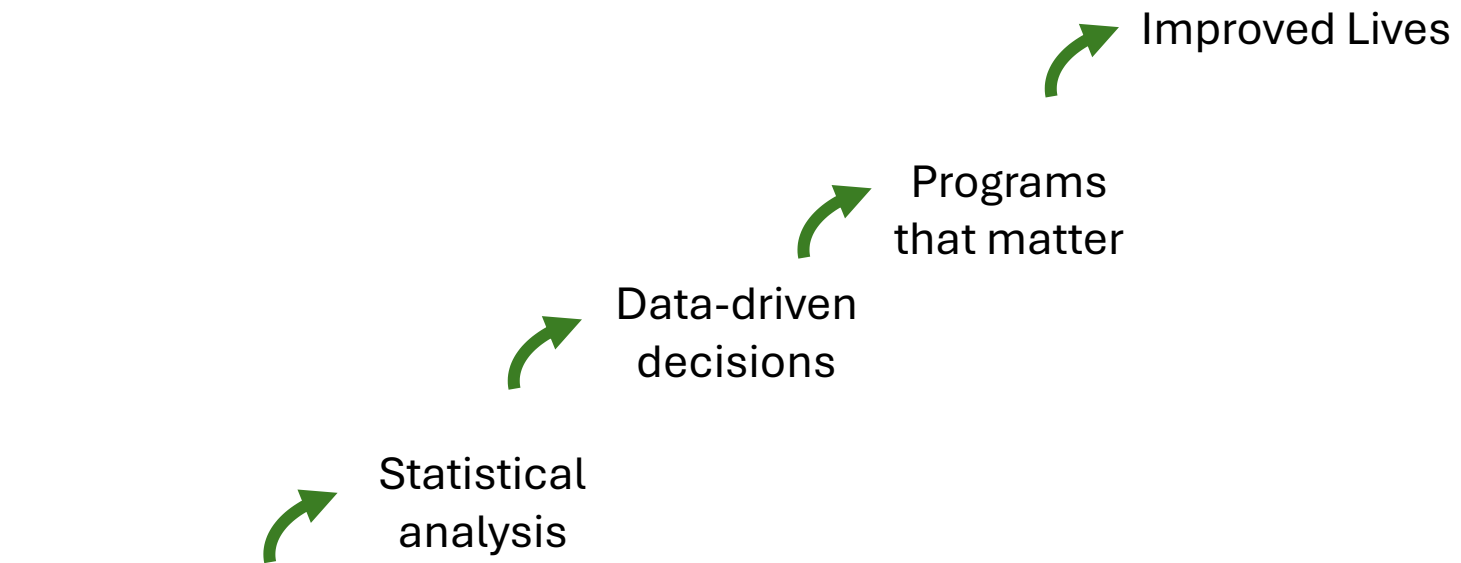
WOW!



Sarbanes-Oxley
Act
Requirements:
ICFR
Internal Controls
for Financial
Reporting







Enabling technology

Data management

2ND EDITION
INNOVATE
AFRICA SYMPOSIUM

KIGALI
25 - 27
September 2024

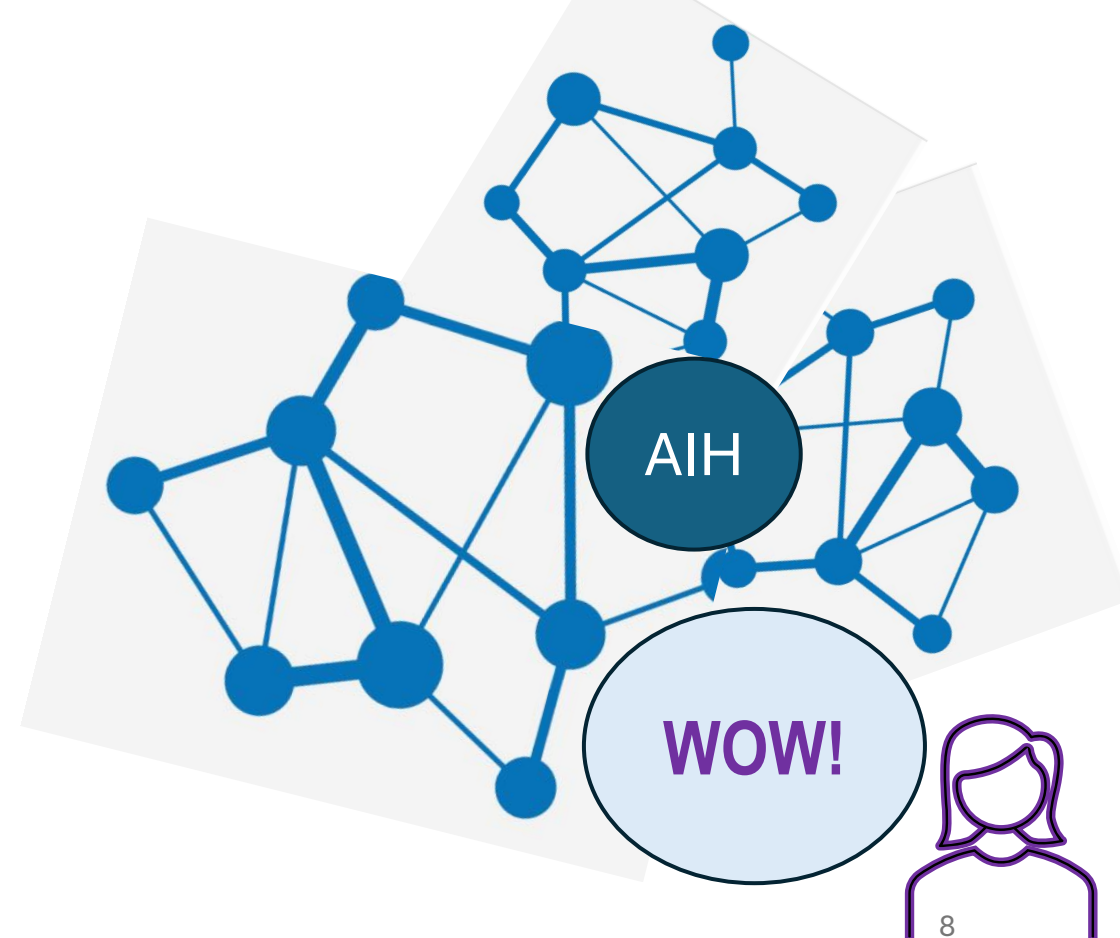
STRENGTHENING DATA GOVERNANCE
IN THE AFRICAN DATA ECOSYSTEM


nistr
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
STATISTICS OF RWANDA

Focus: Data Governance

Perspectives / Representatives:

- Governments & NGOs
- Banks (National & Regional)
- Academics
- Statistics Organizations
- Non-profits
- Vendors & Technical Groups
- Many more....

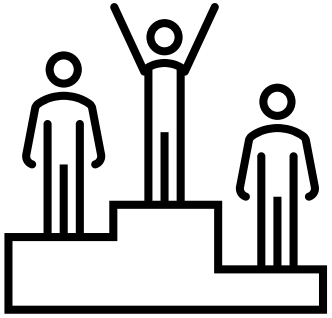


The logo for the Africa Information Highway is a vertical rectangle with a green-to-brown gradient. It features the text "Africa Information Highway" in white, sans-serif font. The background has a faint, light-colored map of Africa.

Africa Information Highway

“AIH is a mega network of live open data platforms (ODPs) electronically linking all [54] African countries and 16 regional organizations.”

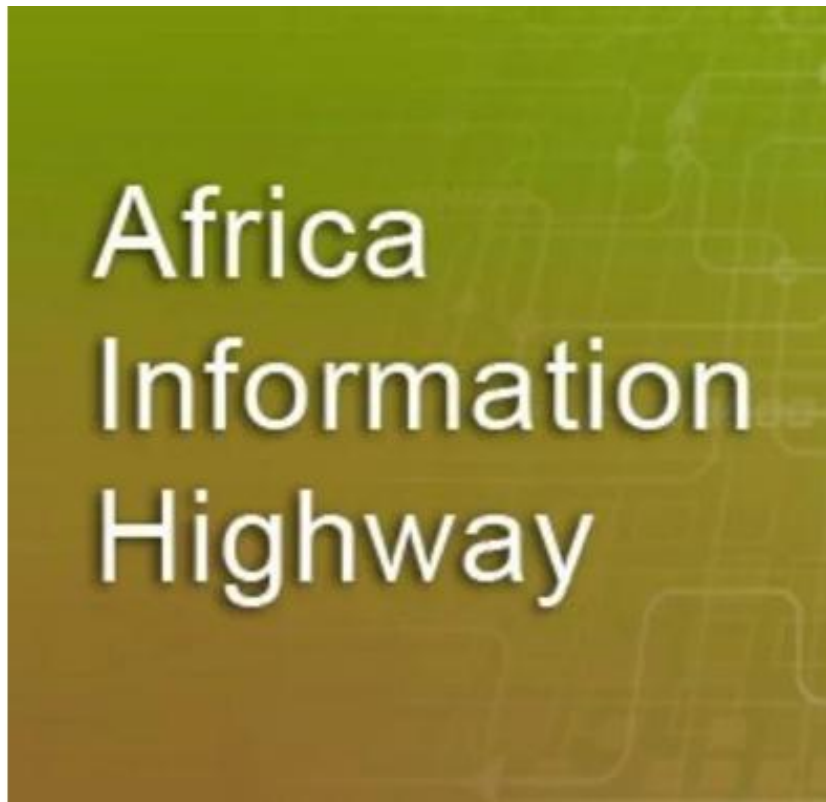
LEARN MORE: <https://www.afdb.org/en/knowledge/statistics/africa-information-highway-aih>



INFORMATION HIGHWAY

- ✓ Names Matter!
- ✓ Make complicated into SIMPLE
- ✓ Use METAPHOR
- ✓ Imply ACTION and USAGE
- ✓ Something they WANT or NEED

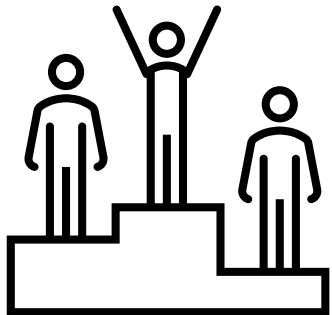
“...developed by the
Statistics Department
of AfDB
as part of
the Bank’s
statistical capacity
building program
(SCB) in Africa.”



LEARN MORE: <https://www.afdb.org/en/knowledge/statistics/africa-information-highway-aih>

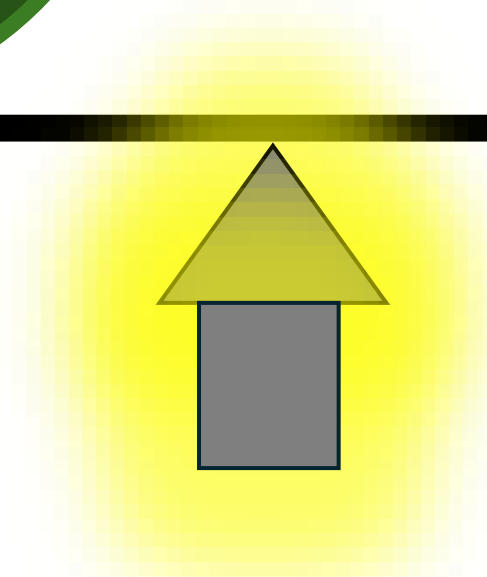
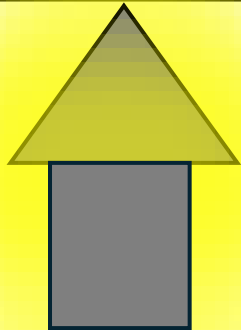
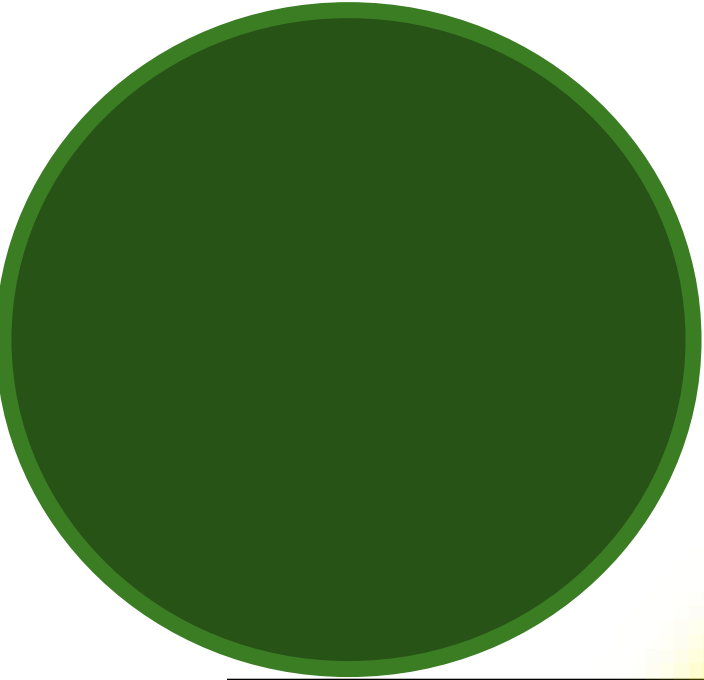
“The Bank launched the AIH that same year to support members under the AfDB's ongoing Statistical Capacity Building Program. The Bank hosts the ODPs and makes funding and training available for improvement and maintenance.”

- <https://www.afdb.org/en/knowledge/statistics/africa-information-highway-aih>

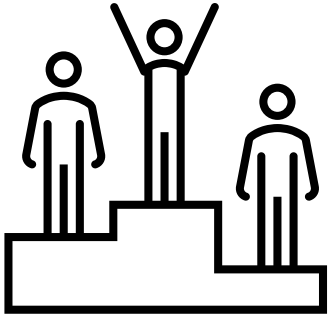


WHO IS TAKING LEAD?





Find Your Fulcrum



Road Show!!!

“This cross-beneficiary platform was launched before a diverse audience that included leading South African academic and research institutions, government officials, private sector agencies, financial and economic analysts, business chambers, multilateral development partners, as well as representatives from the media.”

Gwen Thomas

afdb.org/en/news-and-events/afdb-officially-unveils-its-africa-information-highway-platform-in-south-africa-12854 ☆



[Home](#) / [News and Events](#) / AfDB officially unveils its Africa Information Highway platform in South Africa

AfDB officially unveils its Africa Information Highway platform in South Africa



26-Feb-2014





AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP

AFRICA
INFORMATION
HIGHWAY



What is Africa Information Highway

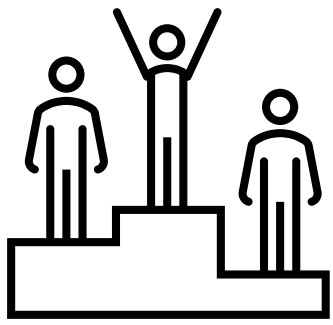
Slides by Momar Kouta, AfDB

- The Africa Information Highway (AIH) is the AfDB's initiative that has linked the African countries through the Open Data Platform
- This initiative covers data management and data dissemination tools

Objectives:

- ✓ Facilitate easy public access of official statistics to the general public.
- ✓ Improve decision making based on data
- ✓ Improve data harmonization, thereby increase data comparability.
- ✓ Improve exchanges of data among organizations and countries.
- ✓ Introduce tool for data submission to partners.

<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/bigdata/conferences/2017/presentations/day2/session1/8%20-%20Momar%20Kouta%20-%20AfDB%20-%20Standards.pdf>



ANCHOR
to what is

NEEDED &

VALUED

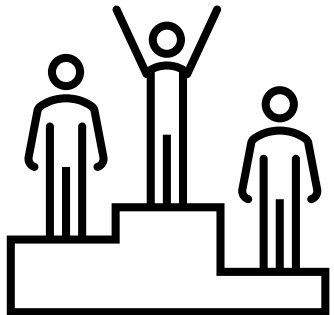
- Access to data
- Data-driven decisions
- Better, more standard data
- Data exchange
- Ability to contribute

see slides by Momar Kouta, AfDB

<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/bigdata/conferences/2017/presentations/day2/session1/8%20-%20Momar%20Kouta%20-%20AfDB%20-%20Standards.pdf>

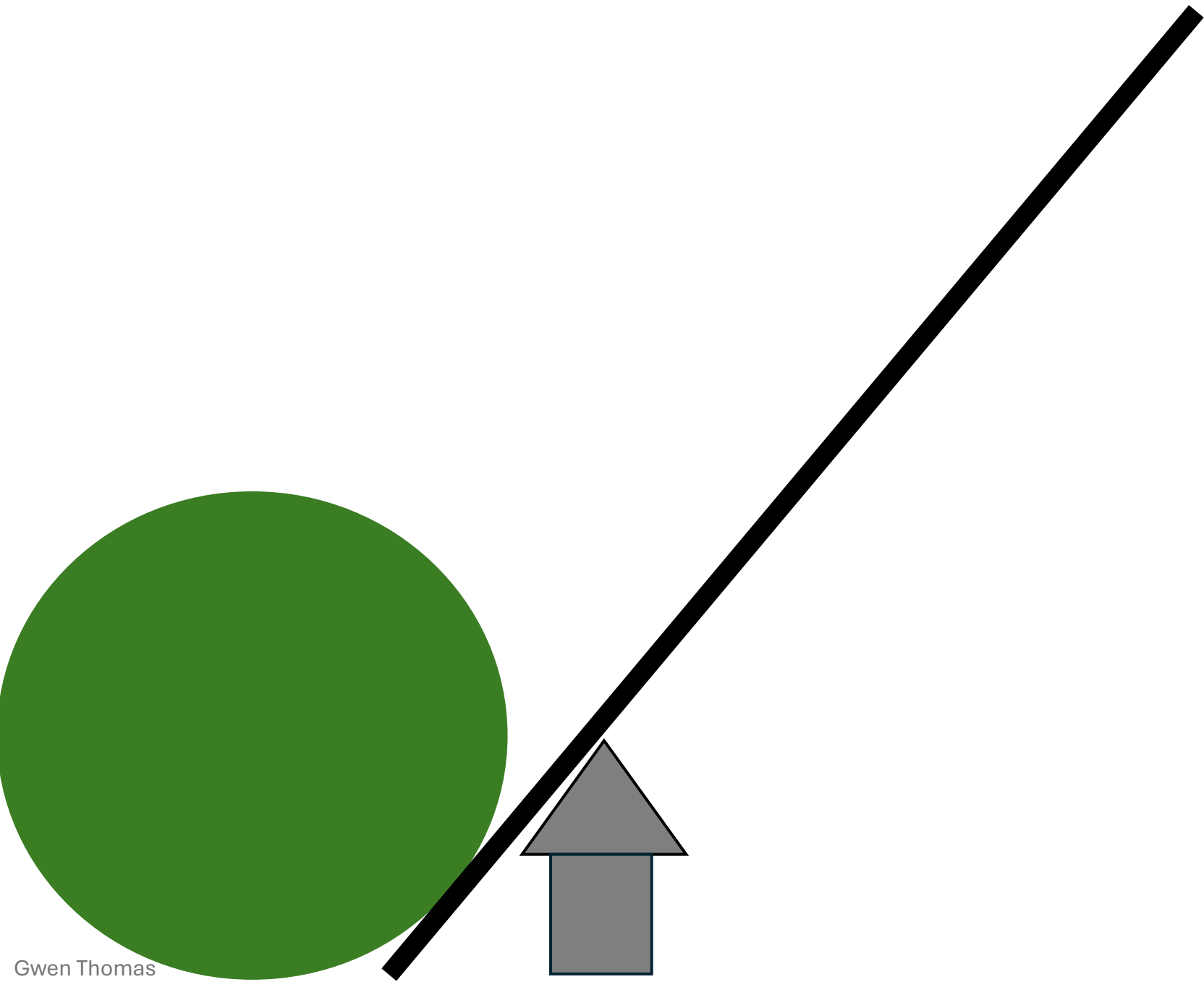
“The AIH responds to the decision of the African Union Summit of 2012 which called upon the AfDB, African Union Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to help African countries develop more effective data management & dissemination systems to inform national development policies and strategies.”

- <https://www.afdb.org/en/knowledge/statistics/africa-information-highway-aih>

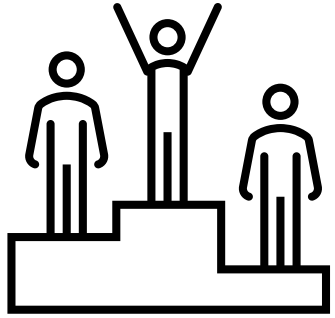


WHO SAID THIS MATTERS?





**Find the
Reason
Others
Will
Apply
Weight**



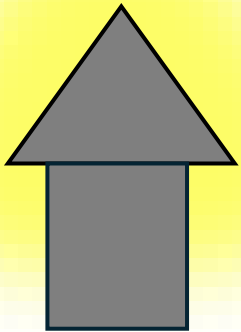
**As supporters
come on board,
let everyone know!**



United Nations

+

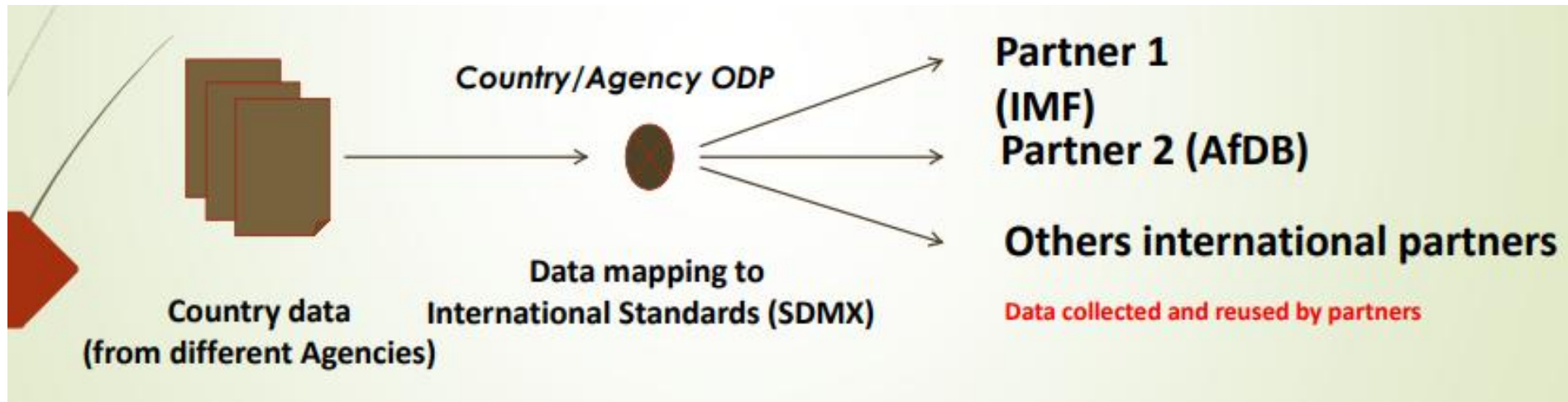
many
many
more



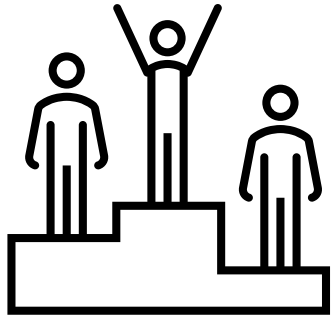
The installation started in January 2013 and the system is now available in:

- All 54 African countries
- 9 regional and sub regional organizations
- Around 17 Central Bank and Ministries of finance (through the IMF/AfDB collaboration)

Slides by Momar Kouta, AfDB



<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/bigdata/conferences/2017/presentations/day2/session1/8%20-%20Momar%20Kouta%20-%20AfDB%20-%20Standards.pdf>



Show Detail only when needed

Algeria.

Angola.

Benin.

Botswana.

Burkina Faso.

Burundi.

Cameroon.

Cape Verde.

Central African
Republic.

Chad.

Comoros.

Congo.

DR Congo.

Côte d'Ivoire.

Djibouti.

Egypt.

Eritrea.

Equatorial Guinea.

Ethiopia.

Gabon.

Gambia.

Ghana.

Guinea.

Guinea-Bissau.

Kenya.

Lesotho.

Liberia.

Libya.

Madagascar.

Malawi.

Mali.

Mauritania.

Mauritius.

Mozambique.

Morocco.

Namibia.

Niger.

Nigeria.

Rwanda.

São Tomé &
Príncipe.

Senegal.

Seychelles.

Sierra Leone.

Somalia.

Data by Topics



Africa Infrastructure
Knowledge Program



AfDB Operations



Balance of Payments



Environment



Debt



Financial Flows



Financial Sector



Governance



Monetary Statistics



National Accounts



Prices



Public Finance



Gender



The High 5s

Somalia.

South Africa.

South Sudan.

Sudan.

Swaziland.

Tanzania.

Tunisia.

Togo .

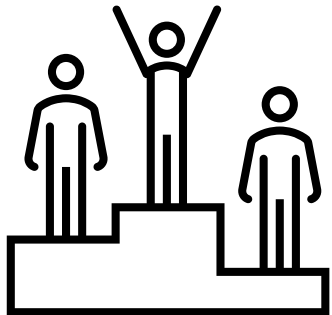
Uganda.

Zambia.

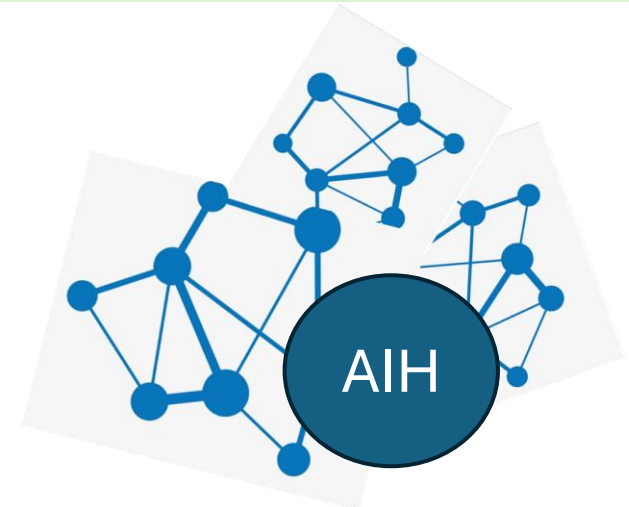
Zimbabwe.

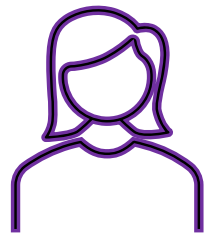
“Since launching AIH, the Bank has expanded to the system to include a variety of topically-specific portals—energy, climate change, infrastructure, health, among others— thus ensuring a one single-stop center for capturing and sharing development data on Africa.”

- <https://www.afdb.org/en/knowledge/statistics/africa-information-highway-aih>



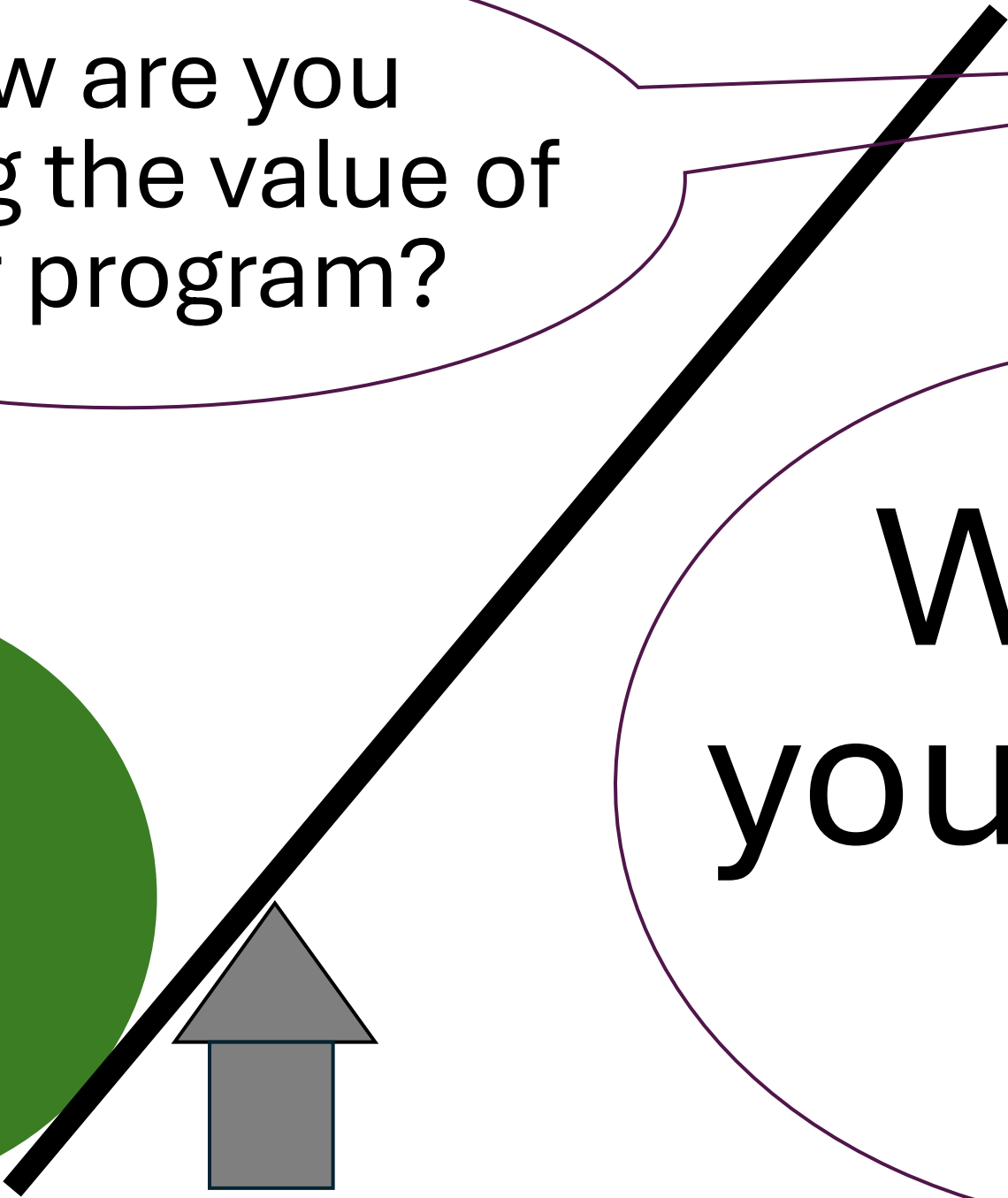
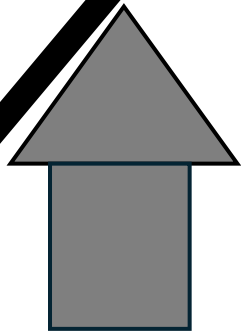
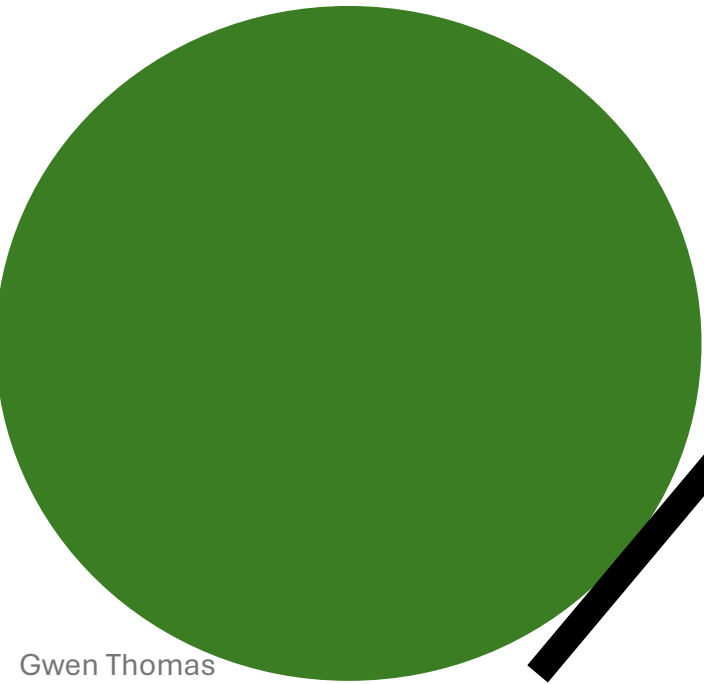
WHO MIGHT CARE?



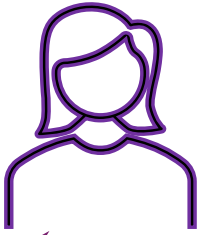


How are you proving the value of your program?

What's your heavy lift?



[Linkedin.com/gwenthomas](https://www.linkedin.com/gwenthomas)



- Know WHY your thing matters, to whom.
- Find a network that's already supporting what your thing contributes to.
- Give members reasons to support your thing.
- Keep your message simple (until you can't).
- Sell one thing (not all the parts separately).

Appendices – for print version

If you'd like to learn more about the AIH and the data governance ecosystem in Africa, here are some references that might be helpful as you do your research.

- Gwen

IS MISSION BASED

The logo for the Africa Information Highway is a vertical rectangle with a green-to-brown gradient. The text "Africa Information Highway" is written in white, sans-serif font, stacked vertically. The background features a faint map of Africa.

Africa
Information
Highway

“The overall objective is to significantly increase public access to official and other statistics across Africa, while at the same time supporting African countries to improve data quality, management, and dissemination.”

LEARN MORE: <https://www.afdb.org/en/knowledge/statistics/africa-information-highway-aih>

Straight from the Source

<https://www.afdb.org/en/knowledge/statistics/africa-information-highway-aih>

[The Africa Information Highway \(AIH\)](#). was developed by the Statistics Department of AfDB as part of the Bank's statistical capacity building program (SCB) in Africa. AIH is a mega network of live open data platforms (ODPs) electronically linking all African countries and 16 regional organizations. The overall objective is to significantly increase public access to official and other statistics across Africa, while at the same time supporting African countries to improve data quality, management, and dissemination.

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The Bank launched the AIH that same year to support members under the AfDB's ongoing Statistical Capacity Building Program. The Bank hosts the ODPs and makes funding and training available for improvement and maintenance.

...

For more information, please contact: statistics@afdb.org

LEARN FROM THE SOURCE

presentation by
Momar Kouta
AfDB

<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/bigdata/conferences/2017/presentations/day2/session1/8%20%20Momar%20Kouta%20-%20AfDB%20-%20Standards.pdf>



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UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD



THE
NELSON
MANDELA
SCHOOL
of Public Governance

26 Feb 2014

**Africa Information Highway (AIH):
The continent's first “one-stop centre”
for development data**



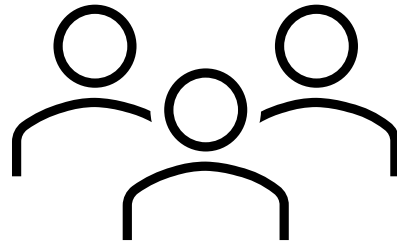
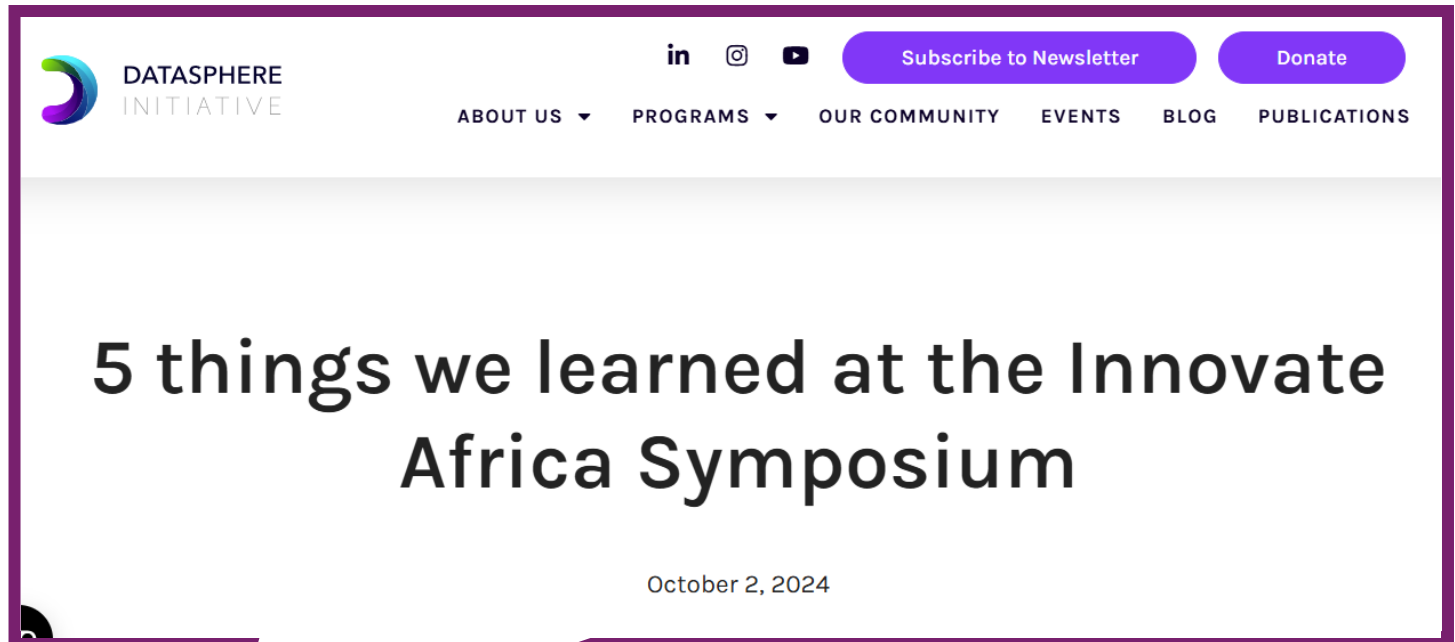
LEARN MORE

<https://www.thedatasphere.org>

The Datasphere Initiative is a non-profit dedicated to global collaboration on technical and policy solutions for the urgent, multidimensional, and cross-border challenges of data governance.

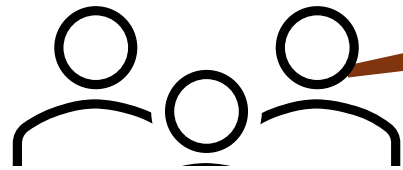


DATASPHERE
INITIATIVE



LEARN MORE

<https://openinstitute.africa/>



WHO WE ARE

We are The Open Institute

An African non-profit organisation based in Kenya but working in various parts of Africa. We work in transparency, accountability and citizen engagement to achieve two main things - #ActiveCitizenship and #ResponsiveGovernment

Our visit to Rwanda really highlighted the need for a shared approach to data governance across East Africa. At the 'Innovate Africa Symposium' in Kigali, we had some great conversations about **how data is driving growth across the continent**. There was so much excitement in the room, with everyone agreeing on one thing: **Africa's data revolution cannot happen without strong governance**.





IDRC · CRDI

PROJECT

Advancing data governance for development in Africa: strengthening integration and capacity in the provision of government digital services

LEARN FROM THE SOURCE

<https://idrc-crdi.ca/en/what-we-do/projects-we-support/project/advancing-data-governance-development-africa-strengthening>

As African governments turn to digital systems to provide services to their citizens, new data challenges and opportunities arise. With the recent publication of the African Union Data Policy Framework in 2022, an important window has opened to engage decisionmakers on a series of activities to support rights-preserving data ecosystems and governance in African countries and to advance regional integration and alignment. As articulated in the Framework, a number of policy interventions and capacity-building efforts are required to

strengthen data governance in Africa across all sectors, including government digital services. These interventions and efforts need to be supported by robust research to better understand what and whose rights are at risk, especially for marginalized groups, as well as capacity gaps and challenges facing full and proper implementation of existing and emerging data governance frameworks.

Ultimately, this project will seek to strengthen the governance and use of data within African government digital services, with a view to incorporating the views of marginalized groups, including women, migrants, asylum seekers and refugees. It will conduct rigorous research on the rights-related data risks and governance requirements in the provision of government digital services, develop a series of capacity-building tools and curricula for stakeholders in the digital services sector, and lead community-responsive engagements to advance citizens' participation in the governance of digital services data. It is part of the last round of project approvals of the Data for Development Network (D4D), which was established over 2021 and 2022.



STATAFRIC
Your Source to African Statistics



STATAFRIC

Home About The African Union Institute for Statistics

About The African Union Institute for Statistics



International
Statistical
Institute



United Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Statistics



United Nations
**WORLD
DATA
FORUM**



Data sharing and data governance in sub-Saharan Africa: Perspectives from researchers and scientists engaged in data-intensive research

join

Addressing digital colonialism: A path to equitable data governance

08 Aug 2024

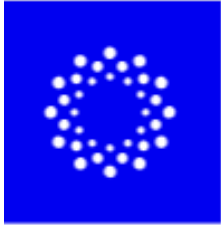
BIOTECHNOLOGY

Harmonizing Africa's Data Governance: Challenges and Solutions

Deep Dive

<https://pollicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Towards-Effective-Data-Governance-in-Africa-progress-initiatives-challenges.pdf>





ESTDEV

Kuva rohkem

Project objectives

With the Data Governance in Africa initiative, the EU and its Member States provide support to the African Union and its Regional Economic Communities and Member States to leverage the potential of the data economy while avoiding the misuse of data and potential fragmentation of data markets.

Working together as members of Team Europe, the Estonian Centre for International Development (ESTDEV) and GIZ, the German development cooperation agency, have signed a grant agreement to support the development of a fair and inclusive data economy and society in sub-Saharan Africa as part of the EU Global Gateway Strategy in collaboration with the African Union.

📄 The Data Governance in Africa Initiative supports the African Union (AU) and its Member States in creating human-centric, development-focused data policies at a...



Expert comment



Pierrinne Leukes



Effective data governance in Africa demands collaborative growth. ADLI helps pave the way.

13 December 2024 | 6 mins read

Africa Data Leadership Initiative (ADLI), a leading peer-to-peer learning network focused on data governance,

DATA GOVERNANCE IN AFRICA



The Data Governance in Africa Initiative, a 3.5-year program, aims to foster a development-oriented and human-centric data economy and society in Africa. Part of a broader strategic partnership between the African Union and European Union on Digital Cooperation, it's a key component of the Joint AU-EU Vision for sustainable economic growth.

Funded jointly by the European Union, Germany, and Finland, with additional expertise and contributions from Belgium, Estonia, and France through their development agencies (Enabel, ESTDEV, & Expertise France), the initiative unites the African Union, the European Union, and five European Member States to achieve the following three objectives



Understand the existing ecosystem



Share, reuse, and improve



Design with people



Design for inclusion



Build for sustainability



Establish people-first data practices



Create open and transparent practices



Anticipate and mitigate harms



Use evidence to improve outcomes

Wehubit 1.0 - 2018-2023 :
Between 2018 and 2023, a first Wehubit programme received its core funding from Belgium, and has been implemented by

<https://sdg.iisd.org/sdgs/>

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



The Africa 4IR Fund

Inspiring digital transformation for economic growth

“The challenge of the 4IR demands a strategic response from Africa. It requires Africa to unite – policy makers, the private sector, and citizens – to build infrastructure, cultivate our energy and creativity, and mobilize the finance to capitalize on the 4IR opportunity.”

Dr. Akinwumi Ayodeji Adesina
President, African Development Bank



The Africa 4IR Fund // Inspiring digital transformation for economic growth

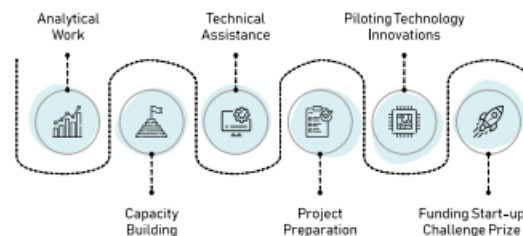
The Africa 4IR Fund

No single government, company or institution acting alone can provide the over \$100 billion investment required to bridge the digital divide by 2030.

The Bank's proposed Fund therefore aims to co-ordinate, complement, and consolidate the efforts of multi-stakeholder organisations with similar vision, including its member countries, the private sector, philanthropies, and multilateral and bilateral partners.

The Fund will operate in all the Bank's 54 regional member countries (RMCs), and will be a grant facility with an initial capitalization of \$100 million.

What the Fund will Support



Areas of Focus

The Africa 4IR Fund will invest in four major pillars:



Connectivity Infrastructure

- affordable and inclusive digital infrastructure
- cloud and data centre architecture
- broadband deployment



Digital Services

- eGovernment
- eCommerce
- agriTech
- healthTech



Digital Entrepreneurship and Skills

- digital skills development
- disruptive technologies
- supporting technology-focused hubs and enterprise support organisations



Enabling Policies

- data privacy
- sandboxes
- startup acts
- cyber security