

## SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE side event

Empowering Youth and Communities through Citizen Data for Sustainable Development

<b>DATE</b>	20 September 2024, 10.00 - 11.30am
<b>VENUE</b>	UN Women, 220 East 42nd Street, New York, NY 10017
<b>REGISTRATION LINK</b>	<a href="https://icscentre.org/events/un-summit-of-the-future-side-event/">https://icscentre.org/events/un-summit-of-the-future-side-event/</a>
<b>TOPIC</b>	Citizen Data as a catalyzer for youth and citizen engagement in driving sustainable development and enhancing participatory decision making
<b>EVENT CO-HOSTS</b>	

### Context

In our interconnected world, data drives progress. However, a critical gap exists: marginalized groups - such as youth, indigenous peoples, women and girls, or persons with disabilities - remain underrepresented in official data. In addition, disaggregated data tailored to these groups is scarce. As a result, their voices and representation, unique challenges, needs, aspirations, and contributions are often overlooked, hindering inclusive development.

Whether at the local, national, regional, or global level, citizens – and youth in particular – can play a vital role in shaping data and policy and there are a wide range of non-traditional experiences with data generation and use which are tailored for their needs.

In recognition of the critical data gaps in official statistics and the potential of inclusive data to support effective reporting and policy development, the [Collaborative on Citizen Data](#) was launched in 2023 to unleash the potential of citizens' contributions to data. The Collaborative aims to strengthen citizen participation and leverage data solutions to produce and use inclusive data. It represents a collective effort to harness the potential of citizens for data-driven decision-making by bridging gaps, promoting inclusiveness of statistical systems, and amplifying the voices and representation of marginalized groups.

The Collaborative facilitated the participatory development of a global framework to set the standards and guide the way forward on citizen data. The [“Copenhagen Framework on Citizen Data”](#) includes an operational definition of citizen data, the guiding principles and strategies for effective citizen engagement, practical approaches to enable the sustainable coordination, production, and use of citizen data, and a roadmap for its implementation.

In order to ensure that Citizen Data will be embedded as a strategic tool for Citizen empowerment into the [Pact for the Future](#) and be actively used by UN member states going forward, the Collaborative on Citizen Data facilitated the launch of the ImPACT coalition

currently named as Accountability, Standards, and Monitoring at the UN Civil Society Conference in Nairobi in May 2024. This ImPACT coalition has the goal to make member states commit to the following in the context of the Pact for the Future:

1. Filling critical data gaps on marginalised groups through citizen data, ensuring their situation is reflected in monitoring and review processes;
2. Enhancing citizen participation in government decision-making through data;
3. Advancing fairness, inclusiveness, openness, and transparency in statistics, and ensure collaboration across sectors to avoid the duplication of efforts.

### About this side event

This event is jointly organized by the Collaborative / ImPACT Coalition on Citizen Data and its member organisations, and supported by the statistics offices of Nepal and Italy. In this event, we will explore the transformative potential of youth-led citizen data in driving sustainable development and enhancing participatory governance.

In this context, the event will bring together young data enthusiasts, youth community leaders, policymakers, national statistical offices and development partners to discuss successful case studies, methodological advancements, and the ethical considerations of producing and using citizen data. Participants will learn how to harness this powerful tool to inform decision-making, track progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and ensure that the voices of marginalized and underrepresented populations, especially youth, are included in the development agenda.

Through interactive discussions, the event aims to foster innovative partnerships and strategies for scaling youth-driven citizen data initiatives globally, in line with our ImPACT coalition's key asks of UN member states:

- **Create collaboration mechanisms** with civil society to enable the sustainable and accountable production & use of Citizen Data, including for official purposes
- **Support citizens** to sufficiently engage in data production and use for evidence-informed decision-making
- **Make use of Citizen Data** as complementary data source in monitoring and planning, thereby ensuring that no one is left behind
- **Support capacity strengthening** of both civil society & govt agencies to foster accountability and inclusion
- **Ensure that citizen data are used to the fullest extent** in existing reporting mechanisms, and also in the context of monitoring the implementation of the commitments made in the Pact for the Future
- **Ensure usability, openness and accessibility** of official data, while ensuring safeguarding privacy and security, towards enhanced data usability and transparency.

## Draft Agenda

<b>9.30 – 10.00</b>	<b><u>Check-in</u></b>	
<b>10.00 – 10.05</b>	<b><u>Welcome + Introduction (Moderator)</u></b> Leading through the agenda for today	<b>Wolfgang Jamann</b> International Civil Society Centre
<b>10.05 – 10.10</b>	<b><u>Opening</u></b> On the importance of involving citizens and youth in data processes	<b>Stefan Schweinfest</b> United Nations Statistics Division
<b>10.10 – 10.35</b>	<b><u>Citizens in data: a statistical perspective</u></b> Perspectives of National Statistics Offices on the involvement of citizens	<b>Monica Pratesi</b> Italian National Institute of Statistics  <b>Hem Raj Regmi</b> National Statistics Office of Nepal
<b>10.35 – 11.05</b>	<b><u>Panel of Citizen Data advocates and practitioners</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is it important to involve marginalized groups in decision making spaces?</li> <li>• How does youth-led data action look in practice and what does it mean to the community?</li> <li>• What needs to be done to get Citizen Data “fit-for-purpose” and actively used by govts?</li> <li>• What are our joint expectations and asks from governments in the context of this Summit?</li> <li>• What role can the Copenhagen Framework on Citizen Data play for advancing this agenda?</li> </ul>	<b>Jay Lal</b> VSO Nepal  <b>Silke Birkenborg Andersen</b> Denmark's youth representative for democracy and partnerships  <b>Christopher Maloney</b> Hewlett Foundation  <b>Sylvain Obedi</b> Enable the Disable Action  <b>Jessamyn Encarnacion</b> UN Women
<b>11.05 – 11.20</b>	<b><u>Discussion with audience</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are your experiences with Citizen Data and youth engagement in that context?</li> <li>• How can we work together to ensure our future development agenda is inclusive, data-driven and accountable?</li> </ul>	<b>Everybody in the room</b>
<b>11.20 – 11.30</b>	<b><u>Summary &amp; closing remarks</u></b> What are our conclusions of today and possible next steps?	<b>Wolfgang Jamann</b> International Civil Society Centre