

WHO Data Governance Model & Framework

In 2020, WHO launched five Data Principles to provide the foundation for data and health statistics governance across the organisation.

1. Treat data as a public good	1.1 Provide clear guidance 1.2 Ensure transparency
2. Uphold Member States' trust in data	2.1 Provide impartial and inclusive consultation 2.2 Secure storage and processing 2.3 Apply human rights and the right to privacy
3. Support Member States' data and health information systems capacity	3.1 Respond to member states request for support 3.2 Advance evidence-based decision-making by focusing on sustainable health information management systems (HMIS) and digital development systems 3.3 Align with nationally owned monitoring and evaluation processes, structures, and budgets
4. Be a responsible data manager and steward	4.1 Apply international scientific data standards 4.2 Maintain and strengthen partnerships with relevant stakeholders 4.3 Strengthen the quality of SDG monitoring efforts 4.4 Adapt to specific contexts
5. Strive to fill public health data gaps	5.1 Use transparent models and methods

WHO also introduced a new federated data governance model designed to streamline and strengthen end to end processes and systems for collecting, storing, analyzing, disseminating and using data. It utilizes collaborative engagement to drive cross-cutting technical excellence and promote a strategic and coherent approach to data to reduce fragmentation, eliminate redundancies and enhance efficiency.

Effective coordination and leadership occurs at two levels: [Data Governance Committee](#) and the [Data Hub and Spoke Collaborative](#). The Data Governance Committee provides strategic oversight, leadership, and accountability, and is the decision-making authority for data. The Hub and Spoke Collaborative is the 'operational engine' of data governance with diverse teams working collaboratively through focal points representing all areas of technical expertise across all levels of WHO. The group acts as a coordination mechanism promoting integration, with regional hubs to support dissemination and feedback, and includes time bound working groups with a specific scope and deliverables.

Building on the data governance model and WHO's Data Principles, a Data Governance Framework has also been developed to facilitate a clear basis for coordination, communication, potential investment, and collaboration between teams. The framework set out the necessary **standards**, **solutions** and **structures** that ensure quality and integrity of all aspects of WHO'S data and health statistics, as well as cross-cutting functions including dissemination, data queries, capacity building and resource mobilization.

