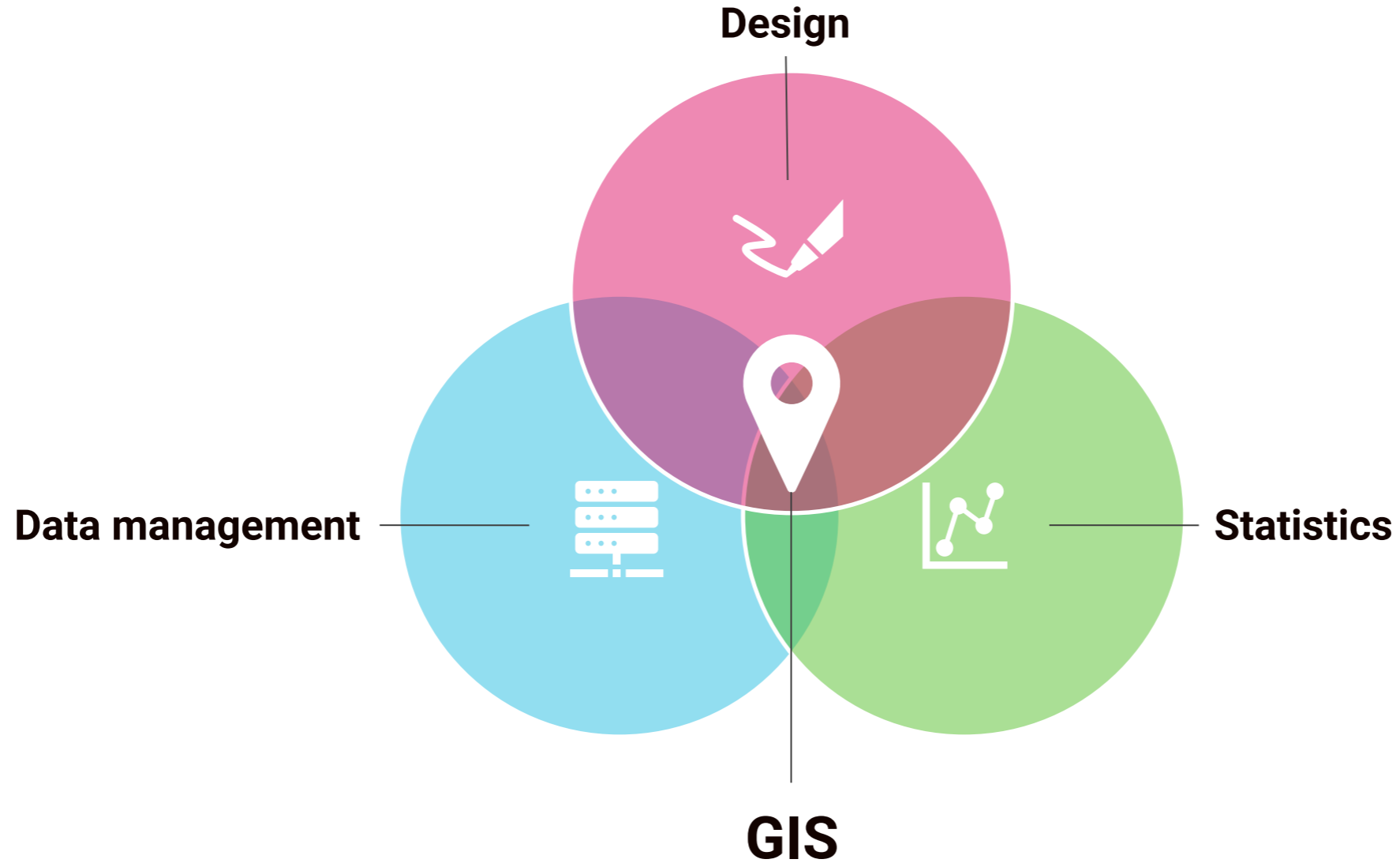


Next-Generation UN: Data Strategy and Beyond

Kersten Jauer, May 2022

Why ~~GIS~~ is beautiful: The intersection of data management, statistics, and design





Strategic context

Our Common Agenda: Breakdown or breakthrough to a greener, better, safer future

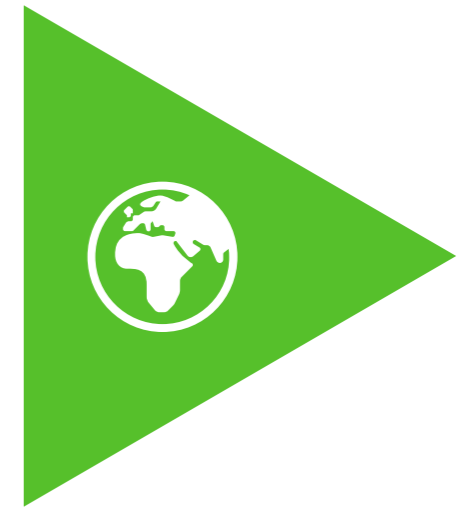
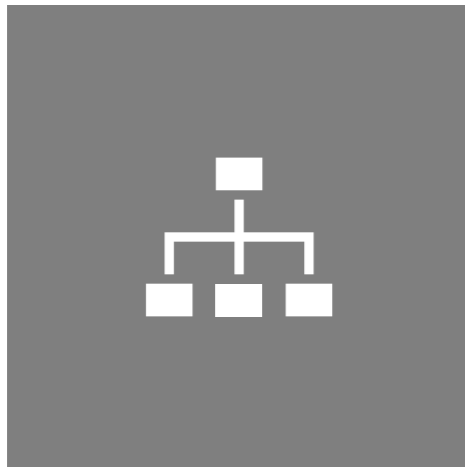


“The choices we make, or fail to make, today could result in further breakdown, or a breakthrough to a **greener, better, safer future.** The choice is ours to make.”



Download Report

Next phase of UN reform: New capabilities, built on better structures, for more impact



Structural Change

Development, peace and security, and management structural UN reforms

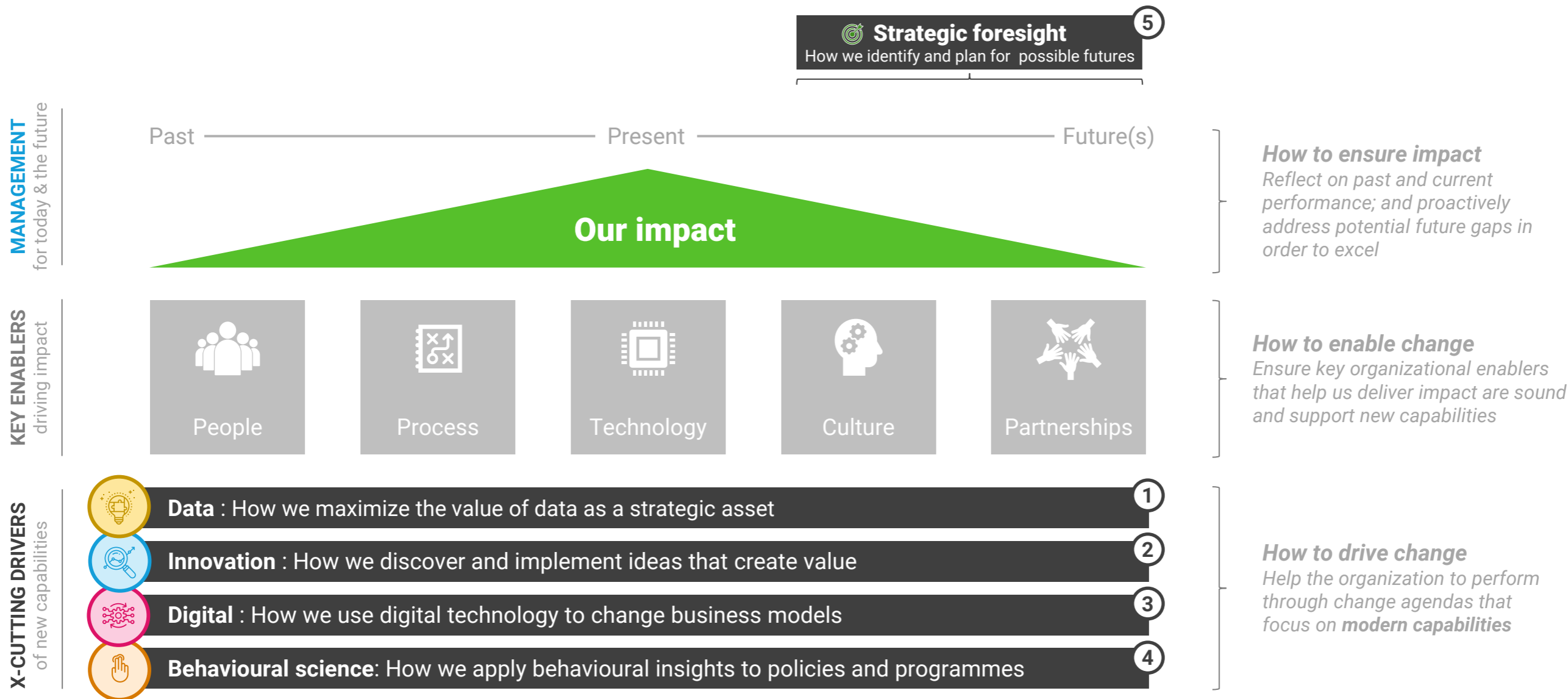
UN 2.0 Capabilities

Fostering modern UN capabilities for the 21st century

UN Family Impact

More impact now and in future(s)

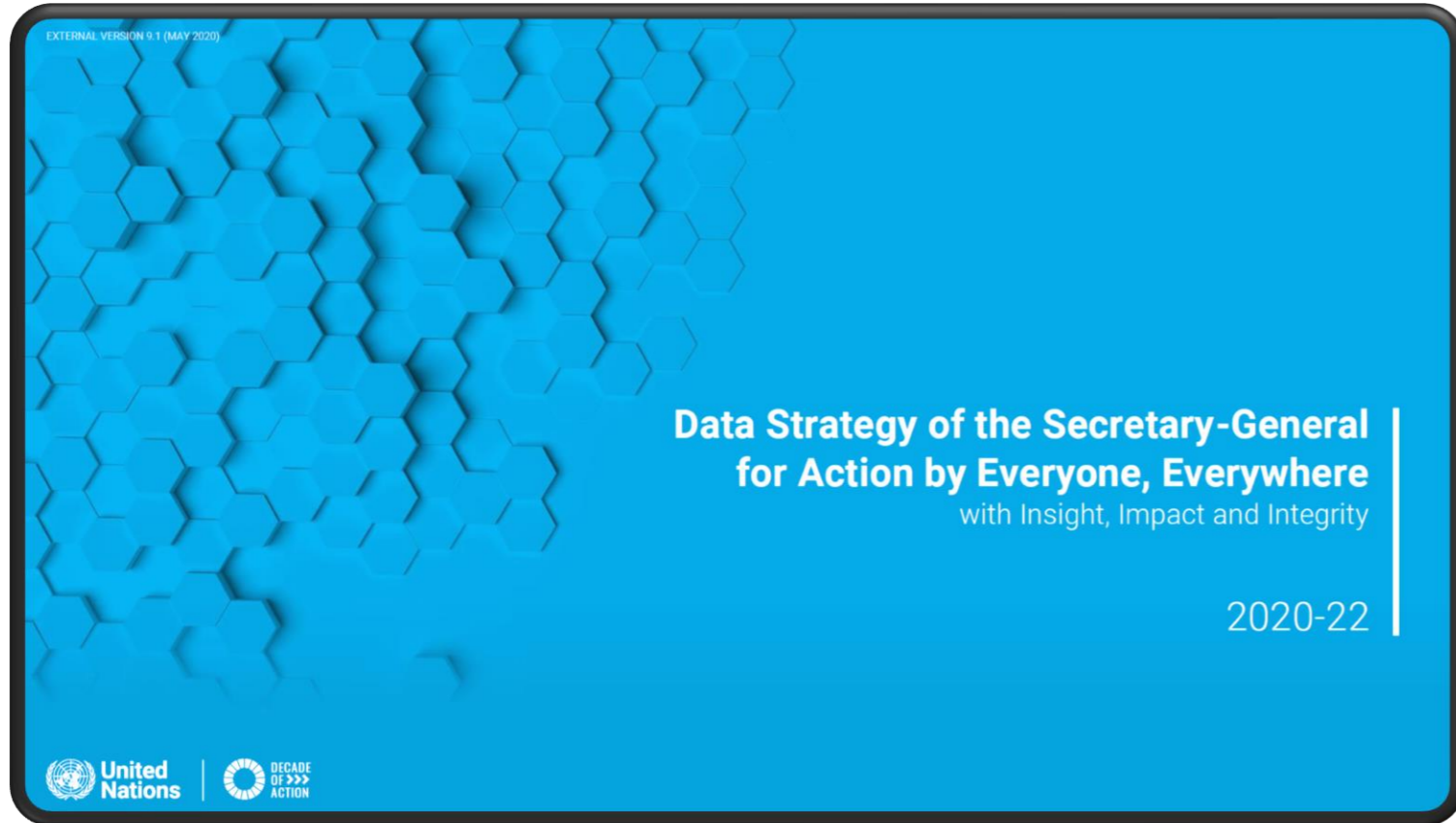
UN 2.0: 'Quintet of Change' of next-generation capabilities for impact now & in future(s)



Data Strategy

Big picture overview

Data Strategy: Driving change to unlock the UN family's full data potential



OUR VISION

“Build a whole-of-UN ecosystem that unlocks our full data potential:

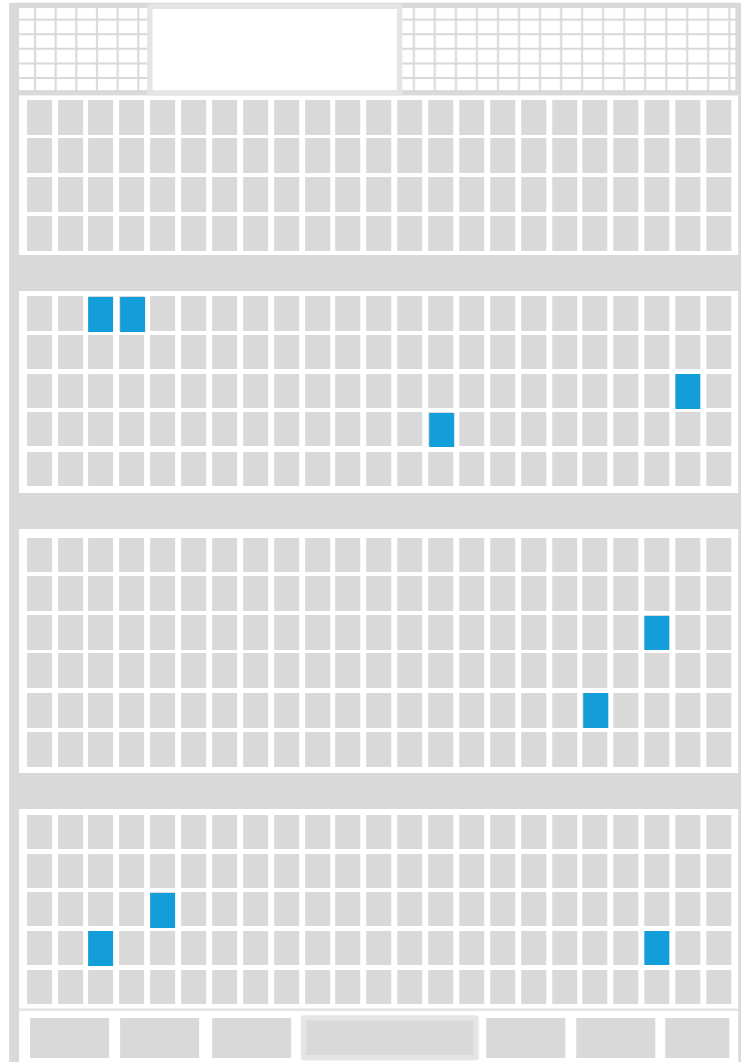
For better decisions and stronger support to people and planet—in the moments that matter most.”



Why?

location data

Why? In the past, ~~data~~ was an isolated concern. Now it permeates everything we do.

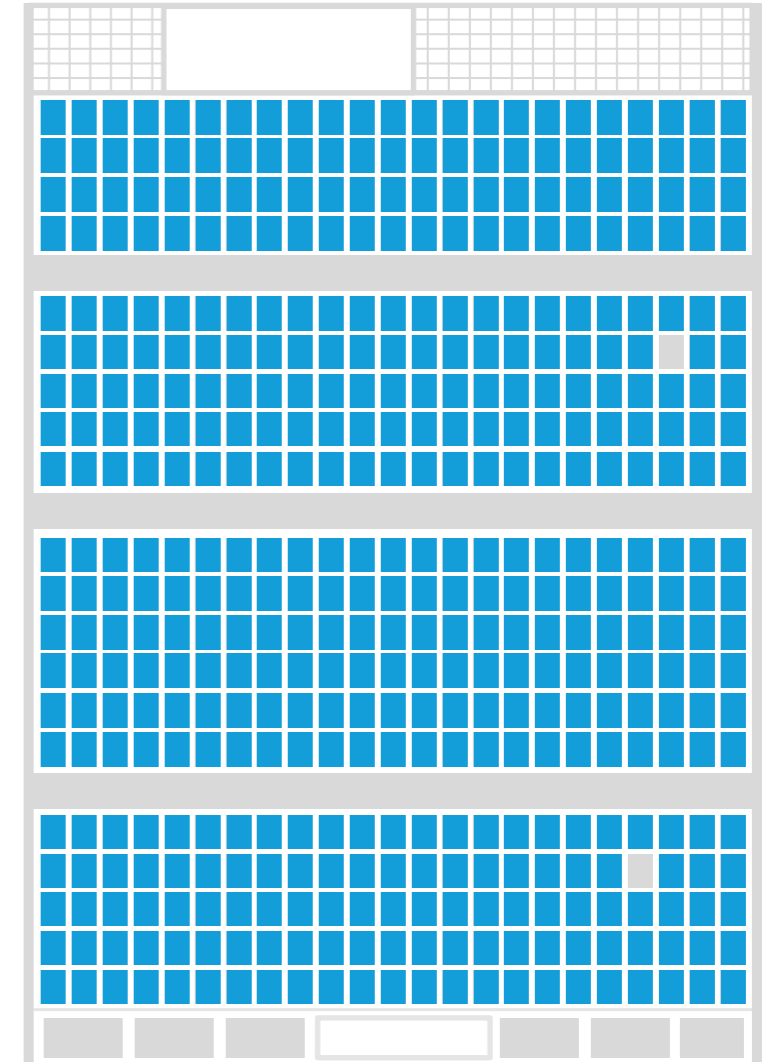


In the past

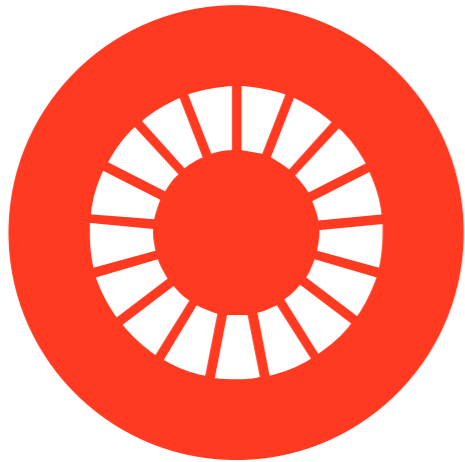
Data was a mainly a concern for IT and statistics teams

Today

Data is integral to the work of all teams across the UN



Why? Decade of Action for SDGs: Data, insights, and ecosystems for better investments



Trillions are needed to reach the Sustainable Development Goals:
>\$4.2trn / year



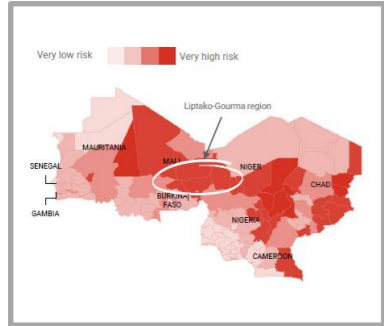
Better data is critical for navigating complex risks and choices ahead:
>50% of SDG data missing



Stronger data ecosystems are key to guiding investments:
> people x data connect

location data

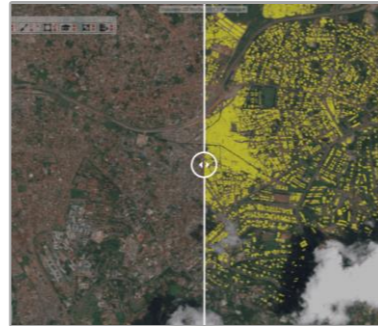
~~Data~~ is a key to: What happened, why it happened, what happens next, how to respond



Better needs targeting w/ sub-national risk models

Multi-factor risk models help identify at-risk areas at higher resolutions and design more effective responses.

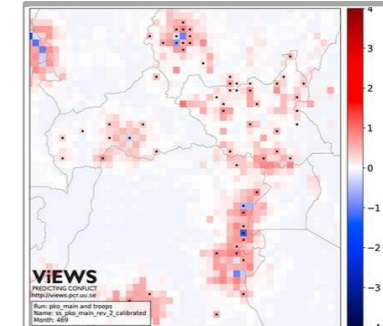
Example: INFORM Sub-National



Earlier alerting with satellite imagery analysis

AI models can be trained to recognize patterns, incl. camp formations, and other geographic phenomena.

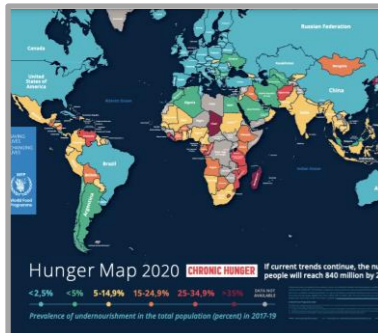
Example: UN Global Pulse, Pulse Satellite



More tailored peacekeeping deployments

Incident and patrol data can help determine what capabilities are needed where / when + impact

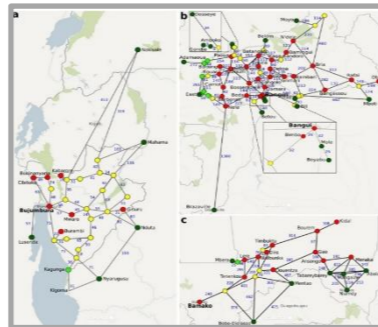
Example: VIEWS (Hultman, Leis, Nilsson)



Faster response w/ predictive [food security] models

AI helps WFP predict food security months earlier w/ 90% accuracy in 90 countries, while only present in 45 countries.

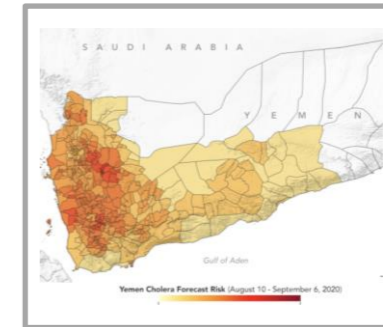
Example: World Food Programme



Better simulations of displacement and refugee flows

Modelling toolkits forecast destinations of forcibly displaced people and the effects of policy decisions

Example: FLEE, Horizon 2020



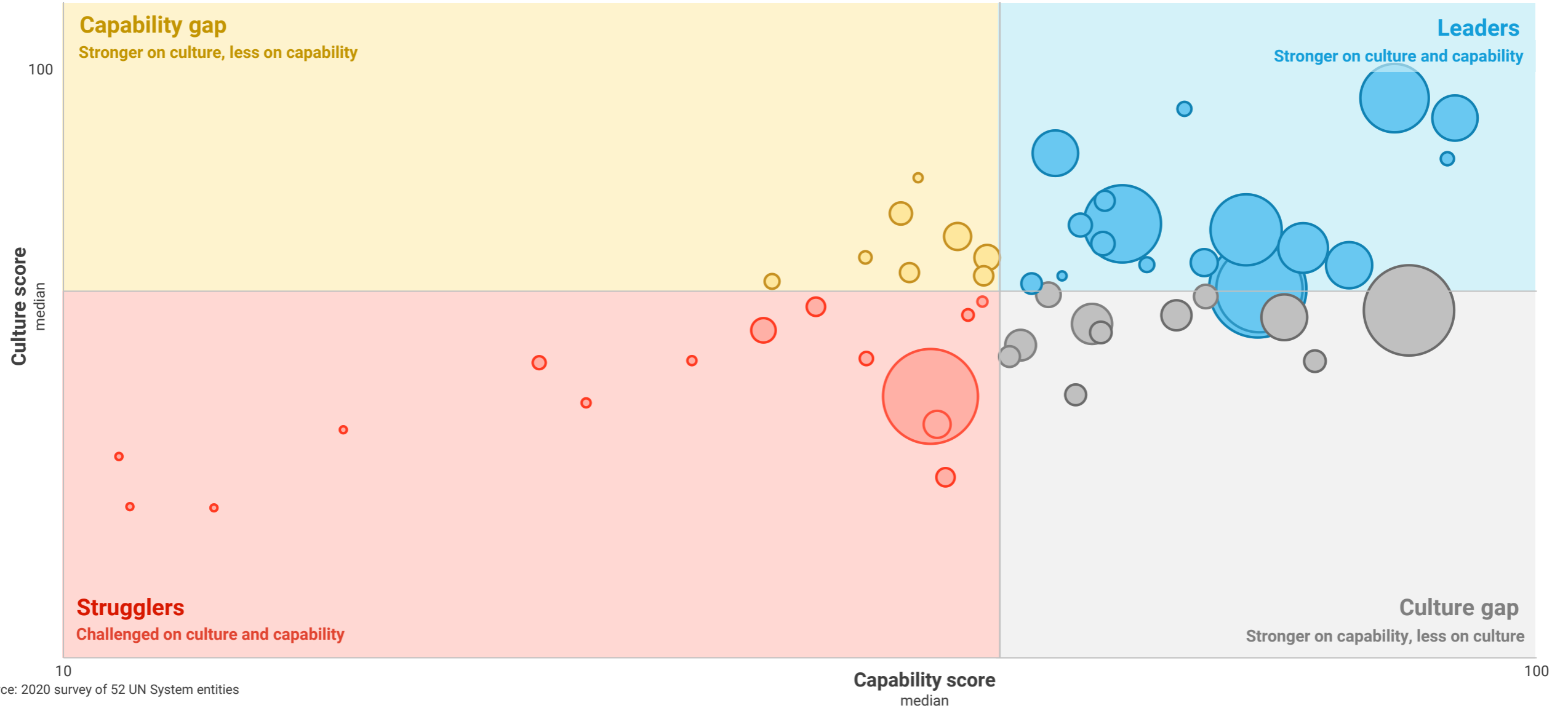
Better disease prevention and response

Satellite + ground data predicting spread of cholera in Yemen helps prevent >2m cases.

Example: UN OCHA

Wide dispersion: UN family innovation, data and digital culture & capability

2020 innovation, data and digital score map of entities based on capability and culture scores (bubble size indicates staff numbers)



Source: 2020 survey of 52 UN System entities



How?

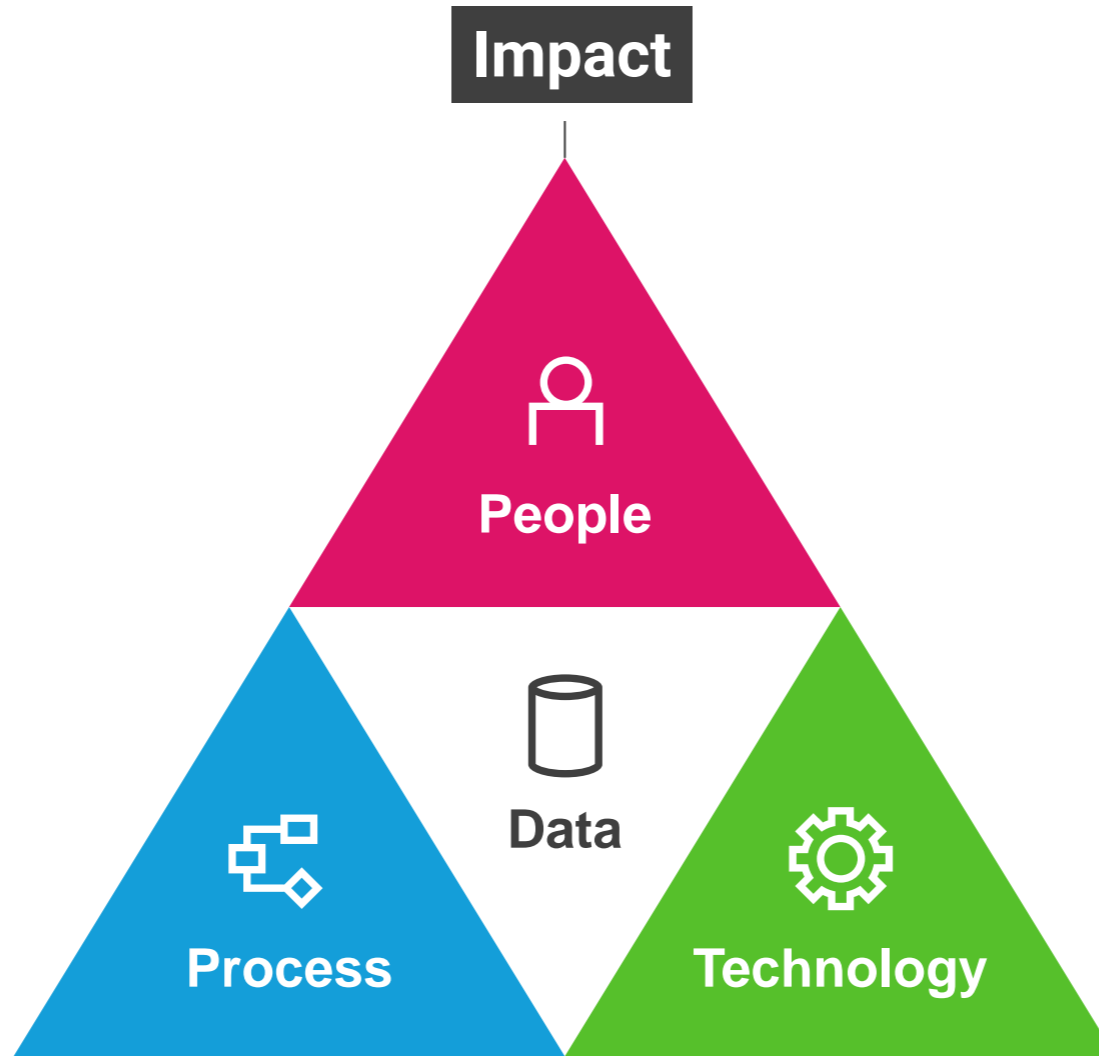
It is not about adding resources. It's about evolving how we use resources we have.



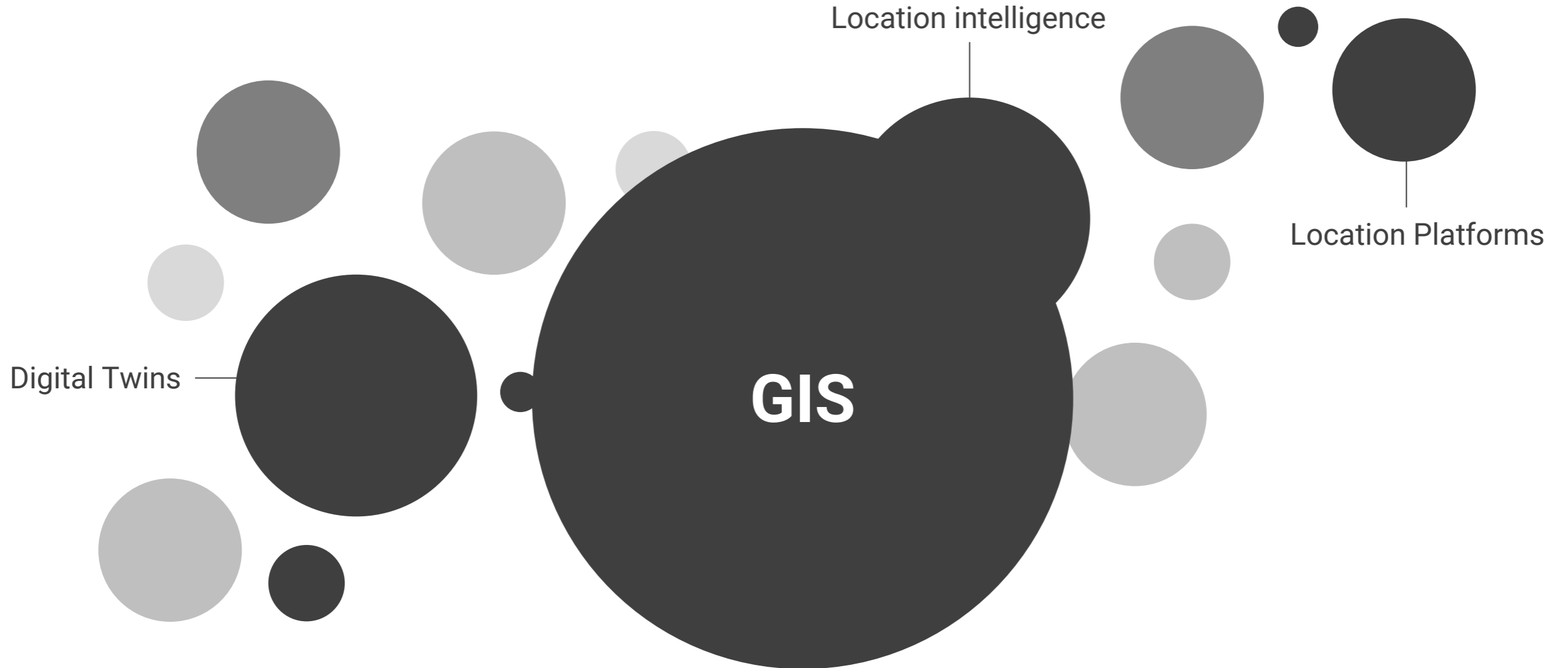
GIS

location data

It's not a ~~IT~~ problem: Transforming how ~~data~~ x people, process, tech connect for impact

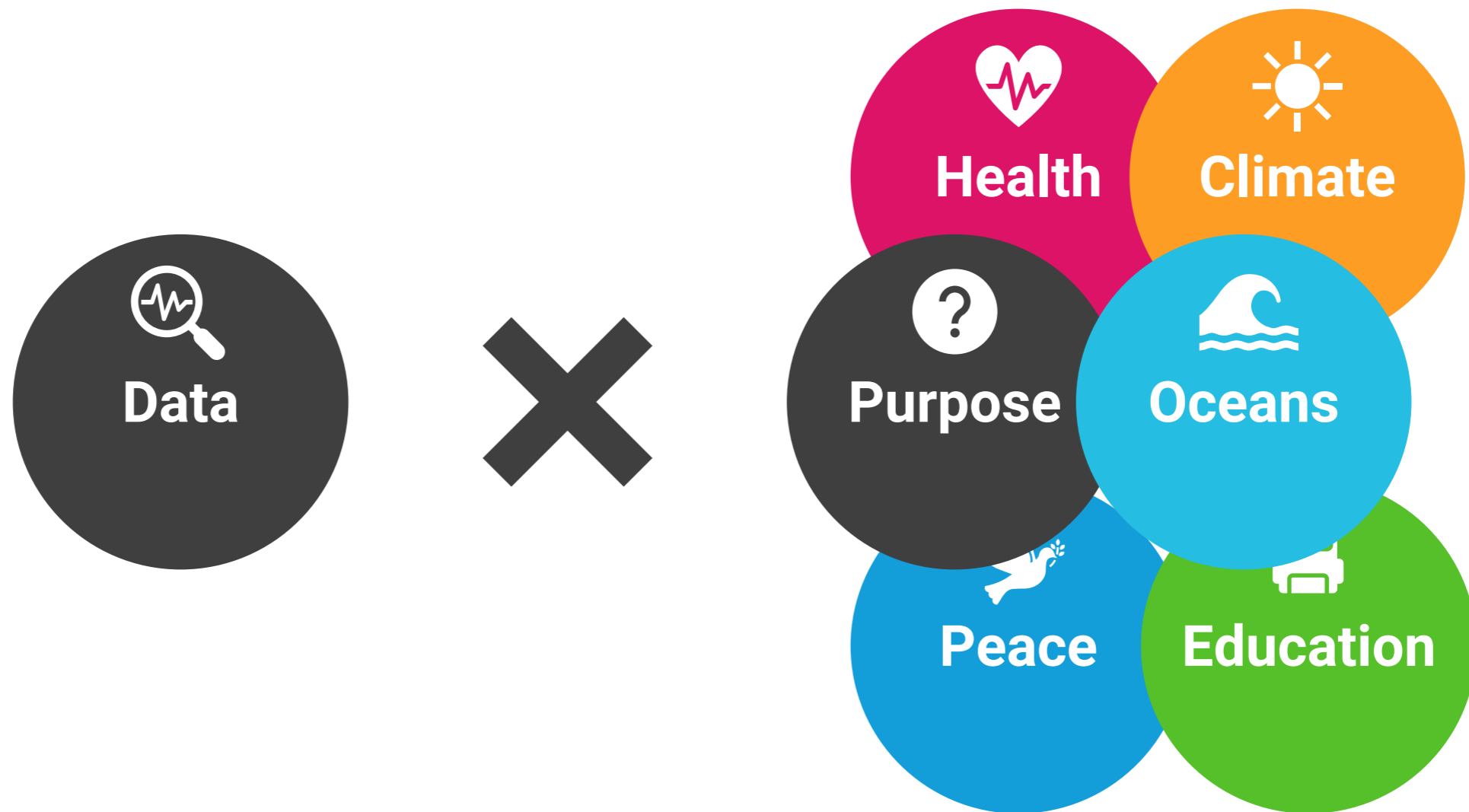


From one to many: More stratified and widely dispersed capabilities – most non-expert

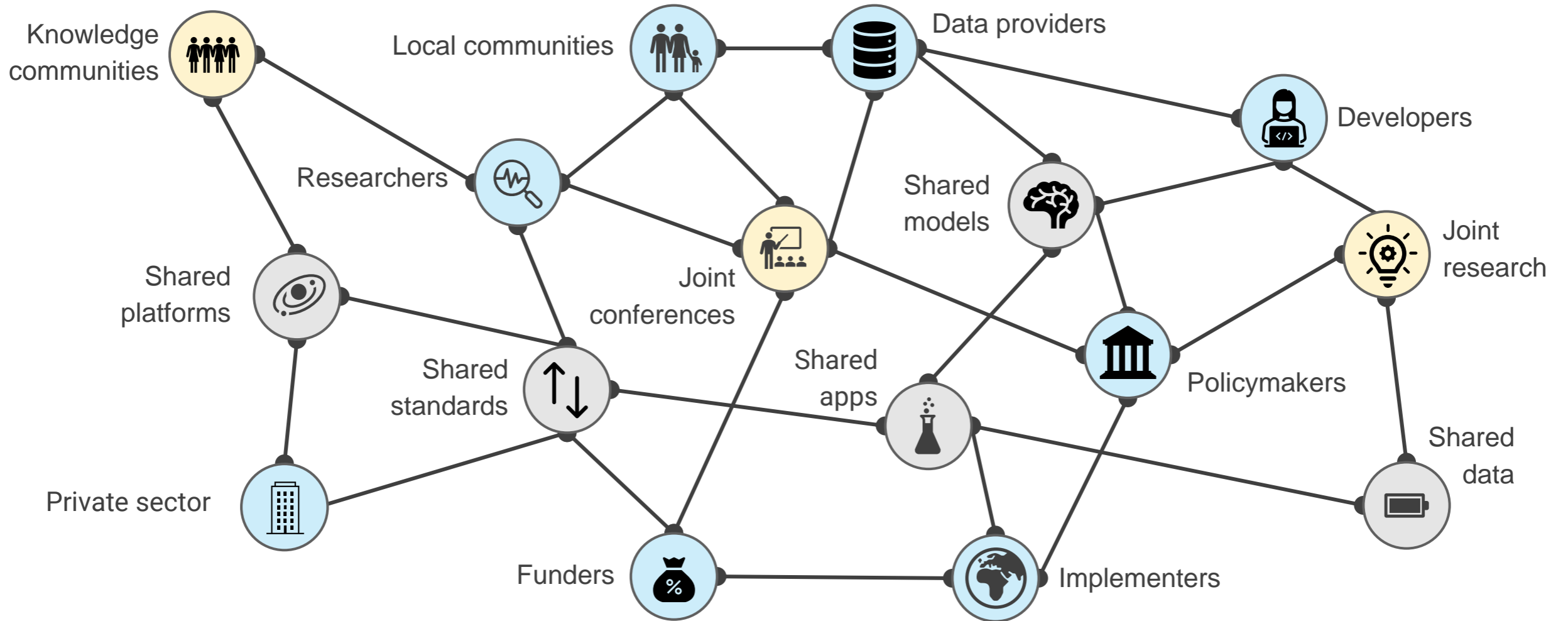


location data

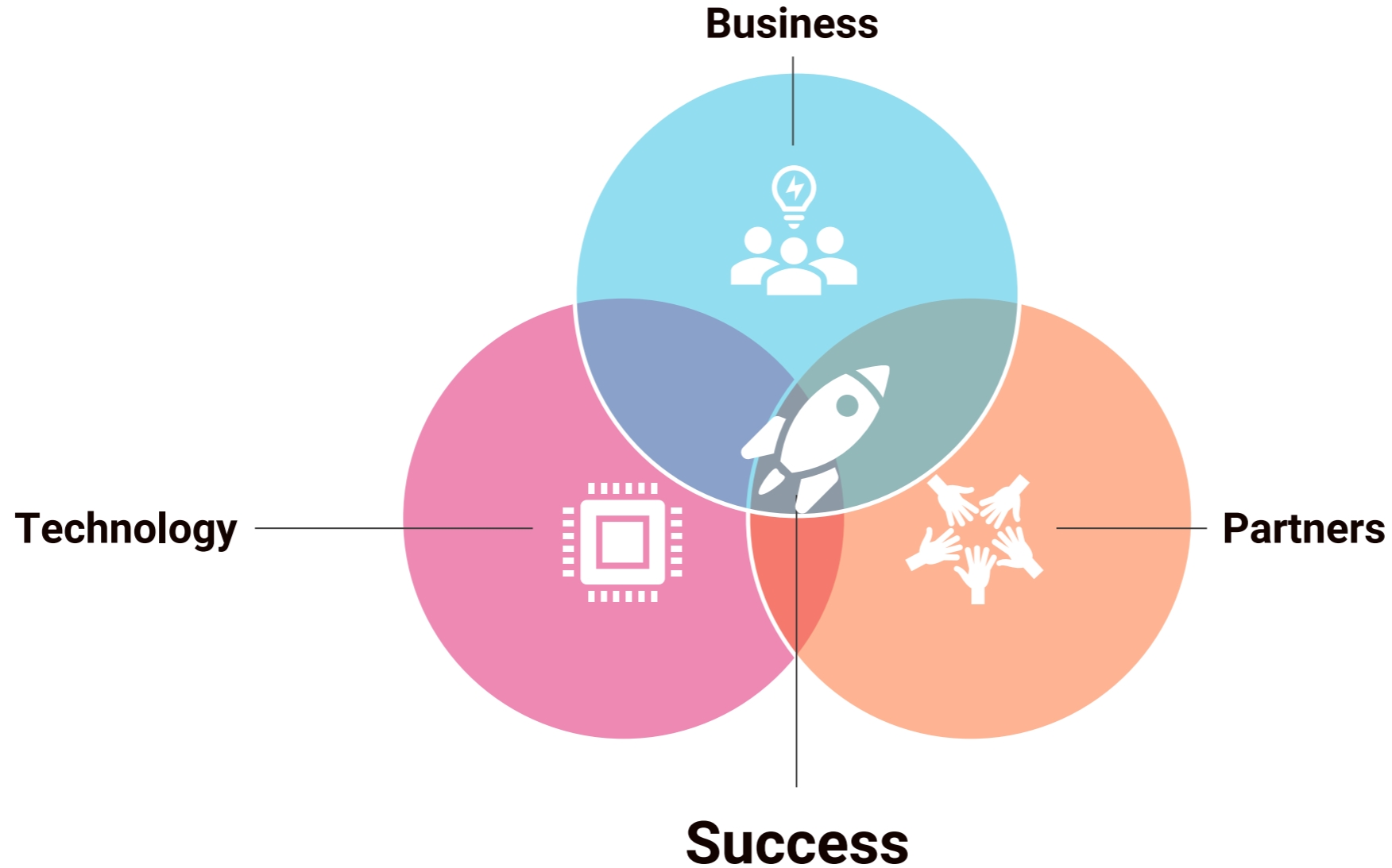
Never for its own sake: It's about '~~data~~ with purpose'



Ecosystems matter: Diverse partners unite around common purpose & rules for collab.



To succeed, the data-driven transformation needs business leads and partners

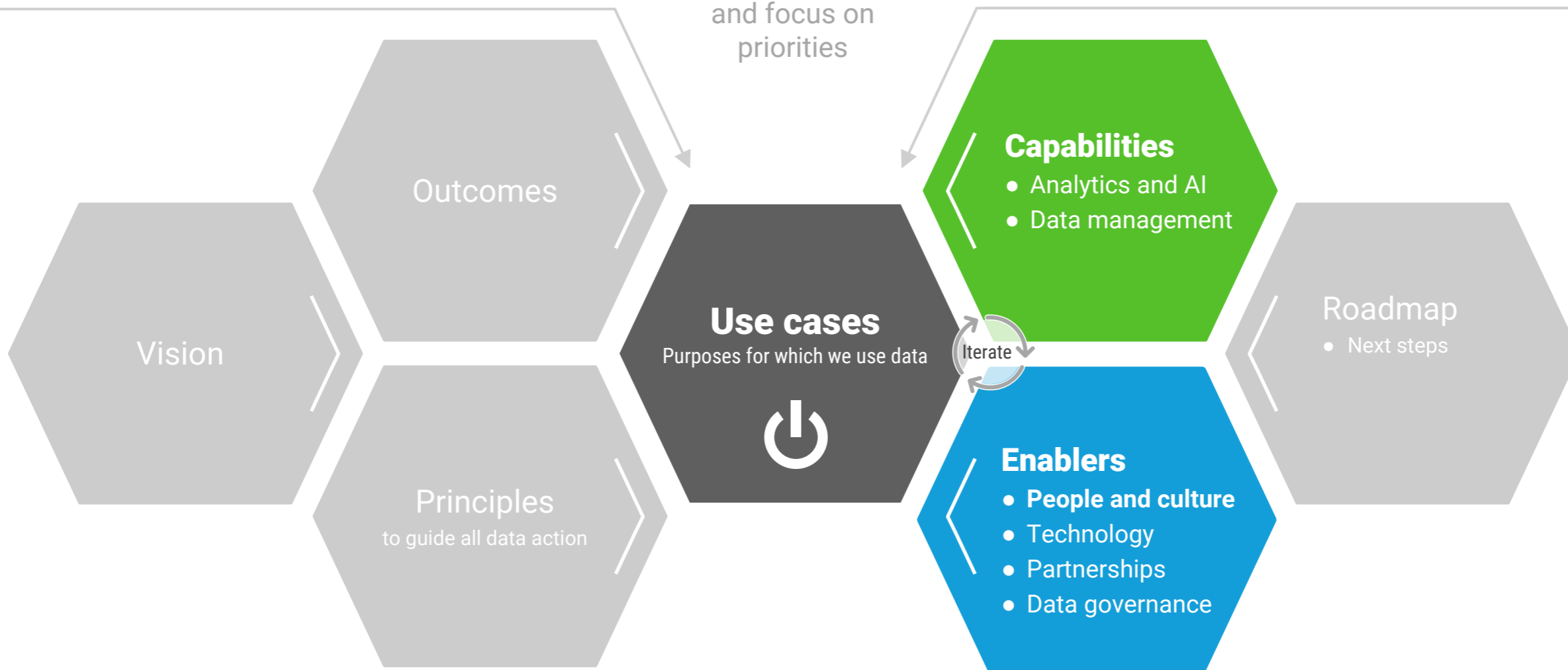


In our strategy, we take a use case centric approach to evolve capabilities and enablers

Set strategic foundations

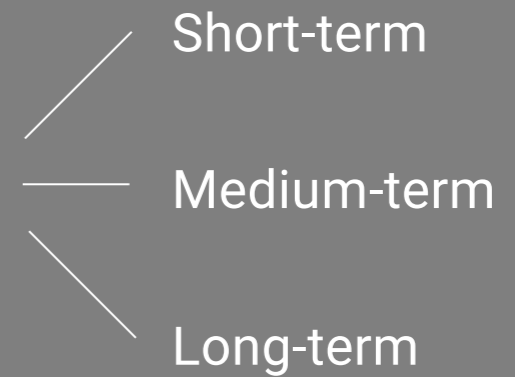
Create business value and focus on priorities

Foster enablers, nurture capabilities, and iterate



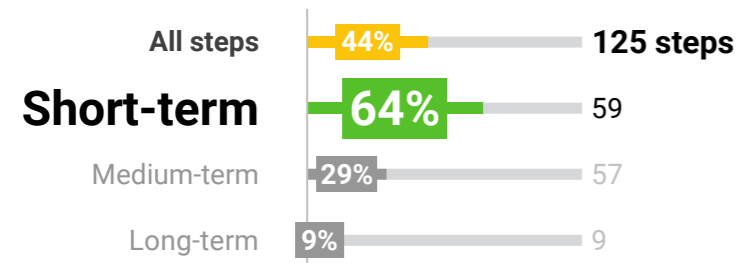
How far we've come

Big picture overview

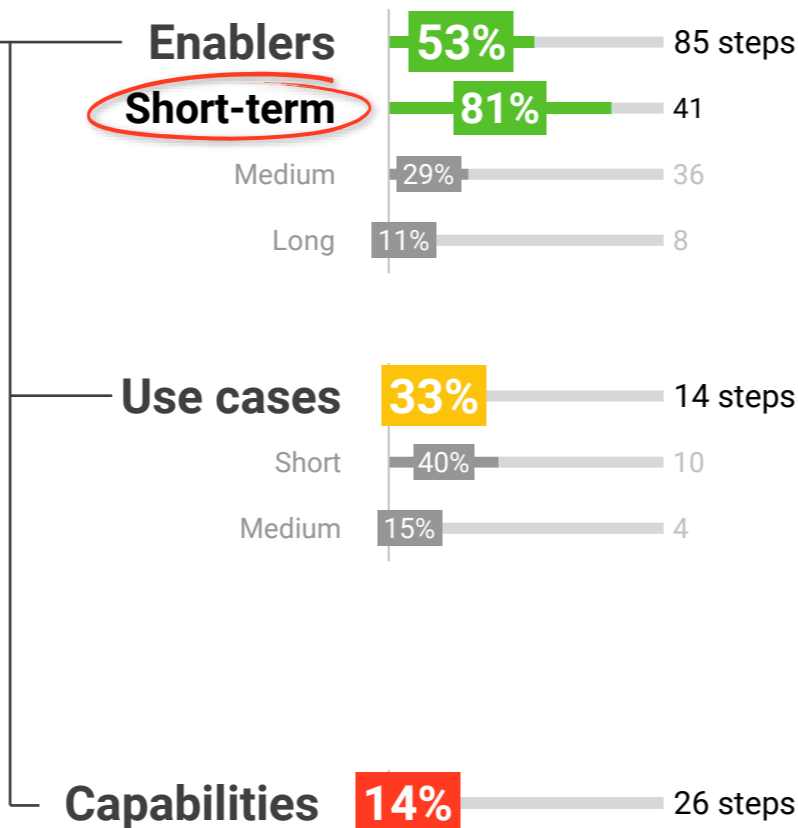


Of 125 steps, 64% of 'short-term' done: Key enablers at 81%; capabilities a 'long game'

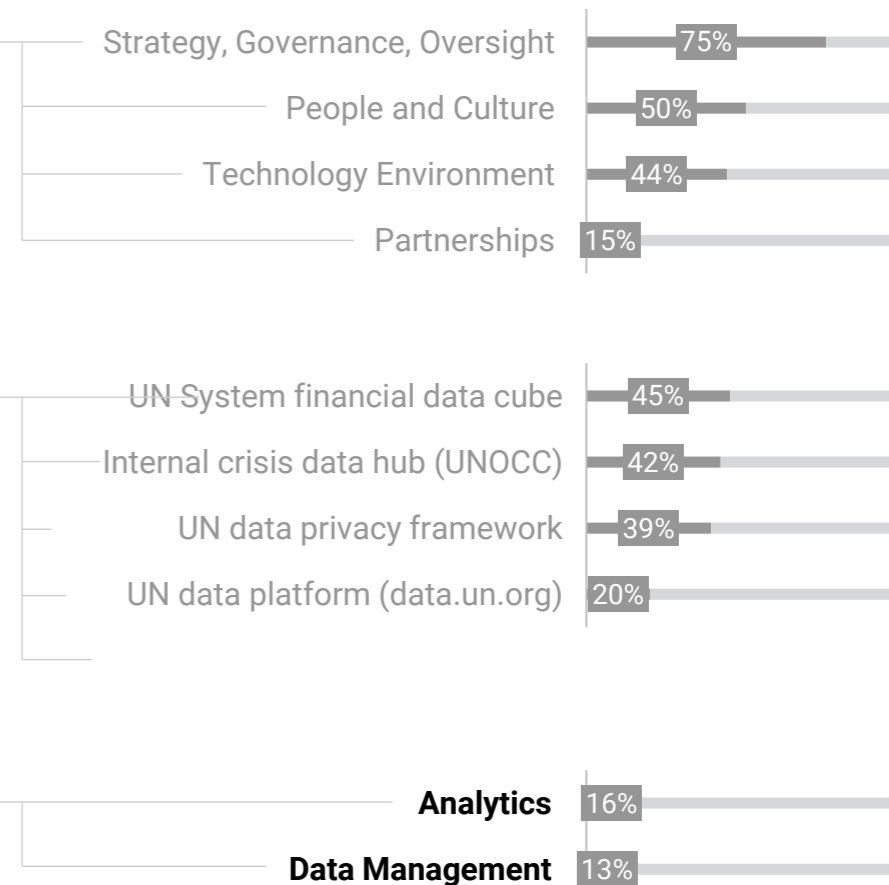
Progress by planned timeline, all steps



Progress by strategy element

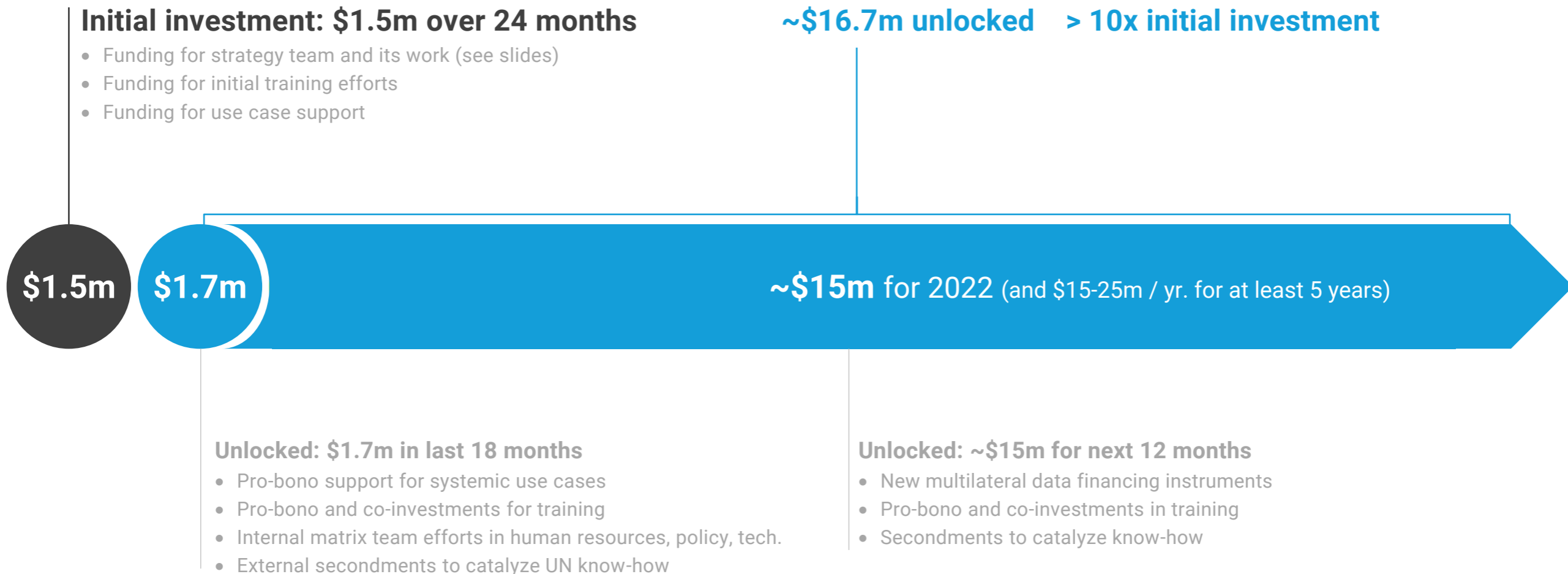


Progress by strategy sub-element



Not counting intangibles, we are on track to unlock 10x of initial strategy investment

Only includes efforts directly attributable to Data Strategy Support Team. Total value unlocked is higher when including efforts of other teams across the UN Secretariat or broader UN family.



What you can build on



Progress

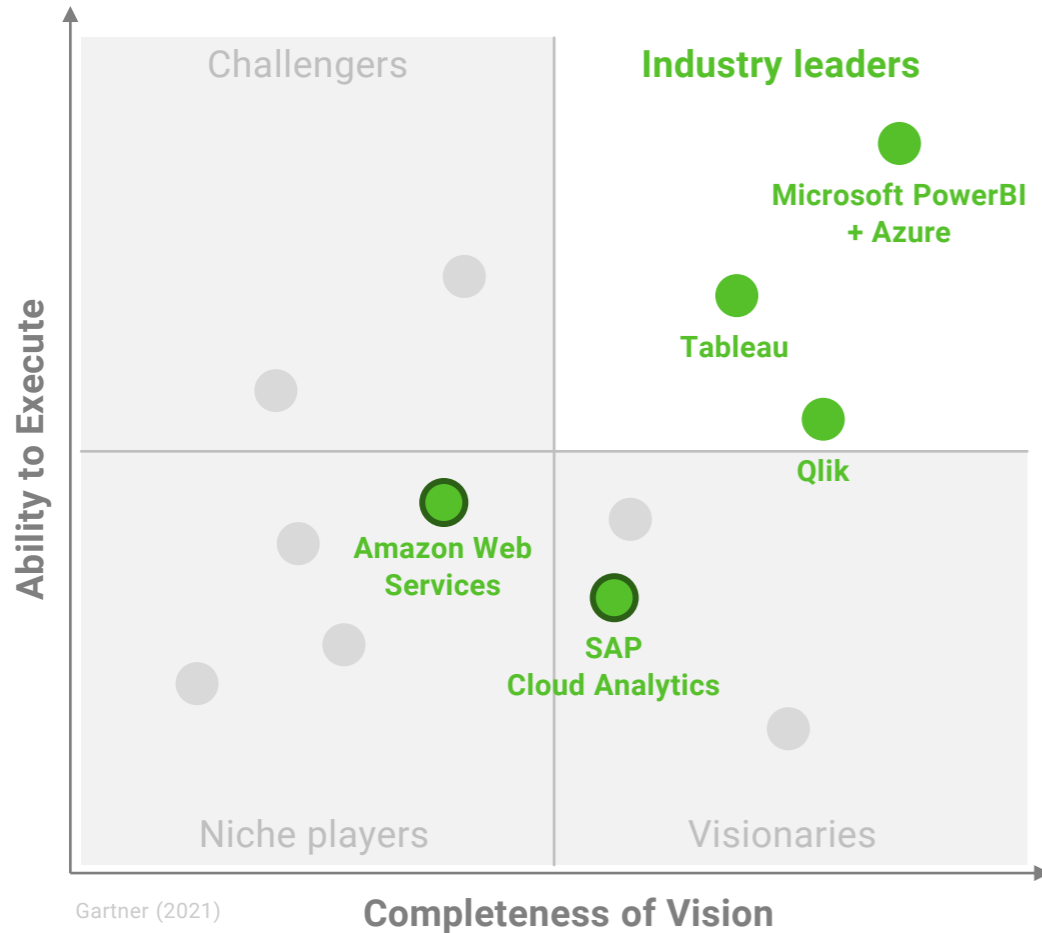
Challenges

How to support

Technology: Diverse and leading analytics + cloud platforms **in place** & being fortified

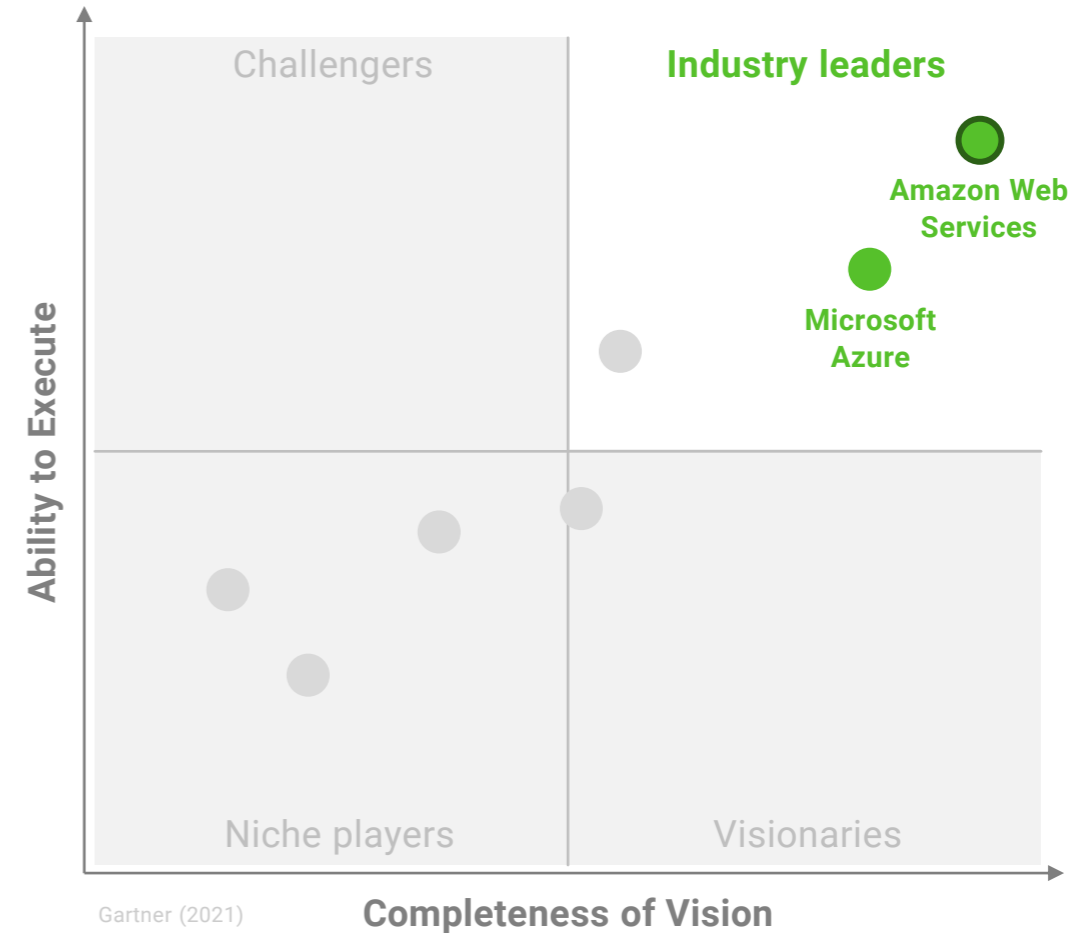
Analytics & business intelligence platforms in the UN Secretariat

● UN in-place ● UN added in 2021 ● Other



Cloud infrastructure & platform services in the UN Secretariat

● UN in-place ● UN added in 2021 ● Other



Microsoft Azure / Amazon Web Services, for example, each offer 200+ analytics capabilities for data sourcing, processing, management, visualization.

New job data profiles: Better business 'link-up' and more specialization



Data Analysts

- **Data Analysts** are responsible for collaborating with programme and operations colleagues on data and **analytics products**, incl. research, reports, visualizations, presentations, dashboards, ...
- Profiles available P-1 to P-5, G-4 to G-7, NO-A to NO-D and FS in preparation



Data Engineers

- **Data Engineers** are responsible for supporting everyone with data preparation, speeding up the creation of curated trusted **data pipelines and their integration**.
- Profiles available P-1 to P-5, G-4 to G-7, NO-A to NO-D and FS in preparation

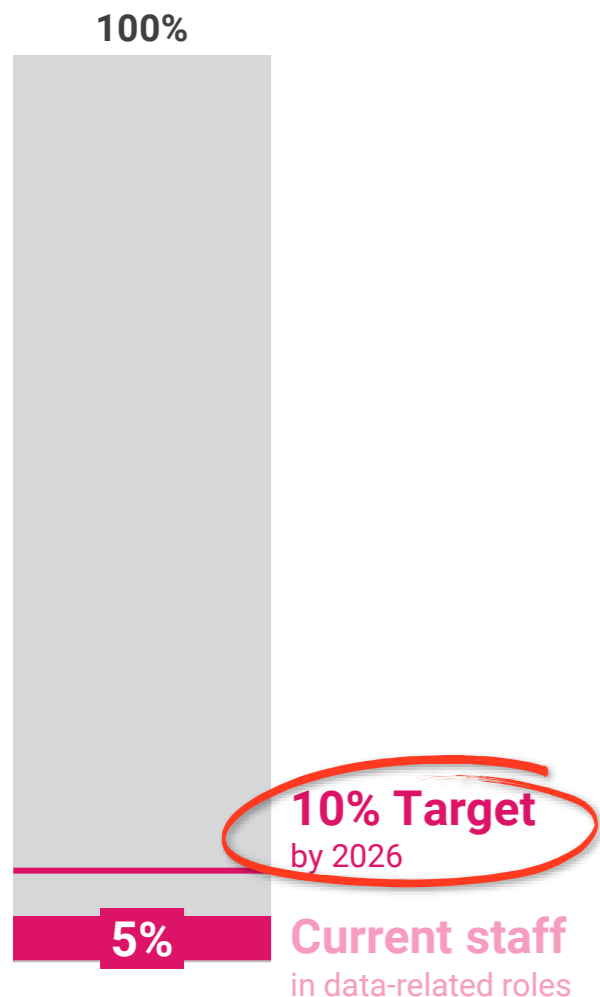


Data Scientists

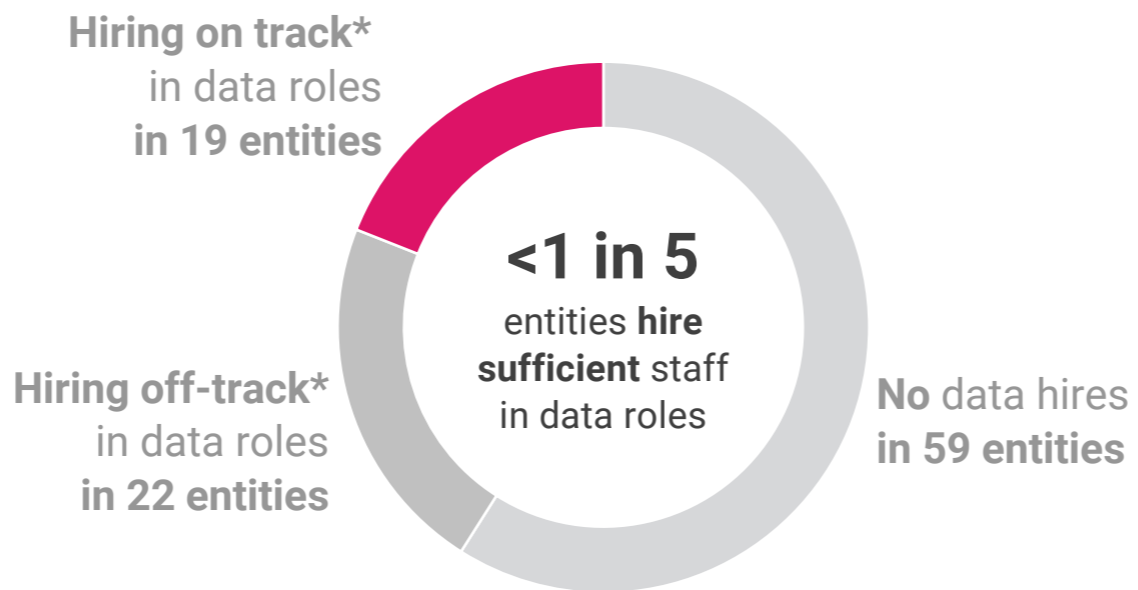
- **Data Scientists** are responsible for extracting deep insight from data and using **complex models**, employing statistics, algorithms, **artificial intelligence** and visualization methods.
- Profiles available P-1 to P-5, G-4 to G-7, NO-A to NO-D and FS in preparation

Recruiting new skills is critical, but not picking up: Less than 1 in 5 UN entities on target

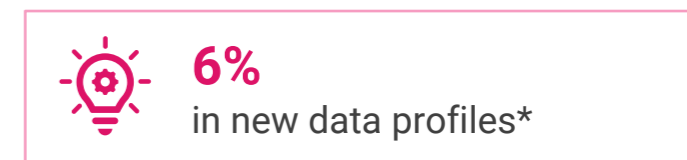
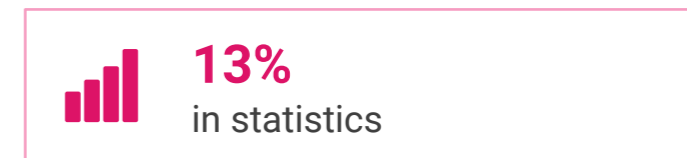
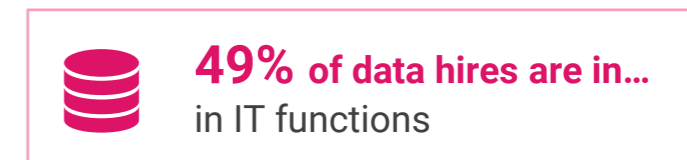
Current / target staff in data roles



113 entities tracked: All UN Secretariat hires since Jan '21...

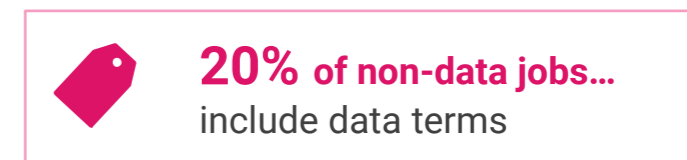


Indicators for data-related hires



* e.g. DGACM, DOS, OHCHR, OSAA, UNOG, UNON

Indicator on non-data job openings

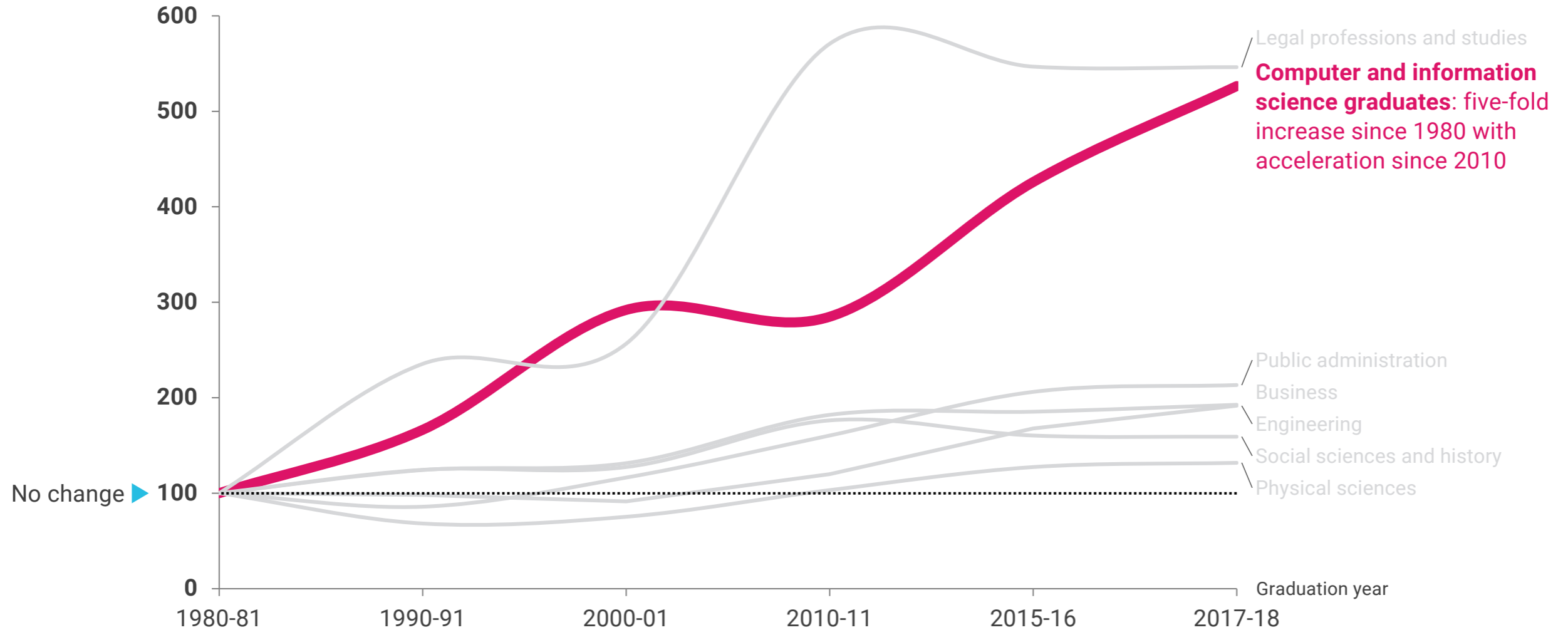


Source: Workforce planning dashboard as of November 2021'

* on-track where data roles are more than 5% of total hires, * off-track where data roles are less than 5% of total hires

Reconsider entry levels, as recent graduates bring data skills we need

Relative number of graduates by subject in the US (1980 = 100)

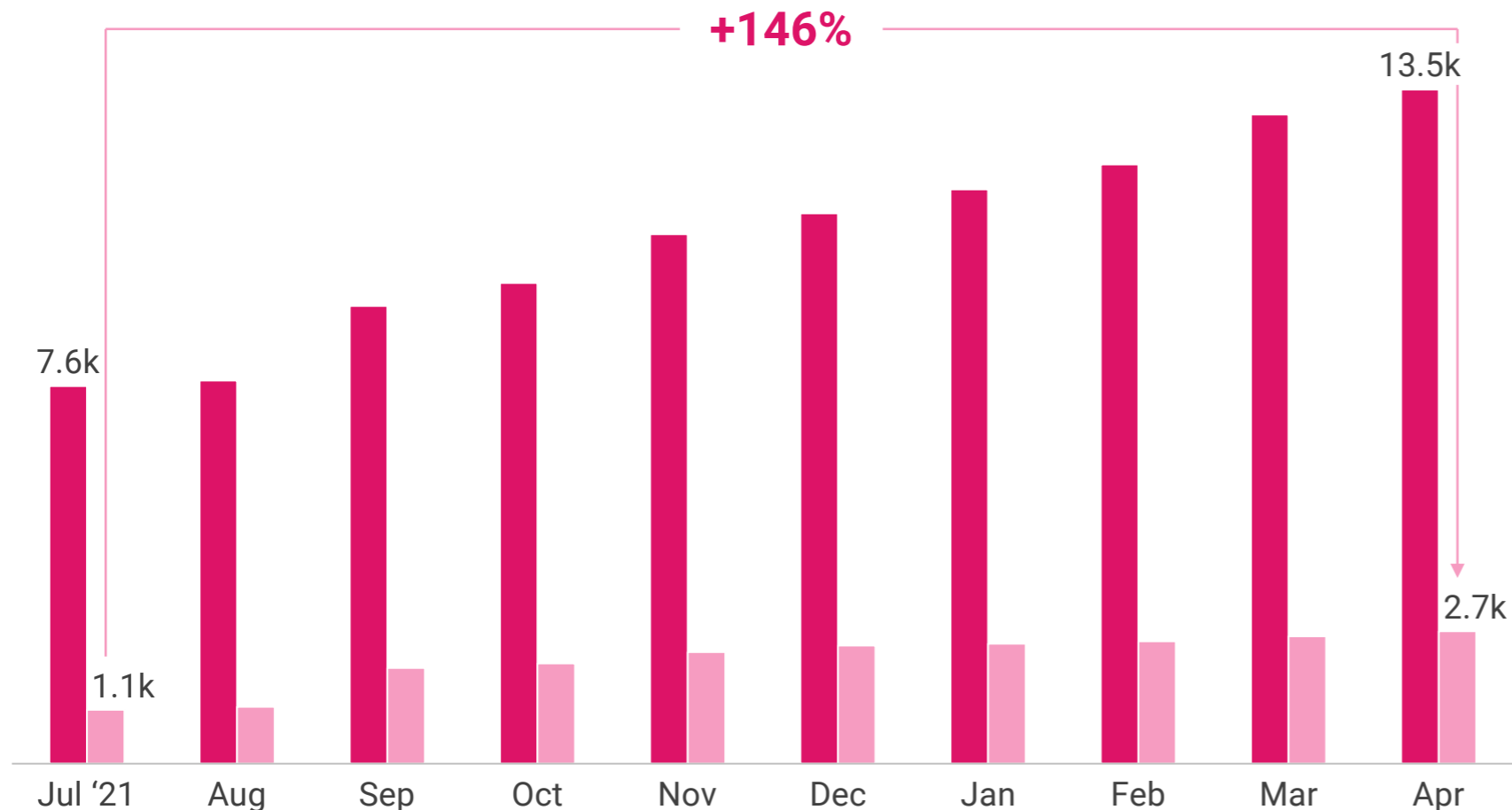


Source: Inputs in response to CDC memo of August 2020

Staff engagement strong: 2.7k data community members (+146%) & 13k at events

Cumulative members in knowledge-sharing community and event participation over past 6 months

■ Webinar participants ■ Community members



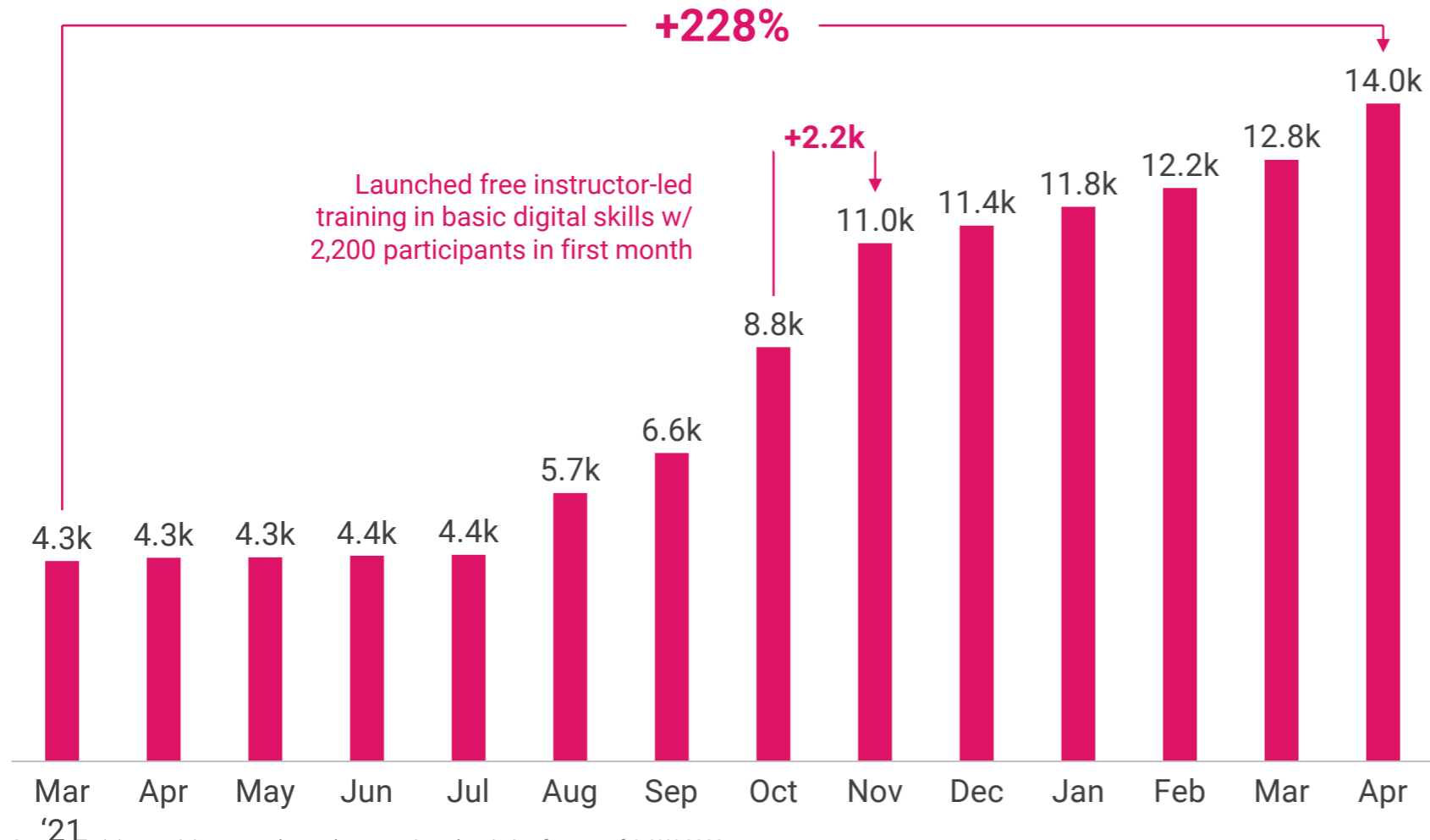
Community engagement indicators

- 55%** female members
- 40%** UN AFP members¹
- 82%** event satisfaction²
- 80%** newsletter satisfaction²

Source: Webinar participants tracker and community subscription form as of 6 JAN 2022; 1) UN AFPs = UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes, 2) satisfaction rated as 'useful' or 'very useful'

Training scalable: 14k colleagues participate so far, boost from free basic offer for all

Cumulative training participants since launch



Source: Training participants tracker and community subscription form as of 6 JAN 2022

Community demography and skills

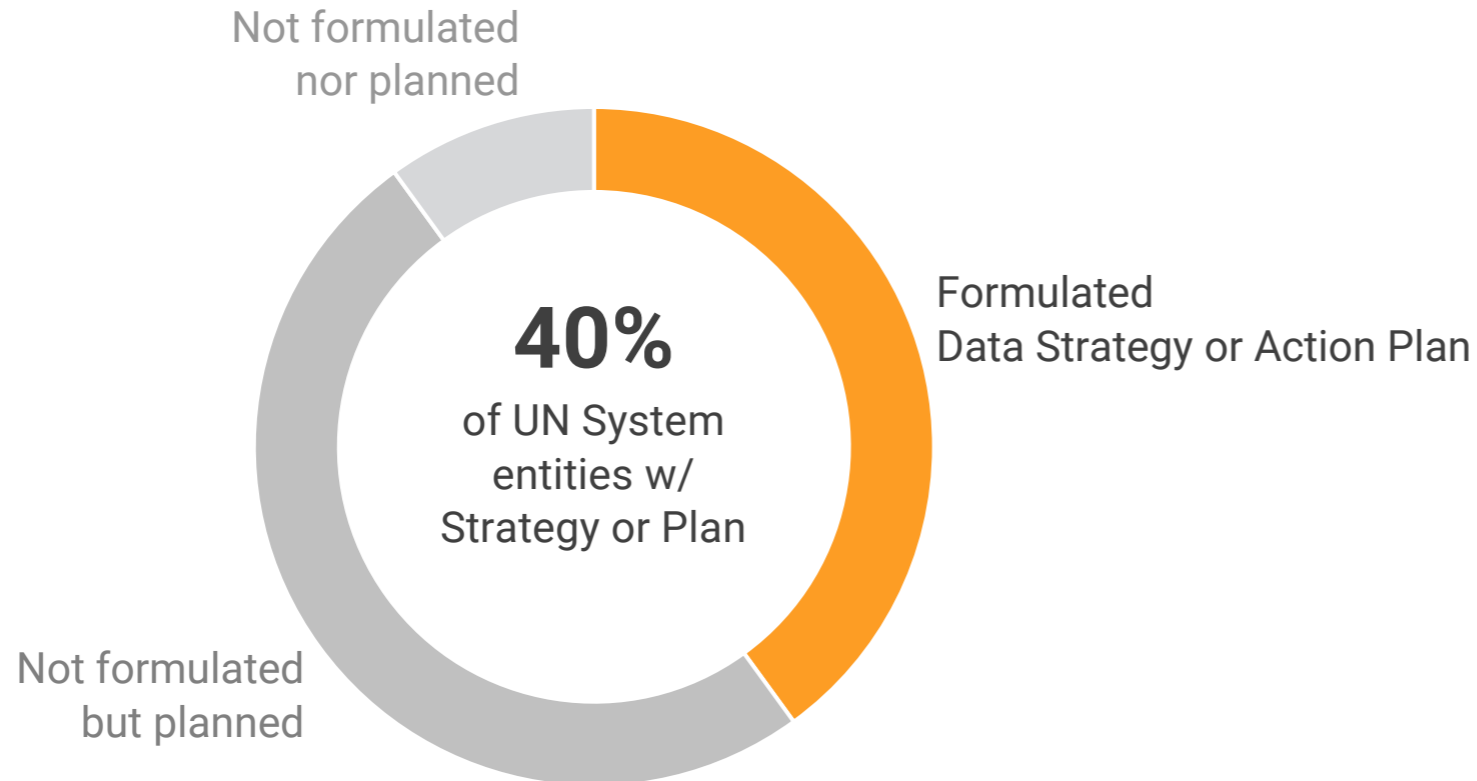
- 40%** above 45 years old
- 45%** average data skills
- 25%** below avg or minimal skill

Basic training must be priority

Strategies incomplete: Only 40% of UN System prepared for data-driven transformation

Status of data strategy development across 52 UN System entities as per the latest mapping

Other 'change preparedness' indicators



20%
w/ data governance group



52%
w/ dedicated data leadership



50%
say data high resource priority

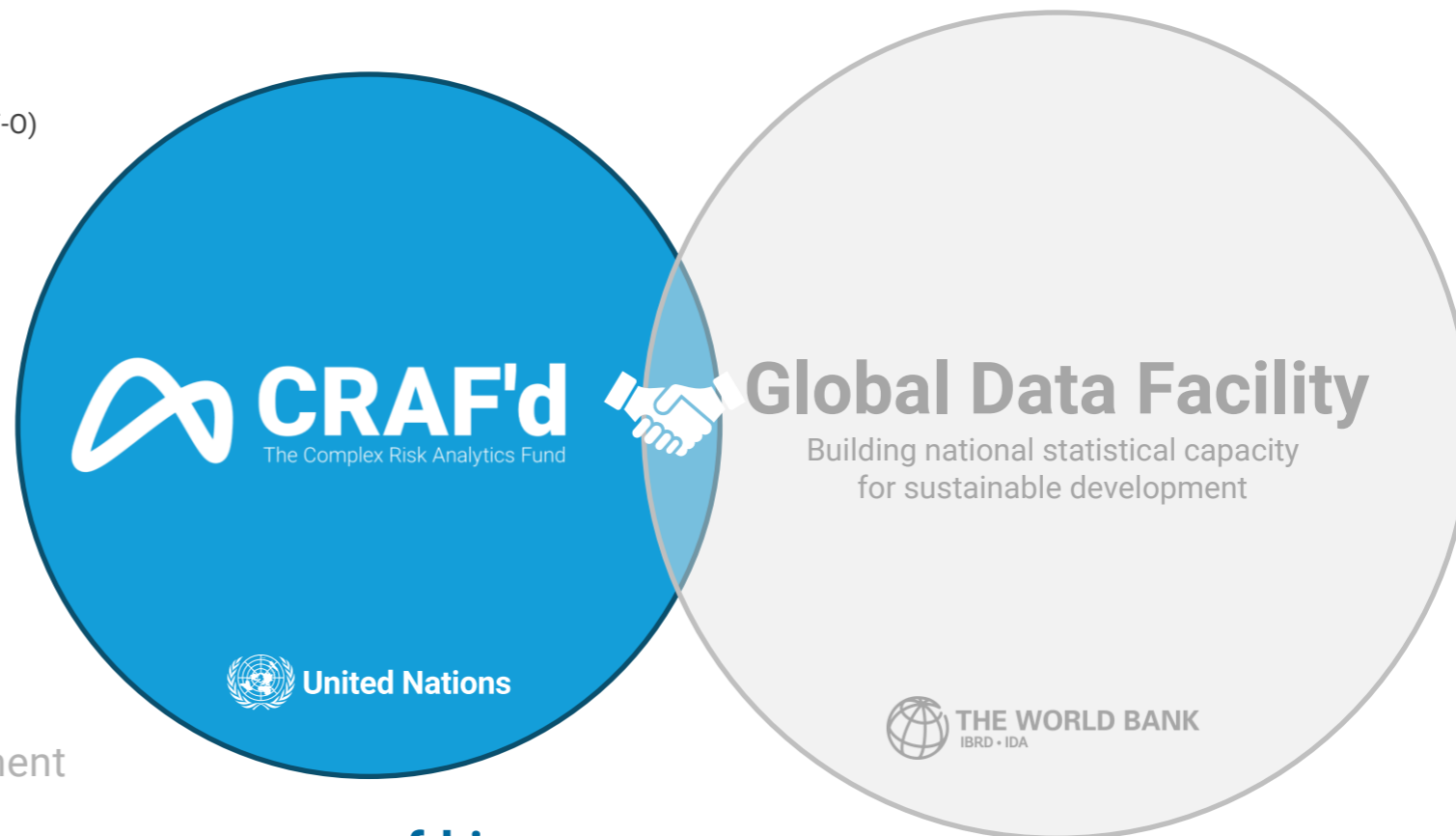
Partnerships: New financing facilities to support stronger data ecosystems

Complex Risk Analytics Fund (CRAF'd)

- UN-hosted multilateral financing instrument (MPTF-0)
- Designed and launched in 2021; up in 2022
- Supports **open risk data & ecosystems** for
 - **Crisis prevention**
 - **Anticipatory action**
 - **Crisis response**
- 10+ initial contributing partners

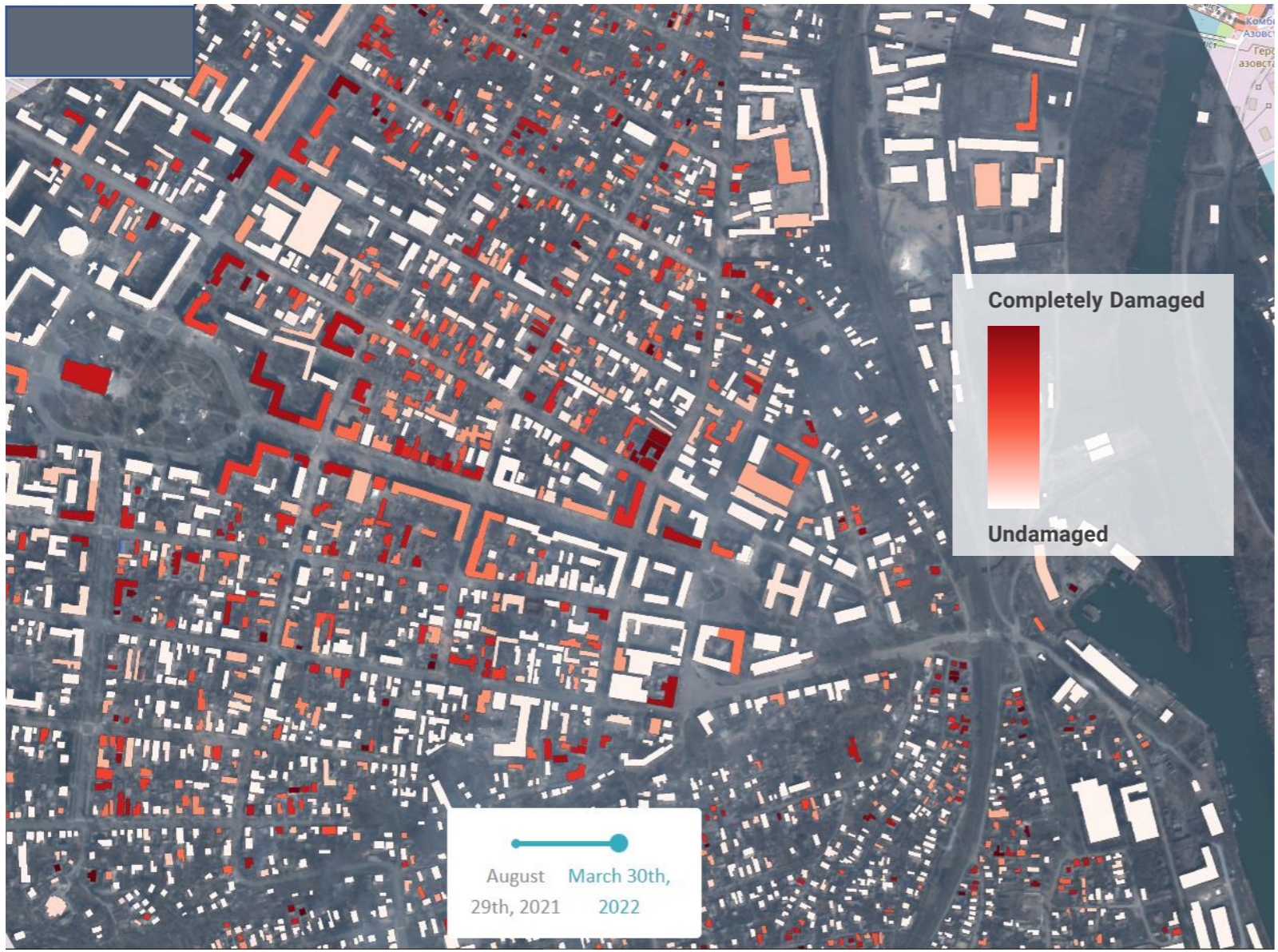
Global Data Facility (GDF)

- World Bank-hosted multilateral financing instrument
- Conceived in 2018/19 to launch in 2022
- Support **data & statistical capacity** for sustainable dev't

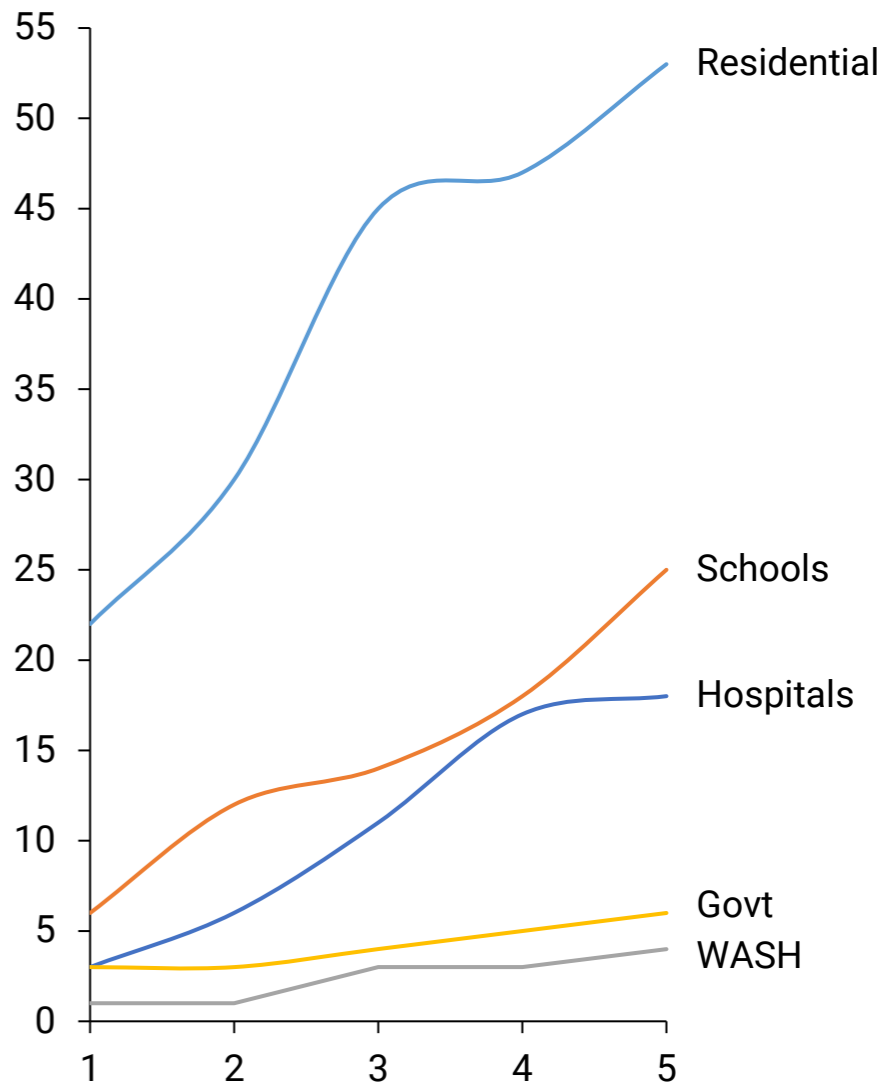


www.crafd.io

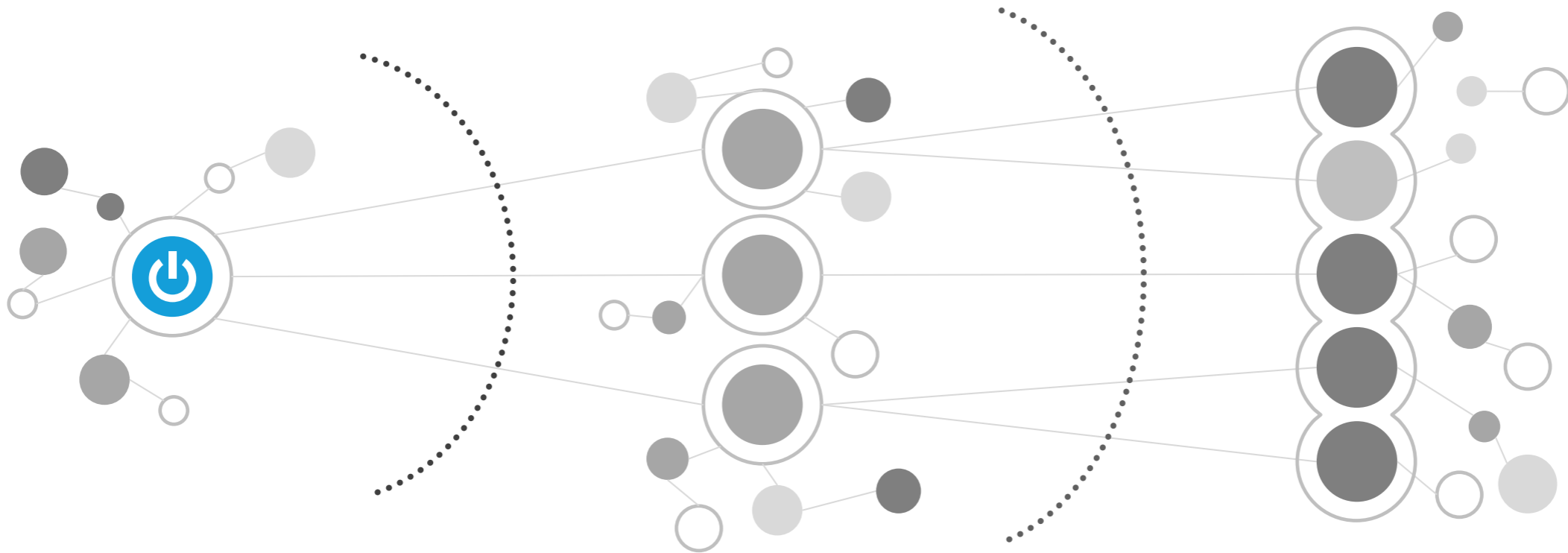
Complex geospatial analytics with purpose: Understanding reconstruction needs



Damaged infrastructure



Ready phase 2: With playbook & enablers in place, focus now on 'data for your purpose'



Annex

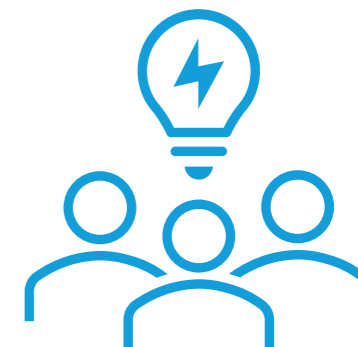
Action summaries

What you can do as a colleague, manager, or organization to advance data-driven change

As a colleague: What you can do to join the journey

SELECT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Sign up for the UN Data Strategy **knowledge hub, events, and newsletter** via [this simple form](#)
- Read the UN **Data Strategy** at www.un.org/datastrategy
- Watch the Data Strategy x **The Economist event** on the Knowledge Hub to understand [how others build and use data capabilities](#)
- Complete **free instructor-led trainings** for Microsoft Office 365 apps via the [UN Office 365 Learning Hub](#)
- Use your UN + **LinkedIn Learning subscription** for data-focused [micro-courses](#)
- Watch out for the **UN + coursera announcement** for certifiable courses from top universities
- Earn **free certification** in Microsoft Azure through the UN + Microsoft [enterprise skills initiative](#)
- Explore our **use case collection** and event resources on the UN Data Strategy [Knowledge Hub](#)
- Find **data jobs** on the Data Strategy Knowledge Hub [job page](#)
- Present **your use case** in a Data Strategy event starting with a quick email to datastrategy@un.org



As a manager: What you can do to drive change

SELECT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Read the **UN Data Strategy** at www.un.org/datastrategy
- Bring **data analysts, engineers, scientists into your team**, incl. via TJOs, leverage [new job profiles](#) & workforce planning guides
- Watch the Data Strategy x **The Economist event** on the Knowledge Hub to understand [how others build and use data capabilities](#)
- Ask colleagues to sign up for the **UN Data Strategy knowledge hub, events, and newsletter** via [this simple form](#)
- Ask colleagues to complete **free instructor-led trainings** for Microsoft Office 365 apps via the [UN Office 365 Learning Hub](#)
- Invest in **scalable low-cost training solutions for all** like coursera.org via existing systems contracts (UNDP)
- Target investments in any **custom training** carefully
- Develop a **data action plan** for your team using concepts from the [Data Strategy Explorer](#) and [data action framework](#)
- Explore our **use case collection** and event resources on the UN Data Strategy [Knowledge Hub](#)
- Advertise your **data jobs** in the Data Strategy newsletter via a quick email to datastrategy@un.org
- Ask your team to **present** in a Data Strategy event, starting with a quick email to datastrategy@un.org



As an organization or department: What you can do to create better enabling conditions

STRATEGY

- Formulate a **strategy or action plan to advance the data-driven transformation** focused on your purpose, challenges, opportunities
- Leverage central **enablers** in technology, people and culture, partnerships, and strategy support to accelerate your journey
- Introduce **leadership roles** for data, squarely positioned on the business side with direct management report

RECRUITMENT

- Prioritize the hiring of **data roles** in line with the Secretary-General's "10% of workforce" target
- Hire data specialists using **TJOs** and new job profiles in the short term
- Re-classify some of your **existing roles** to become data roles in the long term
- Re-introduce **entry-level positions** (P-1, P-2) into budgets (see A/76/7, para. 52)

CULTURE AND TRAINING

- Ask your colleagues to join the **Data Community** to learn how data can drive impact and build **knowledge communities** in your organization
- Ask your colleagues to complete **free basic trainings** Microsoft Office 365
- Consider **scalable training solutions** w/ micro-courses or accreditation (Coursera, LinkedIn Learning)
- Allocate **central training funds** to priorities, incl. UN 2.0 / Data (via USTS, or \$1-2m/yr.)
- Centralize **curation** of some training offers in closer collaboration with business side
- Improve your **systems contract portfolio** for simpler procurement and share more LTA / systems contract info

TECHNOLOGY

- Link **IT teams better to business units** in ongoing business-led collaborations
- Budget for **services, subscriptions and know-how**, less for physical boxes or one-off buys
- Fortify **platforms w/ upgrades**, incl. via cost recovery / capital investment plan (as above)
- Simplify **access to cloud services** for business units w/ easier process and better collab.
- Enable **UN family collaboration** in Microsoft Office by asking your IT team to support CEB 'B2B Federation' project

