

# FAIR data in investments – what does good practice look like?

This document is for program officers and grantees to:

- **Understand what good practice looks like** for making data findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable (FAIR) in investments and be able to self-evaluate their grant.
- **Identify where there may be further action or support required** to ensure the data generated and used in a grant is shared as widely as possible.

## What good practice looks like for FAIR data implementation

The terms below refer to the investment. They indicate the current maturity of the investment in terms of implementing FAIR data principles with proper attention to ethics and privacy. There are three stages:



### Stage 01 – Data unintentional

The investment will generate, access, use or share data. It does not consider how it will ensure FAIR, ethical and equitable access to data that is as open as possible.



### Stage 02 – Data aware

The investment will generate, access, use or share data. There are limited plans for accessing, using and sharing data within the investment, and limited understanding of the data ecosystem. The investment recognises the need to work towards ensuring FAIR, ethical and equitable access to data that is as open as possible.



### Stage 03 – Data purposeful

The investment will generate, access, use or share data. There are clear plans to implement the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation open access policy and ensure FAIR, equitable and ethical access to data, making it as open as possible. The role of the investment in the wider data ecosystem is understood.

If this investment will involve the collection, access, use or sharing of data about people, are their rights considered and protected?



### **★ Stage 01 – Data unintentional**

The investment does not consider what constitutes personal data.

**or**

The investment does not identify the rights individuals should have over data about them.




### **★★ Stage 02 – Data aware**

The investment identifies the need to protect the rights of individuals when data about them is accessed, used or shared. It is working towards understanding what these are and how they impact investment objectives.

Relevant local, regional, national and international data protection regulations are not yet identified.



### **Stage 03 – Data purposeful**



The investment sets out how the rights of individuals will be protected and recognises any related actions (e.g. anonymisation) or specialist support required. Relevant local, regional, national and international data protection regulations are identified and their impact on the investment objectives is clear.