

Module 1

Considering data in investments

Cheat Sheet

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This cheat sheet gathers all the key points from eLearning on **Considering data in investments**

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is committed to information sharing and transparency. In order to deliver on this commitment it is critical to ensure data collected, accessed, used or shared within investments is FAIR and safeguarded.

FAIR data is data that is **F**indable, **A**ccessible, **I**nteroperable and **R**eusable by others.

Safeguarded data is managed and sustained equitably and ethically, making it as open as possible while reducing harmful impacts.

Key to supporting FAIR and safeguarded data within investments are the people, policies and processes that make use of technology. By doing this it is possible to maximise return on investment (ROI) and the value created from the data.



Overcoming constraints to FAIR and safeguarded data

Access to data is not always equitable, and the rights and interests of individuals affected by the collection, use and sharing of data are not always considered. Below is an overview of the types of constraints you may meet when ensuring FAIR and safeguarded data within investments, and how to overcome them.

Data sharing and access

Common constraint: A lack of willingness to share data.

What it looks like: No data sharing mechanisms or a lack of confidence in them.

How to overcome it: Developing, enforcing and adhering to policies and processes that support data sharing and access.

Security and privacy

Common constraint: A lack of trust in others' use of data (unaddressed fears arising from legitimate concerns).

What it looks like: A lack of trust and understanding among stakeholders, or limited understanding of key data concepts.

How to overcome it: Supporting people with key data literacy skills to help people overcome their fears and show how aspects such as data protection regulations, data security and licensing can support the wider sharing of data.

Trust and benefits

- *Common constraint:* Mistrust or lack of clarity on the benefits of sharing data.
- *What it looks like:* A lack of trust in the data produced, a lack of incentives to collect quality data.
- *How to overcome it:* Providing access to examples of where FAIR and safeguarded data has delivered benefits to all involved.

Activities that require FAIR and safeguarded data

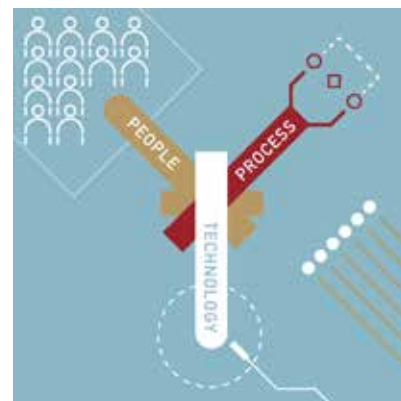
The following types of activities will require FAIR and safeguarded data as part of the Foundation's investments:

- **Collecting new data or information** – researching or gathering to form a dataset for analysis
- **Stakeholder collaboration** – collaboration between actors often relies on the ability to share data and information
- **Developing digital services** – creating services or applications from data derived from third party sources and transformed in some way to generate insights
- **Providing tailored services or insights** – tailoring services to individuals are likely to include personal or sensitive information and will depend on high quality data and evidence
- **Sharing or publishing data** – an investment may be focused entirely on improving sharing of data

The checklist on identifying investments that require FAIR and safeguarded data expands on these activities further. You can find the checklist in the Data Sharing Toolkit.

Supporting FAIR and safeguarded data

Key to supporting data that is FAIR and safeguarded are well defined **processes and policies** around data, a set of **technologies**, standards and platforms and the **people** to lead, support and advocate for FAIR and transformative data. Program officers and grantees therefore both have responsibilities as part of that support:



- **Program officers** can identify actions and provide support to ensure data is FAIR and safeguarded within investments.
- **Grantees** can take responsibility for access, use and sharing of data in their grants, and ensure compliance with national and international stakeholder and funder policies in delivering data that is FAIR and safeguarded.

Where can you find guides and tools to help?

The Data Sharing Toolkit contains key resources that can help everyone deliver investments with FAIR and safeguarded data. These include:

- Module 2 – Assessing in-country potential for data sharing
- Module 3 – Reusing data from third-party sources
- Module 4 – Protecting individual's rights when sharing data
- Module 5 – Sharing data through data licensing
- Module 6 – Minimising harmful impacts from data sharing
- Module 7 – Ensuring sustainable access to data

Data Sharing Toolkit



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datasharingtoolkit.org

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 **CABI** Data Sharing Toolkit



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