

COVID-19 and new role for NSIs

From Statistical Institute towards Datapartner
for the government

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Role of CBS in COVID-19 crisis

1. Helping government use existing data for policies
 - National Crisis Center, labour market, care homes
2. Improving timeliness and frequency (weekly) of regular statistics
 - Mortality, retail trade, use of energy, bankruptcies
3. New statistics using new data
 - Emergency measures, mobility, COVID tests (under discussion)



Need for data stewardship

Big questions:

- Lifting of restrictions, how fast and what
- How to organize and monitor public transport
- Emergency support for which companies
- New economically vulnerable groups

How can data support policy?

Important to participate in government think tanks.

Dialogue with policy makers.



Need for data governance

Available data should be used such that value for society is maximized under the condition that democratic values are secured.

- Sensitive and sometimes political issues
- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of coordination

Opportunities are lost



Situation in NL

Scattered: E-government responsibility at 3 departments.
Also 12 provinces, 355 municipalities with their own approach.

Many position papers (and Dutch parliament) call for more and better coordination of digitalization including data.



Role for NSI

Not from scratch, already a strong position on data

1. Broad services like remote Access, Open Data, CBS Academy
2. Member of national AI coalition
3. COVID-19 crisis has led to more sense of urgency and increased role of CBS



Datastrategy will play a role in the upcoming elections (March 2021)

- Government services
- Data economy and data sharing
- Artificial Intelligence

Contribution of CBS in shaping this strategy and its execution

