

Developments in data stewardship

UNECE Task Force on data stewardship

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UNECE Task Force on Data Stewardship (established Feb 2021)

Objectives: to clarify the terms related to data stewardship and public data governance, and the tasks of NSOs that this may include in different settings. This could serve as a basis for developing guidance, in a later stage, on the role of NSOs in the new data ecosystem.

Planned outputs:

- a) Defining 'data stewardship' and the related terms;
- b) Developing a set of possible responsibilities of a data steward and considerations to be taken into account in shaping the NSO role in this area. This can serve as a basis for identifying a minimum core set of responsibilities and a maturity model of data stewardship;
- c) Developing a toolkit of good practices and tools for implementing the role of data steward;
- d) Clarifying what NSOs can and what they can not do in this respect, consistent with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.

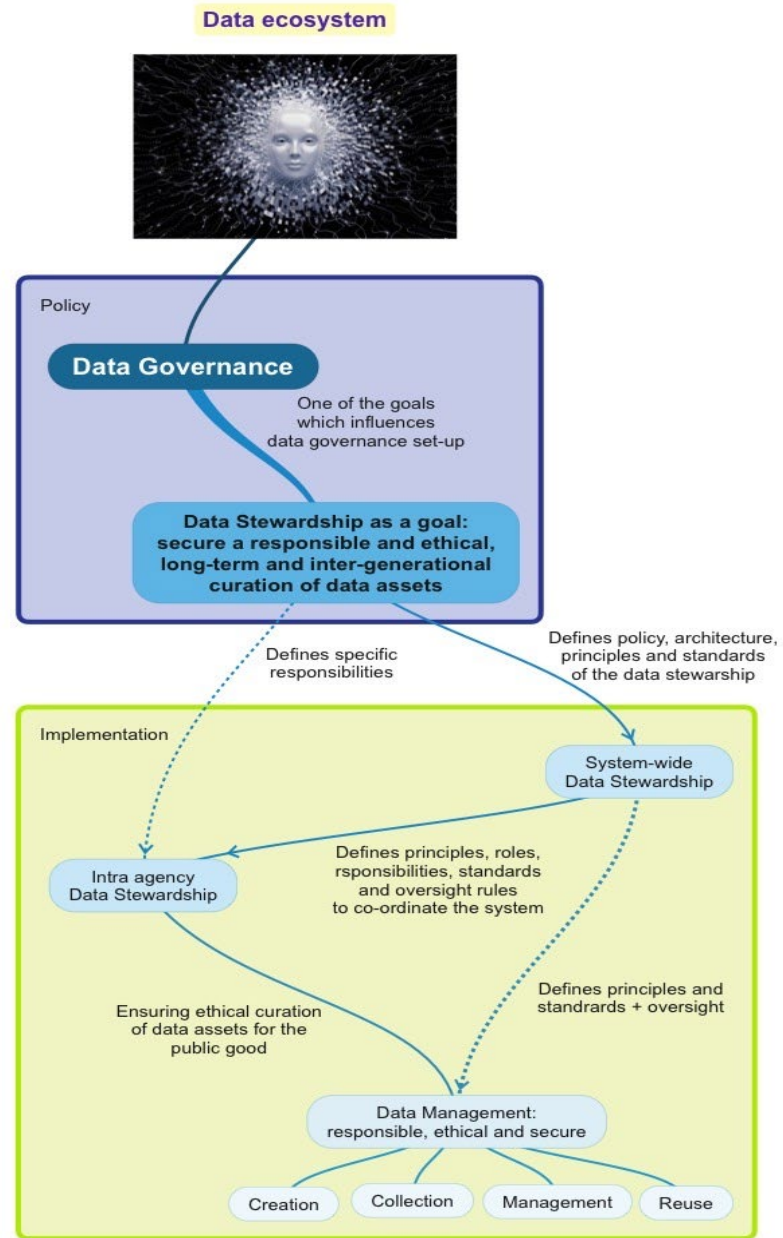
Quick glance at the report

- It is a work in progress.
- It tries to provide information to the heads of NSOs and experts within NSOs but also to the stakeholders within the National Data Ecosystems.
- Report is divided into 7 chapters dealing with main topics like:
 - General NSO and Data Steward roles relationships
 - Definitions of the Data Steward and Data Governance and linking them to NSOs
 - Explanation of conceptual and practical relationships between DG and Data Stewardship using the NSO focus
 - Responsibilities and skills needed for Data Stewardship
 - Communication
 - Maturity Model
- Report also contains a number of examples of implementing the Data Stewardship roles in different countries.

Definition and concept at glance

- ***Data stewardship is ensuring the ethical and responsible* creation, collection, management, use, and reuse of data. It is expressed through long-term, inter-generational curation of data assets so that they benefit the full community of data users and are used for public good.***

*This means dealing with methods and mechanisms of acquisition, storage, quality, protection, aggregation, deidentification, and procedures for data release, use, and re-use.



The figure is an early attempt to visualise the relations between key concepts of data governance and stewardship. Not yet discussed and agreed within TF.

Emerging key take-aways

- Responsible governments and public administrations will set policies to govern and develop nation's data ecosystems.
- Trust is everything - provision of the next generation of data based public goods and services require trust and reliability of data as well as sound governance of the data.
- Investments into governance of the data will make data a valuable asset for the society.
- NSOs have inherent and unique properties to lead and implement data stewardship functions within nation data ecosystem.
- Intra agency and/or system wide data stewardship are important choices for NSO.
- When implementing the data stewardship the capacities of the national data ecosystem and NSO as well as scope of the mandate matter.

Where do we stand with the TF and where do we go?

- TF has produced an early consultation version of the report for testing whether the thinking within the TF is in line with wider perception of the topic. Document was presented to CES 2022 in June and was received well.
- A new version of the draft is being prepared and the current work focuses on general editing, maturity model development and formation of the key messages.
- The following milestones are set: mid-January presenting the final draft report to the CES Bureau, March-April '23 e-consultations, May '23 final adjustments. The goal is to adopt the report at the CES 2023 in the week of 26. June which will exhaust the mandate of the TF.
- The possible follow-up to the TF is to develop recommendations and guidance to NSOs for helping to implement data stewardship concepts and use the corresponding tools.

Thank you!

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