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## **Modernization and agility powered by Communities of Practice**

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### ***Abstract***

With recent changes in society and looming challenges, such as climate change and political instability, there is increased demand on National Statistical Organizations (NSOs) to timely deliver new insights to policymakers, researchers and general public. The official statistics community is expected to respond faster than ever before, which poses a challenge to identify and secure new data sources, to invent new agile but reliable methods, to apply new AI techniques in a responsible way, to effectively use open source libraries, tools and models and to provide outputs in modern forms for many different types of users. Hence NSOs are faced with an increased demand for capability development to build up and maintain the latest skills and develop practices needed. Experiences with statistical communities of practice (CoPs) can show the way forward but need to be extended to align with external partners in communities that work not only within and across NSOs but also with Academia and private sector.

In this presentation we will present our ideas how communities of practice may help to unlock the innovation potential of our organizations based on pooling skills and experiences which can ultimately make our organizations more agile. We use examples from different fields of expertise such as data science, privacy technologies, smart metadata, (linked) open data, data dissemination, geospatial modeling and insights into open source communities. We will spot criteria of success, basic operating models and the power of interlinking communities of practice, such as for example data science and privacy protection. Finally, we will come up with some recommendations what can NSOs do to leverage the potential of CoPs and better connect to wider community networks.