When the world was hit by the COVID-19 virus only a few months ago, governments, private sector companies, UN agencies, INGO’s and NGOs were suddenly put on high alert to decide on response strategies in health for the tens of thousands who became sick; social safety nets for the millions who lost their daily wages; and the changing nature of jobs which shook the entire world much faster than the 4th industrial revolution. The world entered a ‘new normal’ in a matter of weeks.

In developing response strategies the prominent crises faced by all the actors are the scarcity of urgent data, inaccessibility of data silos, absence of common data-sharing platform, presence of different data standards, formats and conventions for recording data, and the lack of common identifiers like Unique Property Reference Numbers (UPRNs). However, often a crisis also allows us to think more differently and in a better way. The responses of different countries around the world depict how this crisis has integrated tons of epidemiologists, data scientists, economists, anthropologists who never typically work together, how unprecedentedly it has introduced new data policies and developed a great amount of collaboration between private and public, especially in countries which have already met the crisis successfully.

Let’s consider Vietnam, which has successfully met this pandemic introducing strict contact-tracing processes and early hospital management with the use of available data in granules. Recently, Bangladesh has introduced a new form of social safety net for short-term, creating a database of 5 million needy people based on the National Citizen Database and deposited a certain amount of cash in their mobile account. Both Somalia and Bangladesh have introduced virtual training classes to ensure the development of post COVID skills.

Still, there remains concern that how realistic is it for low-income countries with limited resources to upgrade their processes to align with those in the developed world? For example: The government of Bangladesh has introduced a prediction model like - SEIR model and Agent-based model considering that the analyses of these models will allow the policymakers and health care administration to take timely, targeted, and effective measures prior to the crisis. Is it feasible for all the developing countries with the existing limitations of resources, data sharing policies, and data standards?
The primary objective of this side event is to bring governments, DPs, UN agencies, Private sectors, and Academia together to share best practices and exchange views on how to accelerate post COVID recovery using collective data intelligence platform and create scopes of collaboration within/among nations and most likely to boost-up the timely actions through data revolution to ensure equal access to health services and social protection, jobs, businesses.

In particular, answers to the following issues will be explored with specific case studies and strategy recommendations:

- Who should be targeted when devising the country’s health and socio-economic response measures during Post–COVID recovery and How to ensure everyone got counted?
- Which barriers keep people beyond the reach of infrastructure, employment, services, jobs, and other socio-economic response measures?
- How can those who are excluded, marginalized, and vulnerable come into the fold? How can they be made more resilient to shocks and crises?
- What should be the role of Academia in supporting the governments to develop strategies and policies to leverage data to make a timely call during the post-recovery of COVID-19?
- How can public agencies, private sector, telecommunication operators and academia work together for mobilizing the true potential of the data revolution to leave no one behind during post-COVID recovery?
- What are the effective avenues for international cooperation for capturing and using data for post- COVID jobs?

Organizers:
Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the United Nations
United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC)
South-South Network for Public Service Innovation (SSN4PSI)
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
International Labour Organization (ILO)
The Common Projects
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
Yale University
Future of Work Lab Bangladesh

HLPF Side Event 2020: "Accelerating Post COVID Recovery Using Data Revolution"
Date: 13 July 2020, Monday, Time: 12:00 – 13:30 (EDT)
Join Here: https://undp.zoom.us/j/97073152942