

G-8 International Conference on Open Data for Agriculture  
United States of America Action Plan

<p>Goal: Open access to publicly funded, agriculturally relevant data. Why: Critical to increasing food security in Africa and globally. Objective: Obtain action from nations and relevant stakeholders to <i>promote policies and invest in projects</i> that open access to publicly funded, global agriculturally relevant data streams, <i>making such data readily accessible</i> to users in Africa and world-wide, and ultimately supporting a sustainable increase in food security in developed and developing countries.</p>			
Implementation Steps	Responsibilities	Resources	Timeline
<p><b>Promote Policies</b> Develop national policies and implementation plans that ensure direct results of federally funded scientific research are made available to and useful for the public, industry, and the scientific community. Implement White House Memorandum titled: <a href="#">Increasing Access to the Results of Federally Funded Scientific Research</a> and the <a href="#">Office of Management and Budget Executive Memorandum titled Open Government</a>.</p>	<p>U.S. Government <a href="#">NSF Open Data Sharing Policy</a> <a href="#">NSF Plant Genome Research Program--Open Data Policy</a> <a href="#">DOE BER Open Data Policy</a> <a href="#">USDA Open Data Policy</a> <a href="#">NIH Open Data Policy</a></p>	<p>U.S. Government</p>	<p>September 2013</p>
<p><b>Invest in projects</b> Provide capability for discovery and access to international datasets via the Food, Agriculture, and Rural Community on Data.gov</p>	<p>Data.gov / GSA</p>	<p>Data.gov <a href="mailto:Jeanne.Holm@jpl.nasa.gov">Jeanne.Holm@jpl.nasa.gov</a></p>	<p>September 2013</p>
<p>Provide capacity building support for development and improvement of national agricultural and rural statistics. <a href="#">UN Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics</a></p>	<p>USDA/ USAID Step 1: Conduct assessments in target countries Step 2: Create a plan for capacity building Step 3: Implement plan</p>	<p>USAID Feed the Future Funding, USDA staff</p>	<p>On-going. Specific timelines will differ by country.</p>
<p><b>Make data available</b> Provide crop genome databases. Curate and make genetic resources available via GRIN-Global. <a href="#">USDA National Program for Plant Genetics, Genomics and Crop Improvement</a></p>	<p>USDA</p>	<p>USDA and the Global Crop Diversity Trust</p>	<p>2013-2017</p>
<p>Announce the release of population-based survey data from large samples of agricultural/rural households in at least one MCC compact country.</p>	<p>MCC Step 1: narrow to specific country data sets for release (ongoing) Step 2: release meta-data (target April 1) Step 3: release micro data online</p>	<p>Rajan Trivedi <a href="mailto:trivedirm@mcc.gov">trivedirm@mcc.gov</a> Ag expert: Kristin Penn Data timeline: Heather Hanson</p>	<p>Official Announcement April 29</p>
<p>Creation of an internet community to centralize/catalogue federally funded, agriculturally-relevant data</p>	<p>USDA lead Step 1: Inventory available data (data call) Step 2: Create Community-Centralize and make publicly available Step 3: Metadata/Categorize/ Keyword Step 4: Identify Gaps--driven by data demand Step 5: Initiate gap filling</p>	<p>Franz Hochstrasser <a href="mailto:Franz.Hochstrasser@osec.usda.gov">Franz.Hochstrasser@osec.usda.gov</a></p>	<p>Official Announcement April 29</p>

Appendices: 1) data.gov metadata template; 2) agriculturally-relevant data categories

**2.0 DataGov Metadata Template for Datasets and Tools**

<b>Element Number</b>	<b>Element</b>	<b>Occurrence [min,max]</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Unique ID</b>	[1,1]	For DataGov PMO Use Only - will be generated when placed in catalog
<b>1.1</b>	<b>User Generated ID</b>	[0,1]	This field may be used by the agency to track the submissions on their internal systems. The field is optional as it will not typically be used by the Datagov and will not be published on the catalog.
<b>2</b>	<b>Title</b>	[1,1]	Unique name of the dataset or Tool. (e.g., Current Population Survey, Consumer Price Index, FBI Ten Most Wanted Widget). This field will be used to populate the data catalog; the catalog will be sorted on this field. Note: if the title is not unique within the entire data.gov catalog, you will be asked to change it..
<b>3</b>	<b>Dataset Group Name</b>	[0,1]	This is an optional field This field allows agencies to provide a Group Name to multiple datasets and/or tools in order to show that they may be presented as a group or a set..
<b>4</b>	<b>Description</b>	[1,1]	Please provide a detailed description of the dataset or tool (e.g., an abstract) such that the user would be able to determine the nature and purpose of the data.
<b>5</b>	<b>Agency Name</b>	[1,1]	Department or Independent Agency name.
<b>5.1</b>	<b>Agency Short Name</b>	[1,1]	Acronym or short name corresponding to the Agency name (e.g. DOC, DoD, NASA, GSA).
<b>6</b>	<b>Sub-Agency Name</b>	[1,1]	Bureau or Sub-Agency or operating unit. name.

6.1	<b>Sub-Agency Short Name</b>	[1,1]	Acronym or short name corresponding to the Sub-Agency name (e.g. IRS, FBI, BIA ).
7	<b>Contact Name</b>	[1,1]	Contact person's name (first, then last) where questions from the Data.gov PMO should be sent.. <b>** Note that these "contact" elements (7, 7.1 &amp; 7.2) will not be published on the Data.gov website but may receive public email comments made specifically about this dataset or tool.**</b>
7.1	<b>Contact Phone Number</b>	[1,1]	Contact person's phone number.
7.2	<b>Contact Email Address</b>	[1,1]	Contact person's email address.
8	<b>Agency responsible for Information Quality</b>	[1,1]	Enter the Agency name corresponding to the applicable Information Quality Guidelines for the dataset. In some cases, this may be a parent organization, such as a Department.
8.1	<b>Compliance with Agency's Information Quality Guidelines</b>	[1,1]	Confirm that the dataset meets the Agency's (as identified in Element 6) Information Quality Guidelines (Yes, No). If the dataset is not in compliance with your Agency's Information Quality Guidelines it will not be posted on Data.gov.
8.2	<b>Privacy and Confidentiality</b>	[1,1]	Confirm that dissemination of all data submitted is consistent with the agency's responsibilities under the Privacy Act and, if applicable, CIPSEA or other relevant statute. Enter "Yes" or "No." or "Not Relevant." If the answer is "No", this dataset will not be posted on Data.gov.

9	<b>Data.gov catalog type</b>	[1,1]	Select the appropriate catalog on Data.gov that this submission should be listed (i.e. Raw Data Catalog or Tool Catalog)
10	<b>Subject area (Taxonomy)</b>	[1,1]	Please choose the category from the drop-down menu that best describes your dataset. If more than one category applies, choose the category that you think most people would use. We realize that this taxonomy, which is based on the Statistical Abstract, is not perfect for all datasets. If the item being described is a 'data mining and/or extraction tool', then please provide the category that describes the underlying dataset.
11	<b>Specialized data category designation</b>	[1,1]	Identify the type of dataset (i.e., administrative, statistical, geospatial, surveillance or research). Please choose the category that best fits the dataset, understanding that there is some potential for overlap among these categories. Note that some types of data have additional metadata requirements (e.g., see statistical datasets). If the item being described is a 'data mining and/or extraction tool,' then please provide the designation that describes the underlying dataset from the pre-populated dropdown list. Note: If you select Geospatial, you should submit your dataset to <a href="http://geodata.gov">http://geodata.gov</a> and you do not need to fill out any additional information for this submission. We would, however request that you submit the elements 1 through 7 to <a href="mailto:datagov.submit@gsa.gov">datagov.submit@gsa.gov</a> so that we can synchronize our efforts with geodata.gov. If you select "statistical", please note the section "SM" that follows.
12	<b>Keywords</b>	[1,n]	Searchable keywords help users discover your datasets from different perspectives. They also provide ways of identifying other datasets that are similar to yours. Please include terms that would be used by both technical and non-technical users. If the item being described is a 'data mining and/or extraction tool' then please provide keywords
13	<b>Date released</b>	[1,1]	Date when the dataset was first made available to the public . This date should not be confused with when the data is being entered into Data.gov as it could have already been published on your website.
14	<b>Date updated</b>	[1,1]	Date of last change to dataset or tool. Note that this could be the same as the date released if the data has not changed since first being published. For example, data could have been released on 06/03/2006 and published to your Agency website, but later found to contain data errors. If the dataset was corrected in July 2006, the updated date would be whenever this corrected update was applied to the dataset (e.g. 07/12/2006).
15	<b>Agency Program URL</b>	[1,1]	URL that is closest to the program that is responsible for this dataset or tool.

16	<b>Agency Data Series URL</b>	[1,1]	URL to the high level repository in which this dataset or tool resides at the agency (e.g., the HTML page that displays the link to the dataset).
17	<b>Collection mode</b>	[1,n]	Data collection mode (e.g., phone/paper, phone/computer, person/paper, person/computer, web, fax, type of monitor, other). Multiple collection modes should be separated by commas.
18	<b>Frequency</b>	[1,1]	Frequency of data collection (one-time, annual, hourly, etc.).
19	<b>Period of Coverage</b>	[1,n]	Dates or time interval(s) covered by the data. Please use commas to separate multiple periods of Coverage.
20	<b>Unit of analysis</b>	[1,1]	The unit of analysis is the major entity that you are analyzing in your study (e.g., person, household, forest, county, establishment). If the item being described is a 'data mining and/or extraction tool,' then please provide the category that describes the underlying dataset.
21	<b>Geographic scope</b>	[0,n]	Please Indicate the geographical extent covered by this dataset. In the case of multiple locations, please delimit with commas. Some datasets are not earth-based, thus will not use this field and should simply leave it blank. You may use commas to separate multiple entries.
21.1	<b>Geographic Granularity</b>	[0,1]	This is an optional field. Please indicate the most detailed level at which the geography is defined (e.g. City vs. zip code vs. longitude/latitude pair).
22	<b>Reference for Technical Documentation</b>	[1,n]	URL or bibliographic citation for the technical documentation for this dataset. This may include description to the study design, instrumentation, implementation, limitations, and appropriate use of the dataset or tool. In the case of multiple documents or URLs, please delimit with commas.

23	<b>Data dictionary/variable list</b>	[1,1]	URL to resource containing variable names, descriptions, standard vocabularies and taxonomies, units, multipliers, etc. May be identical to element 22.
24	<b>Data collection instrument</b>	[1,n]	URL for resource containing a copy of, or detailed descriptions of, the data collection instrument for each listed mode. May be identical to element 22. Multiple URLs should be separated by commas.
25	<b>Bibliographic citation for dataset</b>	[1,1]	This field may be used when others make reference to the data, as in a bibliographic citation or source reference. If the agency does not have a standard reference for this dataset, simply provide the URL for the dataset .
26	<b>Number of Datasets Represented by this Submission</b>	[1,1]	If this submission is a compressed file, data extraction tool or mining tool, please enter the total number of datasets represented by this submission. ** Please note that this field is now required whereas with prior to versions of the metadata template it was optional. **
27	<b>Additional Metadata</b>	[0,1]	This is an optional field Please provide a URL to any additional metadata for the dataset or tool.
28	<b>Dataset use requires a license agreement</b>	[1,1]	This is a required field to ensure that license agreements are not bypassed during the one-click download interface on the website.
29	<b>Dataset license agreement URL</b>	[1,1]	URL to the license agreement page for the dataset or tool. This is a required field if Element 28 above is answered yes. This field is conditionally required. If Element 28 above is "Yes", please provide the URL to the dataset license agreement.
<b>Downloadable file specific metadata (repeat this section for multiple download formats using multiple columns in the following rows.</b>			
D1	<b>Access point</b>	[1,1]	If the data set is downloadable, enter the URL for instant access to the downloadable data file. This is the URL for access to the data set via a "one-click download". Please enter a URL only.
D2	<b>Media Format</b>	[1,1]	In some cases files are downloaded in a compressed file (e.g. zip). Please enter the media type for information contained within the compressed file (RSS, XML, CSV/TXT, XLS, Shapefile, KML/KMZ, PDF) If not compressed, enter the file suffix of the downloadable file.

<b>D3</b>	<b>File size</b>	[1,1]	If downloadable, please enter the size of file in MB. Should be limited to 15 characters.
<b>D4</b>	<b>File format</b>	[1,1]	If downloadable, enter the format in which file may be downloaded. For Raw Data Catalog, select from the following options: XML, TXT (CSV), XLS, KML/KMZ, Shapefile, PDF, or map. For Tool Catalog, select either Feeds (RSS, Atom, CAP), Data Extraction Tool or Widget.
<b>Additional Statistical Metadata required for Statistical Data Sets (i.e., above Element 2 = Statistical)</b>			
<b>SM</b>	<b>Statistical methodology</b>	[0,n]	Components identifying statistical information/properties of data.
<b>SM.01</b>	<b>Sampling</b>	[0,1]	Description or URL of resource containing more detailed information.
<b>SM.02</b>	<b>Estimation</b>	[0,1]	Description or URL of resource containing more detailed information.
<b>SM.03</b>	<b>Weighting</b>	[0,1]	Description or URL of resource containing more detailed information.
<b>SM.04</b>	<b>Disclosure avoidance</b>	[0,1]	Description or URL of resource containing more detailed information.
<b>SM.05</b>	<b>Questionnaire design</b>	[0,1]	Description or URL of resource containing more detailed information.
<b>SM.06</b>	<b>Series breaks</b>	[0,1]	Description or URL of resource containing more detailed information.
<b>SM.07</b>	<b>Non-response adjustment</b>	[0,1]	Description or URL of resource containing more detailed information.
<b>SM.08</b>	<b>Seasonal adjustment</b>	[0,1]	Description or URL of resource containing more detailed information.
<b>SM.09</b>	<b>Data quality (variances, CVs, CIs, etc)</b>	[0,1]	Description or URL of resource containing more detailed information.

## **Agriculturally-Relevant Data Categorization for USG Open Data Action Plan**

### Topic I. Natural Resources and Environment

- Soil (resources, quality, management, maps, carbon sequestration)
- Water (supply, quality, use, withdrawal, watershed protection/management)
- Air (resources, protection, management, GHG)
- Forest and Range (management, production, trade, fire hazard)
- Other (weather, pollution, recreation, ecosystems, wildlife)

### Topic II. Plants and Plant Systems Agriculture

- Production (yields, preharvest quality, biological efficiency, inputs)
- Protection (abiotic stress, pests, pathogens, pesticides, biological control/IPM)
- Genetics/Genomics/Breeding

### Topic III. Animals and Animal Systems Agriculture

- Production (Animal nutrition, physiology, reproduction)
- Protection (Diseases, parasites, toxic hazards, environmental stresses, animal welfare, epidemiology)
- Genetics/Genomics/Breeding

### Topic IV. Agriculture Investment and Engineering

- Structures, Facilities, and General Purpose Farm Supplies
- Engineering Systems and Equipment (instrumentation and control)
- Waste Disposal, Recycling, and Reuse
- Drainage and Irrigation

### Topic V. Food/Non-Food Agricultural Products

- Products and processing
- Quality maintenance (storage, transportation, marketing)
- Food service and preparation (in-home, commercial)

### Topic VI. Markets, prices, and economics

- Agricultural prices/indices (input, producer, marketing, consumer)
- Agricultural supply/demand (quantities produced/consumed, stocks/inventories)
- Natural Resource/Environmental Economics (conservation, ecosystem services)
- International Trade
- International Development

### Topic VII. Human health and nutrition

- Food safety (pathogens, parasites, toxic chemicals/residues, epidemiology)
- Human health (zoonotic disease, insect pests)
- Nutrition (diet, behavior, nutrient composition of food, requirements)

### Topic VIII. Local and Regional Food Systems

- Producers (farmers market directory, food hubs, meat processing facilities, Farm to School programs, Seasonal High Tunnels)
- Outreach and education (People's Garden locations, Green Schools, farmers market directory, food hubs, farm to school)