



Population Intelligence Hackathon - From Signals to Population Intelligence

Wednesday, 03 June 2026

11:00-12:30 (EAT)

Room 21



Julia Bunting
Program Director

UNFPA



Dr Priscilla Idele
Chief Data & Analytics Branch

UNFPA

Moderator



Charlene Migwe
Deputy Regional Director,
East & Southern Africa

IDinsight



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Senior Advisor
Data Analytics & Use

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George Sie Williams
Public Health Intelligence &
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WHO AFRO



Irma Sirutyte
Program Specialist
Statistics & Monitoring

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Poornima Ramesh
Senior Data Scientist /
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Lorien Innes
Senior Business & Sustainable
Development Manager

Esri



Tomer Shekel
Group Product Manager

Google



Dr. Sarchil Qader
Senior Researcher

WorldPop



Derrick Demeveng
Program Specialist
Geospatial Analysis

UNFPA





Julia Bunting

Program Director
(UNFPA)

Opening Keynote: The Data Emergency



Dr Godwin Akpan

Senior Advisor
Data Analysis & Use
(UNFPA)

Sprint Introduction: Inside the PopIntel Build



Acronyms at a glance

Shared language for the PopIntel Hack: from signals to country action.

DATA

PEOPLE

PLACE

ACTION

 AI	Artificial Intelligence	 GDF	Global Data Festival
 API	Application Programming Interface	 GIS	Geographic Information System
 CRVS	Civil Registration and Vital Statistics	 PDI	Population Dynamics Insights
 DAB	Data Analytics Branch	 PDP+	Population Data Portal Plus
 DIOS	Demographic Intelligence from Open Sources	 SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
 EIOS	Epidemic Intelligence from Open Sources	 TFGBV	Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence
 EmONC	Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care	 UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
 FGM	Female Genital Mutilation	 WHO	World Health Organization
 GBV	Gender-Based Violence		





From scattered signals to population intelligence

A 90-minute launch that opens a 4-month build Hackathon for country-usable tools.

This is not another conference session. It is a launchpad for prototypes that countries can validate, trust and scale.

90 min to align

120 days to build

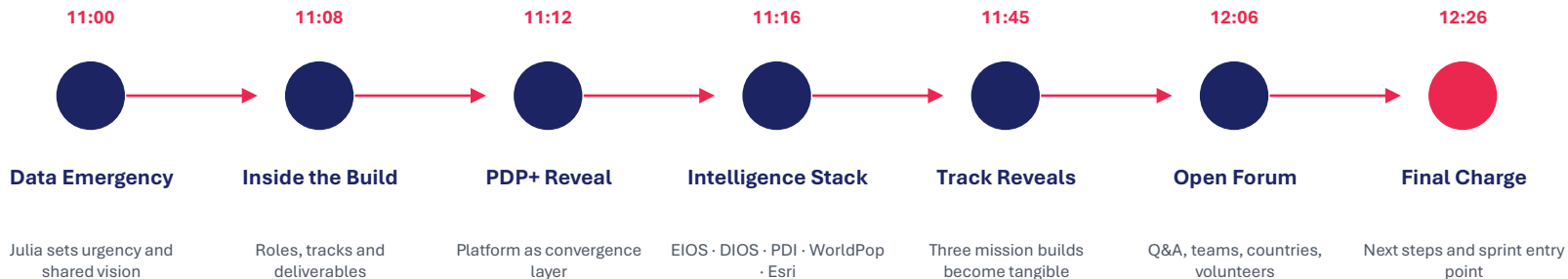
country-ready tools

Pick a mission track → build with mentors → earn a pathway to recognition and scale



The 90 minutes: from inspiration to commitment

Every segment answers one participant question: Why now? What exists? Where do I fit? What happens next?



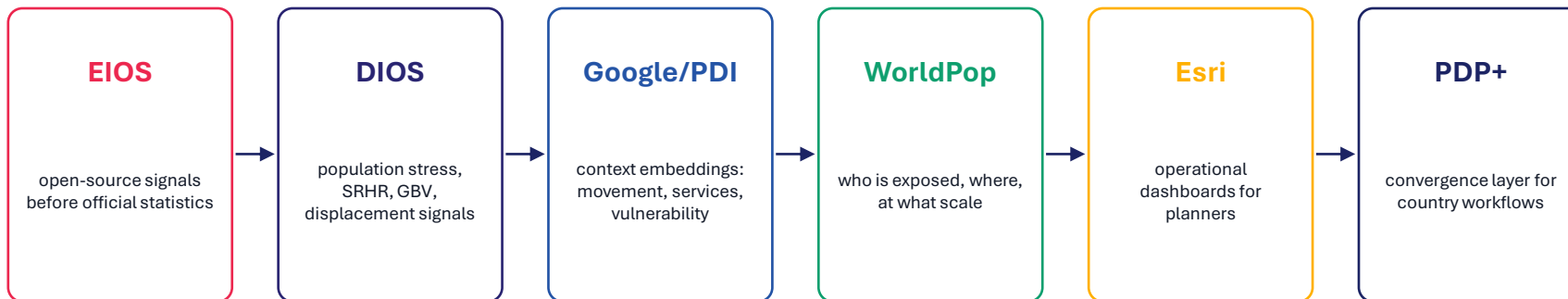
pick a track · join a team · enter the sprint





The intelligence stack: five layers, one decision system

The hackathon connects systems that already exist — then turns them into country-usable intelligence.



Design principle: A signal only matters when it is connected to people, place, programme action and country validation.



Three mission tracks — but one connected build

Each Participant/team produces a working component. Highest value comes when risks can be analysed in the smallest geographies.



Climate Pulse

Climate-demographic risk score: hazard + population exposure + early displacement signals + operational dashboard.



Maternal health risk layers/Harmful practices detection

Connecting SRHR, maternal mortality, GBV, FGM, child marriage, adolescent pregnancy, service access, travel time, displacement and vulnerability data to identify where women and girls face the highest combined risk, and where UNFPA should act first.



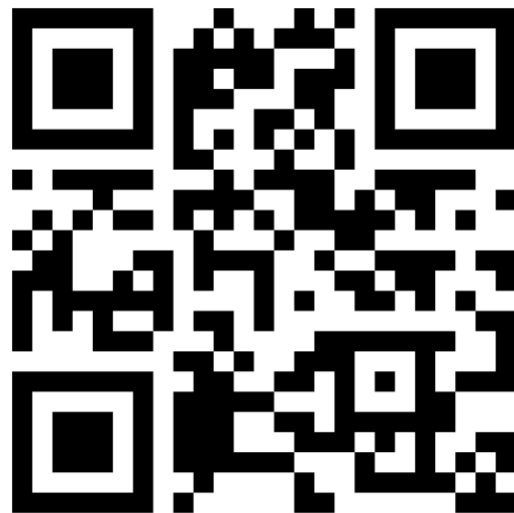
Validation Layer

Country validation mechanism: confirm, reject, annotate and localise intersectionality and AI signals into actionable geographies.

“Wow” outcome: when risks coincide across tracks, Surfacing these for countries and UNFPA programmes helps understanding intersectionality and planning for last mile interventions



Register for the Hackathon Here



<https://pdp.unfpa.org/Popinthehackathon/>



Meet the mentors guiding each track.



Wenlan Zhang

PhD Researcher, Geospatial &
Population Data Science (CASA,
UCL)
University College London



Kennedy Kamande Wangari

AI Researcher | Climate & Tech
Policy Strategist
DPGSK



Adnan Yasin

Ambassador
Next Einstein Forum



Mahadia Tunga

Co-founder & Executive Director
Tanzania Data Lab (dLab),
University of Dar es Salaam



Kay Kim

Advisor
GIZ GmbH



Mary Angela Adhiambo

Programs Lead
ICON Data and Learning
Labs



Henry Kyalo

Data Scientist | AI Researcher
Kenya Red Cross Society



Samuel Nzaramba

Data Scientist
WDL



WHAT PARTICIPANTS NEED TO KNOW

**Judged for usability.
Recognized for impact.
Scaled where countries need it.**



brought to you by:



Your next step today: choose a track, join a team, and help build the missing layer between data and action.



Judging will reward what works

Problem fit · technical quality · ethical AI · country usability · scale potential



Awards are more than trophies

Recognition by UNFPA and partners; publication on UNFPA/UN portals where appropriate.



The best work gets a pathway

Country validation, partner visibility, refinement support and scale-up discussion.

The systems already exist. This Hackathon connects them.



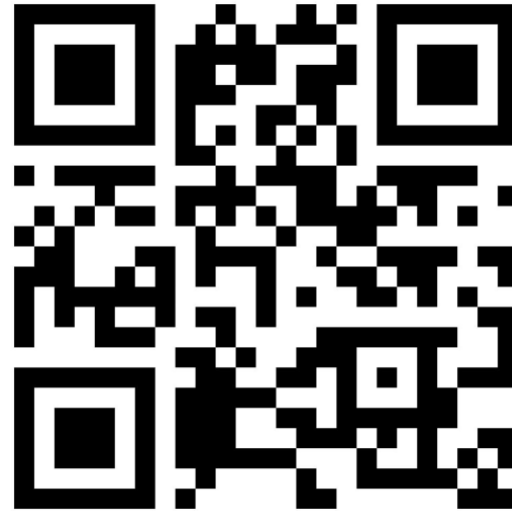
Irma Sirutyte

Program Specialist
Statistics & Monitoring
(UNFPA)

Platform Reveal: PDP+ as the Population Intelligence Layer



Register for the Hackathon Here



<https://pdp.unfpa.org/Popinthehackathon/>



Welcome to the Population Data Portal

Search by indicator or location



Countries

Explore data by country



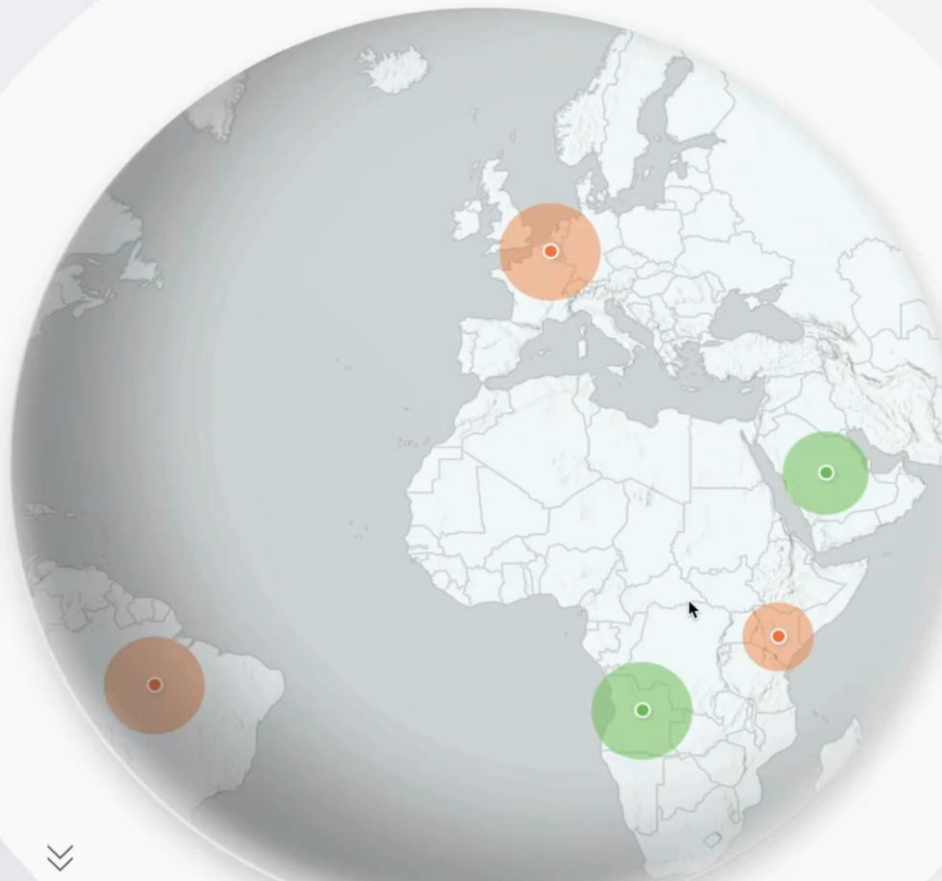
Indicators

Browse indicators by domain



Demographic Intelligence

Explore emerging narratives





GEORGE SIE WILLIAMS

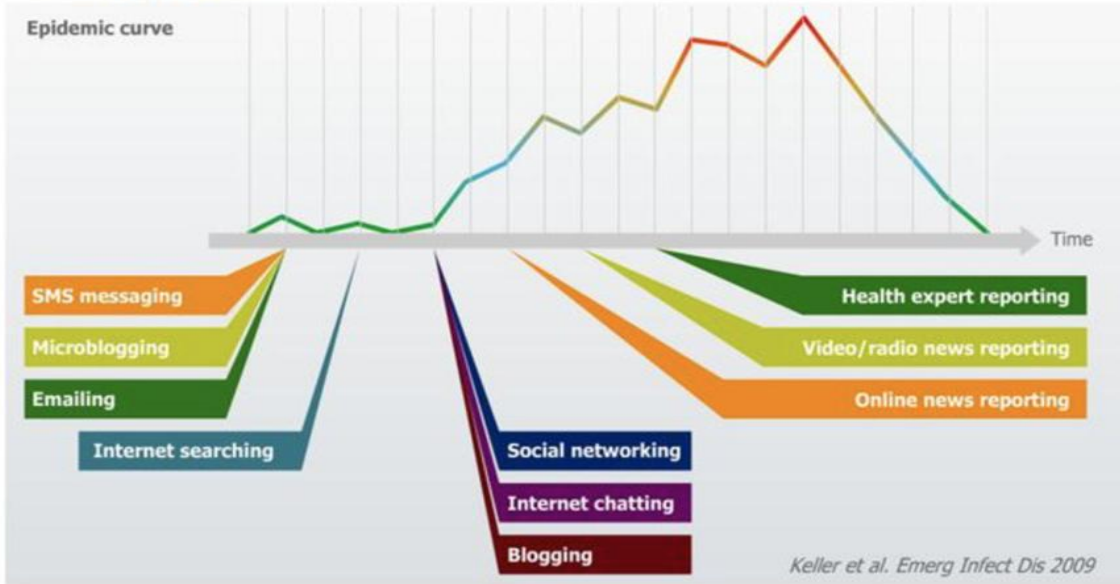
Public Health Intelligence
and Risk Assessment Lead
(WHO AFRO)


Intelligence Layer 1: WHO EIOS - Signals Before Statistics



Epidemic Intelligence from Open Sources: Collaborative Intelligence for Protecting Population Health

TIMELINESS IS CRITICAL FOR DETECTION AND RESPONSE



 **Critical information exists across media, communities, social media, government reports, and partner systems.**

 **Decision-makers need earlier detection and better situational awareness.**



THE EIOS SYSTEM LEVERAGES AI TO CAPTURE AND PROCESS INFORMATION FROM MULTIPLE SOURCES



Radio T Newspapers Web news Blogs
 v
 Twitter/X, Facebook, Instagram, GPHIN
 YouTube
 Scientific & grey literature Digital platforms ProMED,
 Government and official reports HealthMap

Signals

Events

Risk Assessment

EIOS SYSTEM PROCESS

INPUTS

Multiple online sources

SCRAPE & GRAB

Automated collection of publicly available information

DETECT LANGUAGE

Multilingual source recognition

GEOTAGGING & ENTITY RECOGNITION

Automatically identifies key locations and entities in collected information

CATEGORISE

Classifies information by topic

DE-DUPLICATE

Groups duplicate reports of the same event

ALERT & FILTER

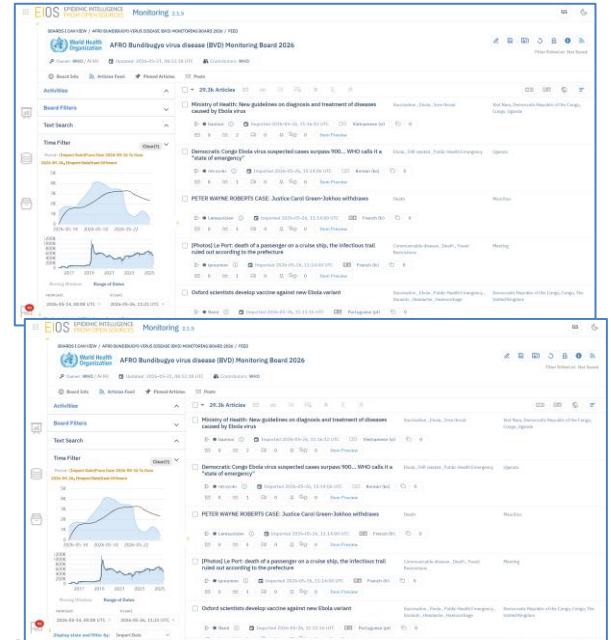
Filters relevant information and alerts users to potential threats

OUTPUT

Displays collected and processed information on the EIOS board



OUTPUT: EIOS MONITORING BOARD

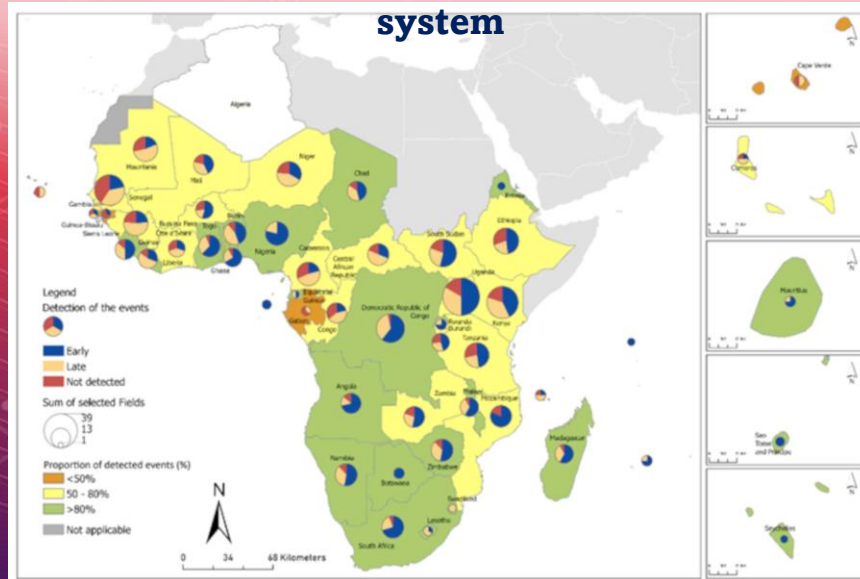
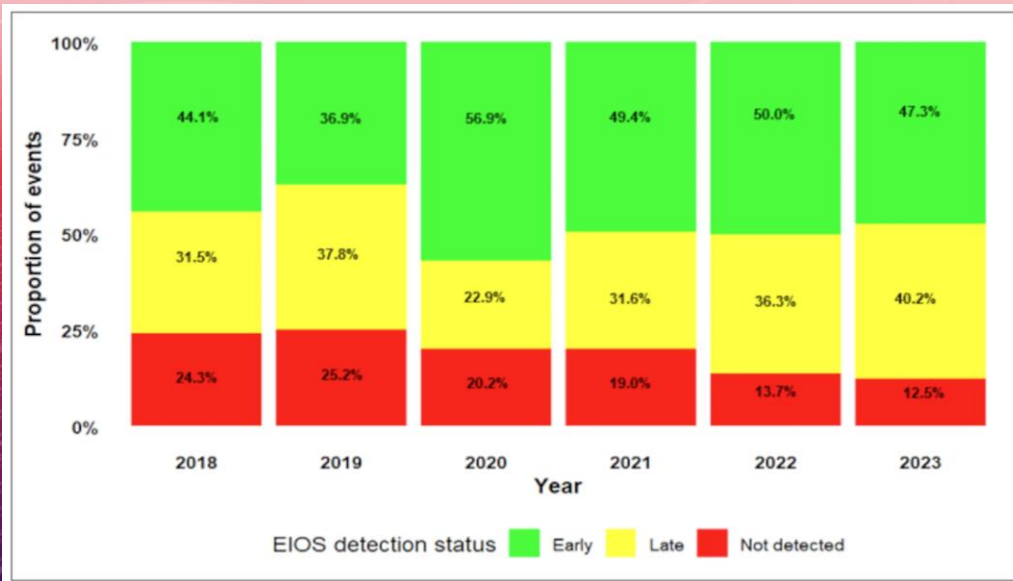


Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data

EIOS System Performance for Early Detection of Outbreaks and Health Emergencies in the African Region

Events not detected declined from 25.2% in 2019 to 12.5% in 2023; Early detection: 36.9% - 56.95

For 28 countries: More than 80.0% of the public health events detected by the EIOS system



Source: Evaluation of the epidemic intelligence from open sources (EIOS) system for the early detection of outbreaks and health emergencies in the African region, GS Williams et al

Conclusion

- **EIOS shows the value of combining AI, open-source information, and human expertise to generate timely public health intelligence.**
- **The next frontier is an African Collaborative Intelligence Platform that connects epidemic intelligence with population, climate, and geospatial intelligence to support foresight, preparedness, and anticipatory action.**





Dr Godwin Akpan

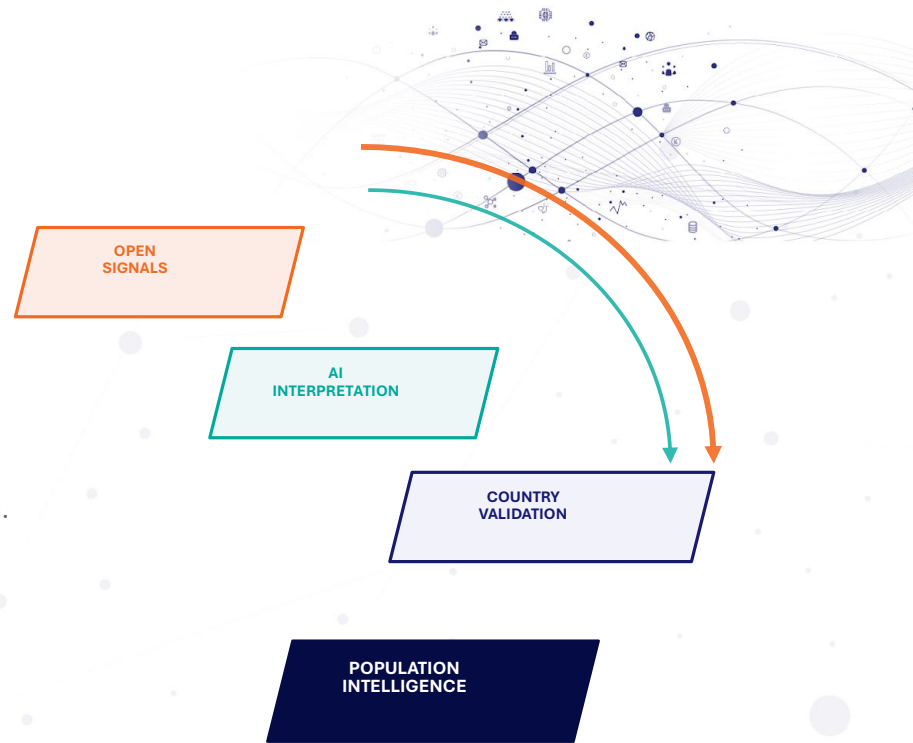
Senior Advisor
Data Analysis & Use
(UNFPA)

Intelligence Layer 2: UNFPA DIOS - Reading Population Stress

Demographic Intelligence from Open Sources

AFTER EIOS: THE POPULATION INTELLIGENCE LAYER

DIOS is a working example of AI for UNFPA: it adds mandate-specific lenses to public event signals, the Global Database of Events, Language, and Tone, and country validation so open-source narratives become useful questions for action.



- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| FGM | maternal mortality | fistula | GBV |
| child marriage | CRVS | census sentiment | climate + SRHR |

Core message

DIOS does not replace official statistics. It makes emerging narratives visible earlier so countries can validate faster.

EIOS detects. DIOS interprets.



What EIOS brings

Public health event signals from open-source monitoring that point to “something is happening.”

What DIOS adds

UNFPA thematic scrutiny, narrative context, sentiment/severity, country mentions, and AI summaries that explain why a signal may matter.

Global Database of Events, Language, and Tone

open news media

public commentary

reports + communications

What countries validate

Is it real?
Is it urgent?
Is it useful for programming, advocacy or resource prioritization?

The bridge: open-source signal → AI-assisted interpretation → country validation → programme and policy judgement.

How DIOS works

A methodological pipeline that is transparent enough for policymakers and rigorous enough for analysts.



Sentiment is context, not automation



For a mixed audience: read the flow from left to right. Technical teams can improve the engine; policy and programme teams judge meaning; countries validate use.



One DIOS layer across UNFPA's mandate

A listening layer for the full mandate, connected to statistics and country context.

Sexual and reproductive health and rights

maternal mortality · obstetric fistula · EmONC · contraception · adolescent pregnancy

Gender equality and protection

GBV/IPV/TFGBV · harmful practices · FGM · child marriage · anti-gender backlash

Population data systems

CRVS · census sentiment · fertility · ageing · migration and displacement

Humanitarian and climate intelligence

humanitarian vulnerability · climate and SRHR · service disruption · mobility signals

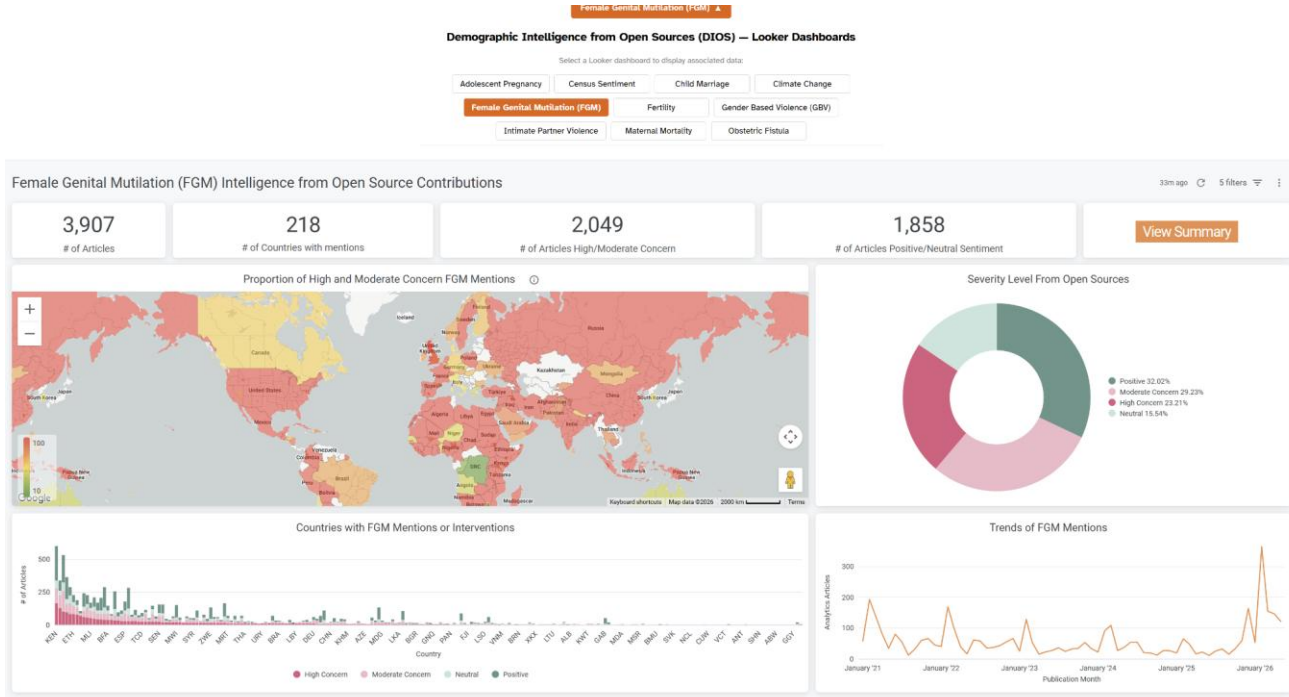
VALIDATE
WITH
COUNTRIES

Why this matters

DIOS is strongest when it helps countries ask sharper questions: where is public concern rising, what narrative is driving it, and which official data should be checked next?

FGM narrative intelligence from open sources

A dashboard view of what DIOS can surface before official figures are updated.



What the dashboard is saying

- Volume** 3,907 public articles give a narrative view, not prevalence.
- Spread** 218 country mentions show a global discourse and diaspora dimension.
- Urgency** High/moderate concern articles help prioritize validation.
- Pattern** Map, trends and severity help users see where to ask better questions.

Read this as a signal map, not a prevalence map. Every hotspot needs country contextualization and validation.

Maternal mortality example: from topic analysis to action

A live scenario showing how DIOS turns 23 open-source articles into validation questions and possible interventions.



What the narratives reveal

Geographic contrast

Telangana shows a positive model; Kenya and Benin show preventable death and service-gap signals.

System pressure

Post-partum haemorrhage, eclampsia and sepsis appear alongside weak EmONC readiness and referral barriers.

Emerging risks

Conflict, climate shocks, child marriage and anti-gender movements appear as maternal-health risk multipliers.

Country validation is the turning point: DIOS helps frame better questions, not bypass national data or programme judgement.

Build the bridge between signals and country use

The opportunity is to make DIOS clearer, more trusted and more useful for decision-making.

Do not just improve the dashboard.

Improve the pathway by which public signals become country-owned intelligence.

Better signals

Local terms, languages, euphemisms
and stronger source logic.

Better geography

From country mentions to usable
subnational places and GIS matching.

Better validation

Flag → verify → annotate → escalate →
learn.

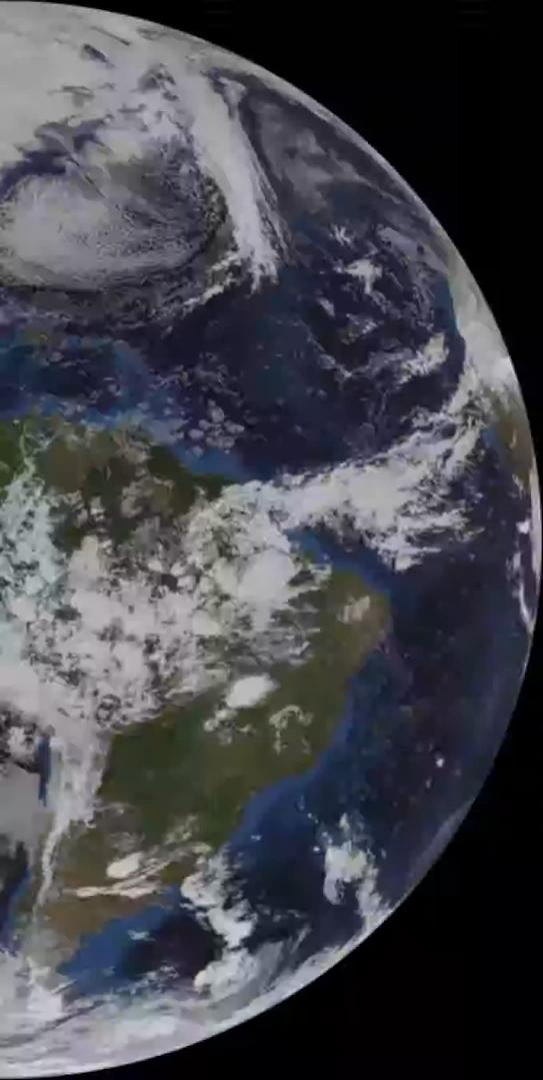
A shared language for everyone in the room: novices understand the story, policy makers see the decisions, demographers check the assumptions, data scientists improve the model, GIS specialists localize the signal, and AI experts strengthen responsible use.



Tomer Shekel

Group Product Manager
(Google)

Intelligence Layer 3: Google/Population Dynamics Insight(PDI) - The Context Engine



Population Dynamics Foundation Model

Tomer Shekel
Product Manager



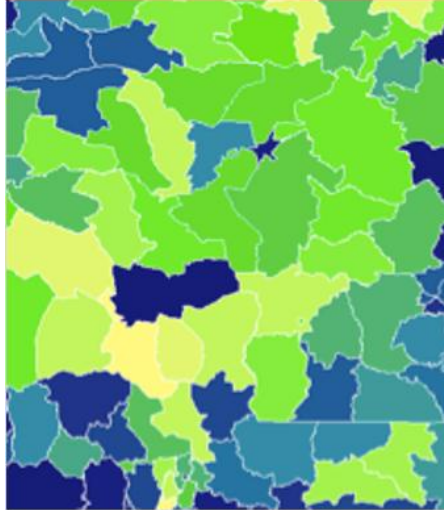
Dr Sarchil Qader

Senior Researcher
(WorldPop)

Intelligence Layer 3: Google/Population Dynamics Insight(PDI) - The Context Engine

Demographic data challenges

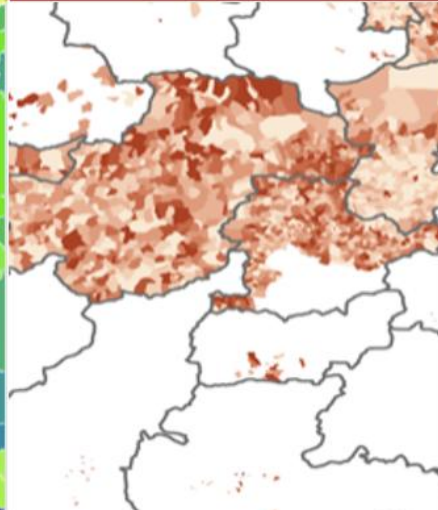
Coarse resolution



Outdated



Incomplete



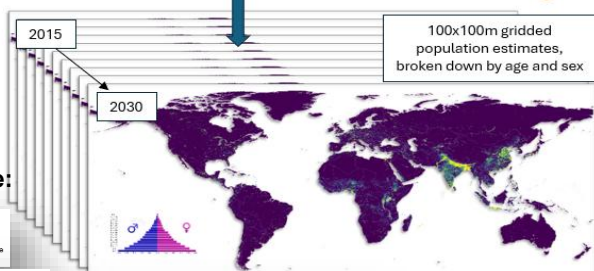
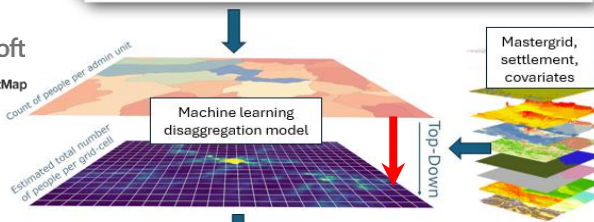
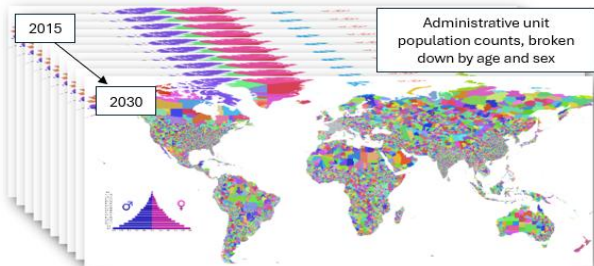
Inaccuracies, missing populations





Geospatial Intelligence population estimation approaches

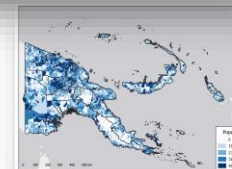
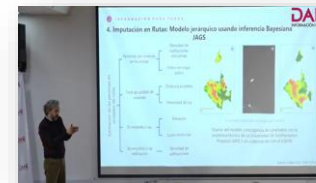
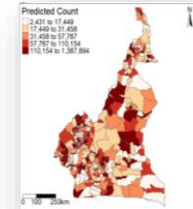
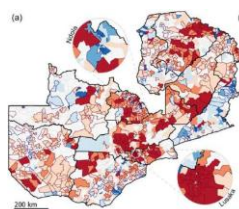
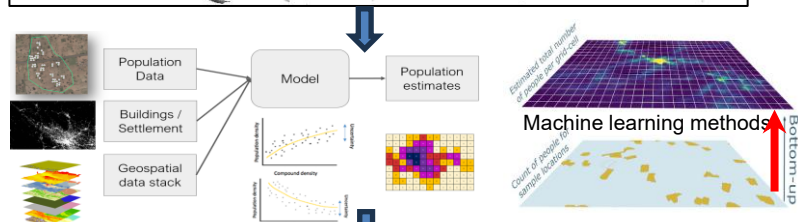
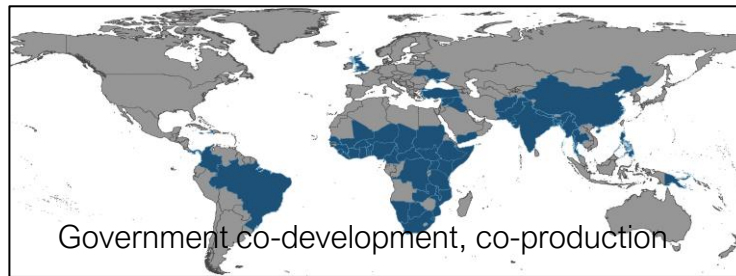
“Top down”
modelling approach



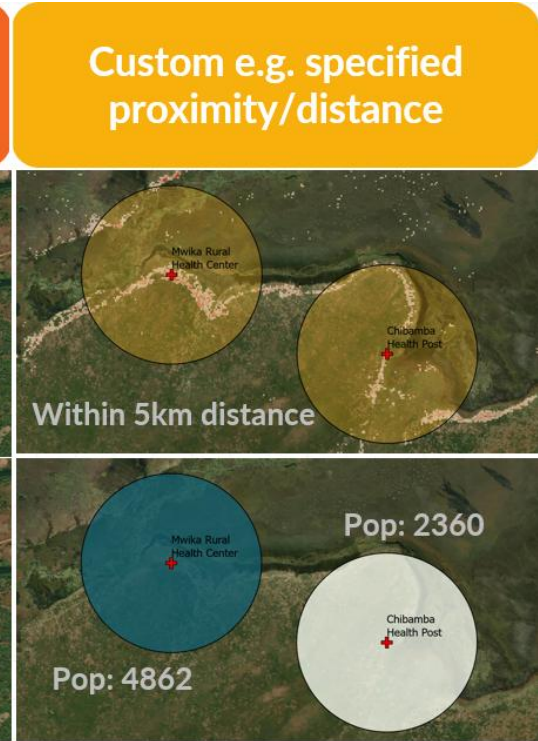
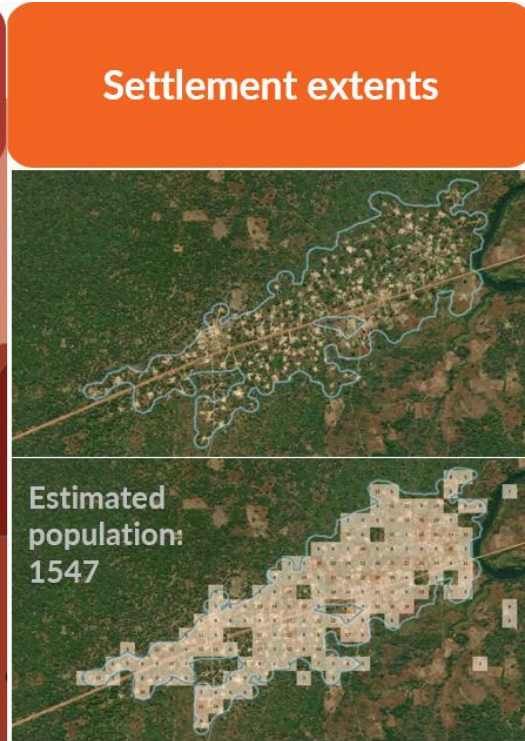
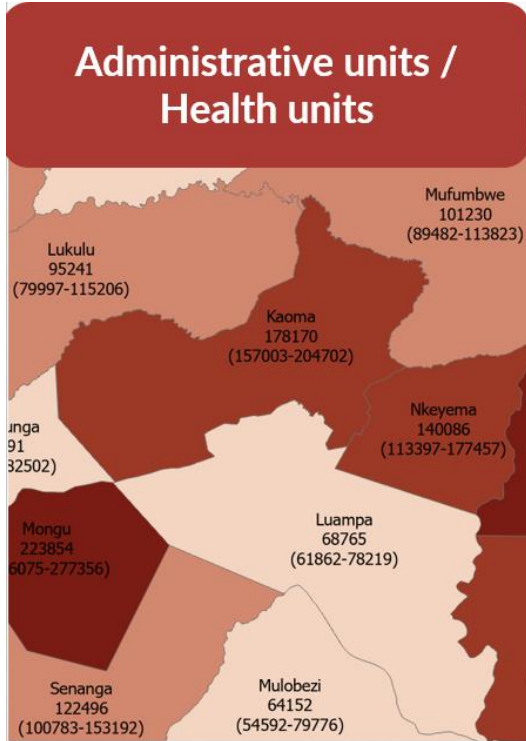
Available:

- HDX Humanitarian Data Exchange
- Google Earth Engine
- ArcGIS Living Atlas of the World
- UNFPA Population Data Portal
- REPUBLIC OF KENYA

“Bottom-up”
modelling approach



Flexibility in aggregation of population estimates





Year

2025

Age Group

30-34

Sex

Male

Female

Map Style

Voyager

View

3D

Opacity

75%



AI Assistant



WorldPop AI Assistant

Ask me about population estimates for any country, subnational area, or city worldwide.

All data are constructed through the assembly of subnational census, projection and estimate data matched to relevant boundaries and adjusted to match UN World Population Prospects national totals. Demographic models are used to harmonize the data and construct time series and therefore the estimates do not necessarily align with official government statistics.

- What is the age distribution of the population of Southampton, UK in 2026?
- Je! ni makadirio gani ya mabadiliko ya idadi ya watu kutoka 2015 hadi 2030 katika Kaunti ya Nairobi, Kenya?
- Comment devrait évoluer le nombre d'enfants de moins de 5 ans dans la ville de Niamey, au Niger, entre 2025 et 2030?
- ¿Cómo cambia el porcentaje de personas mayores de 65 años entre 2015 y 2030 en Aceh, Indonesia?

Ask about demographics...



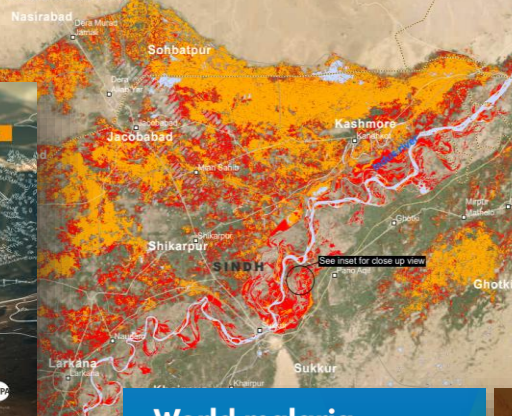
PAKISTAN

SINDH, BALOCHISTAN AND PUNJAB PROVINCES

IMAGERY ANALYSIS: 31/07/2025 PUBLISHED 16/07/2025 V1.



BALOCHISTAN



Disaster impacts



FLOODS
FL20250830PAK

Satellite detected water extents in Sindh, Balochistan and Punjab Provinces, Pakistan as of 31 July 2025. This map illustrates the satellite-observed water extent in Sindh, Balochistan, and Punjab Provinces, Pakistan, as observed from Sentinel-2 satellite images acquired on 31 July 2025 at 13:12 local time (08:02 UTC). Within the analysed area of approximately 83,000 km² (about 0.300 km² of land appears to be affected by flooding). This number is expected to have increased by approximately 1,300 km² since 11 July 2025. Based on WorldPop population data and the flood extent, approximately 2.3 million people are potentially exposed or living close to the flooded areas.

This is a preliminary analysis and has not yet been validated in the field. Please send ground feedback to the United Nations Satellite Centre (UNOSAT).

Legend

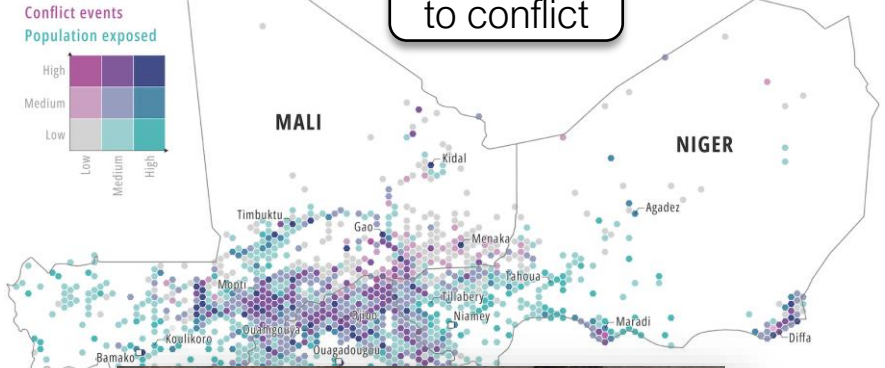
- City
- International boundary
- Administrative boundary
- Line of control
- Water body
- Roadway
- Water body
- Reference year (1 Jan 2025)
- Map produced on 16 Jul 2025

Conflict Exposure in the Sahel

2020 - 2023



Exposure to conflict



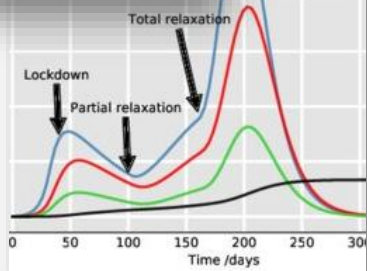
Reaching Zero-dose Children

The vision for leaving no-one behind with immunizations and primary health care.

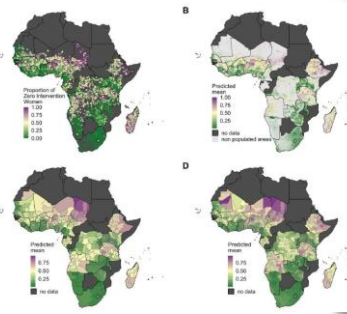
200 km

Events were recorded in the area, and within 5km of a conflict event.

Disease control strategies

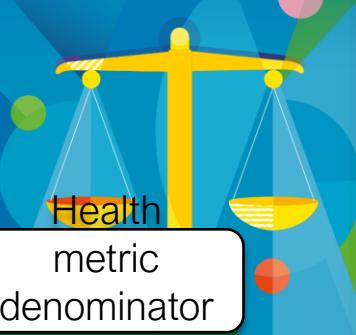


Zero MNH"
63 million women are at risk in 34 countries



World malaria report 2024

Addressing inequity in the global malaria response



THE STATE OF THE World's Midwifery 2021

Dedicated to all health and lives who have lost their lives to Covid-19

Building a health workforce to meet the needs of women, newborns and adolescents everywhere.

Data sources for measuring population mobility and dynamics

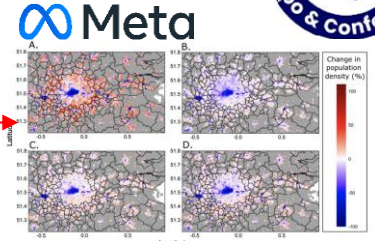
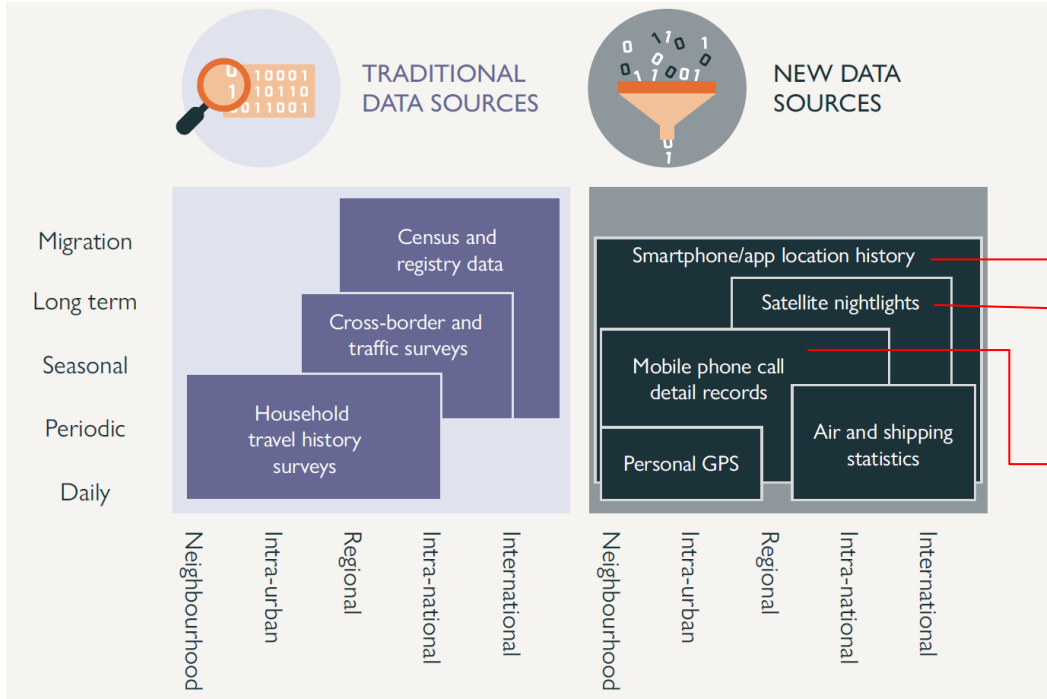
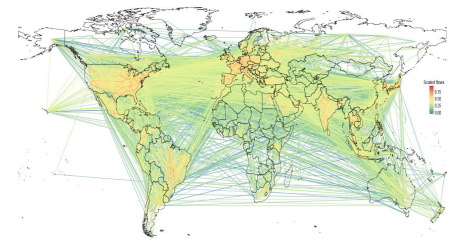
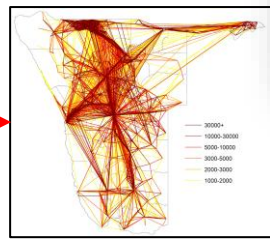
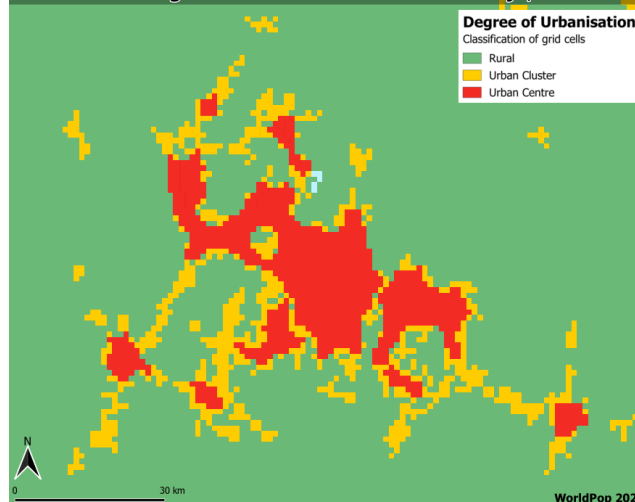


Fig. 4 Median changes in the average population density of former Facebook users within London under different mobility restrictions. A Lockdown one (30/04/2020–12/05/2020) B Summer 2020 (05/07/2020–31/08/2020) C Lockdown two (01/12/2020–01/12/2020) D Lockdown three (05/01/2021–08/02/2021). Time period is between 08:00–16:00 UTC. Data does not coincide with the beginning of lockdown one as data

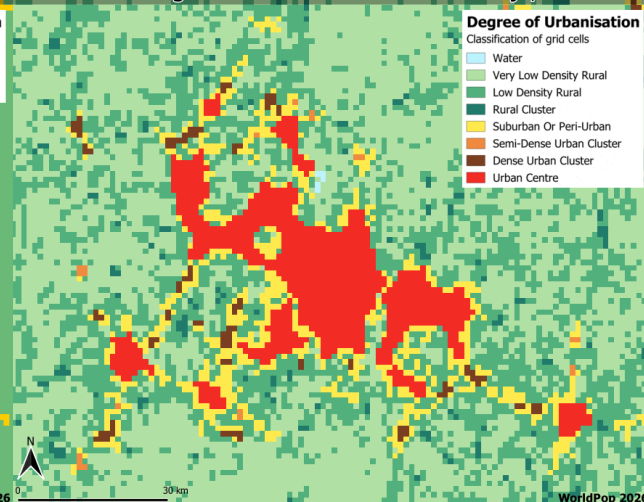


WorldPop Global2 Degree of Urbanisation implementation

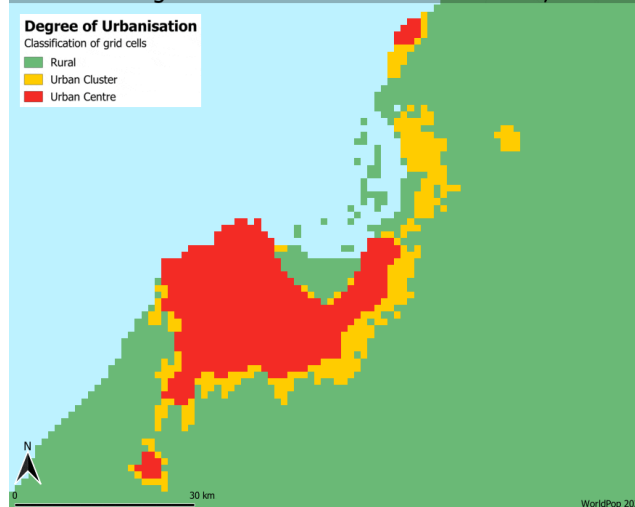
Level 1 degree of urbanisation around Abuja, 2015



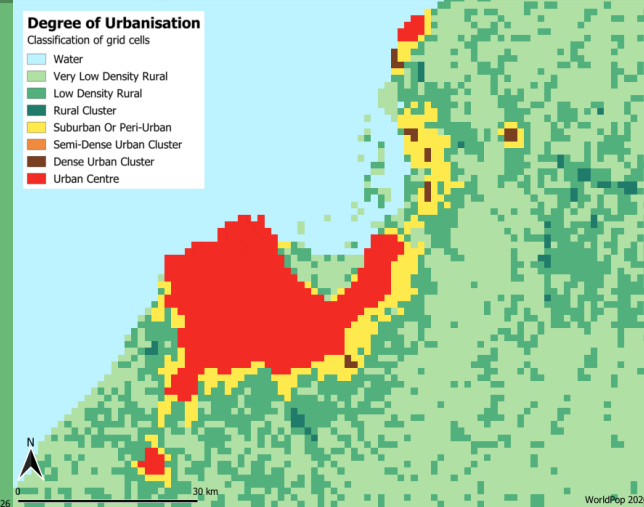
Level 2 degree of urbanisation around Abuja, 2015



Level 1 degree of urbanisation around Kinshasa, 2015



Level 2 degree of urbanisation around Kinshasa, 2015

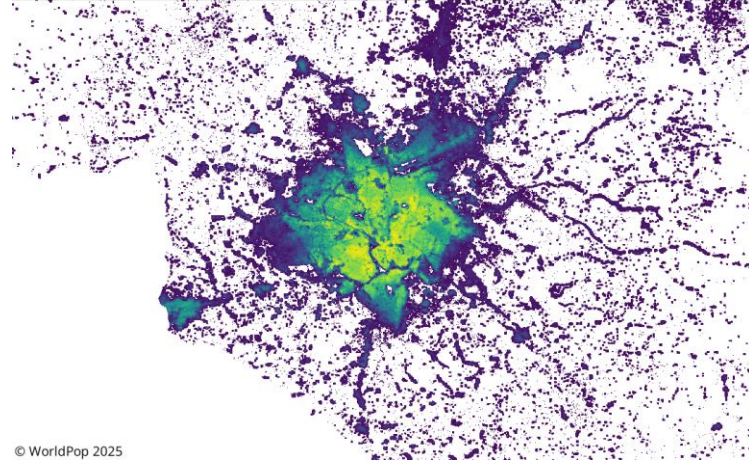
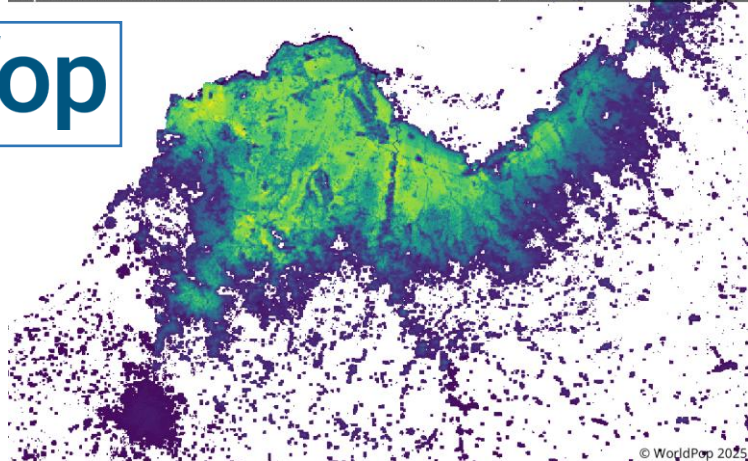


Population distribution of Kinshasa under SSP2 scenario, 2025

Population distribution of Lubumbashi under SSP2 scenario, 2025

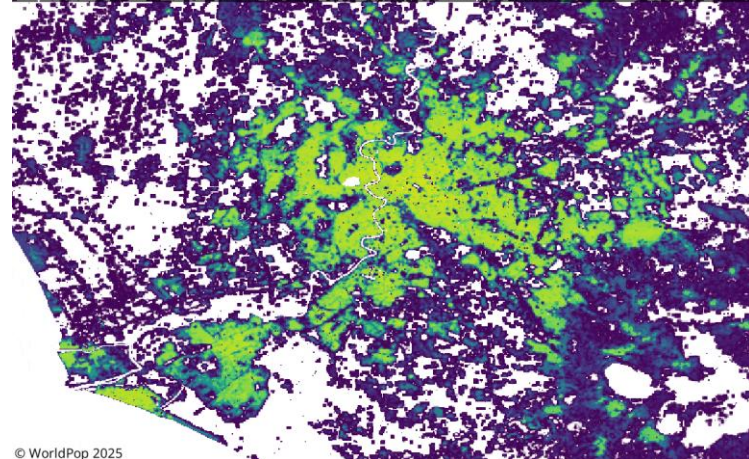
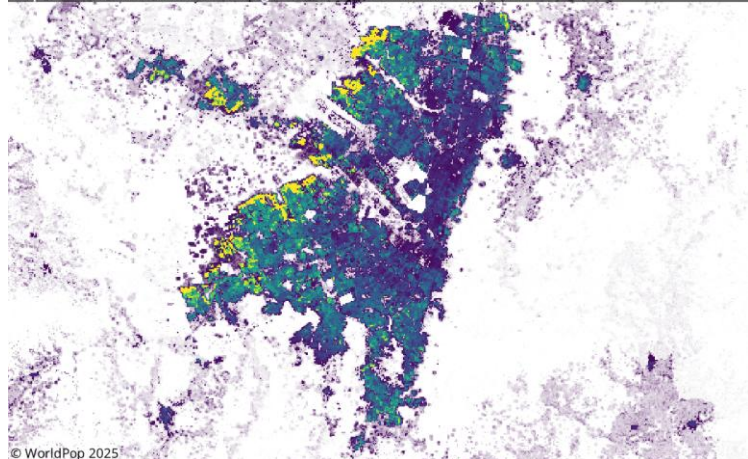
FuturePop

SSP scenario
1km datasets
2025-2100,
harmonised
with WorldPop
Global2



Population distribution of Bogotá under SSP1 scenario, 2025

Population distribution of Rome under SSP4 scenario, 2025



Key messages

- ❑ Question all population data!
- ❑ Geospatial modelling approaches are not a replacement for traditional enumeration, but can be complementary
- ❑ The wide variety of needs, data and changing situations mean that one-size-fits-all approaches are typically not the most appropriate – a toolbox is needed
- ❑ Many uncertainties and challenges remain – quantifying and communicating uncertainties and limitations is important
- ❑ Local ownership and co-development are vital for developing trust and seeing outputs used



Lorien Innes

Senior Business &
Sustainable
Development Manager
(Esri)

Intelligence Layer 4: WorldPop - From Signals to People



POPINTEL HACK

**Digital Innovation for
People & Climate**
*from data to
decisions*

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Manager Africa

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esri

Serving Our Users

Integrating Geographic Understanding
into Organizations

... Everywhere

Advancing GIS
& The Science Of Where

Supporting Our
User Community

Promoting Spatial Literacy



ArcGIS is Designed for Everyone



Esri Content Portfolio

Available through ArcGIS Living Atlas and ArcGIS Products



A Curated Collection of Ready-to-Use Maps & Layers

ArcGIS Living Atlas of the World

Recently added & On The Horizon

European Commission's

Joint Research Centre

✓ Global Surface Water

✓ Global Forest

Confluvio

Americas HydroSheds 2.0

Clark University

Future Landcover Change

Tutorials for Remote Sensing

Purdue University

✓ Global Wet Bulb Globe

Temperature

Projections

World Resource Institute

✓ Aqueduct 4.0 Global Water

Risk

National Geographic

World Water Map Policy Explorer

University of Southampton

World Pop. estimates in
analysis-optimized layers

Group on Earth Observations

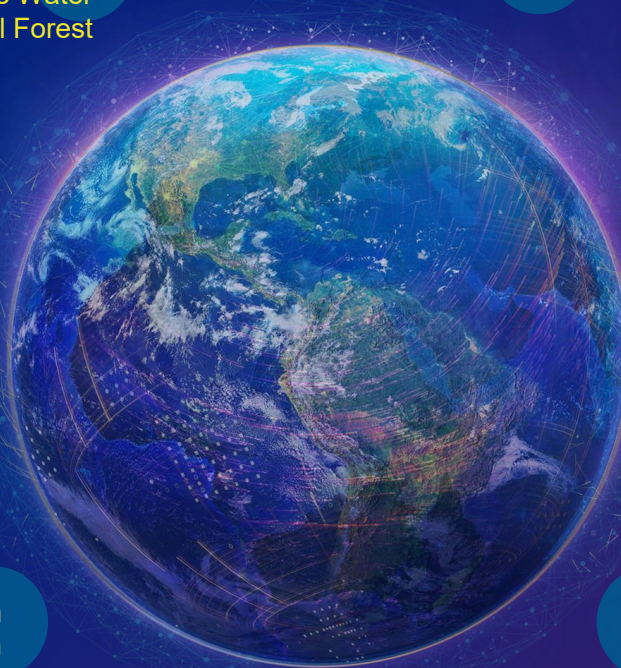
Global Synthesis Ecosystems Atlas

Global Biodiversity Information

Framework - GBIF

Global Species Map

✓ Recently



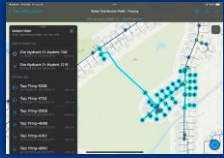
ArcGIS includes Many Apps

Supporting All Types of Users



Earth

Field Maps



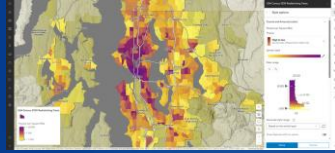
QuickCapture



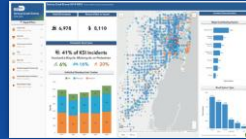
Survey123



StoryMaps



Map Viewer



Dashboards



Instant Apps

Experience Builder



Infographics



Atlas



Scene Viewer



Business Analyst



Pro

Web

Mobile

Desktop



Instant Apps

Transform Web Maps into Apps

Templates

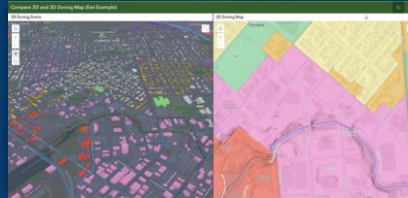
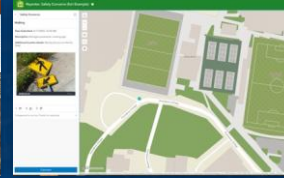
- 3D Viewer
- **Atlas**
- Attachment Viewer
- **Basic (Media Map)**
- Category Gallery
- Chart Viewer
- **Compare**
- Countdown
- Exhibit
- Imagery Viewer
- Insets
- Interactive Legend
- Manager
- **Nearby**
- Observer
- **Portfolio**
- Public Notification
- **Reporter**
- **Sidebar**
- Slider
- Zone Lookup

Easy to Configure
and
Use

Observer



Reporter



Compare



Streamflow Viewer

Now Supports Creating
Multilingual

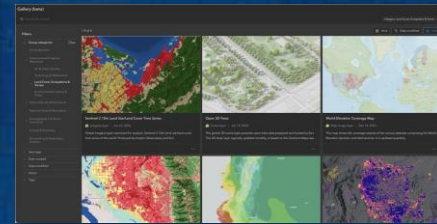
Apps



Atlas



Supporting
Accessible Apps



Gallery

New Templates

- **Gallery**
- **Web Editor**
- **Compare**
- **Reporter**
- **Streamflow Viewer**

Instantly creating web apps . . .

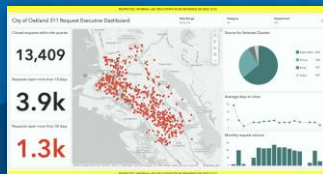
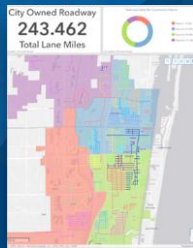
Dashboards

Visualizing Relevant & Timely Information

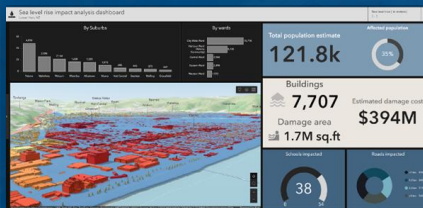
New & Improved

- Update or Replace Data Sources
- Date Selector Slider
- Item Classification (Enterprise)
- Theming & Styling
- Date Type Fields Support
- Dual-Axis Charts
- Element Headers

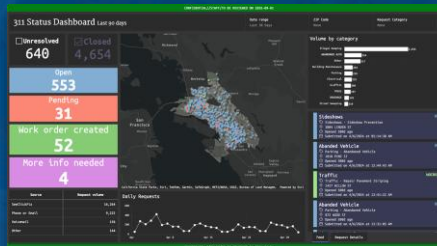
Monitor Status



Visualize Trends

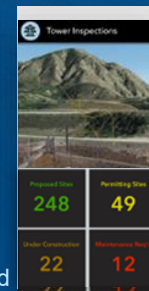


Manage Performance



Item Classification

Easy to Configure & Embed

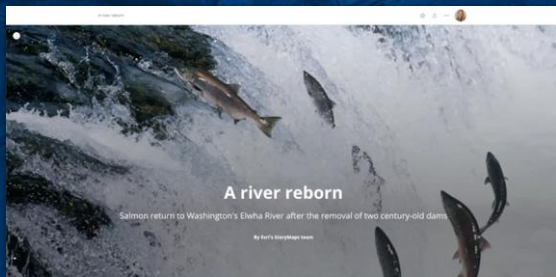


Creating an operational view

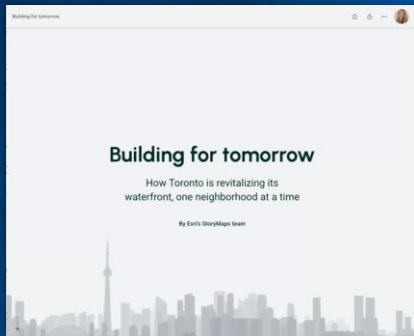
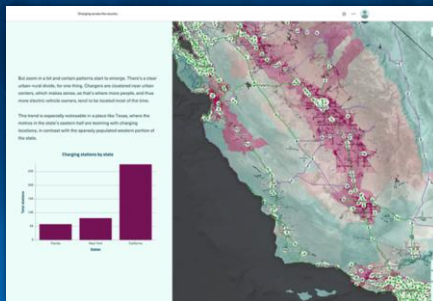
StoryMaps

Enabling Geospatial Storytelling

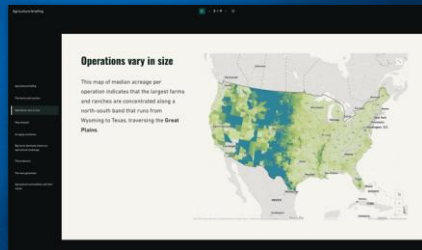
Put Maps at the Center of Your Story



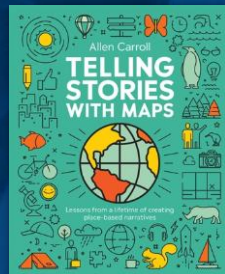
Data Visualization with Charts



Map Interactivity



Briefings

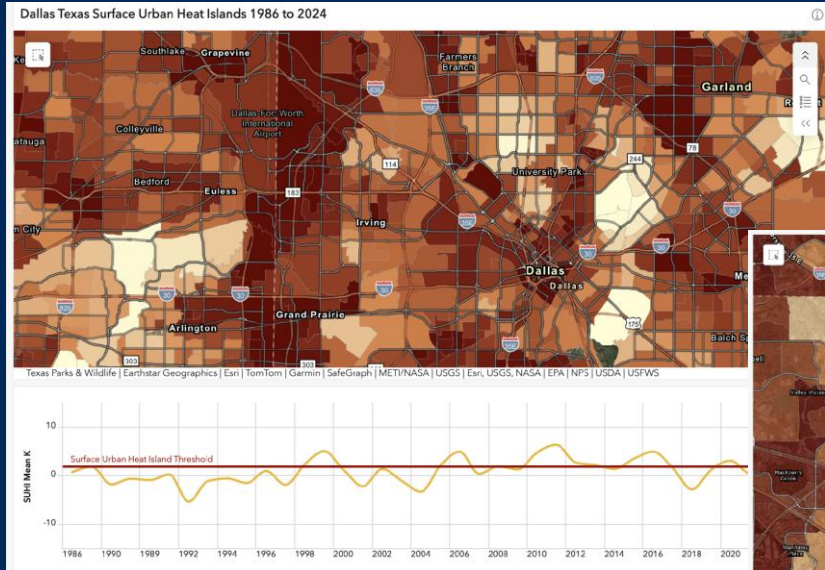


New & Improved

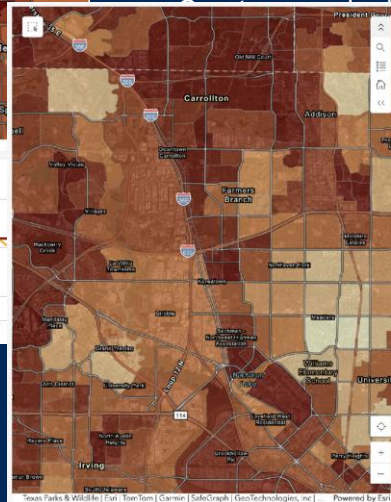
- **Advanced Embedding**
- Story Templates
- **AI Assistant (beta)**
- **Categorized Map Tour**
- **Charts and Infographics**
- **360-Degree Images**
- Layouts in Briefings

Growing rapidly . . .
millions of stories published

Example Risk scoring health



- Calculate zonal mean surface temperatures using Landsat imagery
- Calculate surface heat index
- Convert raster to vector data & enrich with population data or census track



 **4.1k**
Population Density per sq. mi.

 **0**
Households utilizing Food Stamp Program

 **265**
Population 65+

 **0**
Households without a Vehicle

 **121**
Number of people with a Disability

 **111**
Households Income below Poverty Line

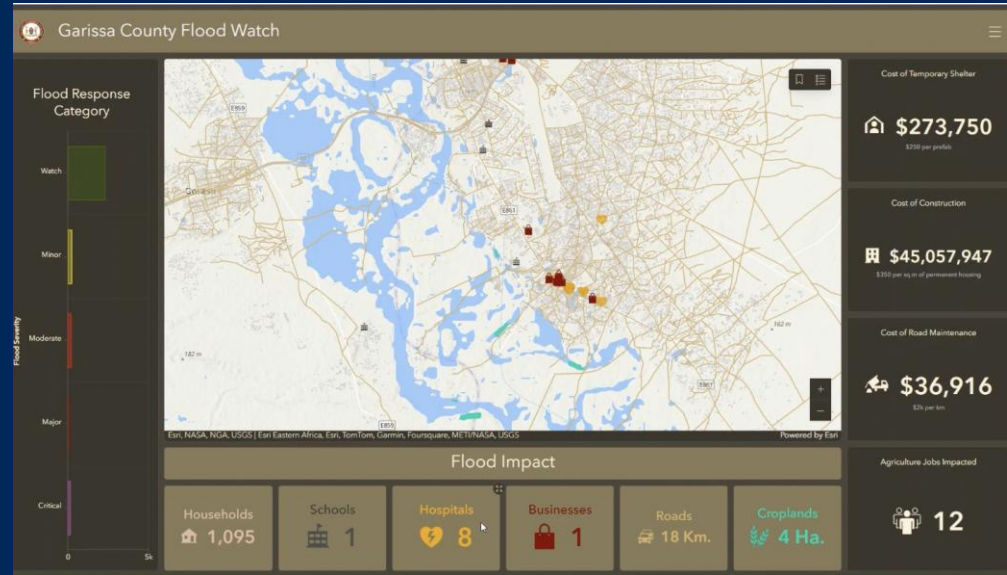
Annual urban heat maps

At Risk Demographic

Example Priority scoring Floods



From identifying flood extent in Garissa, Kenya



To prioritizing emergency response

The hackathon platform: Africa Geoportal

A Community Mapping platform free for any single user working in or on Africa

- ✓ Open Data for Africa
- ✓ Tools for mapping, analysis & sharing
- ✓ Tutorials



AFRICA
GEOPORTAL
Powering the continent

Data Library Learning Center Geospatial Tools Community ▾

The Africa GeoPortal

Inspiring communities through geography

Location intelligence is the ability to analyze and find spatial patterns in data to provide powerful insights into understanding our world and communicating our needs. This is made possible through a combination of local data and advanced geospatial tools, along with training that's included for anyone working on geographic challenges across the continent.

GET STARTED

DISCOVER · LEARN · CREATE

www.africageoportal.com

We are here to support you!

- One of your mentors...



Lydia Troup
Solutions Engineer



esri[®]

**THE
SCIENCE
OF
WHERE**[®]

Track Reveals: The Smart Builds (Panel)



Derrick DEMEVENG

Program Specialist
Geospatial Analysis
(UNFPA)



Poornima Ramesh

Senior Data Scientist /
Associate Director
(IDinsight)



Dr Godwin Akpan

Senior Advisor
Data Analysis & Use
(UNFPA)

Population Intelligence (PopIntel) Hack

Global Data Festival & Kenya Space Expo | Nairobi | 3 June 2026

A Special

Thank You to Priscilla

For championing Population Intelligence and the partnerships that move foresight into last-mile action.

Thank you for embracing and fostering the vision, collaboration and innovation that can transform how countries see risk, validate signals and act earlier for people.

From signals to foresight. From insight to impact.

With gratitude from everyone here .



Surprise moment before closing remarks



Dr Priscilla Idele

Chief Data & Analytics Branch
(UNFPA)

Final Charge: From Signals to Action



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