

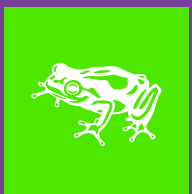
HUMANITARIAN ICT FORUM

Humanitarian Data Workflow Research

MARCH 2017



*“How do we make
data move faster?”*



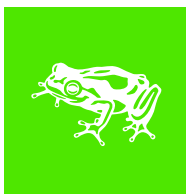
Early this year, the **Paul Allen Foundation** funded a collaborative research effort between **UN OCHA**, **Roberta Tassi** and **frog**.



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Research goals

1

Map the humanitarian data workflow

2

Identify factors that impact data flow

3

Find ways for the HDX to help





22

**KOBO/HDX
INTERVIEWS**

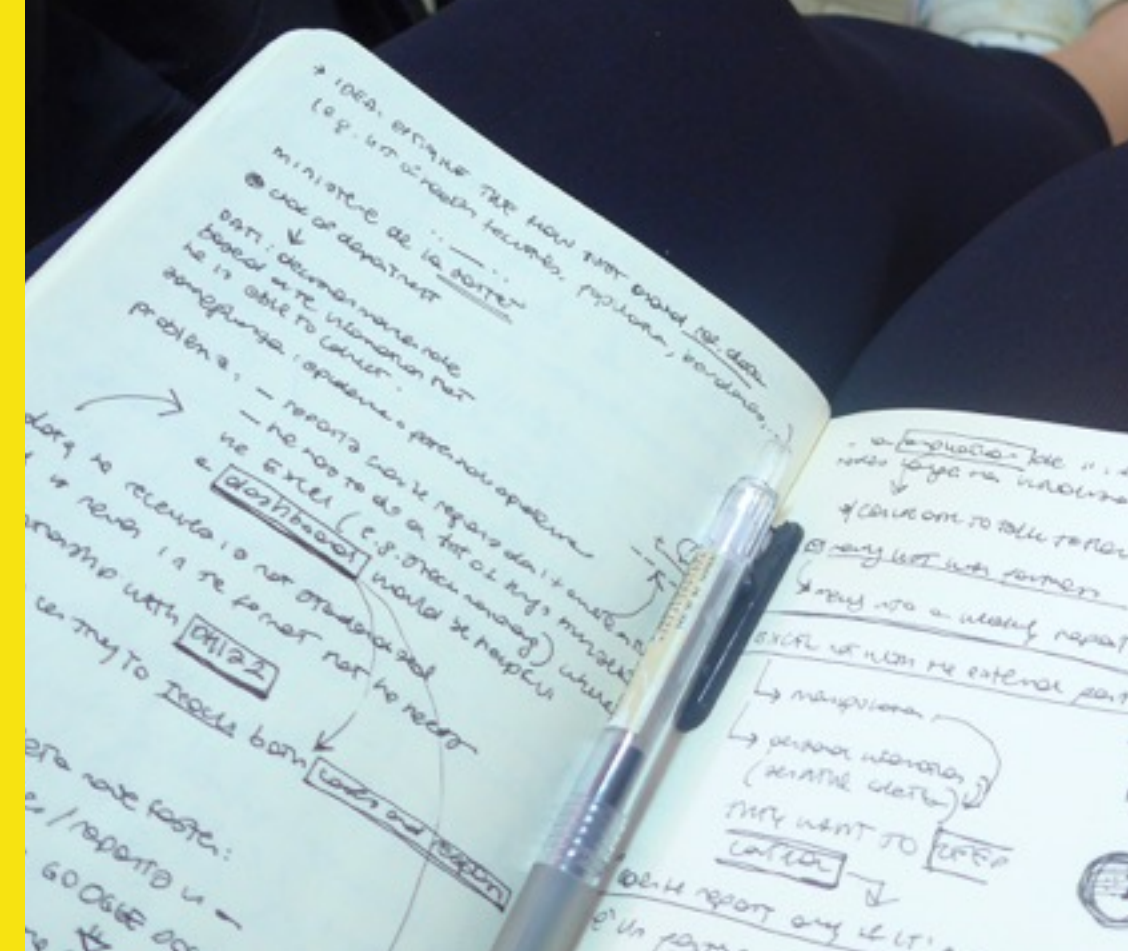


CONAKRY



22

**IN-FIELD
INTERVIEWS**



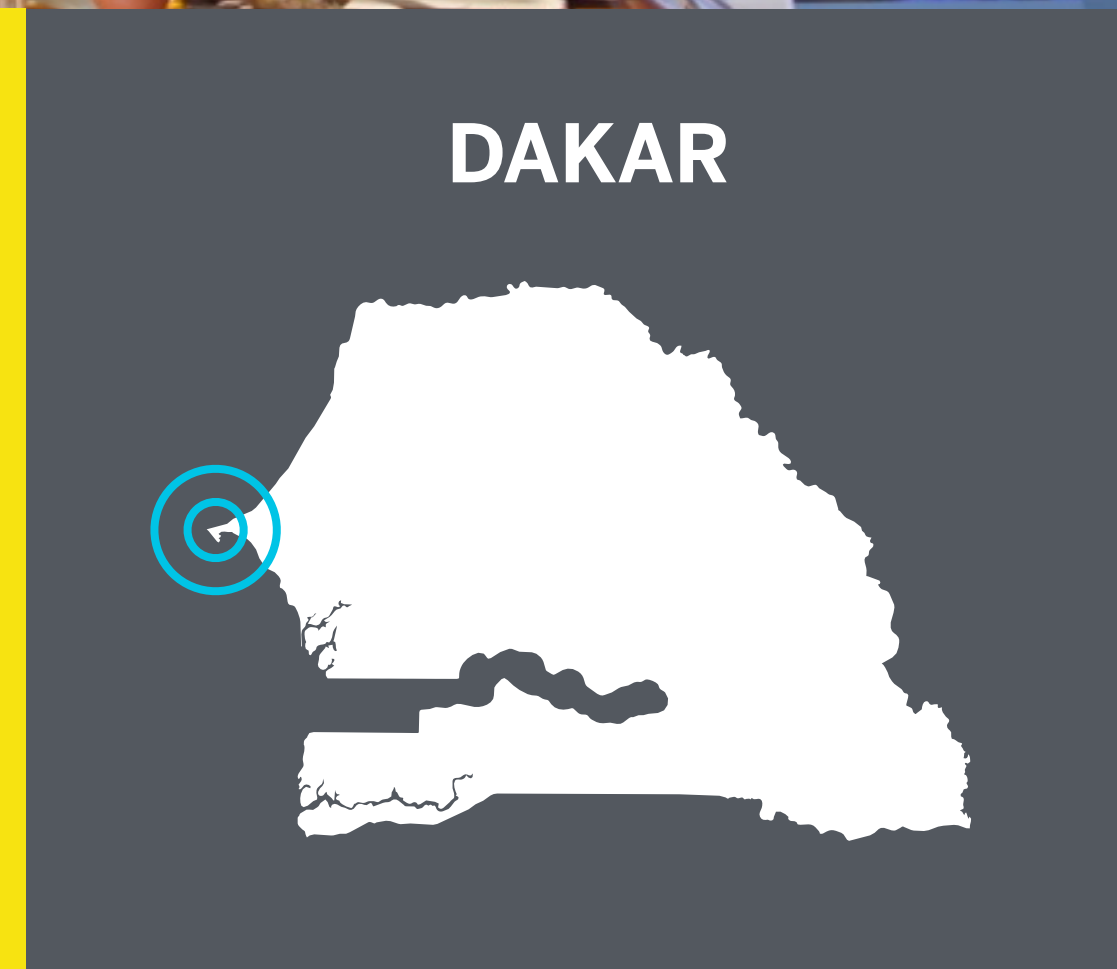
14

**SME
INTERVIEWS**

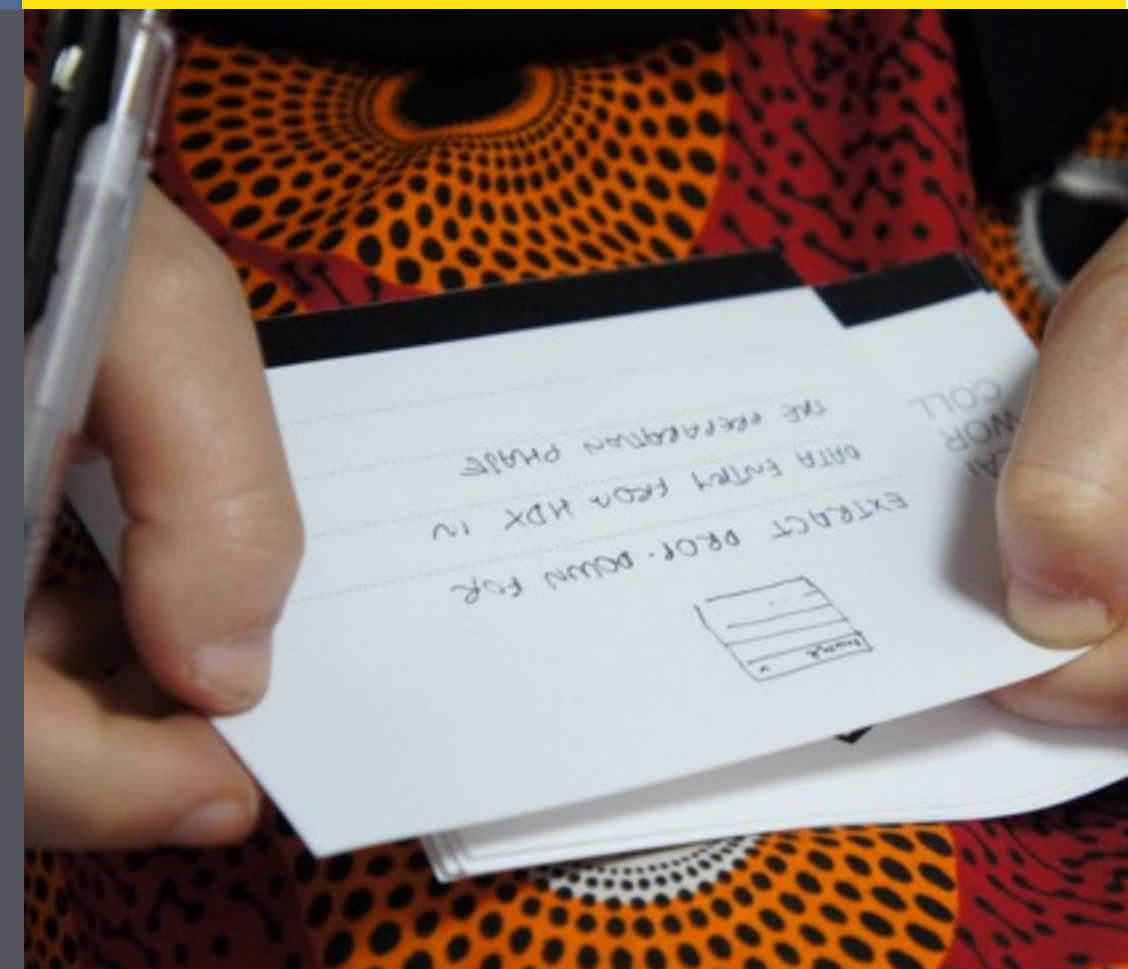


14,884

**MILES
TRAVELED**



DAKAR



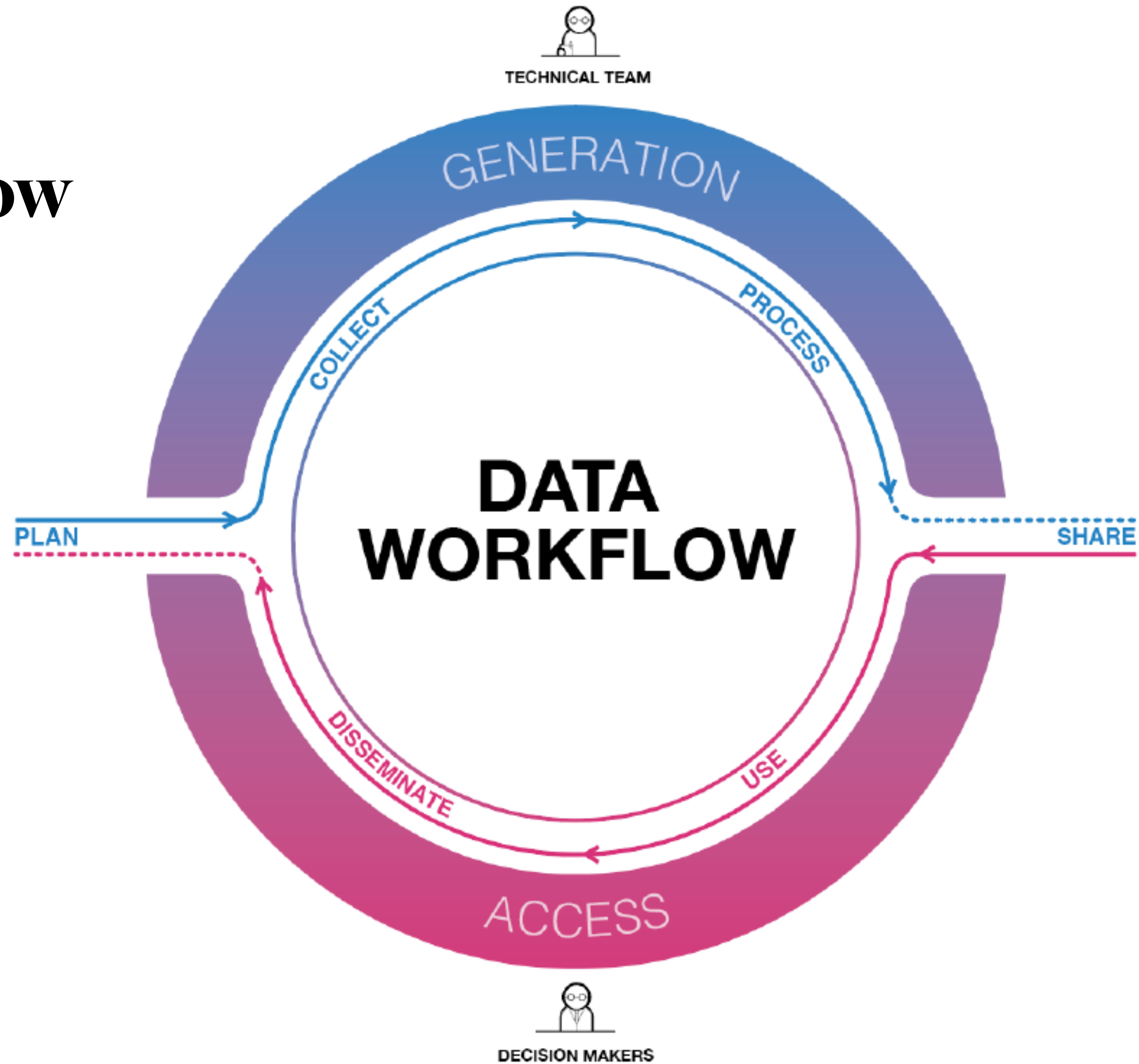
Key Insights



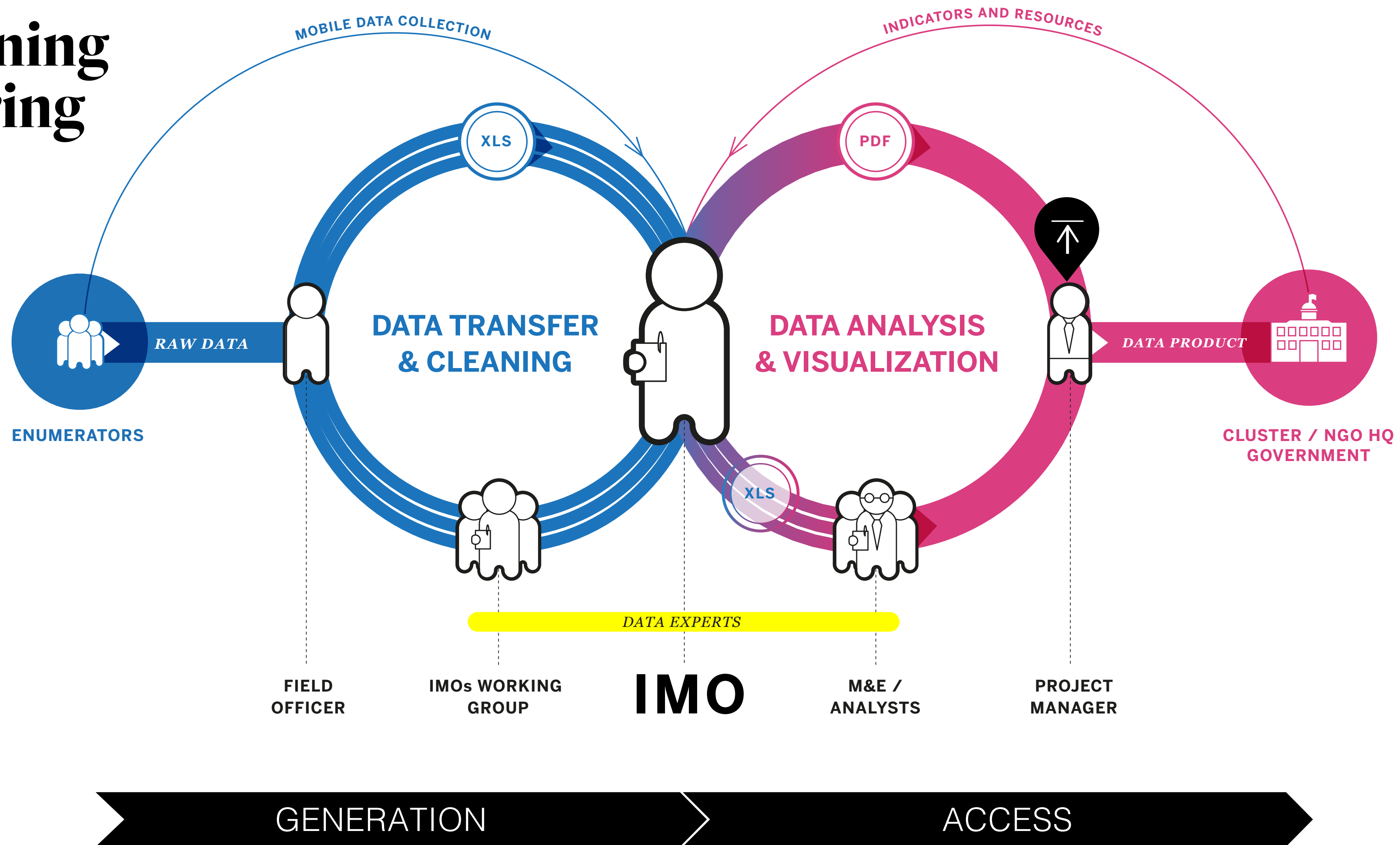
Framing the Problem



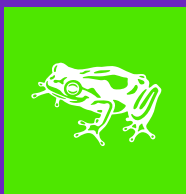
High-Level Data Workflow



Defining Sharing



What impacts data flow?





motivation

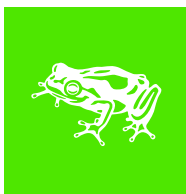
“Data collection is human resource intensive.
How do we incentivize the process?”

JULIET / INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)



Missing and misaligned incentives are pervasive.

Data generation and access remain separate journeys in the workflow. Feedback loops are missing between HQ and the field.



A photograph of a man and a woman sitting at a conference table in a meeting room. The man, on the left, has a beard and is wearing a light-colored checkered shirt, looking down thoughtfully with his hand to his chin. The woman, on the right, has short dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark blazer, looking towards the man. The table is cluttered with papers, a white coffee cup on a saucer, a clear glass of water, and a plastic water bottle with a blue cap. The background shows wood-paneled walls and a window with a bright light source. A semi-transparent purple overlay covers the bottom half of the image, containing white text.

data literacy

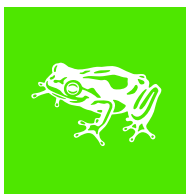
“If you don’t create guidelines and consistency at the beginning, you need then an army of IMO’s to correct errors.”

FREDERIC / AGENCY FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (ACTED)



Uneven knowledge among data workers drastically affects data flow.

Experienced staff are asked to do too much; inexperienced staff add to their workload.



A man with a goatee, wearing a blue and white plaid shirt, is shown in profile, gesturing with both hands as if explaining something. He is in an office environment with a map on the wall and a wooden door in the background. A semi-transparent purple overlay covers the bottom half of the image, containing text.

data processing

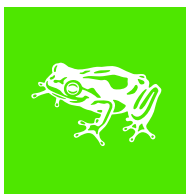
“Not everyone knows how to use Excel look up,
or how to structure a database.”

ERIK / WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP)



Inadequate tools and supporting processes slow data processing.

Data processing and management tools don't fit the skill level of the people who need to use them.





transparency

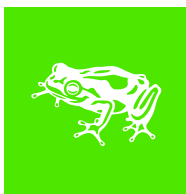
“It’s important to give visibility to what organizations are doing.
Even if you can’t download the spreadsheet, you may decide to get in touch.”

JULIETTE / INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)



Coordination and collaboration challenges yield complex slowdowns.

Inefficiencies stem from a lack of visibility into collection efforts and baseline datasets used across a relief effort.



A photograph of a meeting in a conference room. Four people are seated around a dark wooden table. On the left, a man in a light blue shirt and glasses is looking at a document. Next to him, a woman with curly hair is also looking at a document. On the right, a man in a blue striped shirt is looking towards the others. In the foreground, the back of a man's head and shoulders is visible as he sits at the table. The table is cluttered with papers, a printer, and water bottles. A window with patterned curtains is in the background. The entire image has a purple overlay.

mindset

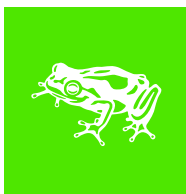
“We need to keep control.”

YERO / MINISTRY OF HEALTH, CONAKRY



Cultural issues can stop data in its tracks.

Organizational politics coupled with and emotions like fear and possessiveness can have a strong dampening effect on sharing.



Five Factors Affect Flow



motivation

Missing and misaligned incentives.



data literacy

Uneven knowledge among data workers.



data processing

Inadequate tools and supporting processes.



transparency

Coordination and collaboration challenges.



mindset

Cultural and organizational issues.

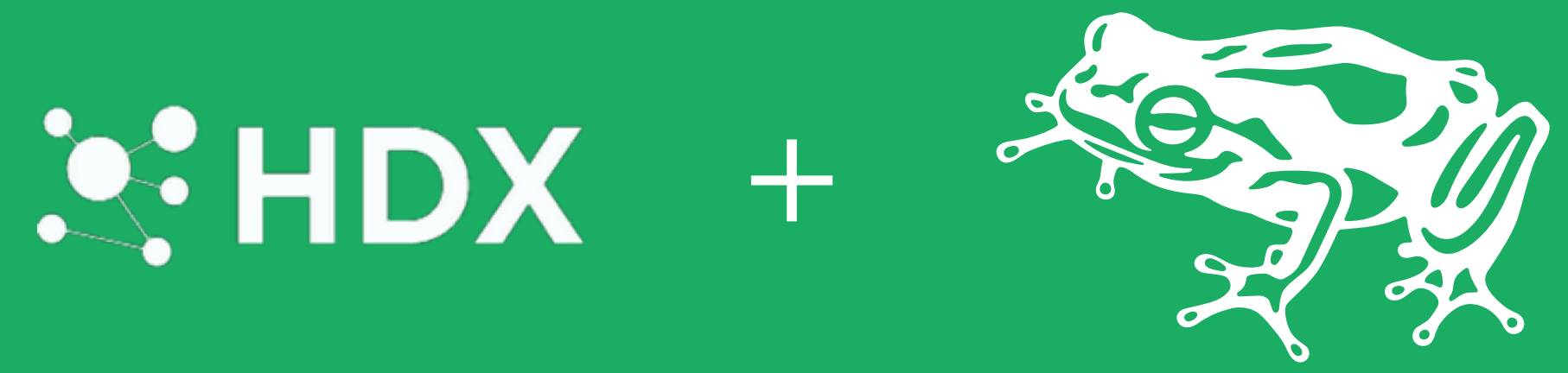


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Language at hxlstandard.org





THANKS!