

The evolution of data stewardship in official statistics

governance, capacity, best practices and innovation

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President of **Statistics Poland**

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President of **International Association for Official Statistics** (2023-2025)

Vice-President of the **Polish Statistical Association**

A member of the Econometrics and Statistics Committee and the Demographic Sciences Committee of the **Polish Academy of Sciences**

A member of **ISI Committee on Agricultural Statistics** (ISI-CAS)

UNECE Conference of European Statisticians (CES), Bureau Vice-Chair

Co-Chair of the UN Working Group on Data Stewardship

Involved also in various other UN groups

- UN Friends of the Chair Group on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

- UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics

- UN Network of Economic Statisticians

- UN Friends of the Chair on Social Statistics

Previously a member of

- EU Commission Business-to-Government Data Sharing Expert Group (2019)

- EU Commission Expert Group on Facilitating the Use of New Data Sources for Official Statistics (2021)

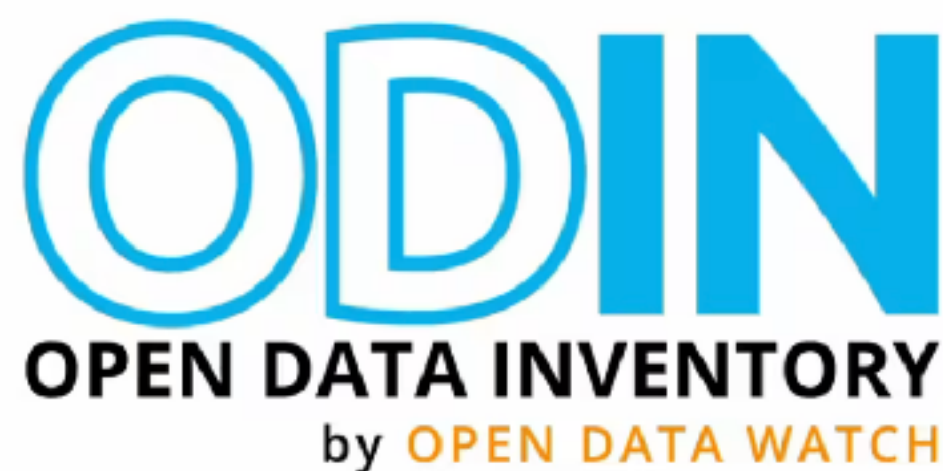


Dominik Antoni Rozkrut

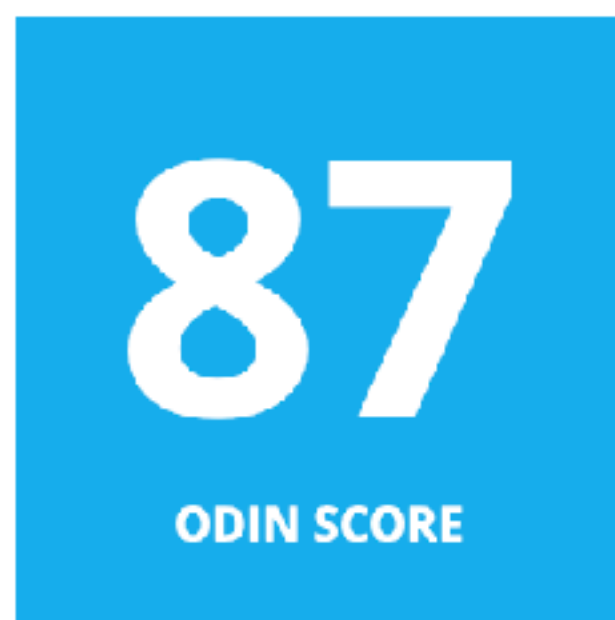
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Statistics Poland



OPEN DATA WATCH



Global Rankings



Poland [↓](#)

2nd GLOBAL RANK
OUT OF 195

81 COVERAGE SCORE
OUT OF 100

92 OPENNESS SCORE
OUT OF 100

Country	Region	Overall [^]	Coverage	Openness
1 Singapore	South-Eastern Asia	90	77	100
2 Poland	Eastern Europe	87	81	92

Context

- The main drivers
 - Digital transformation, datafication, new data ecosystems, more data for everyone
- New reality
 - Avalanche of data regulations, data governance, data altruism, data collaboratives, data stewardship
- Challenge
 - Disinformation, decline in trust, budget challenges, and increased complexity of public problems require data innovation

Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

Official statistics provide an indispensable element in the information system of a democratic society, serving the government, the economy and the public with data about the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation.

To this end, official statistics that meet the test of practical utility are to be compiled and made available on an impartial basis by official statistical agencies to honour citizens' entitlement to public information.

Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and Data Stewardship

- FPOS enshrine well the concept of data stewardship
 - Principle 1
- FPOS didn't exist before 1990s
 - still things were done in the same spirit then
- The concept of data stewardship emerged into focus recently
 - similarly, hard to say it's new

Brief history of data stewardship in official statistics

1. Production, publication, dissemination,
2. International comparison, harmonization, information standards
3. Administrative sources, domestic coordination
4. Evidence-based policies, stakeholder engagement
5. Capacity building, development aid

Brief history of data stewardship in official statistics

6. Open data, data sharing
7. Data services, support for data usage, partnerships
8. Statistical literacy, data literacy, education
9. Fostering data ecosystems, national data governance

Data ecosystem

- The data (including statistical data), along with the data subjects, a broad range of stakeholders and data users, capacities, processes, policies, and infrastructure used to capture and analyze data

Data governance

- A system of decision rights and accountabilities for managing the availability, usability, integrity, and security of the data and information and the resulting regulations, policies, and frameworks

Data management

- Involves the development, execution, and supervision of plans, practices, concepts, programs, and the accompanying range of systems that contribute to the organization and maintenance of data processes to meet ongoing information lifecycle needs

Data stewardship in official statistics

- Definition
 - The roles, functions, and activities that enable the re-use of data for public benefit in a systematic, sustainable, and responsible way through data collaboration
- Mission
 - Official statistics should deliver responsible data leaders in the public sector seeking new ways to create public value through cross-sector data collaboration

Data stewardship activities

- Collaborate
 - Working with others to unlock the inherent value of data when it serves the public good
- Protect
 - Managing data ethically and preventing harm to all whose data may be shared
- Act
 - Proactively identifying partners who can unlock value and insights

Data stewardship in the context of official statistics

1. Data governance, management, and strategies
2. Maintaining information standards
3. Coordination of public information systems
4. Quality assistance and assurance
5. Data access, acquisition, and sharing
6. Partnerships and community engagement

Data stewardship in the context of official statistics

7. Nurture data collaboratives
8. Overseeing data life cycle management
9. Assuring ethics, value, and risk assessment
10. Supervising security and promoting transparency
11. Internal coordination and staff engagement
12. Dissemination, communication, and education

Time to act

Need to take advantage of the advent of data governance policies

- These are the times of setting up data governance everywhere around the world
- We see an avalanche of legislative acts in the EU, and other countries are following
- It is crucial to take advantage of the opportunity and not to miss the critical moment when the foundations for the functioning of data ecosystems are laid
- Setting up a national and international data governance system is a challenging task; we still learn the language to be used, especially in a legislative context, so I anticipate a lot of difficulties

Need to take advantage of the advent of data governance policies

- Therefore, politicians should work together hand in hand with official statisticians
- Data should be used for the public good, and this must be taken into account in the design of modern data governance systems at the state level
- Ubiquitous data should serve not only as a fuel for the development of economies but also serve the public good through the availability of fast, reliable, and detailed official statistics, providing insight into the nature and progress of socio-economic processes
- This was the principle that guided the creators of the official statistics system from the very beginning, but new circumstances and the explosion in the amount of data pose new challenges

Need to use privately-held data to its full potential for creating the public good

- Need to access to create a common, public good
- One of the premises of official stats is access to data to come up with valuable in-depth insight into the nature and progress of society and economy in their respective environments
- Need for the support of policymakers to ensure that access to privately-held data for official statistics is guaranteed in the newly established national data governance systems

Need to fight the barriers to data innovation

- Barriers for innovation in statistics
 - Legal obstacles
 - Privacy awareness, public acceptability
 - Poor technological infrastructures
 - Lack of skills and competencies
 - Poor user stakeholder dialog
 - Isolation, no partnerships

Need for innovation in statistical production

- Innovation infrastructures
- Innovation culture (ability to innovate)
- Clear strategic direction (striving for innovation, fostering innovation)
- Supply-based innovation (exploratory based: applied research and experimental development)
- Demand-based innovation (user-driven)

Need for infrastructures for innovation in statistics

- Data access infrastructure (privacy-preserving techniques)
- Data processing infrastructure (micro-data modeling, data linking)
- Human infrastructure: skills and competencies for capacity development (context analysis, learning facilitation, change management, data collaboration and stewardship)
- Management infrastructure (reorientation towards a systematic approach to dealing with the transition or transformation of an organization's goals, processes or technologies, to implement strategies for effecting change, controlling change and helping people to adapt to change)
- Legal framework (hopefully not restraining innovation)

Statistics Poland Data Science Academy

Internal capacity building program

DATA SCIENCE ACADEMY



Build a modern organization, able to anticipate and target fast-changing information needs by tapping into a multitude of data sources



Increase the integration of administrative and new data sources in statistical production – experimental & official

1. Employee development and retention

- talent recruiting (students, academia, research)
- general and specialized trainings
- maintaining competency model
- designing individual development paths
- personnel succession program
- mentoring

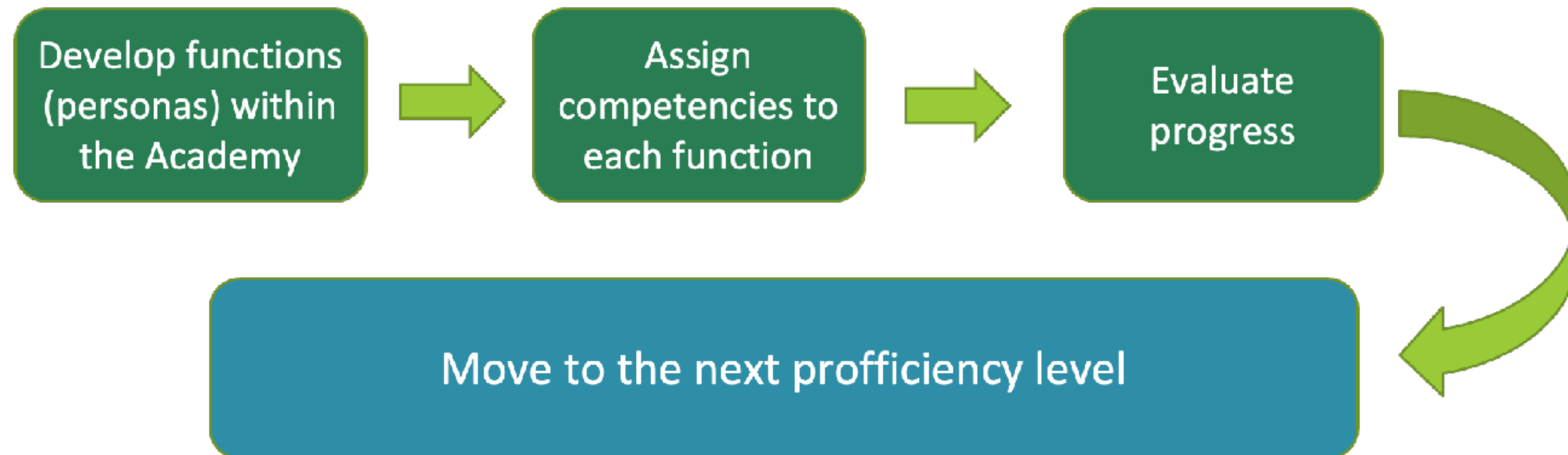
2. Sharing knowledge and experience

- seminars and meetings on general topics;
proposals for meetings submitted by Academy members
- Data Science Talks
presenting selected problems and issues
- regular meetings of
the data science community

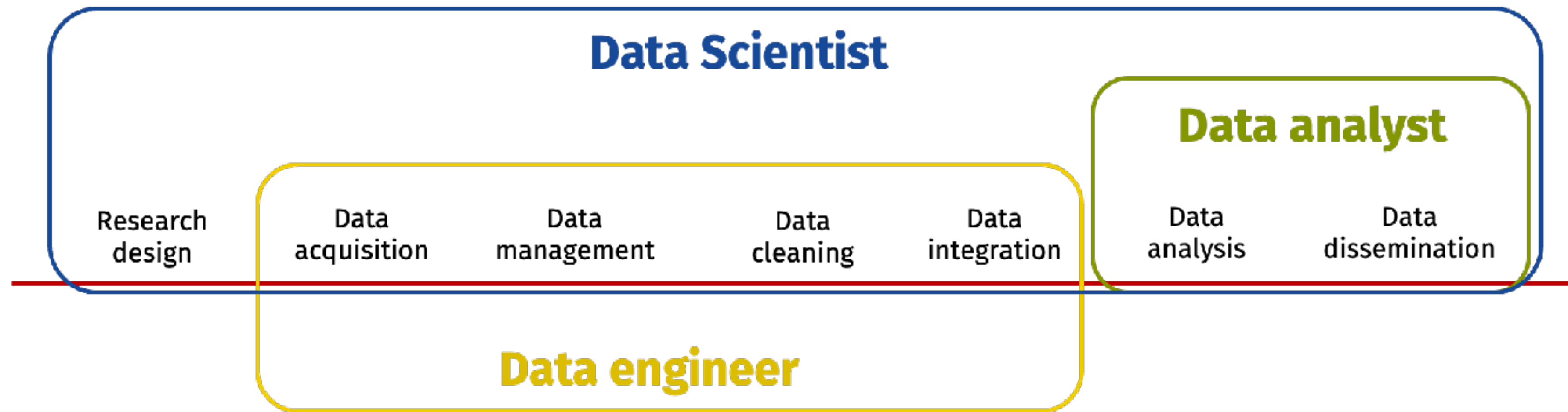
3. Building a data science community platform

- intranet site as a space to share knowledge and experience
- information about events, conferences and meetings, organized by domestic and foreign institutions, hackathons, etc.
- training area, information about planned training courses, catalogue of big data methods and techniques
- database of good practices, e.g., solutions to legal issues
- library of articles, reports and other materials that can be helpful in using big data sources
- discussion zone that will enable joint problem solving, discussions, and exchange of experiences

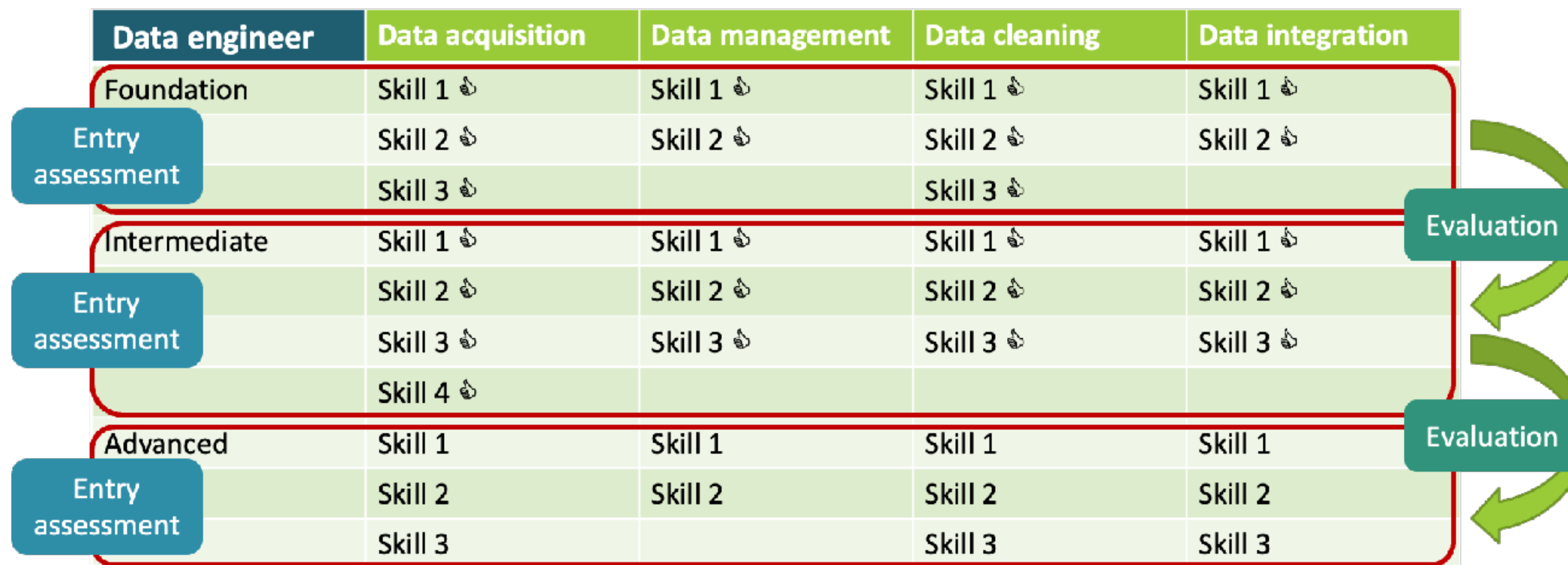
Data Science Academy at Statistics Poland



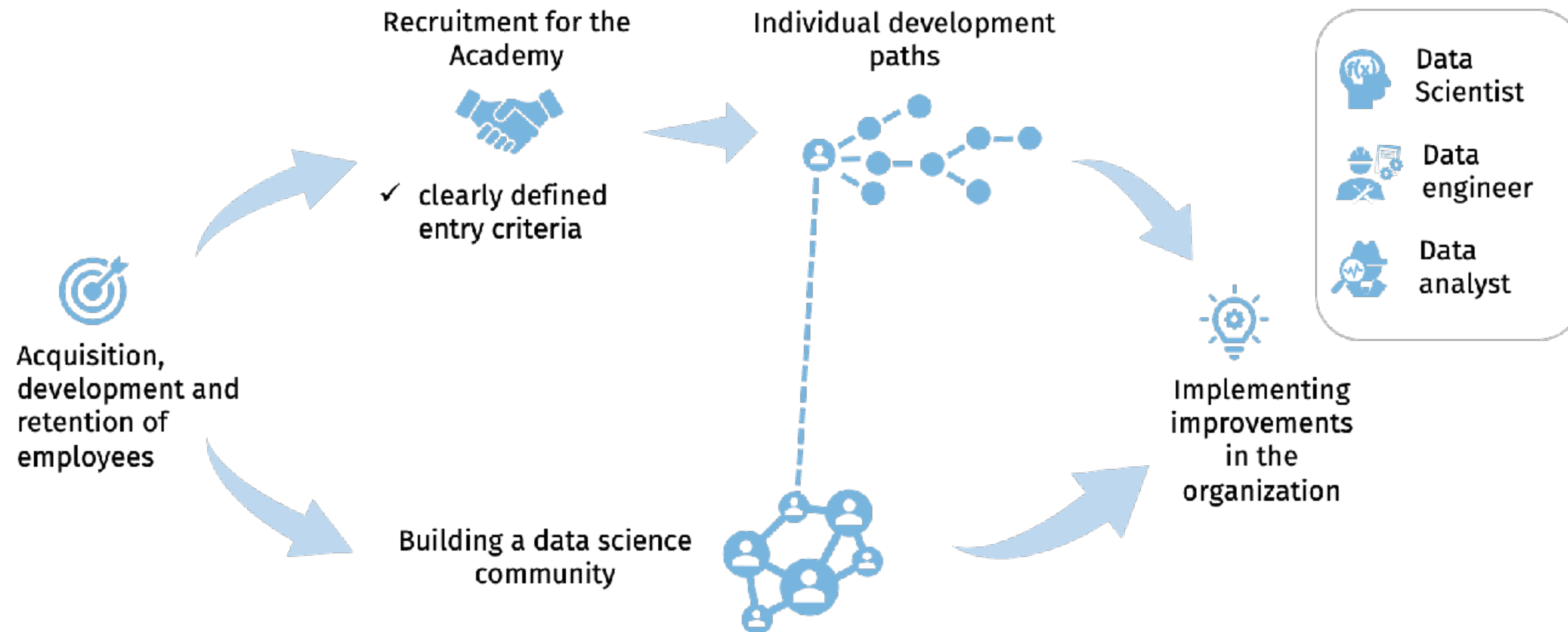
Data Science Academy at Statistics Poland



Data Science Academy at Statistics Poland

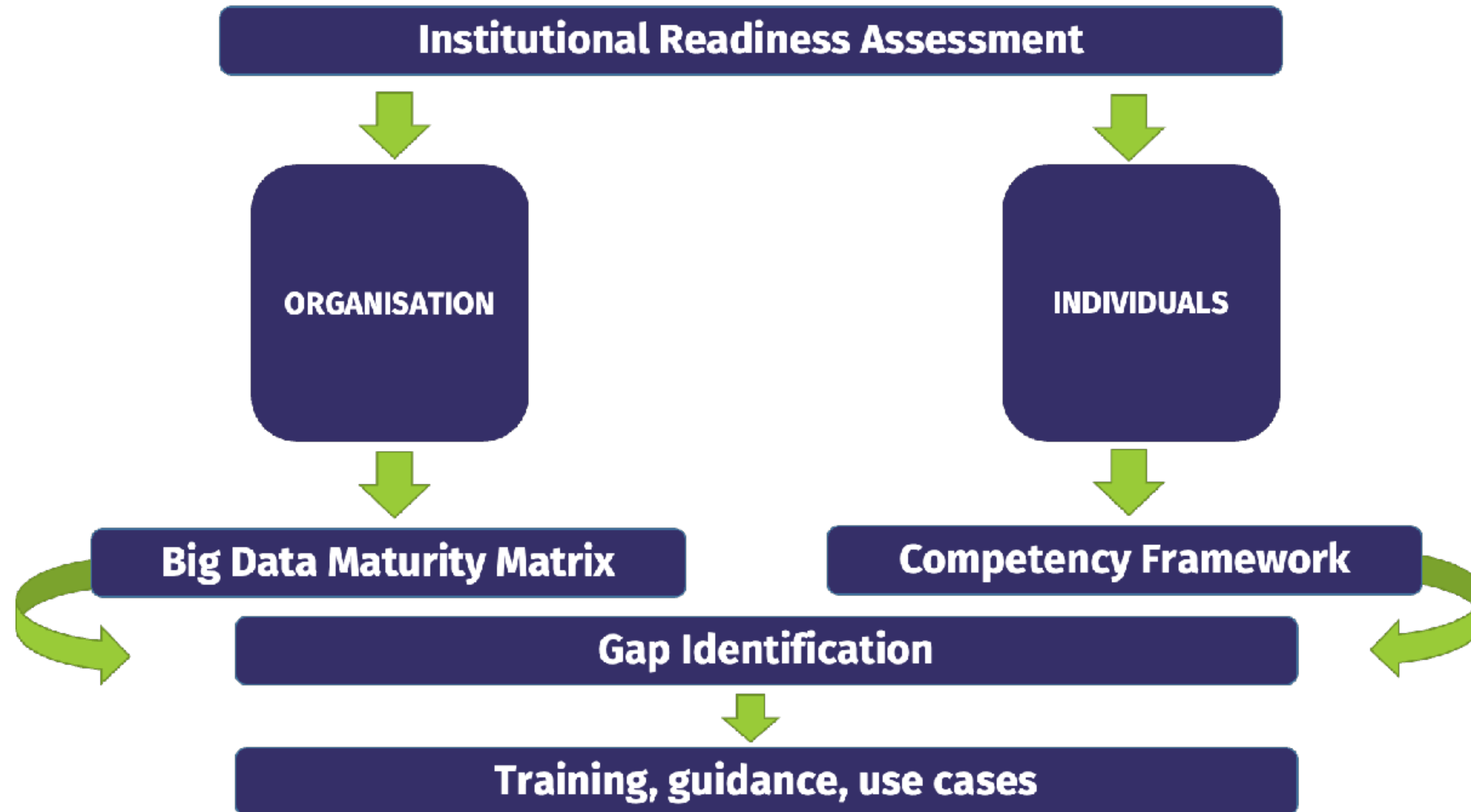


Data Science Academy Ecosystem



Advantages of our approach (compared to other)

- Organically growing human resources
- Injecting data science across the whole organization
- Distributed and embedded in nature
- Infinite degrees of freedom
- Fostering experimentation and innovation
- Seamlessly transforming organization



Statistics Division

Maturity Matrix Home Goals **Assessment** Results Recommendations

John Doe Logout

Reset Assessment Download Assessment Save as Draft View Results

Assessment

A. Legal & Policy Framework Dimension
3 questions remaining

B. IT Infrastructure
5 questions remaining

C. Human Resources
✓ All questions answered

D. Application
7 questions remaining

A. Legal & Policy Framework Dimension [Expand all](#) | [Collapse all](#)

Q1. How would you describe the status of the Policies or guidance you have governing the handling of Big Data/Non-traditional sources?

The organisation's current policies do not adequately describe how nontraditional/big data should be used and disclosed.

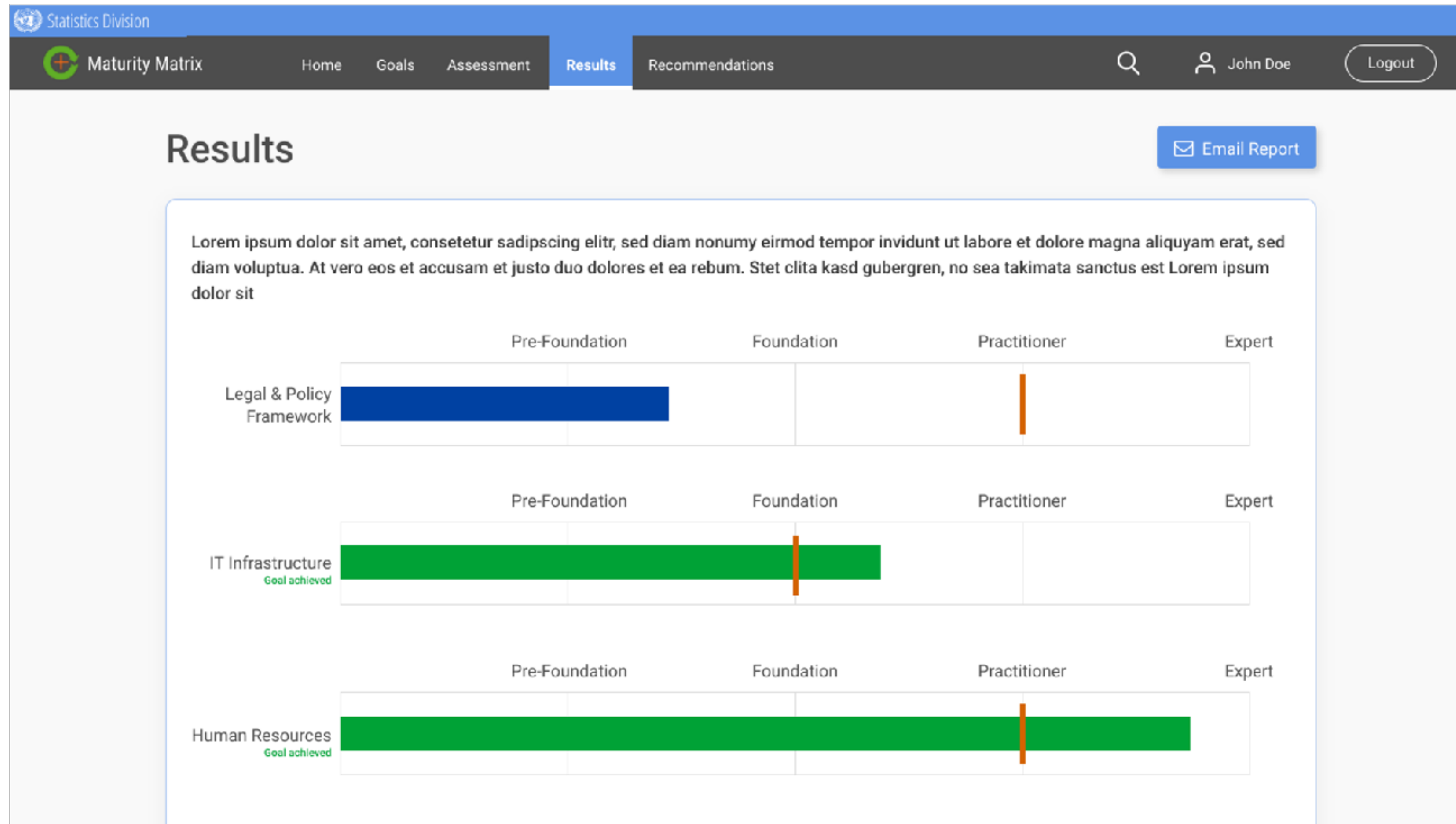
We are not required by legislation to have a policy or guidance in place, but we are in the process of developing a reference document that describes how non-traditional and/or big data should be used and disclosed.

We are required by legislation to have policy or guidance and we are in the process of developing a reference document that describes how non-traditional and/or big data should be managed, used and disclosed.



We are required by legislation to have a policy or guidance in place and a Reference document is in place that outlines the list of nontraditional and/or big data and how they should be used and disclosed in different contexts.

✓ Q2. How would you describe the organisation's adherence to policy/guidance? +

✓ Q3. How would you describe the legal considerations for the disclosure of Data at your



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Maturity Matrix Home Goals Assessment Results Recommendations  John Doe 

Recommendations

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A. Legal & Policy Framework Dimension

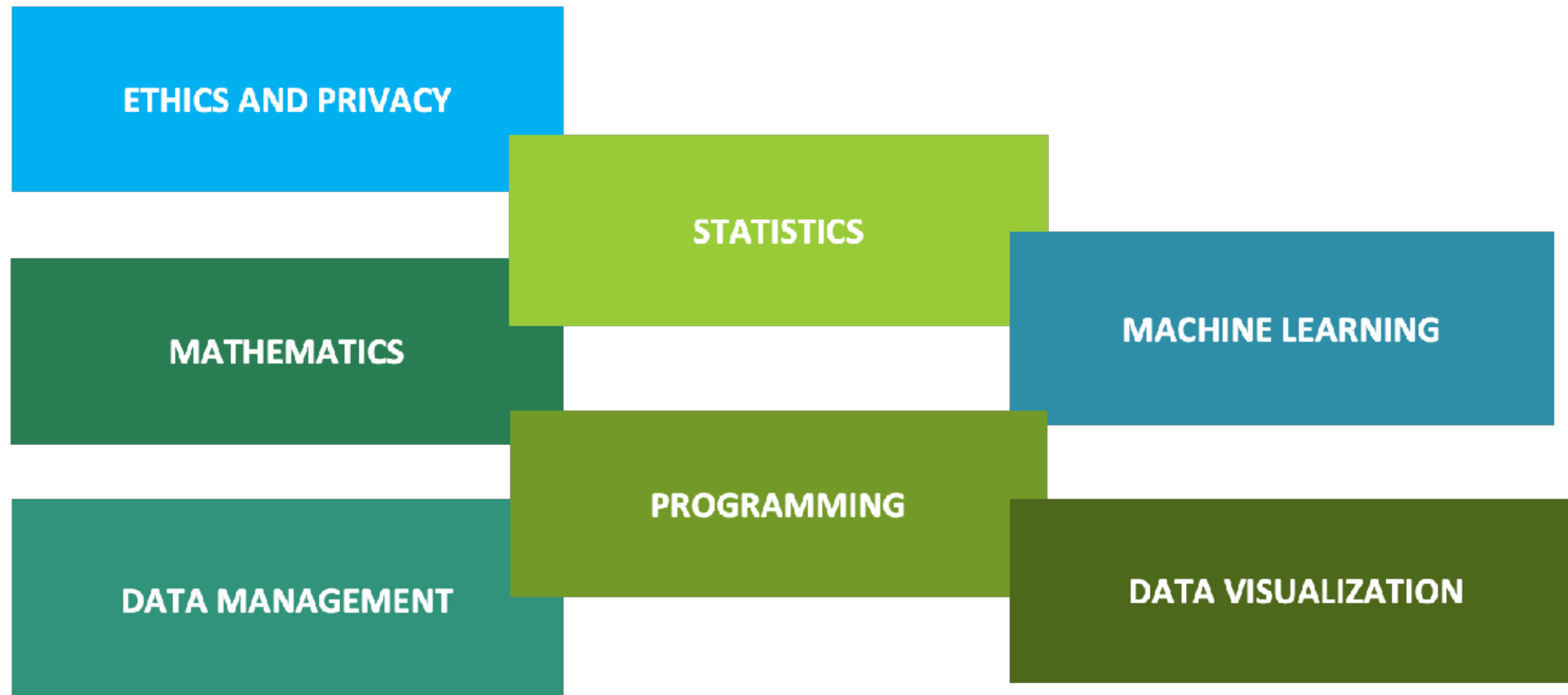
3 Courses

- [Introduction to Legal](#)  [launch course](#)
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- [Ethics and Integrity at the United Nations](#)  [launch course](#)
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- [Preventing Fraud and Corruption at the United Nations](#)  [launch course](#)
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B. IT Infrastructure

1 Course

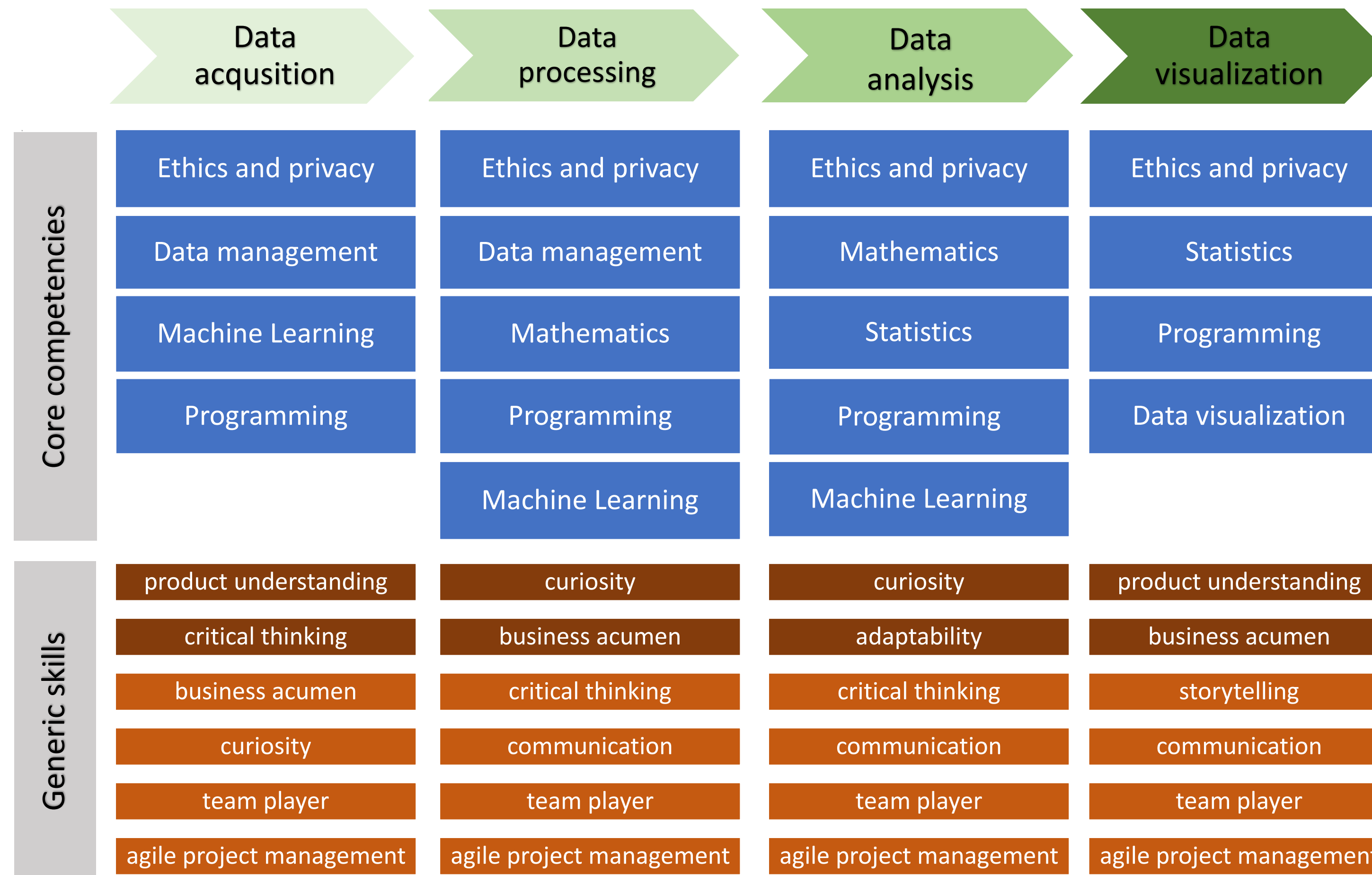
UN Big Data Competency Framework Core Competencies



UN Big Data Competency Framework Soft Skills



Big data competencies & statistical production process



Competency Framework for big data acquisition and processing
 UN Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics
 Task Team on Training, Competencies and Capacity Development

UN Big Data Competency Framework

- General guidance on big data knowledge and skills
- Knowledge, skills and attitudes for acquiring and processing big data
- Can be used to assess knowledge gaps, recruit and train staff at the NSO

Dimension 1			
Name of the area		Ethics and privacy	
Dimension 2			
Competence title and description	To possess a basic level of ethics and privacy knowledge in below-listed issues: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Basic definitions of issues related to the processing of big data (personal data and anonymous data, active and passive big data, dimensions of big data, consciously and not-consciously transferred data, etc.) 2) Philosophical aspects of collecting and processing big data (ethic control and a pragmatic view of the impact on the life of people and organizations: privacy, impact on personal capabilities and freedom, rights between data owner and data explorer) 3) Legal framework for management of big data (personal data processing steps and principles, privacy and transparency policy, data processing purposes) 4) Technical aspects of work with private customer and identity data (obtaining and sharing private information, transparent view of how our data is being used, openness of data) 		
Dimension 3		A - Foundation	B - Intermediate
Proficiency levels	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of basic rules of philosophical, legal of collecting, processing and sharing of big data.	Demonstrate knowledge, understanding and putting into practice philosophical, legal and technical rules of collecting, processing and sharing of big data.	Thorough knowledge of the application of personal data protection law, proficiency in personal data management and skillfulness in performing operations on varied data sets respecting the law, ethical norms, while maintaining the highest technical standards. Advises others on the ethical and privacy considerations of data.

Welcome to the Big Data Training Catalog

This application links you to training courses and materials on Big Data-related topics and allows you to define a personal learning path.



Search the Training Catalog

The Big Data Training Catalog includes resources (courses and materials) that help to develop skills for using big data sources in the production of official statistics.

[Search the Catalog here »](#)

Big Data Competency Framework

The Big Data Competency Framework provides the basis for linking training resources to existing and needed skills for the use of big data and identifying of skill gaps. It forms the basis for determining the personal learning paths.

[Learn more »](#)

Keeping the catalog updated

Big Data is a very dynamic field. New needs and opportunity for training constantly emerge. To help us keep the catalog up to date, you are encouraged to inform us about new courses or materials that you have encountered and validate existing information.

[Learn more »](#)

Learning paths

Here you can identify resources that correspond to your personal work setting, current knowledge and planned goals.

[Learn more »](#)

Big Data Maturity Matrix

The Big Data Maturity Matrix is a self-assessment tool to help statistical offices understand the extent to which they have developed big data infrastructure and applications and to identify its strengths and weaknesses from which a development plan or road map may be produced.

[Learn more »](#)

Course evaluations

You are encouraged to provide feedback on courses/materials listed in this catalog. Your feedback will help us to improve the selection of courses in the catalog and provide guidance to course developers.

[Learn more »](#)

Data stewardship at Statistics Poland

The way of the data steward

- Openness Declaration: Open by Default:
Statistics Poland 5 O's Manifesto
 - Open data
 - Open algorithms
 - Open source (public funding - public code)
 - Open access
 - Open knowledge

Repository of Information Standards (RSI)

- A structured and organized resource of information about official registers and public administration information systems
- A knowledge base containing metadata about official registers and public administration information systems
- It is updated by internal RIS administrators and external administrators of registers/information systems using dedicated web application
- It is a tool for collecting, updating, sharing, and analyzing information on public administration information systems and for harmonizing/agreeing on information standards

What's inside?

- Information about resources in various public administration units place includes
 - the scope of data (information)
 - methodology
 - definitions of variables
 - classifications used
 - identifiers

Statistics Poland 2022 Statistical Program

usage of administrative data

- Statistics Poland directly used data from
 - **282** official registers and information systems
 - **84** administrators
- These data contributed
 - to **130** statistical studies
 - in **31** fields of statistics

Progress in using of administrative data

Statistics Poland 2022 Statistical Program



- Annual increase in the use of administrative sources
 - additional **65** administrative sources
 - **23** source owners

Progress in using of administrative data

Usage purpose of new sources in 2022

- data source for a study
40 new sources
- source of data for creating and updating sampling frames
34 new sources
- quality control of research data
21 new sources
- imputation, data estimation
17 new sources
- direct posting of information
10 new sources

Progress in using of administrative data: Statistics Poland 2023 Statistical Program



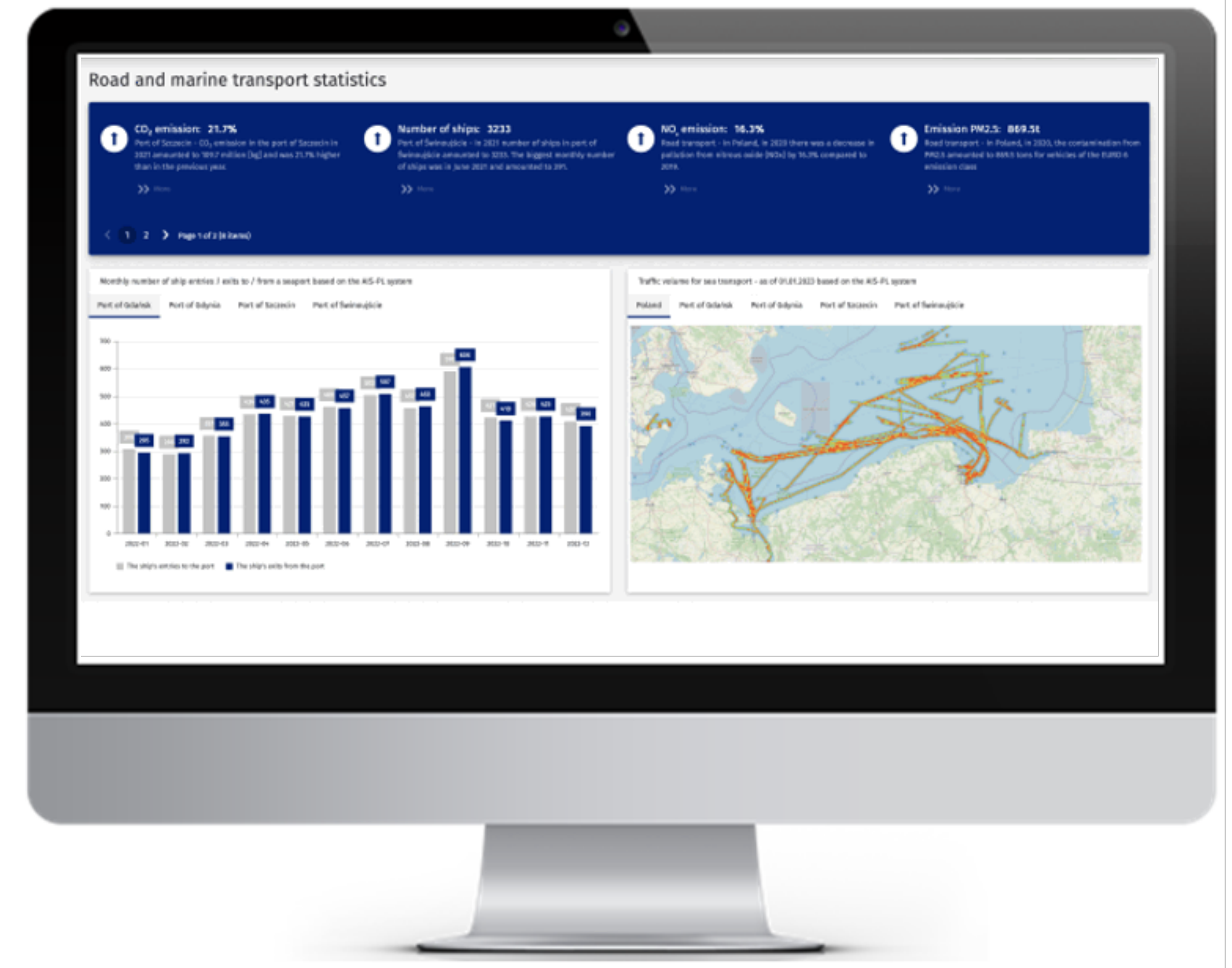
- Annual increase in the use of administrative sources
 - additional **36** administrative sources
 - **26** source owners

Innovation, examples

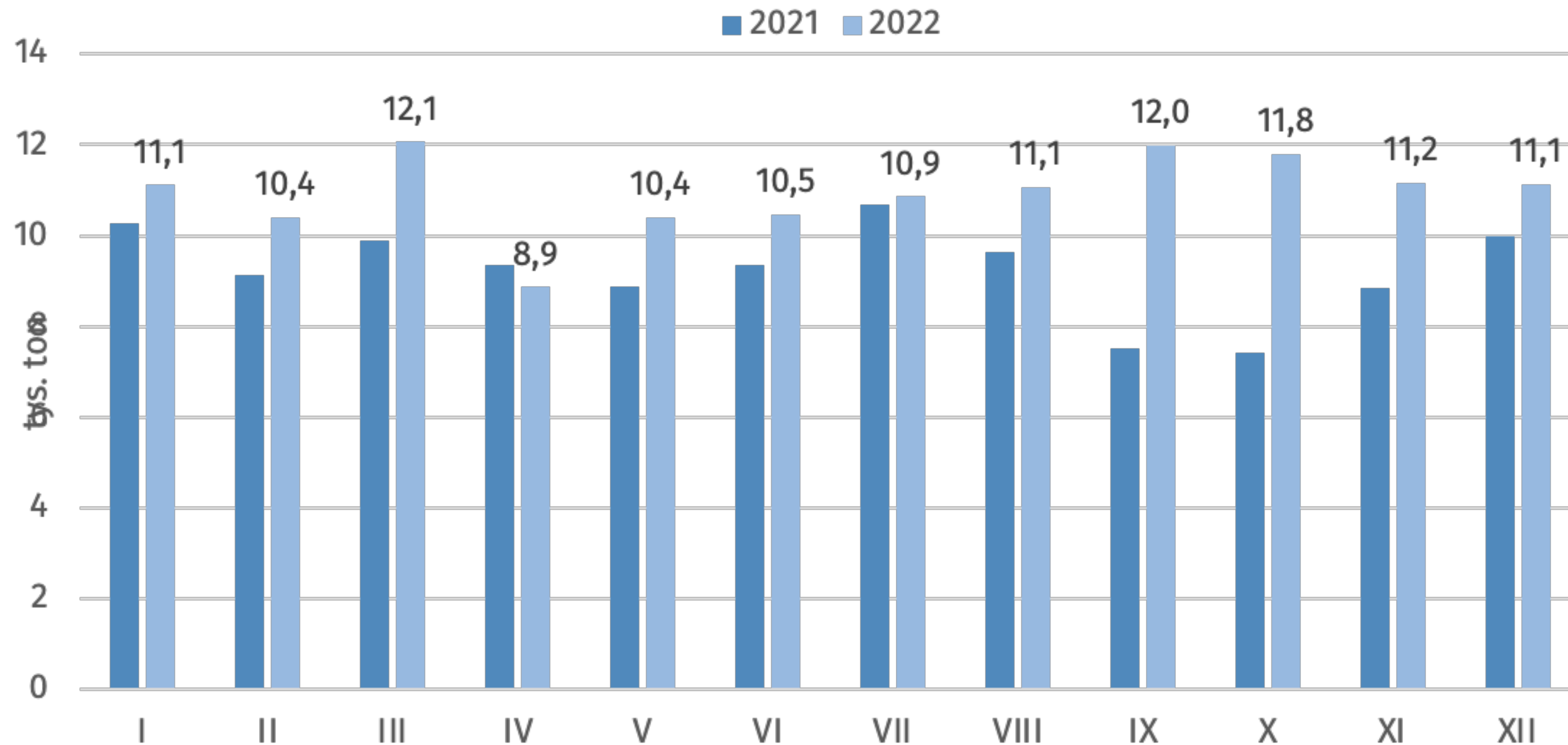
TranStat: Overview

- Getting access to sensor data:
- Automatic Identification System (AIS)
- e-TOLL electronic toll collection system
- Application of Big Data methods and tools
- Designing a methodology for traffic intensity, transportation volume and emissions estimations

<https://transtat.stat.gov.pl>



Monthly CO2 emissions in the port of Szczecin in 2021 and 2022



Statistics of transportation volume in maritime transport

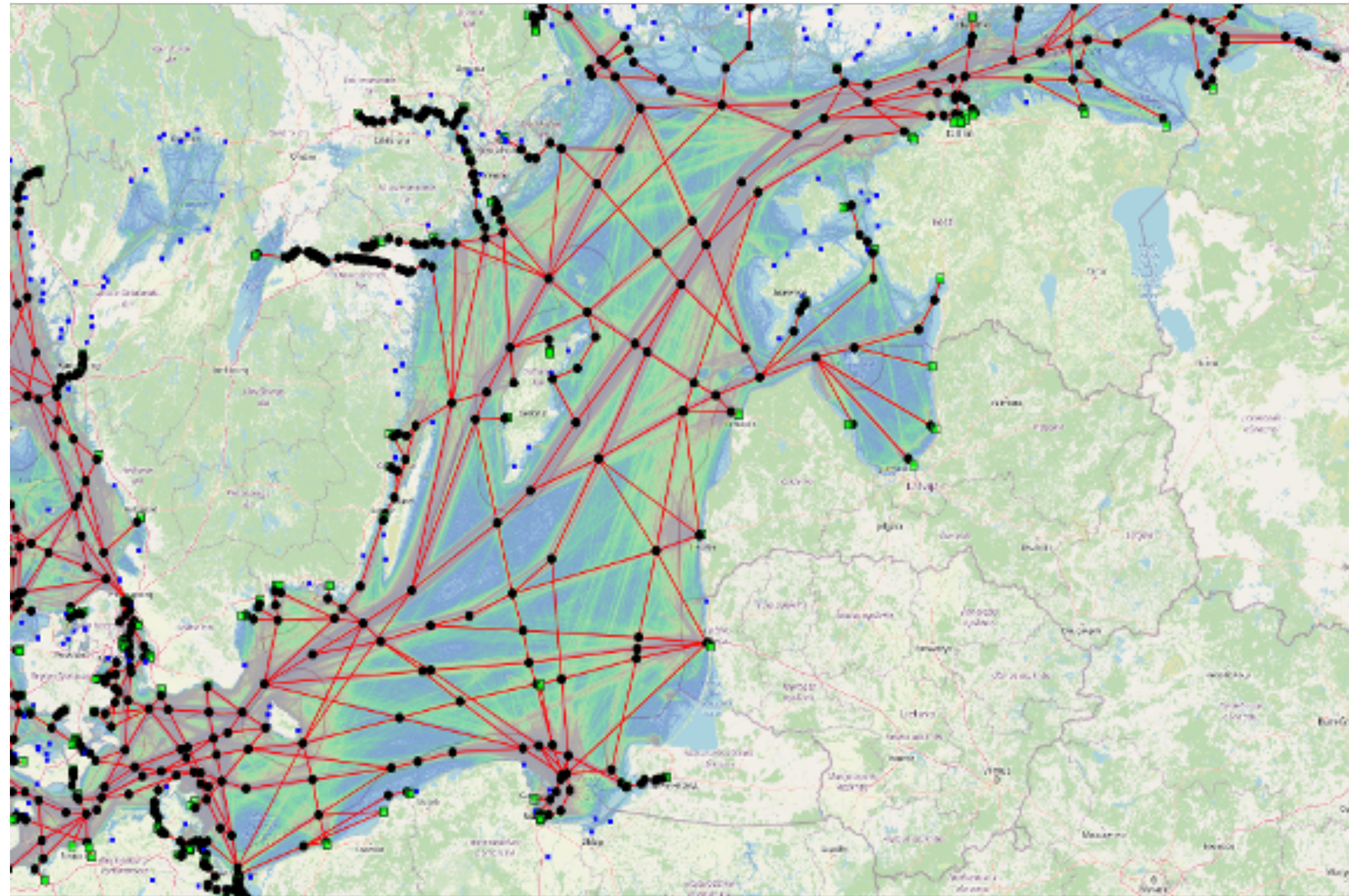


Figure 7. Graph visualization for the Baltic Sea

Source: Maritime University of Szczecin

VII Edition of the Statistical Olympiad

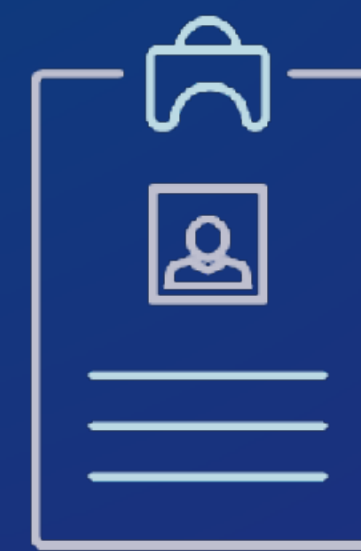
Since 2016, Statistics Poland and the Polish Statistical Association have been organizing the Statistical Olympiad.

The aim of the event is to disseminate knowledge and develop skills in the field of statistics in the field of socio-economic analyses.



schools

466



students

3 997

Reporting of social responsibility

Since 2018 we have been reporting CSR activities in public statistics



4

total number of reports issued
for years: 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021



Reporting of social responsibility

We integrate employees into join activities

The effects of our activities from 2018

44
CSR's actions
▼
1500
people
received support

20
hybrid meetings
▼
2900
employees
attended

28
pro-health
campaigns
▼
3600
participants

30
competitions/quis for
employees and their family
▼
6000
range of competitions

 @StatPoland

 @GłównyUrządStatystyczny

 Główny Urząd Statystyczny

 @gus_stat

 Główny Urząd Statystyczny GUS



The Geostatistics Portal received 1st place in the digital products category

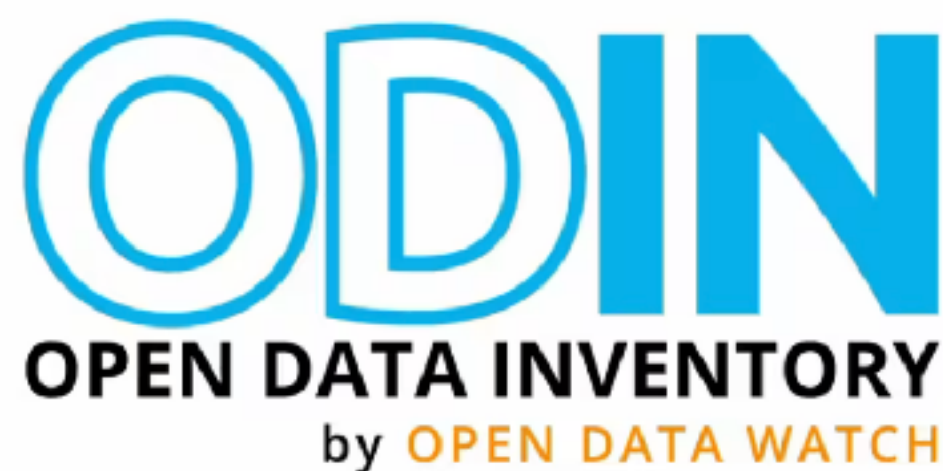
at the International Cartographic Exhibition
during the 31st International Cartographic
Conference in Cape Town.

 Statistics Poland

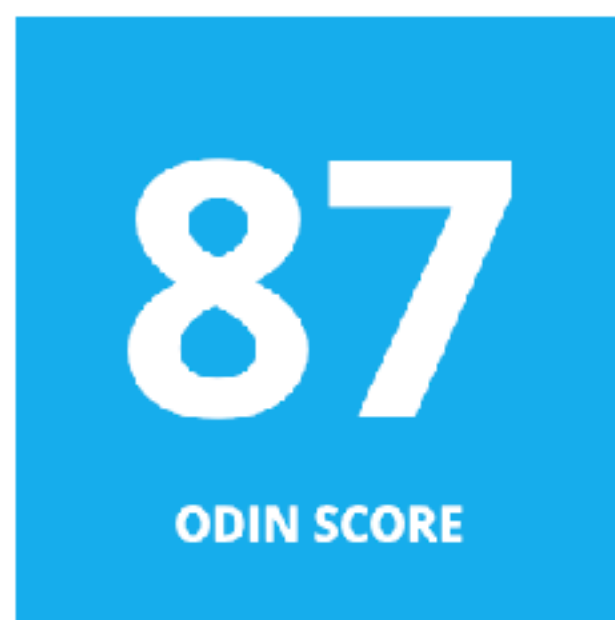
Concluding remarks



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