



Development Data Library (DDL)

BACKGROUND

USAID is exploring options for an information management solution that can assist the Agency in cataloging its extensive data assets¹ and making those data assets more widely available for internal and external use. This solution, the Development Data Library (DDL), is intended to be the Agency’s repository of USAID-funded, machine readable data created or collected by the Agency and its implementing partners. The DDL will respond to the following mandates:

- USAID’s [Evaluation Policy](#) which notes that “all quantitative data collected by USAID or one of the Agency’s contractors or grantees for the purpose of an evaluation must be uploaded and stored in a central database.”
- The Office of Management and Budget’s [Open Data Policy](#) (M-13-13) and [Executive Order 13642](#) which notes that “the default state of new and modernized Government information resources shall be open and machine readable.”
- The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy’s February 22, 2013, memo, [“Increasing Access to the Results of Federally Funded Scientific Research.”](#)

DDL SCOPE

Similar to USAID’s Development Experience Clearinghouse (DEC), the DDL is intended to be a web-based solution where USAID staff and partners can upload datasets for public release, once vetted and redacted for privacy, security, and other exceptions to release permitted by law. Datasets submitted to the DDL will generally be those used for the development of documents submitted to the DEC but may also include extracts from USAID core information systems. The following is an illustrative list of the types of data USAID will include in the DDL:

DATA

- Baseline, midterm, and final survey data
- Integrated household survey data
- Population-based survey data
- Lot quality assurance data
- USAID enterprise system data
- Program monitoring data
- Crop and weather monitoring data
- School attendance data
- Facility survey data
- Public opinion survey data
- U.S. trade capacity building data
- Official Development Assistance data
- Development Credit Authority data
- Midterm and final evaluation data
- Food security survey data
- Transcripts of focus group discussions
- Interview data
- Global Health Initiative sampling data
- Federally funded research data
- Capacity assessment data (OCAT)
- Biomarker survey data

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

- Forms, templates, and data gathering tools
- Data gathering methodologies and protocols
- Explanations of redactions
- Data dictionaries

For more information, please contact Brandon Pustejovsky (M/MPBP) at 202-712-5418 or bpustejovsky@usaid.gov.

A PRESUMPTION IN FAVOR OF OPENNESS

The Open Government Directive (OMB M-10-06) notes that, “With respect to information, the presumption shall be in favor of openness (to the extent permitted by law and subject to valid privacy, confidentiality, security, or other restrictions).”

This means that to the extent practical and subject to valid restrictions, U.S. Government agencies should publish information online in open formats, rather than waiting for specific requests for information (for example, via the Freedom of Information Act)

¹ For more information on “data assets” and open data efforts at USAID, please consult the accompanying “Open Data at USAID” fact sheet.