



Unlocking Non-Traditional Data for Pandemic Response & Modeling

Data Stewardship Bootcamp

15–17 June 2026 • OGR, Torino, Italy • Free of charge
Organized by the ISI Foundation, The DataTank, and The GovLab

Context & Motivation

While advances in epidemiological modeling have significantly improved our ability to anticipate and understand disease dynamics, the effectiveness of these models remains fundamentally constrained by the data that feeds them. Traditional data sources—such as clinical records and administrative reporting—are often delayed, aggregated, and incomplete, limiting their usefulness for real-time decision-making.

Non-traditional data—including mobility data, behavioral signals, crowdsourced data, environmental sensors, and other privately held datasets—offer the potential to provide timely, granular insights into how populations move, interact, and respond during a crisis. These data streams proved invaluable during COVID-19, yet access to them was often ad hoc, fragmented, and difficult to sustain. Unlocking their value for pandemic preparedness requires new approaches to data stewardship: the ability to responsibly access, govern, and operationalize data across sectors in ways that are trusted, repeatable, and aligned with public value.

Bootcamp Overview

This three-day, in-person bootcamp aims to equip researchers, public health officials, and policy advisors with the skills, knowledge, and strategies needed to access, leverage, and reuse non-traditional data for pandemic preparedness. Through guest lectures and hands-on sessions, participants will develop their own **pandemic data-to-action canvas**—a practical, personalized strategy for sourcing, negotiating access to, and governing novel real-world datasets.

Who Should Attend

The bootcamp is designed for a diverse community of practitioners, each bringing distinct expertise and needs around data ownership, acquisition, and reuse. We encourage applications from:



- Epidemiological modelers and computational researchers seeking access to new data sources
- Public health officials and surveillance professionals interested in integrating non-traditional data
- Policy advisors working on pandemic preparedness frameworks and data governance
- Data stewards (current or prospective) from public, private, and civil society organizations
- Representatives from international organizations and city/regional governments

Program Structure

The bootcamp is structured around five core learning modules, adapted to the domain of pandemic data:

Module	Focus
Introduction to Data Stewardship	Principles of data opening; the Data Stewards Canvas framework applied to pandemic contexts
Defining Data & AI Demand	Identifying epidemiological questions where non-traditional data provides value; assessing AI solution viability
Understanding Data Supply	Mapping available non-traditional data sources, assessing quality, and identifying gaps
Matching Demand with Supply	Data collaboration models, APIs, licensing mechanisms, and access control frameworks for sensitive health data
Governance & Sustainability	Governance frameworks, data sharing agreements, legal/regulatory navigation, and institutionalizing stewardship practices

Each day combines expert lectures, field visits to data-driven institutions, and peer-learning activities. A community reception will be hosted on 15 June.

Key Learning Outcomes

By the end of the bootcamp, participants will be able to:

- Navigate legal and regulatory complexity around non-traditional data access for public health
- Build cross-sector data collaboration models applicable in both crisis and non-crisis settings
- Source, negotiate access to, and govern novel real-world datasets for epidemiological research
- Develop responsible data reuse strategies aligned with organizational needs and public value
- Embed data access strategies into pandemic preparedness policy design from the outset



- Bridge the gap between policy ambition and data feasibility through practical governance frameworks

How to Participate

Participation is **free of charge**. To apply, interested candidates should:

- Submit an expression of interest via the [registration link](#)
- Provide a current CV/Resume
- Include a Letter of Support from their organization describing how the bootcamp aligns with institutional goals

Proficiency in English is required, as all sessions will be conducted in English.

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