

Data Essentials

Data is part of everyone's job at IFRC. This module is for anyone who wants to use data but isn't sure where to start. It is also for anyone who wants to help others understand the essentials of using data in their work. The module aims to answer: **What are the data 'essentials' I need to know?** This includes the questions:

- What is data?
- Why does data matter?
- What is data literacy?



RECIPE

A suggested step by step process to achieve learning objectives

- 1 Start with **What data is contained in a piece of fruit? [Exercise 1]** exercise to get people thinking about data and context.
- 2 Use **What is Data? [SlideDeck 1]** to build an understanding of what data is.
- 3 Run the **Data and Information Q & A [SlideDeck 2]** to refine the difference between data and Information further.
- 4 Ask participants to go through **Basic Tips to Organising and Managing Data in Humanitarian Response [SlideDeck 3]** in pairs, asking them to make notes about what they would like to learn more about.
- 5 Finish with a large group discussion with participants talking about how they see data helping them in their work and what they want to learn more about.



INGREDIENTS

Pick and choose ingredients to create your own recipe. Do you have an ingredient we're missing? Send an email to data.literacy@ifrc.org.



Exercises

Short, discrete social learning experiences

- **What data is contained in a piece of fruit? [Exercise 1]** An 'intro to data exercise' that shows how data is everywhere.



Slidedeck

Distilled information for use as standalone or parts of presentations.

- **What is Data? [SlideDeck 1]** A short deck that provides a definition and an overview of how data gets turned into information.
- **Data and Information Q & A [SlideDeck 2]** Quiz on the difference between data and information.
- **Basic Tips to Organising and Managing Data in Humanitarian Response [SlideDeck 3]** Practical tips for collecting and managing data in humanitarian response.
- **Why Data Matters [SlideDeck 4]**. Provides context for data use within IFRC
- **Data Basics [SlideDeck 5]**. A French language version of the Why Data Matters slide deck.



Next Steps

Other relevant modules from the data playbook beta:

- **How do we build a data-friendly culture? [Module 2]**
- **How do we build data-driven projects? [Module 3]**

Further readings & resources

- School of Data, [What is Data?](#)
- Simon Johnson, British Red Cross, [50 Humanitarian IM Tips](#)