The Data Revolution Will Have Considerable Costs

Morten Jerven, Associate Professor at Simon Fraser University has identified the social and economic benefits and costs to implement the data revolution.

This work was then peer-reviewed in alternative perspective papers by Deborah Johnston, Reader in Development Economics at University of London, and by Gabriel Demombynes, Senior Economist at the World Bank and by Justin Sandefur, Research Fellow at the Center for Global Development. Additionally, NGOs and stakeholders such as UNDP and the Overseas Development Institute also submitted viewpoint papers concerning Jerven’s analysis. Ultimately, an expert panel consisting of Nobel Laureate economists will weigh up the economic, social and environmental benefits and costs of all targets discussed for the post-2015 development agenda to form recommendations.

ABOUT POST-2015 CONSENSUS: In a world of limited resources, we can’t do everything, but how should we prioritize? The Copenhagen Consensus Center provides information on which targets will do the most social good relative to their costs. The final decision on choosing goals will definitely rest on a number of factors, not just economics – but knowing the costs and benefits provides an import piece of information. Together, with the input of renowned experts from the UN, NGO and private sectors, our 62 teams of economists produce research papers to establish the most effective targets within the 19 core issue areas.

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