

DS4H Charter

Data Science for Humanities – Non-Profit Organization

1. Introduction

Data Science for Humanities (DS4H) is an **emerging initiative** led by **Dr. Philippe Tamla**, Visiting Professor at **ICT University** and Postdoctoral Researcher at **FernUniversität in Hagen**. The aim of this initiative is to explore and build a future **research-driven, non-profit organization** that empowers students to engage in impactful research and development at the intersection of **Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, and Human-centered domains**.

Currently operating as a **pre-formal collaborative research network**, DS4H brings together students, mentors, and academic partners around real-world challenges in healthcare, digital humanities, language preservation, and sustainable technologies.

The first research group under this initiative, the **DS4H ICTU Research Group**, was launched at **ICT University** to support students at bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels in conducting supervised research projects under the guidance of Dr. Philippe Tamla.

2. Mission

The mission of DS4H is to:

- **Support students** at undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral levels in conducting applied research.
- Advance the use of **Data Science and AI** in socially meaningful domains.
- **Foster collaboration** across disciplines and continents (Africa and Europe).
- Promote **open research**, language technologies, and inclusive innovation.

3. Vision

DS4H envisions a world where students and researchers from diverse backgrounds can:

- Leverage AI and data-driven technologies to **solve real-world problems**.
- Contribute to **language preservation, digital culture, and sustainable development**.
- Build bridges between **humanities and technology** for the benefit of society.

4. DS4H ICTU Research Group

The **DS4H ICTU Research Group** is the academic branch of DS4H based at **ICT University**. It was initiated by ICTU students under the academic supervision of **Dr. Philippe Tamla**.

Purpose:

To offer students an environment for **hands-on research, project development, and scientific collaboration** using data science methods in domains such as:

- Language Technology (e.g. *LinguoMT*, *LinguoNER*)
- Healthcare & Genomics
- Digital Humanities
- MICE Industry Analysis
- Maritime Sustainability
- Serious Game Development

5. Structure and Participation

DS4H Core Structure:

- **Founder & Director:** Dr. Philippe Tamla
- **Voluntary Contributors:** Researchers, mentors, advisors
- **Partner Institutions:** ICT University, FernUniversität in Hagen, and others

ICTU Branch:

- **Student-led Projects**
- **Mentored by Faculty & Industry Experts**
- **Organized into Thematic Research Lines** (DS4Lang, DS4Health, etc.)

Who Can Join:

- ICTU students (Bachelor, Master, PhD)
- Visiting researchers and project collaborators
- Alumni and international volunteers

6. Activities and Output

- Development of **applied research projects**
- Hosting of **demos, workshops, and seminars**
- Supervision of **thesis work and academic publications**
- Creation of **datasets, tools, and open-source systems**
- Cross-institutional **collaborations and partnerships**

7. Governance

DS4H operates as an informal, collaborative network without current legal registration. Governance is based on:

- **Transparency**
- **Mentorship**
- **Shared learning**

- **Documentation of all contributions**

For each DS4H research group (e.g., DS4H ICTU), a **local coordination model** is adopted:

- **Project coordination by students**
- **Academic supervision by Dr. Tamla**
- **Periodic group meetings and reporting**

8. Principles and Ethics

All activities of DS4H are guided by:

- Openness and knowledge sharing
- Cultural respect and inclusion
- Student empowerment
- Scientific rigor and reproducibility
- Responsible data use (GDPR-aware)

9. Revision and Growth

This Charter is a **living document**.

It may be updated annually based on:

- Feedback from student researchers
- Evolving project needs
- New academic partnerships