DataViz'24 – Objectives and Guidelines

Welcome to the DataViz'24 Challenge! The theme of this challenge is **"Visualizing the Landscape of HIV infection and Its Influences in some of the African Countries".**

Participants are encouraged to use innovative visualization techniques that explore the prevalence of HIV infection, its demographic distribution, influencing factors and present data in a compelling and accessible manner, with the goal of revealing the multifaceted nature of HIV infection and improving the health outcomes in African countries.

Objective 1: Investigate the burden of HIV infection.

Develop visualizations that depict the prevalence and incidence rates of HIV infection among specific population groups over time highlighting geographic disparities and temporal trends in these African nations.

Objective 2: Associate HIV infection with social and environmental factors.

Develop visualizations to illustrate the relationship between HIV infection rates and social/ environmental factors such as poverty, literacy, etc., thereby identifying potential areas for targeted intervention and policy improvement in these African nations.

Objective 3: Evaluate the accessibility and effectiveness of HIV treatment.

Develop visualizations that assess the accessibility of antiretroviral therapy (ART) and demonstrate its effectiveness in reducing HIV related mortality, showcasing the impact of ART on the transmission rates of HIV among adults and children in these African nations.

Submission guidelines: Participants are expected to follow the following guidelines with respect to their submissions. Any violation to the guidelines will lead to disqualification.

1. **Format:** Submissions must be in PowerPoint format, consisting of not more than 5 slides or a poster.
2. **Title and Synopsis:** Each submission must include a descriptive title and a concise synopsis summarizing the main points, objectives, and findings of the presentation.
3. **Storytelling Approach:** Participants are encouraged to adopt a storytelling approach in their presentations to engage the audience and effectively convey the significance of their visualizations.
4. **Visualization Types:** Data visualizations may include, but are not limited to, maps, charts, graphs, data art, and 3D models, etc. Participants are encouraged to leverage various visualization techniques to effectively communicate their insights.
5. **Static Submissions:** All submissions must be static visualizations; no animated or web-based interactive visualizations are allowed in the submission.
6. **Exceptions:** In case participants have utilized animated or web-based interactive visualizations, they should submit a static visualization (or a particular frame or screenshot of the animation) that they want the committee to consider within the context of the objective.
7. **Clarity and Quality:** Submissions must be in high resolution to ensure optimal clarity and visual quality.
8. **Annotations and Descriptions:** It is recommended to include appropriate annotations and descriptions to provide context and enhance the understanding of the visualizations.

9. **Code Submission (if applicable):** If specifically asked by the challenge organizers, participants may also be required to submit the code/source used to create the visualizations. This allows for further analysis, verification, and reproducibility.
10. **Blinded Submissions:** To ensure anonymity during the evaluation process, all submissions must be blinded. This means that the file should only contain the assigned Team ID and should not include any team member names or identifying information.

Evaluation Criteria: Submissions will be assessed based on how effectively teams convey information in a meaningful and aesthetically appealing manner. The evaluation will consider the following criteria:

1. **Purpose**
   a. Clarity of Objective: How well does the visualization convey its intended message?
   b. Relevance: Is the data presented relevant to the topic and does it address key questions?
2. **Communication**
   a. Design and Aesthetics: Is the visualization visually appealing and well-designed?
   b. Readability: Are the text, labels, and legends easy to read?
   c. Use of Colour: Are colours used effectively to enhance understanding without causing distraction?
   d. Annotation and Highlighting: Are important data points highlighted and explained?
3. **Message**
   a. Insightfulness: Does the visualization provide valuable insights and encourage deeper understanding?
   b. Storytelling: Is there a clear narrative that guides the viewer through the data?
   c. Engagement: Does the visualization capture and retain the viewer's attention?

The evaluation process will be consistent across all submission formats, whether posters or slides. The judging criteria will be applied uniformly and objectively.

Violations leading to disqualification: The following will lead to disqualification from the competition:

1. Prohibition of Data Manipulation
2. Avoid Hard Coding of Data and Visual Elements
3. Non-Compliance with Guidelines and Requirements
4. Late Submission

Software: The choice of software is left to the discretion of the participants based on their expertise and preferred tools for data visualization.

Submission Link: All submissions must be in Poster (PDF) or slides (PPT, max 5 slides) and to be received by **12 June 2024 5pm** via MS Form submission link: **https://forms.office.com/e/tMTzv6Cybh**