Project Plan – Forecasting Financial Foreign Aid

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IS661 – Independent Study

***Introduction***

Planning for financial foreign aid amounts are an important part of successfully planning and improving the socioeconomic status of citizens with a developing country. Three avenues were proposed in the project proposal and this document will outline a more definite project work plan for this exercise. As a reminder, the avenue chosen was to forecast financial foreign aid amounts using several country datasets.

The outputs of this document will be an exploratory data analysis and list of deliverables for the future of the project.

***Exploratory Data Analysis***

Currently, there are nine datasets that can be used for the exploratory data analysis, with four being prepared. The ten datasets currently available for this exploratory data analysis are:

* Chad
* Cote d’Ivoire
* Haiti
* Kosovo
* Madagascar
* Malawi
* Moldova
* Timor
* Uganda
* Honduras

The three datasets that are being prepared and will have access to this week are:

* Nepal
* Burkina Faso
* Senegal

Making the grand total of available datasets at thirteen.

*Fields*

In terms of data each dataset has different number of fields (see attached r script) with the lowest of 14 fields and the largest of 111 fields. There are commitments and disbursements for each dataset (cash flows) and donor agencies linked to each funding flow. For projects that have the larger number of fields, there are project descriptions though not necessarily up to date, as well as, four date fields. The date fields are: Actual Completion, Actual Start, Proposed Completion, and Proposed Start Date.

The data completeness of the datasets varies from country to country. Moldova has the highest amount of data completeness (missing only 1% of fields) and Haiti is the highest missing around 20% of fields. Though this number is high for Haiti it makes sense, there are 2211 projects and 41 fields of data, while Moldova only has 377 projects and 17 fields of data.