



NSS OPEN DATA VISUALIZATION CHALLENGE

The purpose of the data visualization challenge is to promote and develop the data visualization and analytics competency in NSS. The challenge is open to all NSS practitioners and encourages collaboration! The datasets and problems used in the challenge are real datasets and often real client problems Guidehouse is contracted to solve. The top three teams will have the opportunity to brief NSS leadership on their findings.

For questions please reach out to

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CHALLENGE DETAILS

- **Teams:** Participants can join in teams of 1-3.
- **Prize:** Donation to a charity from Inspire
- **Platform:** Participants can use any platform to analyze and communicate results (Excel, PowerPoint, PowerBI, Tableau, etc.)
- **Dataset:** Data is available to download on the United Nations site <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/>
- **Timeframe:** We will hold a kickoff call on June 21st; the deadline to complete visualizations is July 30th. The estimated date for the final webcast is mid-August.

CASE STUDY – Background

Under the Biden administration, the United States has started taking concrete steps to supporting multilateral responses to global challenges, and to strengthen cooperation between the U.S. and the United Nations. These changes include rejoining the Paris Agreement on climate change, re-committing to the World Health Organization, and re-engaging with the Human Rights Council. The National Security Segment (NSS) supports USG agencies that are leading the Biden Administration's climate policy.

In recent meetings between the UN Secretary General with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, they emphasized the importance of UN and U.S. collaboration and committed to the Decade of Action for the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDG). The U.S. government helped shape the SDG as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development during the Obama administration.

The SDGs are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. The SDGs emerged from a painstaking three-year diplomatic negotiation among 193 countries. Among other issues, SDG goals focus on ending poverty, reducing inequality, and tackling climate change. The COVID-19 crisis stems from exactly the type of interconnected failure that the SDGs aim to address. The pandemic has delayed the achievement of some SDGs, which disproportionately affects marginalized populations.

CASE STUDY – The Challenge

Guidehouse is a trusted partner in national security and diplomacy. Committed to safeguarding the American people, Guidehouse, through its National Security Sector, delivers insights at the highest levels across a range of initiatives in such agencies as the U.S. Department of State. The Department of State is comprised of numerous bureaus and offices that are responsible for foreign policy and international relations of the U.S. Several of these entities have objectives that align with the SDGs and offer a unique opportunity to further both initiatives simultaneously. For the **2021 NSS Data Visualization Challenge**, each team will select only **one** SDG goal described in **Step 1** and conduct analysis to visually answer the questions in **Step 2**. The analysis will focus on the SDG goal and its related targets.

Step 1: SDG Goal Selection



GOAL 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING Ensuring healthy lives and promoting the well-being for all at all ages is essential to sustainable development.



GOAL 5: GENDER EQUALITY Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable world.



GOAL 11: SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES There needs to be a future in which cities provide opportunities for all, with access to basic services, energy, housing, transportation and more.



GOAL 13: CLIMATE ACTION Climate change is a global challenge that affects everyone, everywhere.



GOAL 16: PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS Access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels.

Goals description <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

Step 2: Data Analysis

Please answer the following questions for your selected goal. Feel free to include any additional open-source data that is relevant to the analysis.

- What is the **world overview** and **trend since 2010** (if historical data is available) for your selected goal? Make sure to **dive deep into the targets, indicators, and series**.
- Which targets, indicators, and series are **lagging for the selected goal compared to the worldwide trend**?
- Which **countries are underperforming or overperforming**? How do these **countries compare to their region, income group, or world average**?
- How does the U.S. compare in these area's of **foreign assistances to China and Russia**? Do these countries appear to pursue similar area's of foreign assistance, or contrasting?
- How would you **advise the U.S. Government and its partners** to assist countries in the endeavor to improve the metrics related to the selected goal?

To get your selected Goals Data, please visit <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/>