Learner's Guide to Data Element Groups

What is this guide?

This guide contains all exercises and detailed steps to perform them related to the review of **data element groups** for the Design for Data Use Level 1 academy. Please perform each of the exercises when prompted to by your instructors

Learning objectives for this session

1. Describe why metadata is grouped in DHIS2
2. Identify when it is appropriate to group different items together
3. Define the terms in DHIS2 used to group items
4. See how data element groups are used in analysis
5. Create a data element group

Exercise 1

Perform this exercise in the DEMONSTRATION system.

Create a thematic map in the maps app.

The maps is is unique in that it does not allow you to select a data item unless it is within a group.

Add new thematic layer

Data	Period	Org Units	Filter	Style

Item type

Data element ⌄

Data element group

⌄

Aggregation type

By data element ⌄

Cancel   **Add layer**

This is due to the nature of maps app and not wanting it to be overwhelmed with a large request for all data items so it will continue to work in low bandwitdth settings.

In such a scenario, the only way to access your data elements and indicators is to place them within groups that allow you to more easily search for them.

While you can search for data elements and indicators that are not in any group in data visualizer, it is often not recommended. In fact, all of your data elements and indicators should be in groups.

Select data element as the data type along with the following inputs

- Data element group : Primary Termly Tool
- Data element : TT_B_Learner enrollment 6 years
- Aggregation type : by data element

Edit thematic layer

Data	Period	Org Units	Filter	Style

Item type

```
Data element                                    ⌄
```

Data element group

```
Primary Termly Tool                             ⌄
```

⦿ Totals   ◯ Details

Data element

```
TT_B_Learner enrollment 6 years                 ⌄
```

Aggregation type

```
By data element                                 ⌄
```

Cancel   **Update layer**

This group is a bit large, with many data items located within it. As a suggestion, we could break this up into smaller groups so we could make it easier to find related data elements.

Edit thematic layer

Data	Period	Org Units	Filter	Style

Item type

Data element ⌄

Data element group

Primary Termly Tool ⌄

⦿ Totals   ○ Details

Data element

TT_B_Learner enrollment 6 years ⌄

TT_B_Learner enrollment <6 years

TT_B_Learner enrolment 10 years

TT_B_Learner enrolment 11 years

TT_B_Learner enrolment 12 years

TT_B_Learner enrolment 13 years and above   Cancel   **Update layer**
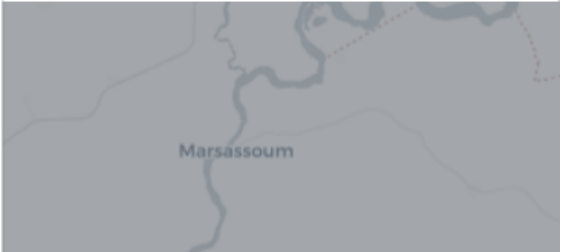
TT_B_Learner enrolment 7 years

TT_B_Learner enrolment 8 years

TT_B_Learner enrolment 9 years

TT_C_SNE_Difficulty controlling emotions

Discuss amongst the participants what some possible additonal groupings would be.

For example:

- Learner enrolment
- Learner difficulty
- Reasons for leaving school
- Infrastructure (including water, lighting)

Etc.

Before updating the map modify these inputs

Period

- This year

Org units

- The Gambia Districts

Filter

- School Term = Term 1

We can see in this case, while data element groups helps, and is even necessary in the maps map, there is some room for improvement that would help us refine our search parameters.

Exercise 2

Manage DE Groups and DE Group Sets in Maintenance

Perform this exercise in the CUSTOMIZATION system

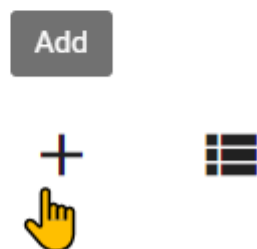Let us create a data element group for learner enrolment.

Navigate to Maintenance -> Data Element

From here, we can add a data element group.

Creating a data element group is quite easy. Enter in the details for name, short name and code. Make sure you use your initials so it remains unique.

🔓 This object will be created with public edit and view rights

Name (*)
SND_Learner enrolment

Short name
SND_Learner enrolment

Code
SND_TT_LE

Description

Data elements ⊕ ↻
learner enr

679 hidden by filters		0 hidden by filters
TT_B_Learner enrollment <6 years		
TT_B_Learner enrollment 6 years	→	
TT_B_Learner enrolment 10 years		
TT_B_Learner enrolment 11 years	←	
TT_B_Learner enrolment 12 years		
TT_B_Learner enrolment 13 years and above		
TT_B_Learner enrolment 7 years		
TT_B_Learner enrolment 8 years		
TT_B_Learner enrolment 9 years		

ASSIGN ALL 9 → ← REMOVE ALL

SAVE   CANCEL

We also want to add our data elements to the group. Search for the data elements (in this case using learner enrolment) and assign all the data elements for learner enrolment to this particular group.

679 hidden by filters		0 hidden by filters
		TT_B_Learner enrollment <6 years
	→	TT_B_Learner enrollment 6 years
		TT_B_Learner enrolment 10 years
	←	TT_B_Learner enrolment 11 years
		TT_B_Learner enrolment 12 years
		TT_B_Learner enrolment 13 years and above
		TT_B_Learner enrolment 7 years
		TT_B_Learner enrolment 8 years
		TT_B_Learner enrolment 9 years

ASSIGN ALL → ← REMOVE ALL 9

After you do this, you can save the group. Note that, because you are not modifying any underlying data, these groups can be added and removed at any time.