Data for Good Exchange 2019:
Data Science for the SDGs
Preliminary Call for Papers, Posters, Panels & Workshops

Call for Papers: Data for Good Exchange 2019
Event date: Sunday, September 15, 2019, 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM
Submission deadline: June 17, 2019
Acceptance date: On or about August 1, 2019
Location: Bloomberg Global Headquarters, New York City

"Data" is one of the world's most valuable resources, making data science one of today's most sought-after skills. Data has enabled businesses to provide new products and better service, at lower costs, and to more customers, at a scale of change unseen since the Industrial Revolution. Corporations have effectively engaged and collaborated with academia to solve a wide array of problems by leveraging the power of data. Many interesting challenges in the public and non-profit sectors can be tackled through this synergy between academia and industry.

Since 2014, Bloomberg has hosted an annual conference related to the applications of data science to address problems related to the social good. This forum has brought together participants from across academia, industry, government and NGOs, enabling them to share insights and progress on applying modern machine learning and data science methods to improve civic and social outcomes.

On Sunday, September 15, 2019, we will reconvene in New York City for the 6th edition of the Data for Good Exchange in order to strengthen our community and further these aims. The overall theme for this year's gathering will be **"Data Science for the SDGs"** or how data scientists, corporations, policy makers and researchers can collaborate on data science projects that will move us toward achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. On January 1st, 2016, the [17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)](#) of [The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) — which were adopted by all UN Member States at the historic [UN Sustainable Development Summit](#) in September 2015 — officially came into force. With these new Goals that universally apply to all, countries are mobilizing efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind. We believe that data science can and will play a large role in achieving the Goals.

The SDGs build on the success of the [Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)](#) and aim to go further to end all forms of poverty. The new Goals are unique in that they call for all countries –to take action in order to promote prosperity, while also protecting the planet. They recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and address a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while

also tackling climate change and environmental protection.[1] Read here for more information about the Goals and the specific targets for each.

We always accept submissions that seek to address societal challenges through applied data science methods. This year, we particularly encourage submissions that align with one or more of the following Sustainable Development Goals:

People
Goal 1: No Poverty
Goal 2: Zero Hunger
Goal3: Good Health and Well-Being
Goal 4: Quality Education
Goal 5: Gender Equality

Planet
Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
Goal 12: Responsible Production and Consumption
Goal 13: Climate Action
Goal 14: Life Below Water
Goal 15: Life on Land

Prosperity
Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities
Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Peace
Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Partnership
Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Our goal is to share success stories, challenges, and visions for future applications of data science to problems related to the social good. We welcome submissions that:
  (a) Explain a successful application or innovative system that solves a governance problem;
  (b) Present a challenging problem that might be aided by the use of data science or citizen science;
  (c) Describe an especially relevant and specialized data set; or
  (d) Lay out a vision for the future direction of these rapidly growing fields.

---

[1] https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/

Contributions emphasizing inter-disciplinary work are particularly encouraged, as are descriptions of novel problems (with or without solutions) within the policy space.

Submissions will be assessed based on their potential to further the conversation among researchers, NGOs, and policy makers. Submissions will be reviewed by the Program Committee (to be announced soon). Reviews are not double-blind, and author names and affiliations should be listed.

We will accept the following types of proposals:

1. **Papers and Posters:** Position papers and works in progress are welcome. Either extended abstracts or papers from 4-8 pages in length are welcome. Accepted papers will be published as part of our open access conference proceedings.

2. **Panels:** Panel proposals should include the names and affiliations of the moderator, proposed speaker list (and who has confirmed their willingness to participate, if selected), and a short abstract explaining the topic to be discussed.

3. **Workshops:** Workshop proposals should include an abstract describing the proposed activity. We expect workshops to be centered around a set of questions/problems to be answered/solved (maximum 3). Proposals should include a description of the intended activities, who the presenters will be, the length, format and expected capacity for the workshop (maximum audience size can be up to 50 attendees), the preferred expertise of the participants and set of expected outcomes, as well as what setup or handouts may be required.

Submission Details
Submission deadline: June 17, 2019
Acceptance date: On or about August 1, 2019

Detailed submission instructions, conference details and registration information are forthcoming.

Program Committee Co-Chairs:

Sreejith Menon
Bloomberg LP

Jeannette M. Wing
Columbia University