DATA LEADERSHIP
2041

CONTEXT

Developing the capacity for 'Data Leadership' is imperative for the Government of Bangladesh as it aims to become more data-driven as part of its revamped digital strategy to achieve Vision 2041.

Since The Economist published the article, "The world's most valuable resource is no longer oil, but data" in 2017 (The Economist, 2017), "data is the new oil" became the new buzzphrase. While this data-oil analogy aimed at increasing public awareness in response to raising data monopolies and controlled data flows, it also helped to stress how new technologies and data could help governments to make better decisions and improve service delivery.

Data collected through multiple sources (from mobile phones to smart home devices) are now analyzed to better understand users and target potential service users. These insights are then used to nudge or inform citizens' choices, or design and deliver better public services that are more reliable, affordable, and easier to access.

DATA CHALLENGES IN BANGLADESH

In a time of such rapid change, enabling the right cultural, policy, legal, regulatory, institutional, organizational, and technical environment is necessary to control, manage, share, protect and extract value from data. Yet, the public sector often faces legacy challenges inherited from manual, paper-based models, ranging from outdated analog data infrastructures and data silos to skill gaps, regulatory barriers, the lack of leadership and accountability, and an organizational culture that is not prone to digital innovation and change.
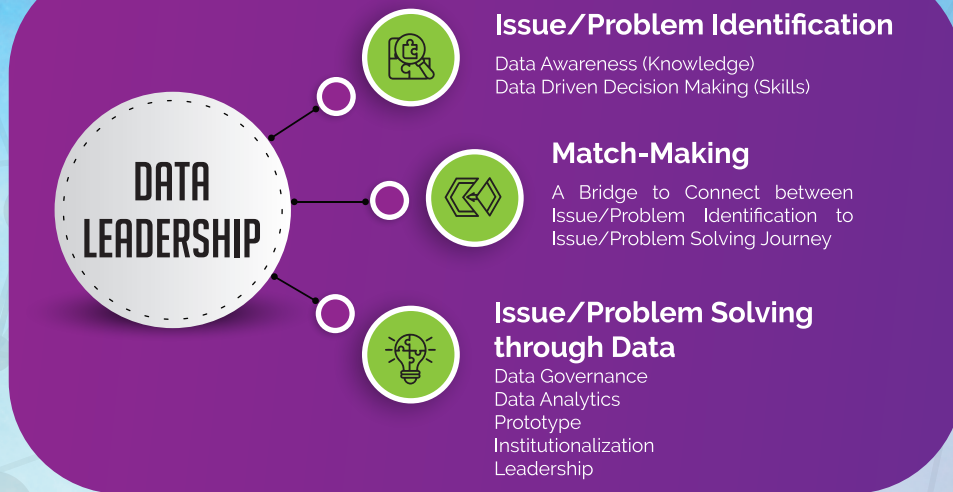
DATA LITERACY
Unreported & Improper Data Usages
Absence of Data Leadership

DATA ACCESS
Underutilized non-government data
Ignorance to non-conventional data

CHALLENGES

DATA SHARING
Silo Approaches
Old Data Mindset

DATA STORYTELLING
Inadequate Analytics
Less Insights to Policymakers

Vision

Establish a **culture of data-driven decisions within the government** for achieving SDGs and national development plans.

Outcome

1. Increased **understanding and awareness of data, evidence-based decision making**, and **future data skills** among Bangladeshi civil servants.

2. Enhanced **leadership** of civil servants on **data governance and analytics** to make **data-driven decisions.**

Roadmap for Data Leadership Journey

DATA LEADERSHIP

Issue/Problem Identification
Data Awareness (Knowledge)
Data Driven Decision Making (Skills)

Match-Making
A Bridge to Connect between Issue/Problem Identification to Issue/Problem Solving Journey

Issue/Problem Solving through Data
Data Governance
Data Analytics
Prototype
Institutionalization
Leadership

DATA LEADERSHIP:
A KEY COMPONENT OF THE CIVIL SERVICE 2041 INITIATIVE

Responding to these challenges requires developing a greater understanding and capacity concerning how Bangladesh addresses the need for more anticipatory and agile data governance.

Thus, the a2i Programme, with the direct guidance of the Cabinet Division and ICT Division, initiated this 'Data Leadership' initiative as a core component of the Civil Service 2041 agenda to build public sector expertise on data, analytics, and data-driven decision-making among Bangladeshi civil servants. Launched in November 2021, this initiative aspires to foster a culture of evidence-based decision-making and innovations in public service delivery through various sensitization, awareness, training events, and Issue/problem-solution journey workshops.

The vision and mission statements above articulate how the Bangladesh government is investing in a data leadership program to empower civil servants to strengthen the institutional, regulatory, capacity, and technical foundations to harness the power of data to achieve the SDGs and Innovative Bangladesh Vision 2041.