



Towards AI and Data Commons

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- identify **practical applications of AI** with the potential to **accelerate progress** towards the **United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals**.
- formulate strategies to ensure **trusted, safe and inclusive** development and dissemination of AI technologies and **equitable** access to their benefits.



AI COMMONS

A Common Platform
for AI for Good

Opportunities

- To use AI to help solve many problems not currently addressed
- To identify core problems and make them visible to AI practitioners
- To facilitate collaboration between problem owners and AI practitioners
- To provide a “safe environment” to help evaluate feasibility of AI solutions
- To help transition pilots to global services

**Problem
Owners**

**AI
Practitioners**

**Cloud/
Compute
Services**

**Data
Commons**

AI for Good

AI for Good collaboration framework



AI Commons Framework



Example: Project 0 proposed from Satellite Track

Opportunity: Provide infrastructure platform to deliver continuous, permanent global services based on automated analysis of satellite++ data streams

Examples of global services:

- weather data and forecasts
- urban traffic state
- global forest watch
- CTBT global seismic monitoring

Benefit of the AI Commons: for each application,

- focus only on the analytical capability and “user interface”
- transition from pilot to global service is immediate

A model for AI Commons

AI Commons

Problem owners



AI Practitioners /
Problem Solvers



Data & compute
suppliers



Problems
Frontend

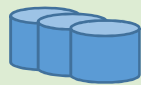
Sandbox
Frontends

Data Commons
Frontends

Marketplaces



AI Commons - Public Utility Network
Decentralized w/ data governance



Features of the platform

High Level

- Decentralized – no single entity owns or controls
- Free *and* priced – reconcile data commons & data marketplaces
- Variety of data – raw training data (structured & unstructured), cleaned data, models
- Built-in curation – high-quality datasets bubble up
- Incentives to share data – system rewards

Privacy Preserving

- Privacy preserving storage – local -> cloud -> decentr. cloud
- Privacy preserving compute – “”

Data Governance

- Global and local / sandboxes – permissions give flexibility in access to different datasets
- Digitally signed – securely know which actors did what
- Provenance – history of data & compute from origin onwards
- Labels – e.g. “space”, “binary-valued”. Emergent ontology

Legals & Interoperability

- Network of >1 utility networks
- Interoperable IP standard – COALA IP
- Template legal documents for licensing

An AI sandbox for all



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IBM RESEARCH AND UNIVERSITY OF PADOVA

AI for all and from all



- AI will impact all → all need to have a voice in AI
 - And means to express that voice
- AI ingredients made available and simple to use
 - mix and match approach
 - compositionality
- Very practical framework, tangible and concrete collaboration mechanisms
- Collective decision making, across borders
- Not just data commons
 - AI is not just data-driven: ML, but also planning, scheduling, search, KRR, etc.



Who should be involved



- Not just AI practitioners and problem owners
- Also AI researchers, social scientists, data subjects, policy makers
- Only approach to make it successful:
 - Multi-cultural
 - Multi-gender
 - Multi-disciplinary
 - Multi-stakeholder



Trustworthy AI for all and from all



- **Fairness**
 - Bias detection, mitigation and auditing tools
- **Value alignment**
 - Community, sector, and task dependent
- **Explainability**
 - To build trust over time
- Also tools for designers and developers to help them think about ethical issues and resolve them
- Collaboration/partnership with existing initiatives around AI ethics and trust
 - PAI, IEEE EAD, TrustFactory.ai, etc.

