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## Presentations highlights

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**Ms Sara Hollis**

Epidemiologist, GOARN Operational Support Team, Department of Alert and Response Coordination, WHO Headquarters

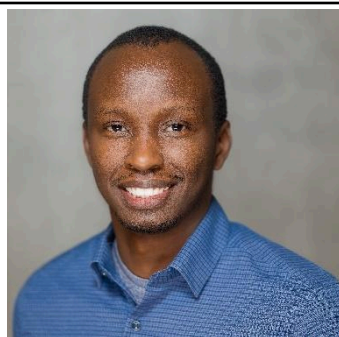
### Go.Data project evolution

#### *What is new?*

- Go.Data is now an open-source software licensed under the **GNU General Public License v3.0** (GPL-3.0).
- **Go.Data installers** are available through the Go.Data page on the WHO website (<https://www.who.int/tools/godata>)
- **Source code** is stored in a public repository on the WHO GitHub repository (<https://github.com/WorldHealthOrganization/godata/>)
- **The Go.Data Community of practice (CoP)** has transitioned to the **GOARN Knowledge platform** where implementors and developers can connect, share knowledge, and troubleshoot.
- The Go.Data user community is encouraged to propose **enhancements to the source code**, **submit issues**, or **request features** via the Go.Data GitHub.

#### *What remains the same?*

- App maintenance, and community management, development of trainings/documentation and overall project coordination will still be performed by the Go.Data project team at WHO.



**Mr Samuel Mbuthia**

Programme Officer, WHO Health Emergencies Programme

### Journey to open source

- The WHO Open Source Programme Office at WHE is a center of competency for Open source-related efforts. It promotes collaboration and open innovation through practices that facilitate active participation and the growth of contributor communities.
  - Open source four fundamental freedoms are the freedom to run the program, study how it works, redistribute copies to help others, and distribute copies of your modified versions to others. These freedoms are ensured for the Go.Data project by applying the GPL-3.0 license, which also guarantees that the software will stay open through the GPL Copyleft effect.
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**Dr Catherina Maracke**

Open Source Licensing Advisor, WHO  
Health Emergencies Programme

- Open-source communities are essential. The Go.Data community is comprised of users and implementers, and each of you participating in this webinar is a valuable member of this community. It is crucial that we consider how we can utilize the Open Source freedoms to advance the Go.Data project to the next level and make it a better product.
- Digital public goods are accelerators. They help us move forward and find a more efficient solution for the work we are trying to do.

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## Go.Data implementer's experiences and perspectives

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**Mr Felipe Vasconcelos**

Technician, PAHO Brazil, Health  
Emergency Program

### Brazil

- Brazil is one of the countries with a **high uptake of the Go.Data tool** with approximately 16 Go.Data servers.
  - The tool has been instrumental in supporting the **investigation of various diseases** in the country, including Measles, COVID-19, Monkeypox, and Avian Flu.
  - While the COVID-19 pandemic posed several challenges due to the large number of cases and contacts, the team's successful experience served as a model for other diseases such as Monkeypox and Measles.
  - The **transition to an open source model**, along with the creation of a community of developers, **will allow to identify and resolve problems more quickly and efficiently**.
  - The open-source model provides a platform for collaboration among developers from diverse backgrounds and experiences, enriching the development process.
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**Mr Enos Sande**

Public Health Specialist, Health Information Systems, US CDC Country Office , Uganda

## Uganda

- Go.Data was **crucial in managing and tracking the growing number of contacts** during the Sudan Ebola outbreak in Uganda in 2022, after the initial manual system for contact tracing proved difficult. It helped **track transmission chains and make important decisions**.
- The **Go.Data R package** hosted in the tool's GitHub, helped strengthen the country's **ability to use data and supported the decision making process**.
- Challenges at the beginning were related to internet connectivity, getting the response team to know how to use the tool, completeness of data, as well as linking the laboratory results to the suspected cases in Go.Data.
- The **transition of Go.Data as an open-source** tool provides an opportunity for further development, and Uganda is willing contribute with interoperability solutions to enhance timely decision making.



**Mr Alexandre Bonneau**

Business analyst and developer. Former WHO consultant at the Division of Pacific Technical Support

## Pacific islands and countries

- As in any digitalization effort, before implementing Go.Data it is recommended to **consider the human factor** as well as conducting a **mapping exercise** of the existing processes of gathering and managing epidemiological data for specific outbreaks.
  - The mapping exercise will support stakeholders to **better understand the existing data systems** in the country and how Go.Data can complement them. This also helps in the **definition of clear goals and roles** for end users and motivate them to use the application.
  - Difficulties faced in implementing Go.Data in some Pacific islands and countries include finding local personnel who are familiar with technology and navigating regulatory constraints.
  - The transition to an **open-source** tool will make it **easier to gain buy-in from countries** as it addresses issues related to the long-term viability of the data. This will **improve confidence in the application**, and users will be able to **contribute to its development, report issues, and adapt it** to the local context.
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