

Data Sharing

Four Guides for Data Sharing in Small Island Developing States

Overview of the CaribData Data-Sharing Guides

The CaribData Data-Sharing Guides are a set of four short, practical documents designed to support responsible data sharing in small island contexts. They recognise the realities of limited capacity, small populations, and high trust requirements, and focus on proportionate, workable approaches rather than idealised global models.

Each guide can be read on its own, but they are designed to be used together.

Recommended Reading Order

Data Sharing for Data Producers in Small Islands This guide sets the overall context. It explains why data sharing matters, why small island settings are different, and how issues such as trust, risk, scale, and sovereignty shape data-sharing choices. It provides the conceptual grounding for the other guides.

Decision Guide: Making Data-Sharing Decisions This guide supports practical judgement. It helps users assess purpose, risk, and context, and decide what level of data sharing is appropriate, including when data should not be shared. The emphasis is on clear reasoning and minimum-viable sharing.

How-To Guide: Data Sharing in Practice This guide focuses on implementation. It addresses common barriers, incentives, and misunderstandings around data sharing, and provides practical guidance for day-to-day operational use.

Glossary: Data-Sharing Terms and Concepts This guide provides plain-language definitions of key data-sharing terms used across the guides. Each term is explained with its relevance and common misunderstandings, making the glossary a useful reference alongside the other documents.

How the Guides Fit Together

Together, the guides move from context, to decision-making, to practice, supported by a shared language. They are intended to be used incrementally and are adapted to local Caribbean needs.

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