

Draw a Data Visualisation

This exercise will challenge participants to think visually about a data narrative.

- **People:** 4 to 24 people
- **Time:** 60 Minutes
- **Difficulty:** Medium
- **Materials:** Projected slide or distributable sheets with Example Data Narrative
Flipchart paper and coloured markers.
Tape or Blue Tac to affix drawings to the wall.

Preparation:

Print or project the example data narrative (below), or use another data narrative that might resonate well with your participants.

Break your participants into small groups: no less than two but not greater than five.



THE EXERCISE

Instructions for participants:

1. Take 5 minutes to read the slide deck, with the narrative and key figures presented;
2. After reading the “data narrative” you are invited to spend 10 minutes to understand your data and ensure that all the information provided is accurate or not. You are welcome to use the internet.
3. Now you have 20 minutes to sketch your infographic, based on the information and data provided. When doing so, please consider the following:
 - a. If you find errors and inaccuracies in the information and data provided, you should use the correct data.
 - b. If you have additional data and information related to the subject presented, you are welcome to integrate and complement based on your sources.
 - c. When sketching your infographic, you are welcome to use all sorts of graphics, maps, visual presentation content, text and narrative and whatever else you find relevant to “tell” your story.
4. After you have finished please use tape or blue tack to affix your drawing to the wall.
5. Take 5 minutes to review everyone else’s drawings

Complete the exercise by leading a large group discussion about what they’ve learned from making the drawings and reviewing the others created during the session.

CREDIT

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Example Data Narrative

The African Union (AU) is a [continental union](#) consisting of all 55 [countries](#) on the [African](#) continent. It was established on 26 May 2001 in [Addis Ababa](#), [Ethiopia](#), and launched on 9 July 2002 in [South Africa](#),^[4] with the aim of replacing the [Organisation of African Unity](#) (OAU). The most important decisions of the AU are made by the [Assembly of the African Union](#), a semi-annual meeting of the heads of state and government of its member states. The AU's secretariat, the [African Union Commission](#), is based in Addis Ababa.

All [UN member states](#) based in Africa and African waters are members of the AU, as is the [disputed Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic](#) (SADR). [Morocco](#), which claims sovereignty over the SADR's territory, withdrew from the Organisation of African Unity, the AU's predecessor, in 1984 due to the admission of the SADR as a member. However, on 30 January 2017 the AU admitted Morocco as a member state.

Top 10 Populated countries in Africa

1. Nigeria: 182.2M
2. Ethiopia 99.39M
3. D.R. Congo 77.27M
4. Algeria 39.67M
5. Uganda 39.03M

Please find the other missing countries and other data that you might find interesting...

