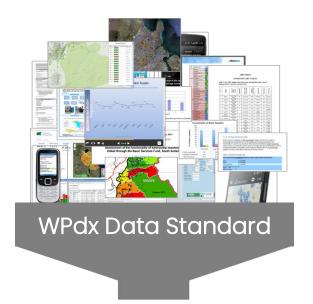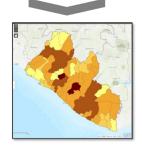# How WPdx Supports Rural Water Decisions

WPdx Data Standard

1. Governments and their partners are already collecting substantial amounts of data. However, data is often too fragmented to use, with different approaches for data collection and storage. Given the challenges in accessing and using data, it is often only used for reporting and not decision-making.

2. All stakeholders can easily use the **WPdx Data Standard** to harmonize their existing data into the global dataset. Formatting and uploading data to the platform typically takes less than 30 minutes. The WPdx data standard fits most waterpoint data, even if it was collected with no knowledge of the standard.

3. Uploaded data is available on our **online data repositories**. The WPdx platform automatically cleans and categorizes the data, removes duplicate entries, and links multiple updates to the same water point. The platform has two datasets: **WPdx-Basic**, which includes all data shared to the platform and **WPdx+**, a refined analysis-ready dataset.

4. The WPdx **decision support tools** access data from the WPdx+ dataset and utilize advanced geospatial and machine learning analyses to provide answers to key questions. Designed in partnership with governments and leading data scientists, these tools provide concrete insights including priority lists of locations for water point rehabilitations and new construction which would have the greatest impact. As governments and other stakeholder begin to see benefits from using data on a regular basis, there will be a clear incentive to continue to invest in data collection harmonization and use.