

gLOCAL evaluation week
2026

iDE Powering
entrepreneurs
to end poverty.

From Field Data to Trusted Decisions

Building Trustworthy Digital MERL Workflows in Bangladesh's TLTN Program

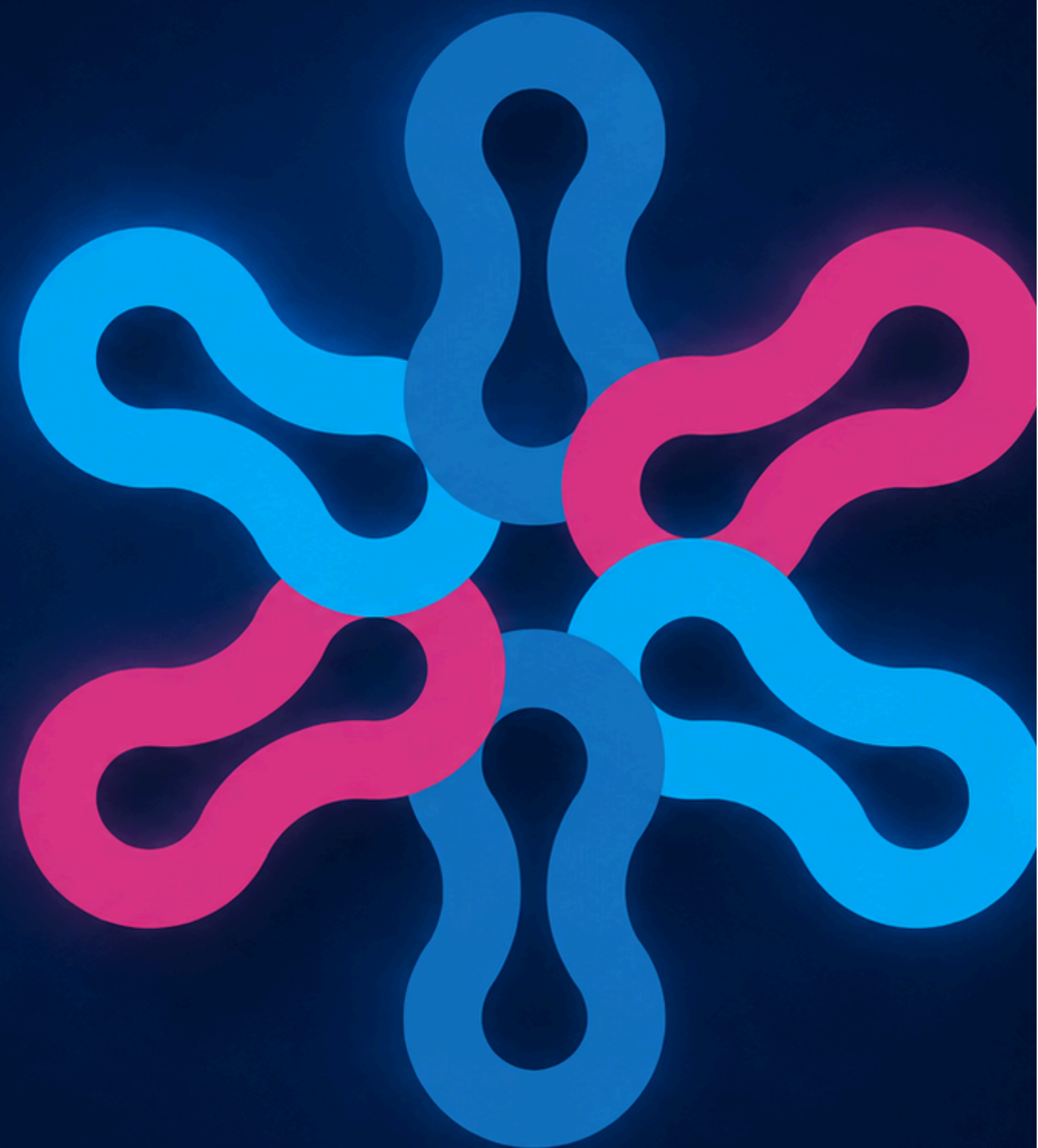
gLOCAL Evaluation Week 2026

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June 03, 2026 | 11:00 AM GMT+6 / Bangladesh Time



Quick opening question

When do you personally trust dashboard data?

 Please answer in the chat: **A**, **B**, **C**, or **D**

A

The source is clear

B

QA checks are documented

C

Numbers match field reality

D

Someone can explain anomalies



Optional live poll /
chat screenshot

The problem: data volume is not the same as evidence trust

01



More data

Mobile forms, spreadsheets, partner reports, photos, GPS points, and dashboards can multiply quickly.

02



More risk

Duplicates, missing disaggregation, inconsistent indicator interpretation, late corrections, and geo-errors can weaken confidence.

03



More need for judgment

Decision-makers need evidence that is timely, explainable, context-aware, and owned by responsible people.



CORE PROPOSITION

A trustworthy digital MERL workflow is a governance system — not only a technology stack.

Where we are headed together

01



TLTN context and why digital MERL is needed

02



The field-to-dashboard workflow:
from collection to decision-use

03



Trust checkpoints:
validation, de-duplication, geo-quality, DQA, governance

04

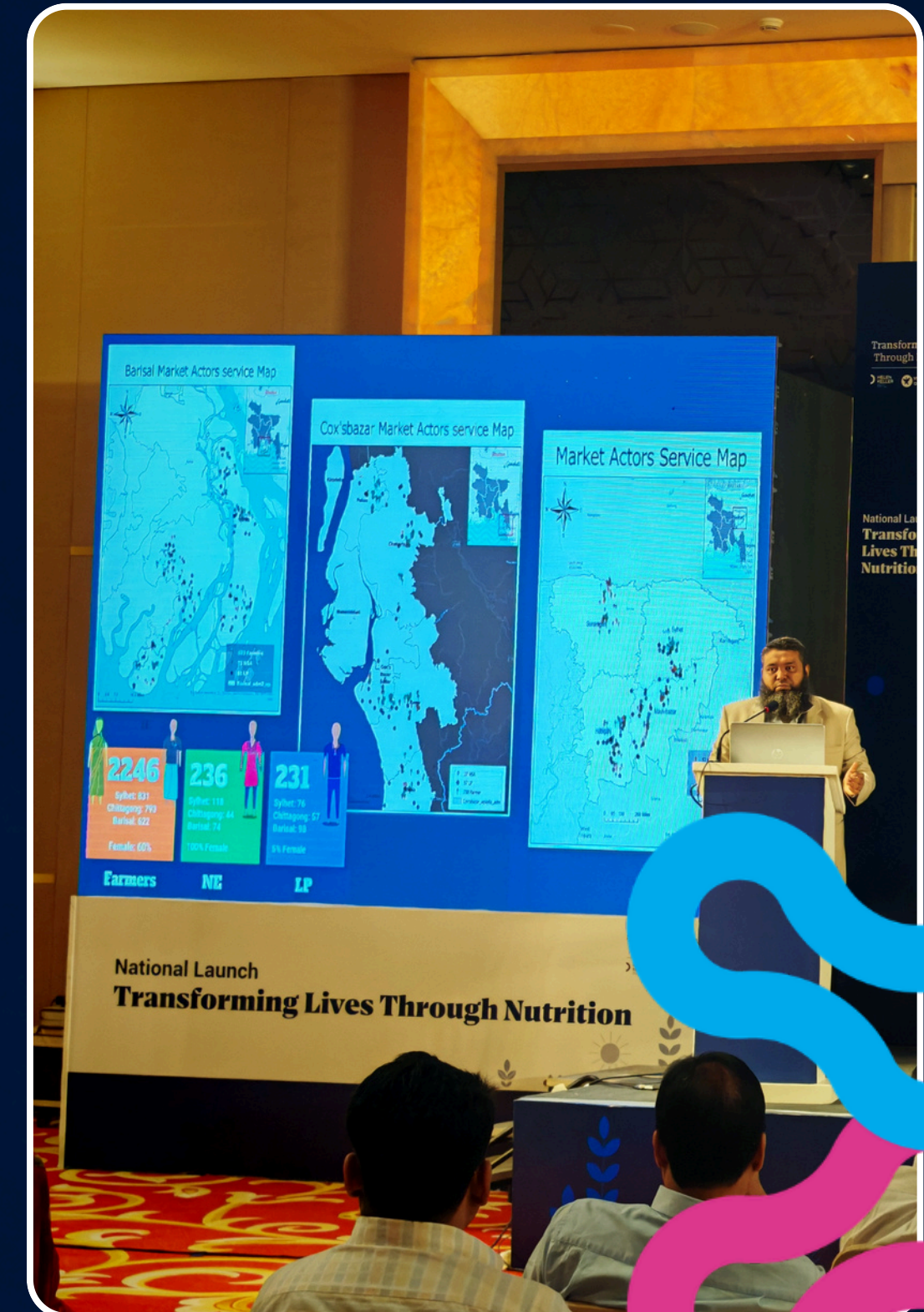


Responsible AI readiness:
where AI may help and where humans must decide

05



Practical framework, lessons learned, and Q&A



Fit with gLOCAL 2026

Our focus: trust before automation



Primary sub-theme

Ethics, Standards,
and Human Judgment



Secondary sub-theme

Practical Applications
of AI in Evaluation



Case contribution

What must be in place
before AI can responsibly
support evaluation workflows



In the age of AI, trust starts with disciplined evidence practice.

How this TLTN case responds to the gLOCAL AI conversation



Our case sits mainly in **workflow enhancement**, but it only becomes trustworthy when **evidence needs** and **capability development** are treated seriously.

1. TLTN context

Transforming Lives Through Nutrition



A multi-sector nutrition program requires
integrated evidence, not isolated reporting.



The Interventions

NUTRITION SPECIFIC



Multiple Micronutrient
Supplementation



Vitamin A Supplementation
and Deworming



Breastfeeding Promotion



Infant and Young Child
Feeding Promotion



Acute Malnutrition
Screening and Treatment

NUTRITION SENSITIVE



Agricultural Production



Supply Chain & Small
Market Enterprise

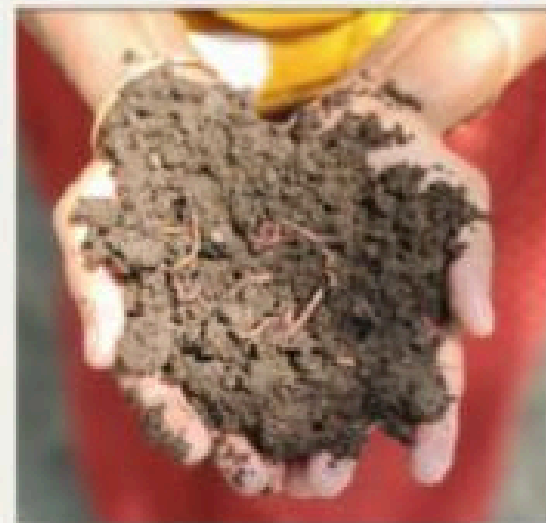
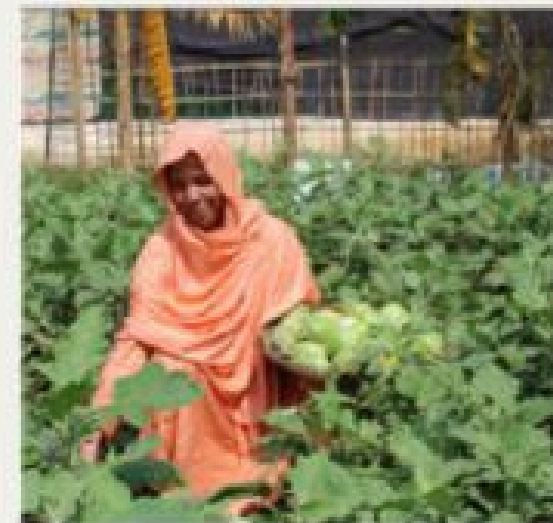


Water, Sanitation &
Hygiene

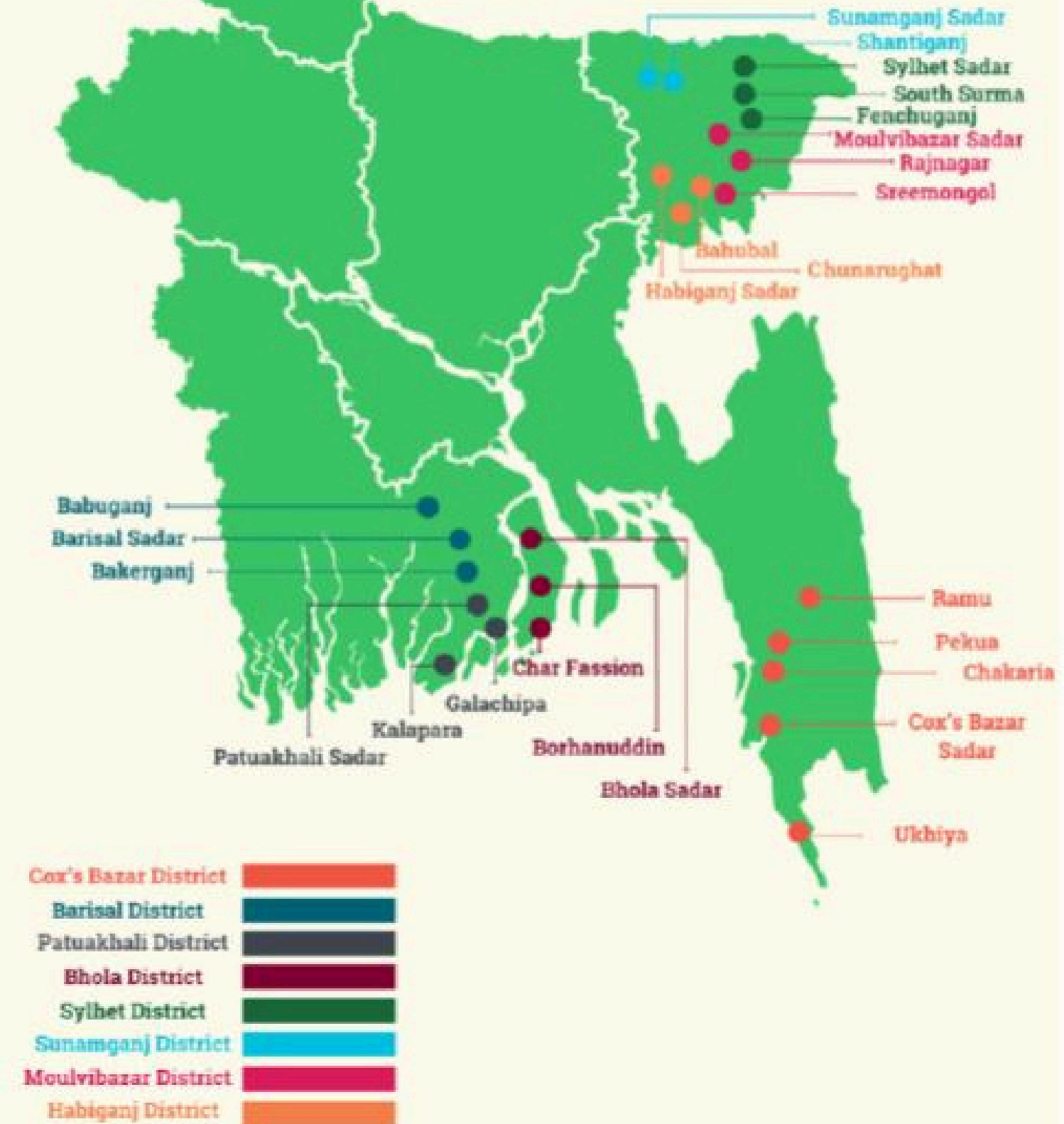


THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Transforming Lives Through Nutrition



TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH NUTRITION Working Areas



Digital MERL in TLTN: what changed since 2025

The workflow strengthened how data moves from field collection to review and decision-use.



Operational learning examples — faster review and greater transparency, *not an impact attribution claim.*

What the digital workflow makes visible

Examples from dashboard views and routine monitoring figures



Entrepreneur dashboards



Latrine Producer dashboard

19,221

unique customers

Customer records used for reporting and follow-up



Nutrition Entrepreneur dashboard

96,334

unique customers

Agri, WASH, and nutrition purchase visibility



MH Entrepreneur dashboard

10,014

unique customers

Menstrual hygiene, hygiene, and sanitary product tracking



Vermicompost Entrepreneur dashboard

2,928

unique customers

Vermicompost, worm, and seedling sales tracking



Workflow monitoring



21,150

Cooking demonstration participants

Output monitoring figure from TLTN planning/tracking



25,344

People trained in improved WASH practices

Output monitoring figure for WASH practice training



898

SMEs / entrepreneurs tracked

620 female and 278 male across LP, MH, NE, and VE categories



60 + 3,000

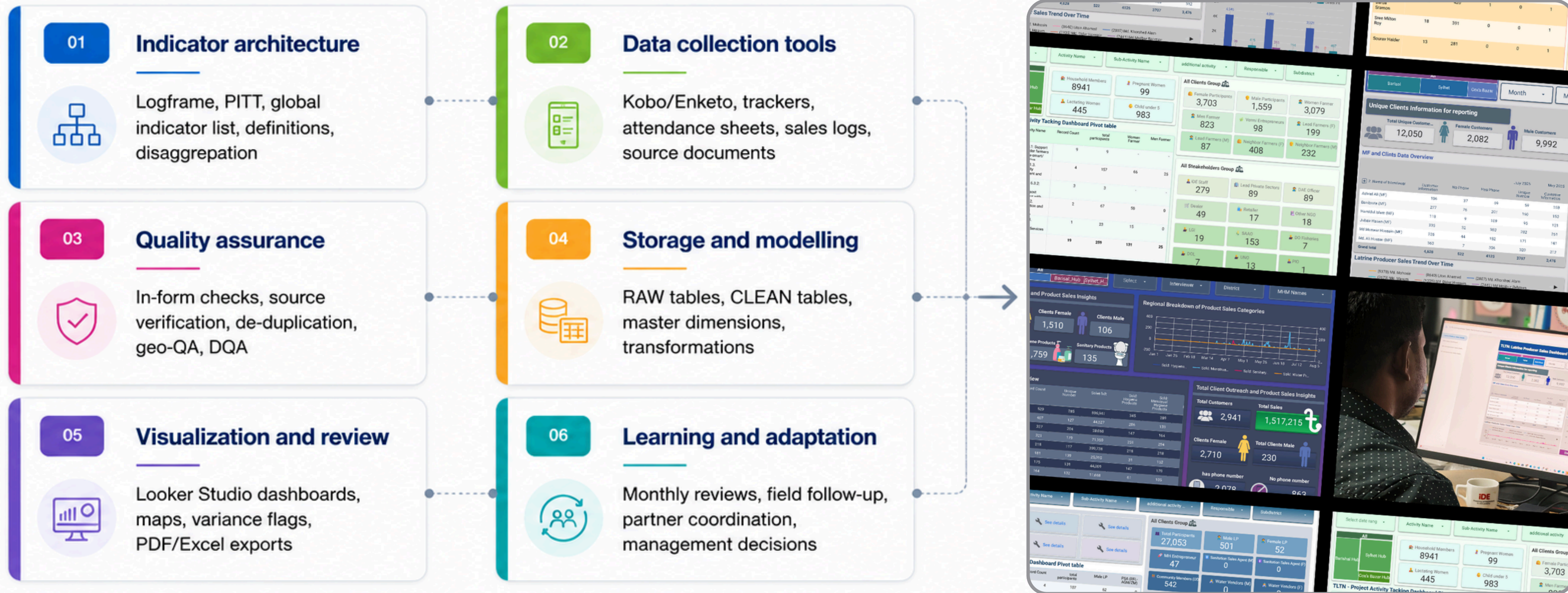
Lead farmers and demo farmers

60 lead farmers and 3,000 demo farmers linked to agriculture extension/ demonstration work



The value is not the number alone — these figures can be reviewed, filtered, checked, mapped, disaggregated, and used for follow-up, **not as direct impact attribution.**

The dashboard is only one layer of the MERL system



Trust is built across the system — not at the final visualization step only.

WORKFLOW VISUALS

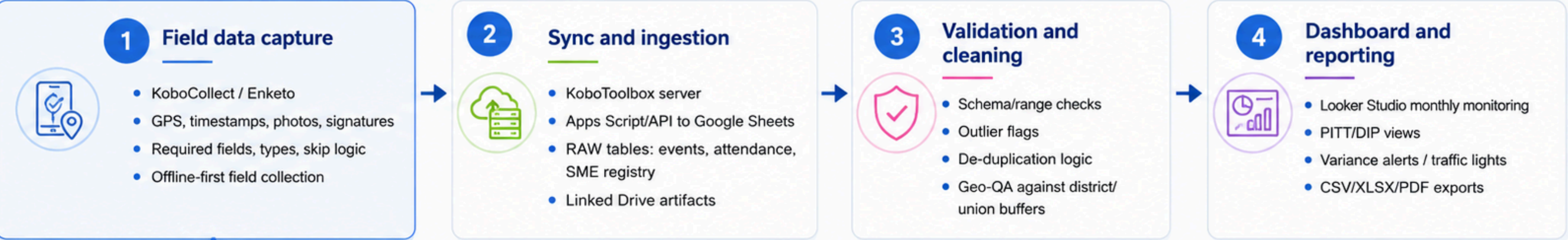
2. Field-to-dashboard workflow

A practical pipeline from mobile data capture to trusted decision-use.



The TLTN field-to-dashboard pipeline

Trust checkpoint 1: quality begins before submission



STEP 1 DEEP DIVE



- Built-in controls**
- ✓ Required fields
 - ✓ Data type constraints
 - ✓ Skip logic
 - ✓ GPS, timestamps, photos, signatures
 - ✓ Offline-first collection with sync when connected

- Enumerator readiness**
- ✓ Ethical enumeration
 - ✓ Consent and dignity
 - ✓ Troubleshooting
 - ✓ Data quality orientation
 - ✓ Field-level accountability



Main lesson: do not wait until dashboard review to solve data quality problems.

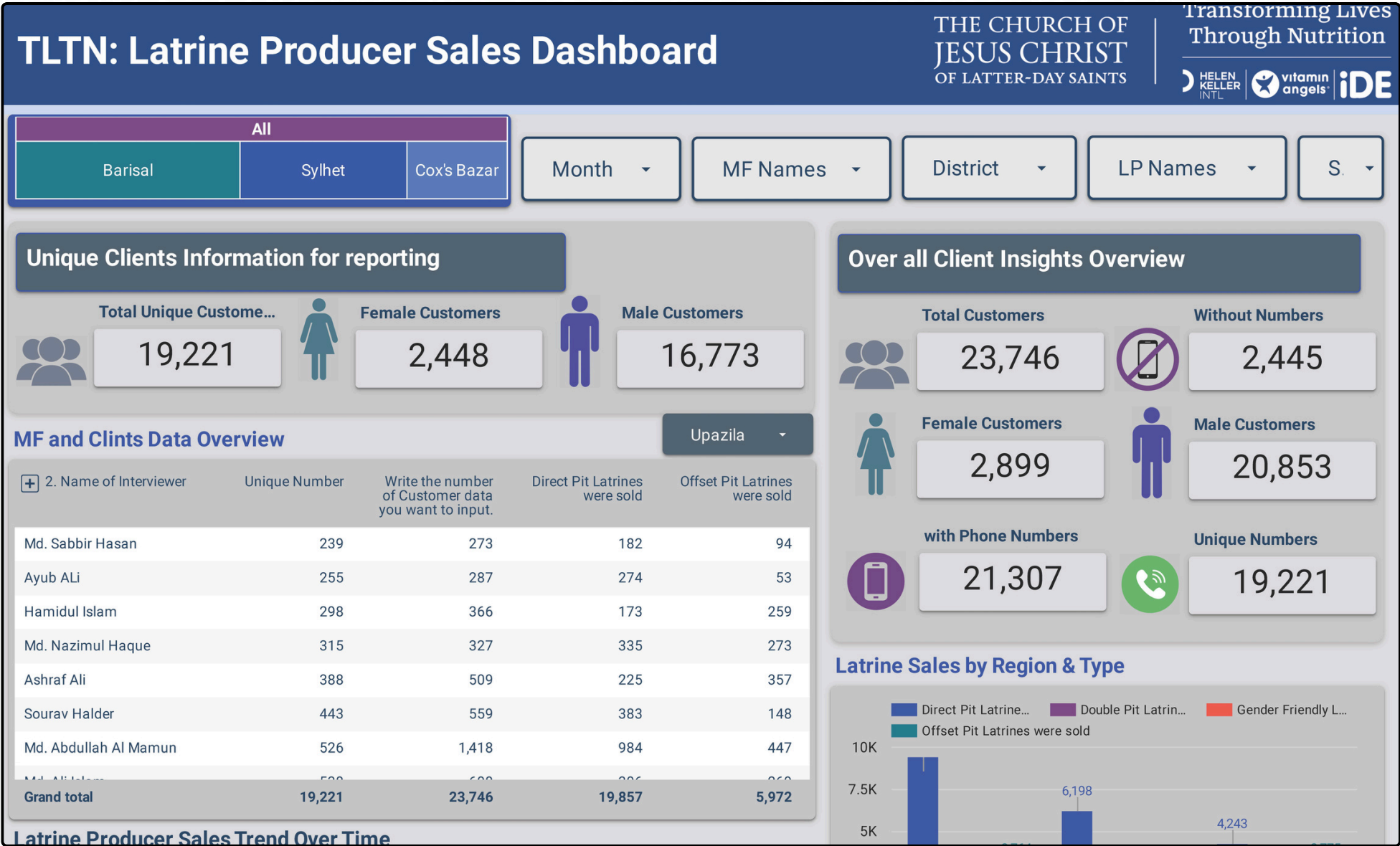


Governance across the pipeline: role-based access, privacy and consent, routine DQA/audit trail, SOPs, data dictionary, and documentation.



Trust improves when raw records are reviewed, cleaned, geo-checked, and mapped before dashboard interpretation.

Dashboard reporting: support for decisions, not just reports



Dashboard views

- Monthly monitoring
- PITT and DIP tracking
- Indicator progress against targets
- Gender/location disaggregation
- Entrepreneur performance tracking
- Exports for consortium, donor, and government use

Decision value

- Reduce manual compilation
- Improve coordination across partners
- Enable rapid evidence-based review
- Increase transparency and shared understanding

Different users, different decisions

Field teams

Verify targets, identify lagging areas, plan follow-up

MERL team

Check missing data, outliers, consistency, and validation needs

Management / consortium

Review performance, guide strategy, and support coordination

Government stakeholders

Review alignment, maps, and trends for coordination

Communities / clients

Benefit indirectly from more targeted support

A dashboard is valuable when it creates better questions and faster follow-up — not when it hides uncertainty.

Governance question: who can view, interpret, correct, approve, and act on each dashboard signal?

3. Where trust is built

Validation, de-duplication, DQA, and human review are the core of the workflow.

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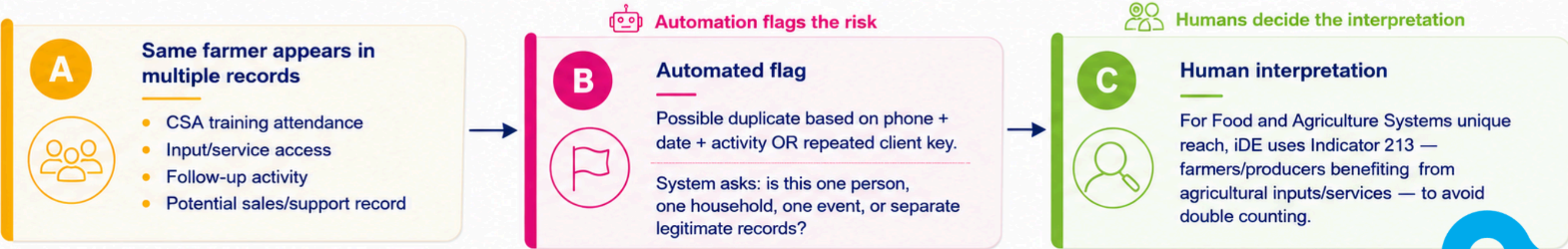


Five trust checkpoints in the workflow

How trust is built — and how human judgment resolves duplicates and unique reach.



Mini-case: duplicates and unique reach



Key principle: reported activity counts and unique reach are different calculations.
Trustworthy data is not perfect data. It is data whose limits, checks, and decisions are visible.

Automation can flag the risk. MERL/program teams decide the correct interpretation using indicator definitions and field context.

Data Quality Assessment: the formal trust mechanism

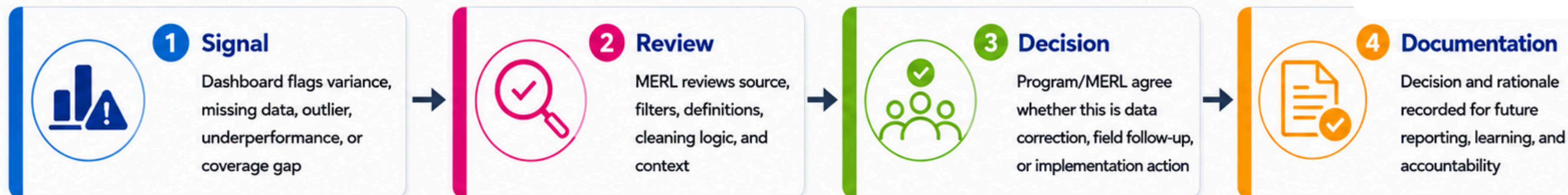


Why this matters

DQA systematically evaluates accuracy, reliability, precision, and integrity for specific reporting periods. It also creates an action plan and discussion process instead of treating errors as hidden problems.



Dashboard governance: who decides what happens next?



Human override points



Duplicate resolution



GPS anomaly



Indicator interpretation



missing disaggregation



unexpected trend



politically/
contextually
sensitive findings

Limitations and pitfalls to watch

What dashboards cannot solve alone



Connectivity

Internet dependency in remote or field contexts



Harmonization

Raw Kobo forms may vary across hubs and require alignment



Filters

Dashboard filters can break when disaggregation fields are missing



Context

Dashboards do not replace qualitative insights or field explanation



Continuity

Maintain backup static sheets and an incident checklist

Maturity means naming limitations before they become trust failures.

4. Responsible AI readiness

AI can assist a trustworthy workflow.
It should not replace evidence
standards or accountability.



Where AI can help - and where it can introduce risk



Appropriate AI support



Drafting meeting summaries



Flagging anomalies for review



Generating plain-language dashboard notes



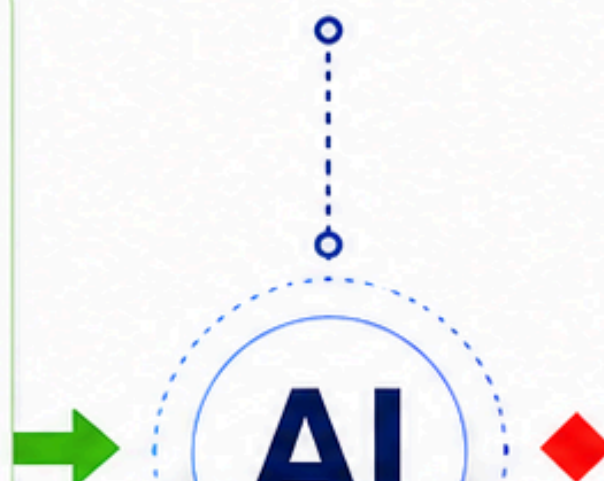
Searching documentation/data dictionaries



Assisting translation or coding support



Preparing first drafts of learning notes



AI support is useful only within human oversight and evidence standards.



High-risk use without safeguards



Generating official figures



Interpreting sensitive findings without context



Summarizing incomplete data as final evidence



Using personal data in unsecured tools



Producing confident but unsupported narratives



Replacing field verification



Rule of thumb: AI may help organize evidence; humans must own interpretation, ethics, and final decisions.

Current digital workflow vs responsible AI support

Mini-case: AI-assisted gender disaggregation



Lesson: AI accelerated cleaning, but human validation made the result usable. AI was an assistant - not the authority for official reporting.



Ethical caution: gender classification from names or text fields can be uncertain. Document assumptions, protect personal data, and review ambiguous cases manually.



Current digital MERL workflow

- KoboCollect / Enketo
- KoboToolbox server
- Apps Script/API to Google Sheets
- RAW and CLEAN tables
- R scripts for cleaning support
- Looker Studio dashboards
- PITT, DIP, DQA and source checks



Responsible AI support

- First-pass classification for missing disaggregation
- Anomaly triage lists for review
- Plain-language dashboard summaries
- Draft learning notes and meeting summaries
- Documentation search and synthesis
- Translation or coding support



Boundary: official figures still require validation, source checks, DQA logic, documentation, and human approval.

What AI must not do in a trustworthy MERL workflow



No official figures

AI must not generate or alter official reported numbers without validation.



No private raw data in unsafe tools

Identifiable participant data, photos, phone numbers, and sensitive records must be protected.



No duplicate decisions alone

AI can flag likely duplicates, but indicator rules and field context decide treatment.



No unsupported narratives

AI-written summaries must be checked against evidence, definitions, and caveats.



No replacement for DQA

Source-document verification and action planning remain human-led.



Responsible AI is not only a technical choice. It is a governance choice.



Responsible AI readiness

From AI tools to AI agents: what would be required?

An AI agent is only responsible if the workflow around it is controlled.



Approved data boundary

Agent only accesses approved, non-sensitive or authorized datasets



Data dictionary

Definitions, units, disaggregation, indicator logic, and caveats are available



Audit trail

Prompts, outputs, changes, and human approvals are documented.



Human review gate

No automated output becomes official without MERL/program approval.



Privacy and consent

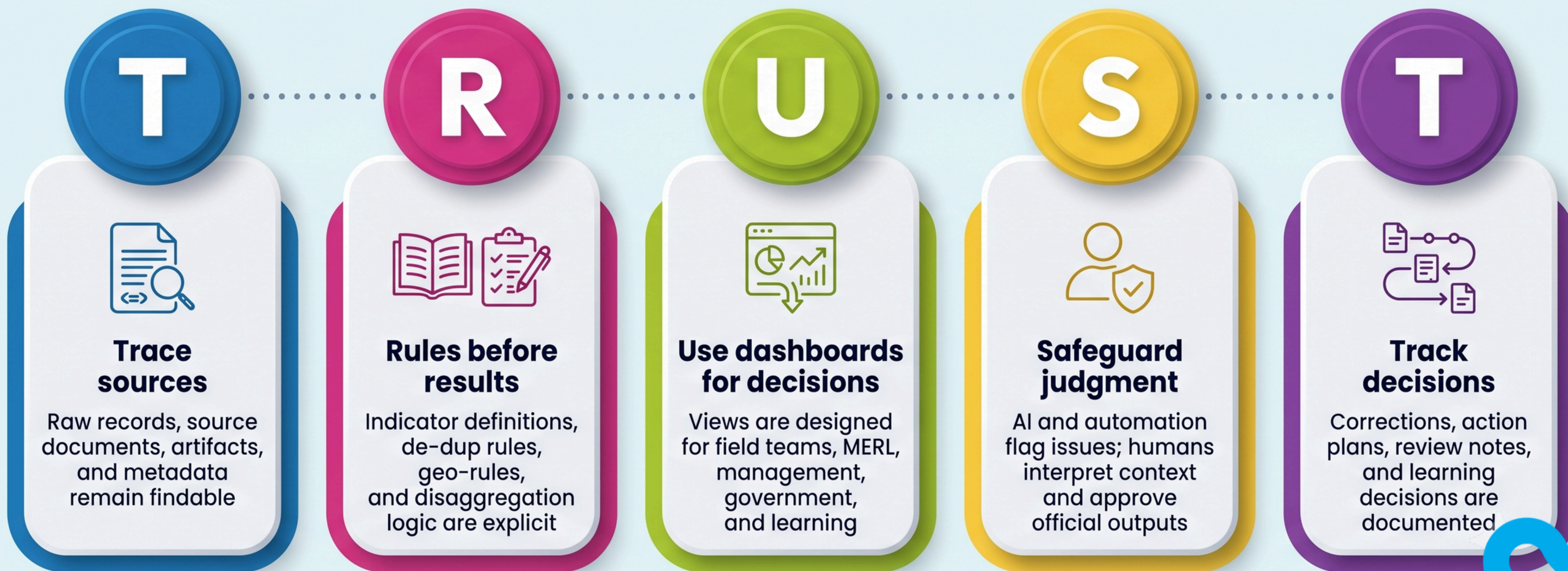
Personal data and photos are protected; sensitive content is minimized.



AI readiness is mostly MERL governance readiness.

A practical takeaway for participants

The **TRUST** framework for digital MERL workflows



Trust is built when sources, rules, decisions, judgment, and documentation remain visible.

How trust changes the conversation

Data-to-action examples from the workflow



Coverage review

Maps show which unions/upazilas have activity concentration and which areas may require follow-up.



Entrepreneur support

Sales/outreach tracking can identify when a nutrition agent or entrepreneur needs tailored support.



Monthly performance review

PITT/DIP dashboards help teams compare progress against targets and identify variance early.



Government engagement

Maps and concise indicator snapshots support discussions with agriculture, health, and WASH stakeholders.

The shift: from 'we think' to 'we can show, review, explain, and act.'

What changed in the conversation?

Before



Anecdote

'we are probably reaching that area.'



Reporting delay

'We will know after the reporting cycle.'



Dashboard as display

'Here are the numbers.'



Automation as answer

'The system says this is correct.'

After



Visual evidence

'Here is where activities are recorded and where gaps remain.'



Faster feedback

'We can review issues within days/weeks and follow up.'



Dashboard as review space

'What does this signal mean and what action follows?'

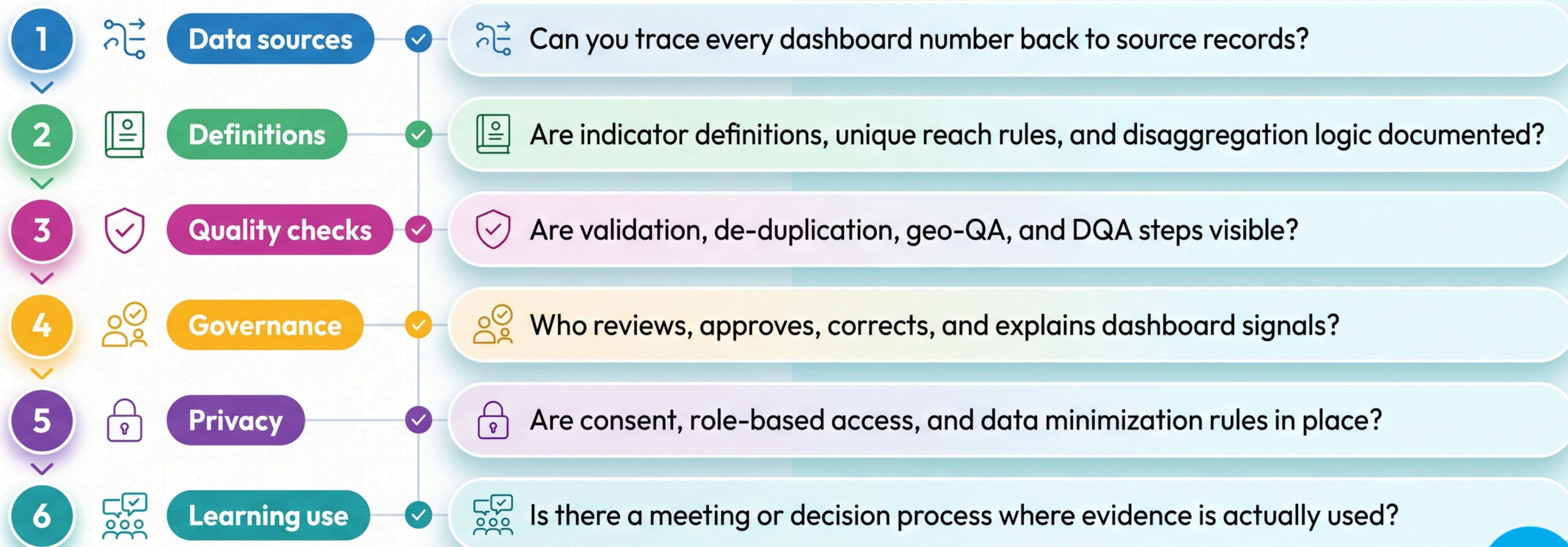


Human-accountable automation

'The system flagged it; MERL and program teams verified it.'

The shift: from **'we think'** to **'we can show, review, explain, and act.'**

Practical checklist: before you add AI to your MERL workflow



If the answer is unclear, fix the workflow first. Then introduce AI cautiously.

Discussion prompts



For MERL teams



Which trust checkpoint is weakest in your current workflow?



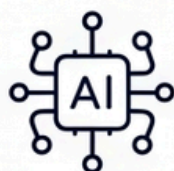
For managers



What decision do you need faster, and what evidence would make it credible?



For AI/evaluation practitioners



Where could AI support your workflow without replacing human judgment?



For everyone



What would make dashboard evidence more trusted by field teams and stakeholders?

Shared
learning

Q&A

**Please share questions
in the chat or Q&A box.**



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to end poverty.

Thank you!

Final takeaway: In the age of AI, trustworthy MERL does not start with automation. It starts with disciplined data governance, transparent interpretation, and accountable human judgment.

