



Eclipsing Equity: Indigenous Peoples Sovereignty, Data, and Research

NAM CoPH – 8 December 2020

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Located on the unceded homelands of
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**NATIVE NATIONS
INSTITUTE**

Founded by the Udall Foundation
& the University of Arizona

Strengthening Indigenous Governance

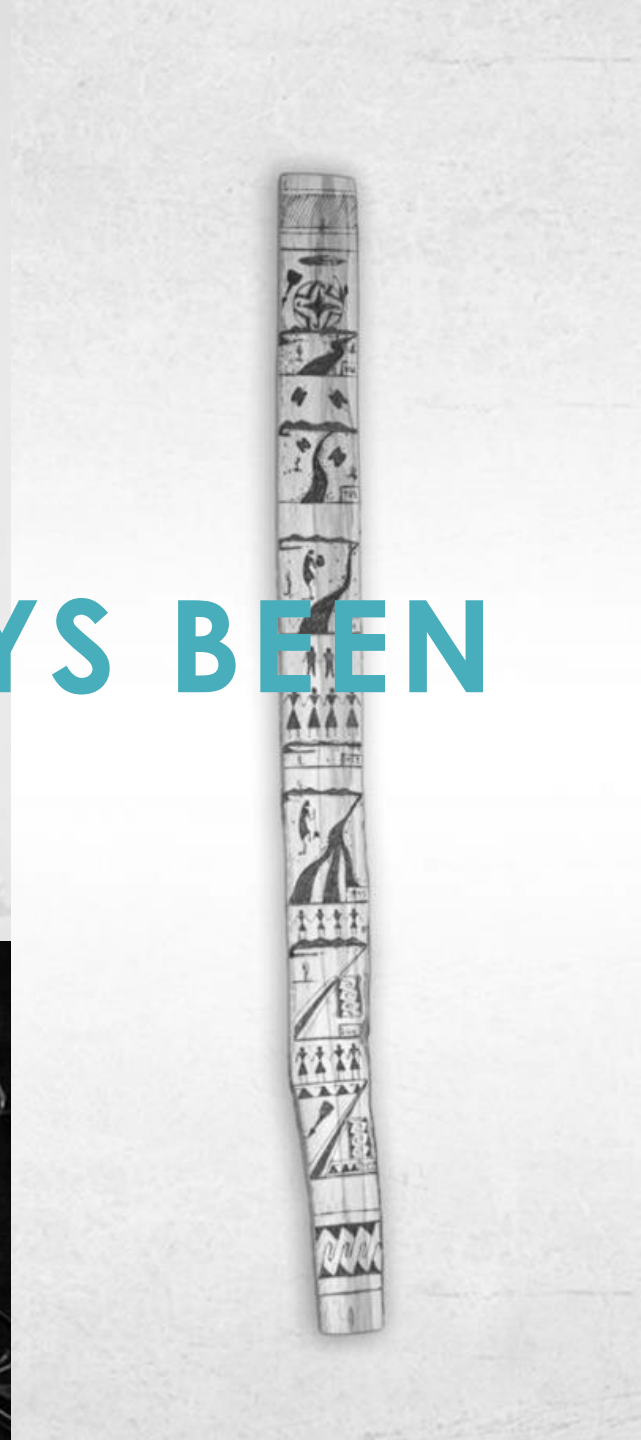


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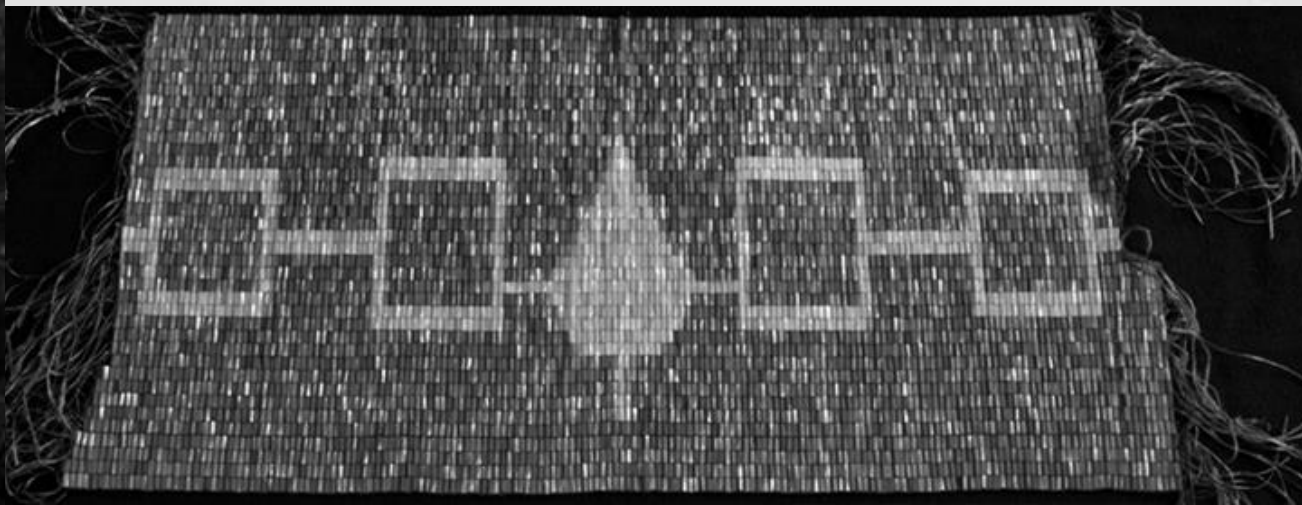
**Mel & Enid Zuckerman
College of Public Health**

Indigenous Peoples and Data

1. Sovereignty matters.
2. Data are our relations.
3. Data are critical to the exercise of tribal sovereignty.
4. Only Indigenous Peoples/nations can exercise Indigenous data sovereignty.
5. Enacting Indigenous data sovereignty includes both data for governance and the governance of data.
6. Tribally-driven data work requires relationships with other data actors and experts for both stewardship and expertise.
7. Assertions of Indigenous data sovereignty spur innovation and design in data and research policy and practice.



**OUR PEOPLES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN
DATA EXPERTS**



WHAT ARE **INDIGENOUS DATA**?

Data, information and knowledge, in any format, that impacts Indigenous peoples, nations, and communities at the collective and individual levels:

DATA ABOUT OUR RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTS

Land, water, geology, titles, air, soil, sacred sites, territories, plants, animals, etc.

DATA ABOUT US AS INDIVIDUALS

Administrative, legal, health, social, commercial, corporate, services, etc.

DATA ABOUT US AS NATIONS

Traditional and cultural information, archives, oral histories, literature, ancestral and clan knowledge, stories, belongings, etc.

Informed by British Columbia First Nations Data Governance Institute - BCFNDGI.COM

USINDIGENOUSDATA.ORG | [@USIDSN](https://twitter.com/USIDSN)

INDIGENOUS DATA SOVEREIGNTY

The *right* of Indigenous Peoples and nations to govern the collection, ownership, and application of their own data.

1

Derives from inherent rights to govern their peoples, lands, and resources.

2

Genesis in traditions, roles, and responsibilities for the use of community held information.

3

Positioned within a human rights framework and court cases, treaties, and/or recognition.

4

Knowledge belongs to the collective and is fundamental to who we are as peoples.

For more information see the US Indigenous Data Sovereignty web site usindigenousdata.org.
See also, Kukutai T & Taylor J. (Eds). (2016). Indigenous Data Sovereignty. Canberra: Australian National University Press.

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THE DATA PARADIGM: THE HIERARCHY OF INDIGENOUS DATA

BY US FOR THEM

BY US FOR US

BY THEM WITH US

BY THEM FOR US

BY THEM FOR THEM

DATA DEPENDENCY: Data Indigenous Peoples Need

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DATA AND GOVERNANCE: THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF NATION REBUILDING AND DATA REBUILDING



Carroll, Stephanie Russo, Desi Rodriguez-Lonebear, Andrew Martinez. "Indigenous Data Governance: Strategies from United States Native Nations." Data and Governance: The Interdependence of Nation Rebuilding and Data Rebuilding. *Data Science Journal* 18(1)p.31. DOI: [10.5334/dsj-2019-031](https://doi.org/10.5334/dsj-2019-031).

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GOVERNING INDIGENOUS DATA



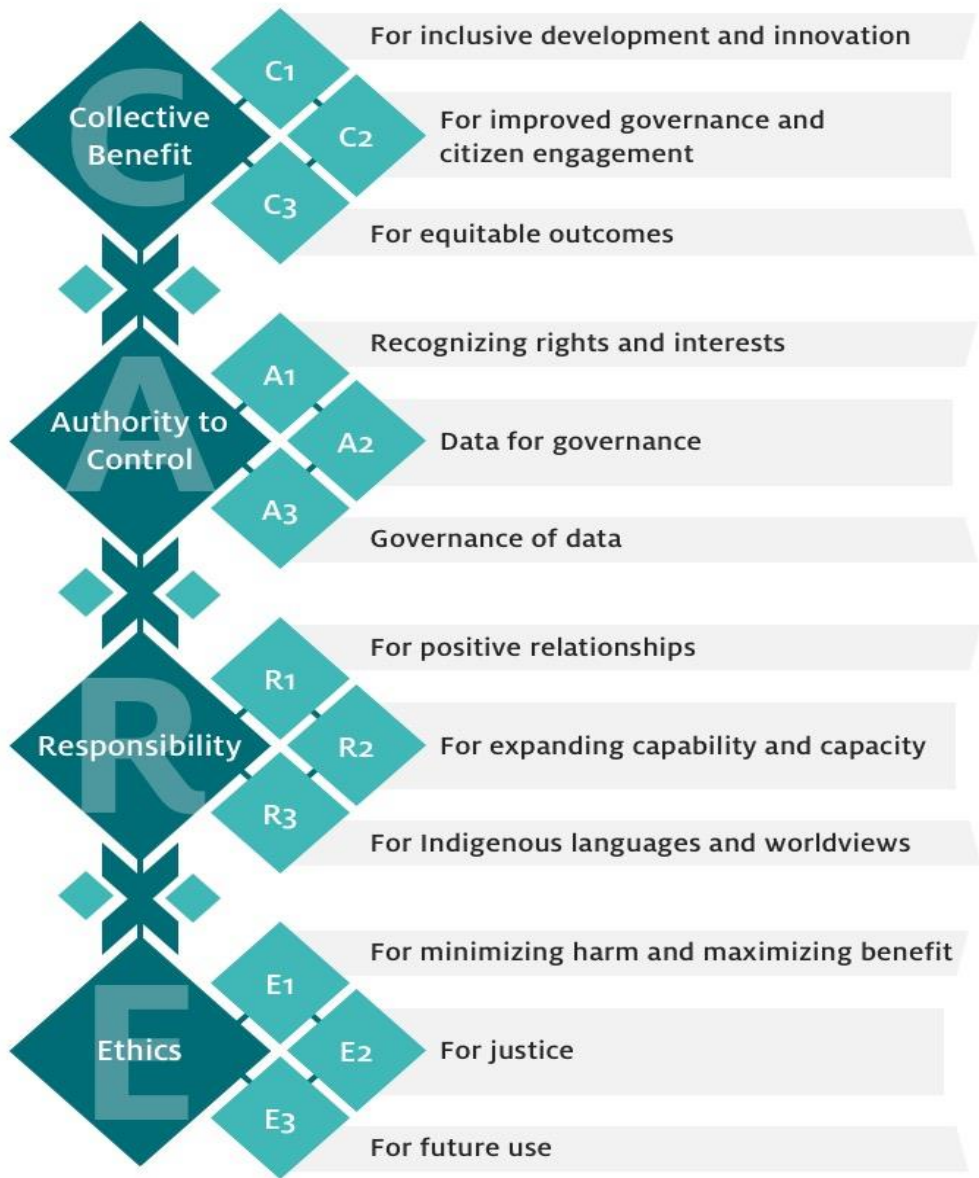
A COMMITMENT TO INDIGENOUS DATA SOVEREIGNTY SPANS THE GLOBE

NATION-STATE BASED, INDIGENOUS LED COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

- TE MANA RARAUNGA MAORI DATA SOVEREIGNTY NETWORK in Aotearoa/New Zealand temanararaunga.maori.nz
- UNITED STATES INDIGENOUS DATA SOVEREIGNTY NETWORK usindigenousdata.org
- MAIAM NAYRI WINGARA INDIGENOUS DATA SOVEREIGNTY COLLECTIVE in Australia miaimnayriwingara.org
- FIRST NATIONS INFORMATION GOVERNANCE CENTRE in Canada fnigc.ca

INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS OF NETWORKS

- GIDA Global Indigenous Data Alliance gida-global.org
- Research Data Alliance hosted INTERNATIONAL INDIGENOUS DATA SOVEREIGNTY INTEREST GROUP <https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/international-indigenous-data-sovereignty-ig>



Indigenous Frameworks

CARE Principles for Indigenous Data Governance



Carroll, SC, Garba, I, Figueroa-Rodríguez, OL, Holbrook, J, Lovett, R, Materechera, S, Parsons, M, Raseroka, K, Rodriguez-Lonebear, D, Rowe, R, Sara, R, Walker, JD, Anderson, J and Hudson, M. 2020. The CARE Principles for Indigenous Data Governance. Data Science Journal, 19: 43, pp. 1-12. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5334/dsj-2020-043>

Be

F A I R

Findable Accessible Interoperable Reusable

and

C A R E

**Collective
Benefit**

**Authority
to Control**

Responsibility

Ethics

In the Absence of FAIR & CARE: Data & information infrastructure challenges in an era of Open Data, Big Data, Open Science



Every Indigenous community has enormous collections of tangible and intangible cultural material, knowledge, and data, held in archives, museums, libraries, repositories, and other online databases.



Significant information about these collections, including individual and community names and proper provenance information, is missing.



Indigenous peoples and communities are largely not the legal rights holders.



Issues of responsibility & ownership, as well as the incomplete and significant mistakes in the metadata, continue into the digital lives of this material.



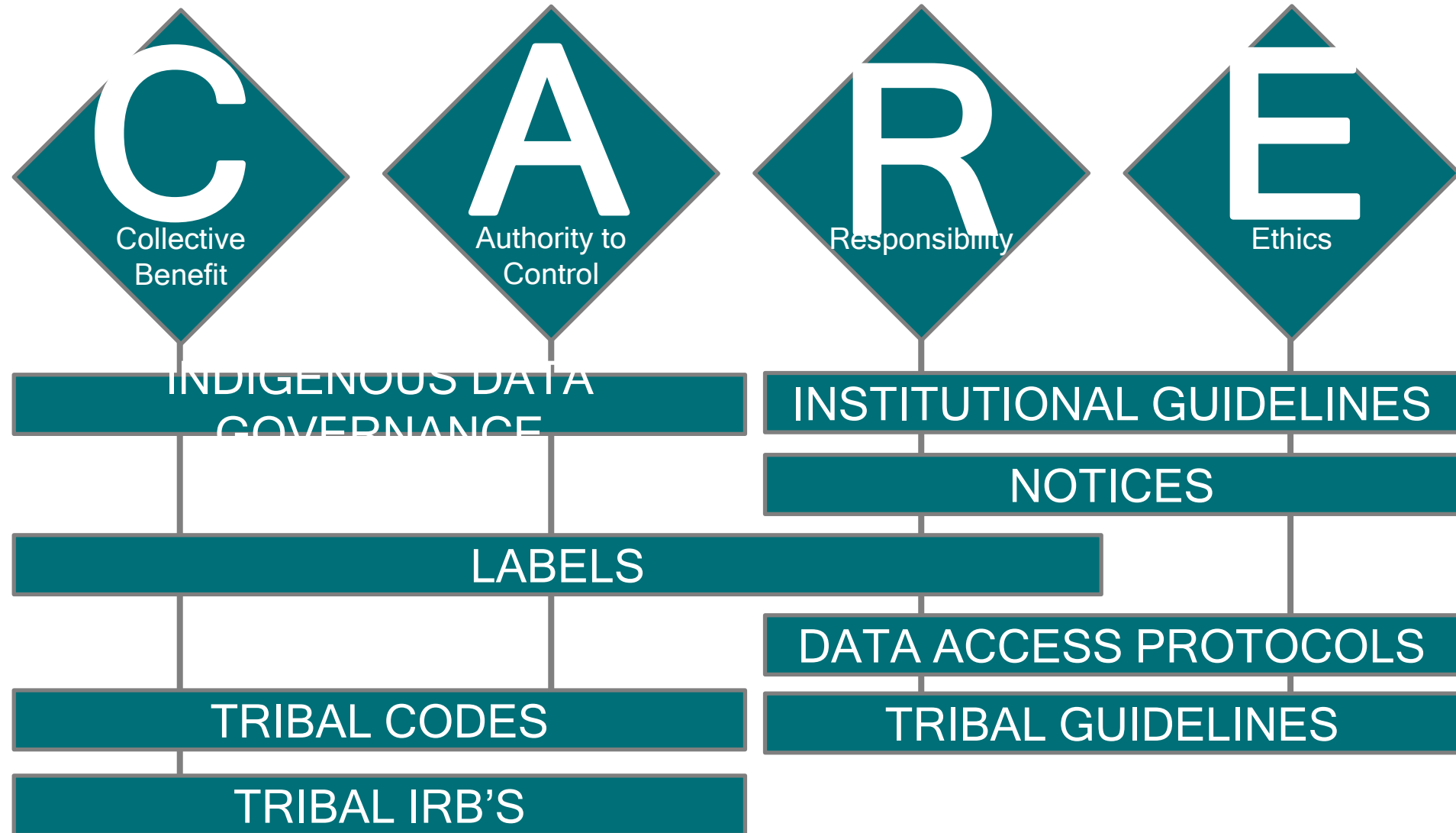
There are more researchers working and collecting data and samples from Indigenous communities than ever before.



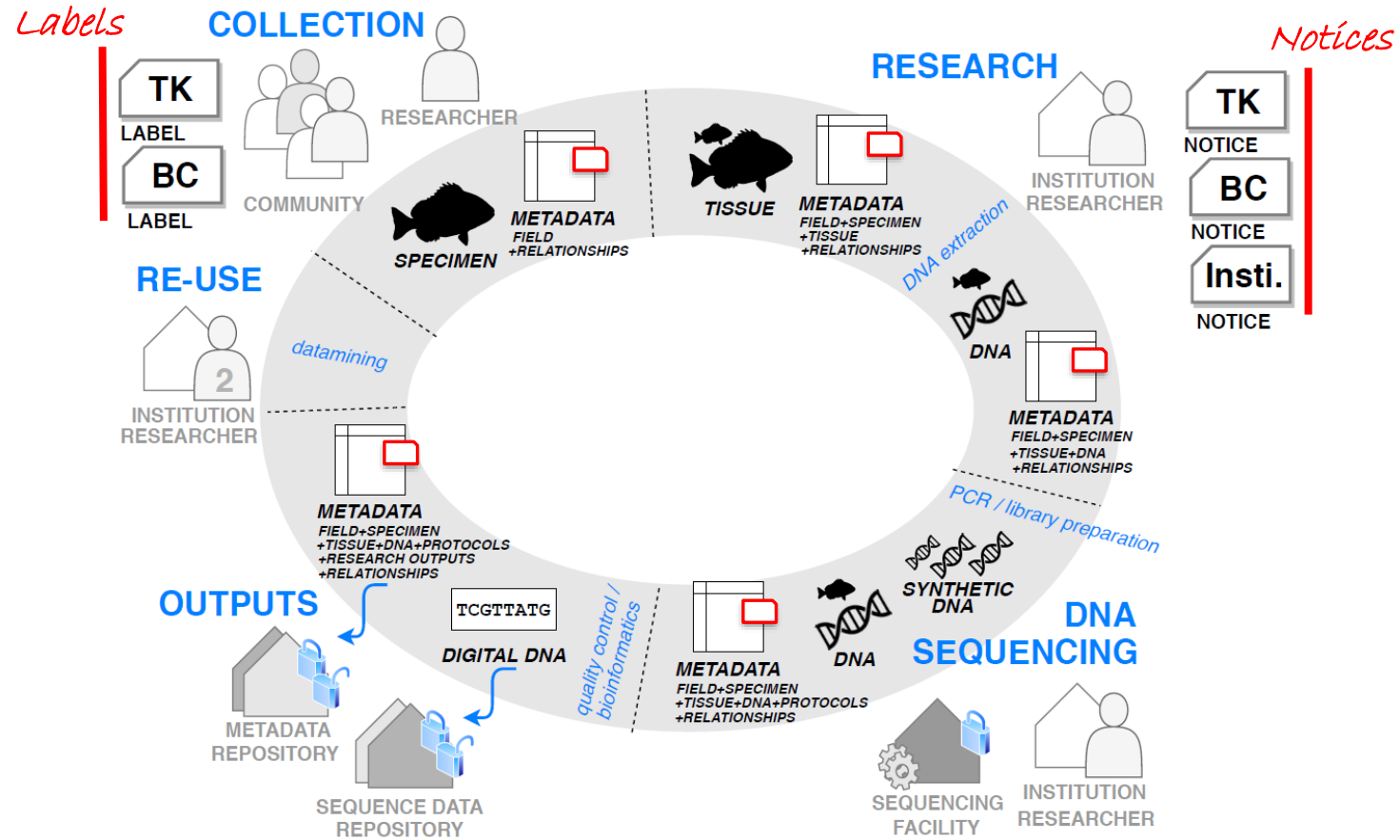
Where can Indigenous Data Governance be put into practice?

- **Law**, e.g., UNDRIP, US Common Rule, tribal regulations
- **Policy**, e.g., institutional guidelines
- **Ethics**, e.g., training, labels & notices
- **Infrastructures**, e.g., meta/data standards

Mechanisms can address multiple principles



THE DATA LIFE CYCLE



Empowering Indigenous Sovereignty and Data Governance

- Recognize and promote sovereignty.
- Dialogue with multiple ways of knowing.
- Lead with Indigenous ingenuity and core values.
- Conduct science in service to community and community-driven research that builds capacity within communities.
- Engage and promote Indigenous scholarship.
- Use and support existing tribal and Indigenous data governance protocols and procedures.
- Fund infrastructure, capacity, and capability.
- Be humble and be a good relative.



AGU Voices for Science 2019 AZ/CA Policy Cohort.