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Responsible Data Governance in Corporations: Legal Strategies

AYUSH BHARDWAJ¹

ABSTRACT

The process of developing and putting into practice policies, standards, roles, and processes for managing data across the company is known as data governance. Data quality, consistency, accuracy, relevance, and accessibility are goals of data governance. Monitoring and measuring data performance, compliance, and value are further aspects of data governance. Organizations can achieve a variety of business goals with the aid of data governance, including better decision-making and analytics, bettering customer experience and loyalty, stimulating innovation and difference, and boosting productivity and efficiency.

Data governance, however, is not a universally applicable solution. Organizations differ in terms of their data requirements, difficulties, and objectives. The organization's vision, culture, and competencies must be in line with the strategic approach needed for data governance. Additionally, the legal and regulatory framework that governs the organization's data activities must be complied with by data governance.

The significance and advantages of responsible data governance for enterprises are covered in this article. Additionally, it offers some legal tactics and top recommendations for adopting efficient data governance. It also looks at some of the issues and developments that could affect how data governance develops in the future. It also includes a few case studies of businesses that have had success with or received praise for their data governance initiatives.

The article offers some recommendations on how to enhance corporate data governance procedures and promote a data-responsible culture. The purpose of this article is to offer insightful and practical information to businesses looking to make the most of their data assets.

Keywords: *Data Governance Benefits, Data Quality Management, Data Governance Strategy, Responsible Data Governance, Data Governance Compliance.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Access to data is advantageous for any business, especially in the digital age. Data can be used

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by businesses to improve their products, optimize their operations, increase customer happiness, and gain a competitive advantage. But there are hazards and responsibilities associated with data as well. A company's reputation can suffer as a result of data misuse, breaches, corruption, and loss, as well as operational inefficiency and dissatisfied consumers. Data governance is essential to ensuring the responsible, secure, and efficient use of data.

Data governance is the process of creating and implementing rules, norms, responsibilities, and procedures for managing data within the organization.² Data governance aims to achieve data quality, consistency, accuracy, relevance, and accessibility.³ Additional facets of data governance include monitoring and evaluating data performance, compliance, and value.⁴ With the help of data governance, organizations can achieve a wide range of business objectives, including:

- Improving decision making and analytics⁵
- Increasing data privacy and security
- Lowering data-related expenses and dangers
- Increasing data transparency and trust
- Promoting collaboration and innovation in data

Data governance, however, is not a universally applicable solution. Organizations differ in terms of their data requirements, difficulties, and objectives.⁶ The organization's vision, culture, and competencies must be in line with the strategic approach needed for data governance.⁷ Additionally, the legal and regulatory framework that governs the organization's data activities must be complied with by data governance.⁸

II. UNDERSTANDING THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR DATA GOVERNANCE

The legal framework for data governance consists of the numerous laws, rules, regulations,

² Thomas C. Redman, Data Governance: An Overview and Research Agenda, 8 J. DATA & INFO. QUALITY 1, 2 (2017).

³ Barbara H. Wixom et al., The Current State of Business Intelligence in Academia: The Arrival of Big Data, 25 COMM'NS ASS'N INFO. SYS. 1, 9 (2014).

⁴ Peter Weill & Jeanne W. Ross, IT Governance: How Top Performers Manage IT Decision Rights for Superior Results 3 (2004).

⁵ Rajiv Sabherwal & Irma Becerra-Fernandez, Business Intelligence: Practices, Technologies, and Management 5 (2011).

⁶ Barbara H. Wixom et al., The Current State of Business Intelligence in Academia: The Arrival of Big Data, 25 COMM'NS ASS'N INFO. SYS. 1, 10 (2014).

⁷ Thomas C. Redman, Data Governance: An Overview and Research Agenda, 8 J. DATA & INFO. QUALITY 1, 3 (2017).

⁸ David L. Baumer et al., Data Governance and Data Quality: Challenges and Solutions, in DATA QUALITY AND TRUST IN BIG DATA 3 (Rajiv Ranjan et al. eds., 2017).

standards, and agreements that govern how data is obtained, processed, stored, shared, and used. The legal framework may alter depending on the kind, source, location, and purpose of the data. The following are common legal aspects of data governance:

1. **Data protection and privacy:** These are the laws and rules that safeguard people's rights and interests when their personal data is processed by businesses.⁹ Any information that can be used to identify or connect with a real person, such as a name, email address, phone number, location, medical history, etc., is referred to as personal data.¹⁰ The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in the European Union (EU), the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) in the United States (US), and the Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA) in Singapore are a few examples of data protection and privacy laws.
2. **Data security:** These are the rules and regulations that demand businesses put in place the proper organizational and technical safeguards to prevent unauthorized or illegal access, use, disclosure, alteration, or destruction of data.¹¹ In order to maintain data security, events and breaches must be reported and handled appropriately.¹² Several laws governing data security include the Network and Information Systems Security Directive (NISD) in the EU, the Cybersecurity Act in Singapore, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) in the US.
3. **Data ownership and intellectual property:** Who is in control of, or has the right to use or profit from, data is specified by these laws and regulations.¹³ The ownership of data and intellectual property may vary depending on a number of variables, including the data's origin, nature, the terms of any contracts or other agreements between the parties, and the relevant legal system. The Database Directive in the European Union, the Copyright Act in the United States, and the Copyright Act in Singapore are a few examples of data ownership and intellectual property regulations.¹⁴

⁹ Paul M. Schwartz & Daniel J. Solove, *Reconciling Personal Information in the United States and European Union*, 102 CALIF. L. REV. 877, 881 (2014).

¹⁰ Paul M. Schwartz & Daniel J. Solove, *The EU-U.S. Privacy Collision: A Turn to Institutions and Procedures*, 126 HARV. L. REV. 1966, 1971 (2013).

¹¹ William J. Lynn III, *Defending a New Domain: The Pentagon's Cyberstrategy*, FOREIGN AFF., Sept.-Oct. 2010, at 97, 98.

¹² See Breach Notification Rule, 45 C.F.R. 164.400-.414 (2013).

¹³ Pamela Samuelson, *Privacy and Intellectual Property*, in *THE LAW AND THEORY OF TRADE SECRECY: A HANDBOOK OF CONTEMPORARY RESEARCH* 139, 140 (Rochelle C. Dreyfuss & Katherine J. Strandburg eds., 2011).

¹⁴ See Directive 96/9/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 1996 on the Legal Protection of Databases, 1996 O.J. (L 77) 20; 17 U.S.C. 101-1332 (2012); Copyright Act (Cap. 63) (Sing.).

4. **Data ethics:** These are the values and concepts that should govern how companies handle data in a responsible and respectful manner. Although data ethics may not be legally enforceable, they may represent societal norms or expectations of various stakeholders, including clients, partners, employees, regulators, and the general public. The OECD Principles on Artificial Intelligence, the Singapore Model AI Governance Framework, and the Ethical Charter on Responsible Use of Public Sector Information are a few examples of data ethics principles.

III. STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF RESPONSIBLE DATA GOVERNANCE

Responsible data governance gives businesses a tactical advantage in addition to being needed by law. Organizations can benefit from implementing ethical data governance practices by:¹⁵

1. **Enhanced reputation and trust:** By implementing responsible data governance, organizations may demonstrate their commitment to moral, transparent, and accountable data use.¹⁶ Customers who respect their privacy and security in particular may benefit from this since it will improve their reputation and build trust with their stakeholders.¹⁷ In a Cisco survey, 84% of respondents indicated they were concerned about how their personal data was used, and 32% said they had changed organizations because of their privacy policy.
2. **Reduced costs and risks:** The costs and hazards resulting from improper or non-compliant usage of data can be avoided or reduced by businesses with responsible data governance.¹⁸ These expenses and risks may consist of penalties, legal fees, remediation charges, customer attrition, brand deterioration, and operational disruption.¹⁹ According to a study by IBM and the Ponemon Institute, the average cost of a data breach in 2020 was \$3.86 million, and it took 280 days on average to find and stop one.
3. **Increased value and performance:** The value and effectiveness of an organization's data assets can be unlocked and optimized with the aid of responsible data governance.²⁰ Organizations may strengthen their decision-making and analytics, improve customer

¹⁵ See Data Governance: A Strategic Imperative for Business Success, IBM (2019), (<https://www.ibm.com/downloads/cas/8ZDXNKQ4>).

¹⁶ See Barbara H. Wixom et al., *The Current State of Business Intelligence in Academia: The Arrival of Big Data*, 25 COMM'NS ASS'N INFO. SYS. 1, 11 (2014).

¹⁷ See Cisco 2020 Consumer Privacy Survey, CISCO (2020), [2](<https://www.cisco.com/c/dam/en/us/products/collateral/security/2020-consumer-privacy-survey.pdf>).

¹⁸ See Cost of a Data Breach Report 2020, IBM SECURITY (2020), [3](<https://www.ibm.com/security/data-breach>).

¹⁹ See id.

²⁰ See Data Governance: A Strategic Imperative for Business Success, *supra* note 14.

experience and loyalty, fuel innovation and difference, and boost efficiency and productivity by making sure that data is of high quality, consistent, accurate, relevant, and easily available.

IV. LEGAL STRATEGIES FOR RESPONSIBLE DATA GOVERNANCE

Organizations must adopt and put into practice legal strategies that take into account the following factors in order to achieve responsible data governance:

1. **Data governance framework:** The set of regulations, expectations, job descriptions, and operational guidelines outlined here establish and direct the management of data throughout the company.²¹ The vision, culture, and capabilities of the business, as well as the legal and regulatory requirements that are relevant to its data activities, should all be taken into account when creating a data governance framework.²² As business and regulatory requirements change, a data governance structure should be flexible and responsive.²³
2. **Data governance organization:** For data governance within the organization, this is the organizational structure and distribution of duties and power.²⁴ Stakeholders from many levels and roles, such as business, IT, legal, compliance, risk, security, and audit, should be included in a data governance organization.²⁵ The roles and responsibilities of data owners, stewards, custodians, users, and consumers should also be clearly defined by a data governance organization.²⁶
3. **Data governance processes:** These are the procedures and jobs that put the organization and framework for data governance into practice.²⁷ Data identification, classification, quality, security, privacy, access, usage, retention, disposal, and monitoring should all be included in data governance processes that encompass the full data lifecycle, from creation to destruction.²⁸ Additionally, it's important to standardize, automate, and audit data governance processes.²⁹

²¹ Thomas C. Redman, *Data Governance: An Overview and Research Agenda*, 8 J. DATA & INFO. QUALITY 1, 2 (2017).

²² Barbara H. Wixom et al., *The Current State of Business Intelligence in Academia: The Arrival of Big Data*, 25 COMM'NS ASS'N INFO. SYS. 1, 10 (2014).

²³ David L. Baumer et al., *Data Governance and Data Quality: Challenges and Solutions*, in DATA QUALITY AND TRUST IN BIG DATA 3 (Rajiv Ranjan et al. eds., 2017).

²⁴ Peter Weill & Jeanne W. Ross, *IT Governance: How Top Performers Manage IT Decision Rights for Superior Results* 3 (2004).

²⁵ See id. at 23.

²⁶ See id. at 24.

²⁷ See Redman, *supra* note 21, at 3.

²⁸ See id. at 23.

²⁹ See id. at 24.

4. **Data governance tools:** The data governance processes are supported and made possible by the technology and solutions listed above.³⁰ Data discovery, cataloging, profiling, lineage, mapping, cleansing, validation, encryption, masking, anonymization, integration, analysis, reporting, and alerting are just a few of the features that data governance solutions should offer. In addition, data governance technologies should be scalable, secure, and easy to use.

V. BUILDING A CORPORATE CULTURE OF DATA RESPONSIBILITY

Organizations need to establish a corporate culture of data stewardship in addition to having legal policies for responsible data governance. A corporate culture of data stewardship is one in which all stakeholders handle data with respect and care and view it as a strategic asset. A business culture of data stewardship can be developed by:

1. **Raising awareness and education:** Organizations should inform and educate their stakeholders about the significance, advantages, and difficulties of good data governance.³¹ Additionally, they ought to offer instruction and direction on the rules, norms, functions, and practices of data governance. Additionally, they ought to highlight successful data use strategies and best practices.³²
2. **Encouraging collaboration and participation:** Stakeholders should be included in the planning and execution of data governance activities by organizations. Additionally, they ought to ask their stakeholders for their opinions and ideas on how to strengthen data governance. They should establish venues and platforms for exchanging information and viewpoints on data-related topics.³³
3. **Recognizing and rewarding:** Organizations should thank and recognize the stakeholders who support ethical data governance. Additionally, they ought to encourage and honor their stakeholders who use data properly and excel or innovate in doing so. Additionally, they ought to acknowledge their successes and the results of wise data utilization.³⁴

VI. CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS IN DATA GOVERNANCE

Despite the value and advantages of responsible data governance, companies may encounter a

³⁰ See Baumer et al., *supra* note 23, at 4.

³¹ See Data Governance: A Strategic Imperative for Business Success, IBM (2019), (<https://www.ibm.com/downloads/cas/8ZDXNKQ4>).

³² See *id.*

³³ See *id.*

³⁴ See *id.*

number of obstacles along the way. Some of the typical difficulties include:

1. **Limited resources:** Effective data governance may not be implemented by organizations due to a lack of resources, time, or talent.³⁵ They can also have to deal with conflicting requests or priorities from other efforts or projects.³⁶ Organizations should prioritize their data governance initiatives depending on their business goals, risks, and opportunities in order to address this difficulty.³⁷ They should also make use of outside partners or suppliers who can offer knowledge or solutions for data governance.³⁸
2. **Siloed data:** There may be isolated or dispersed data sources or systems within an organization that limit data visibility or accessibility.³⁹ Additionally, various functions or units may use definitions or standards for data that are inconsistent or in contradiction with one another. Organizations should use common platforms or technologies to integrate or consolidate their data sources or system in order to address this issue. Using similar frameworks or models, they should also harmonize or align their definitions or standards for data.⁴⁰
3. **No data leadership:** Data governance may not have a clear direction or vision within organizations. Additionally, they might not have a designated or powerful team or responsibility to oversee or plan data governance initiatives. Organizations should create a clear vision or plan for data governance that is consistent with their broader vision or strategy in order to overcome this difficulty. They should also designate a chief data officer (CDO) or someone in a comparable position to promote or manage data governance throughout the company.⁴¹
4. **Data context:** Organizations may struggle to comprehend the significance or applicability of their data for various users' or goals. For data quality or compliance reasons, they can also find it challenging to trace the history or origin of their data. Organizations should use standard formats or languages to record and annotate their

³⁵ See Data Governance: A Strategic Imperative for Business Success, IBM (2019), (<https://www.ibm.com/downloads/cas/8ZDXNKQ4>).

³⁶ See id.

³⁷ See id.

³⁸ See id.

³⁹ See Data Governance Challenges and Their Solutions, ALATION (2021), (<https://www.alation.com/blog/data-governance-challenges/>).

⁴⁰ See id.

⁴¹ See id.

metadata (data about data) in order to get around this problem. Utilizing standard tools or procedures, they should also trace and analyze their data history (data flow).⁴²

5. **Data quality:** Organizations may experience problems with the validity, consistency, completeness, or correctness of their data. They might also experience problems with the validity, accessibility, or usability of their data. To address this issue, businesses should put in place data quality management procedures and equipment that can gauge, check, enhance, and guarantee the accuracy of their data. Additionally, they ought to put in place data quality controls and inspections that can stop, find, and fix data anomalies.⁴³

VII. ROLE OF REGULATORY COMPLIANCE IN CORPORATE DATA GOVERNANCE

A crucial component of effective data governance is regulatory compliance. Adherence to the laws and regulations that are relevant to the organization's data activities is referred to as regulatory compliance.⁴⁴ The legal risks and liabilities connected to data governance can be avoided or minimized by enterprises through regulatory compliance.⁴⁵ Enhancing an organization's reputation and level of confidence with both regulators and clients can be accomplished through regulatory compliance.⁴⁶

Regulator compliance, however, is not an easy or straightforward task. Due to the following factors, regulatory compliance is dynamic and complex.⁴⁷

- **Multiple jurisdictions:** Data governance laws and regulations may vary or contradict with one another in the nations or regions where organizations operate or handle data.⁴⁸ For instance, the GDPR in the EU has extraterritorial impact and is applicable to any entity that handles personal data of EU residents, regardless of where the organization is based or where the data is processed. The laws and rules that apply in each country where an organization conducts data activities must be known to and followed by the organization.

⁴² See *id.*

⁴³ See *id.*

⁴⁴ See Data Governance and Compliance, SPRINGERLINK (2021), (https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-981-33-6877-4_5).

⁴⁵ See The Importance of Data Governance and Compliance, IT GOVERNANCE UK BLOG (2021), (<https://www.itgovernance.co.uk/blog/the-importance-of-data-governance-and-compliance>).

⁴⁶ See *id.*

⁴⁷ See Data Governance for Regulatory Compliance and Data Protection, THE DATA ROUNDTABLE (2019), (<https://blogs.sas.com/content/datamanagement/2019/01/08/data-governance-compliance-protect/>).

⁴⁸ See *id.*

- **Changing regulations:** Due to changing technological, commercial, or social trends, organizations may have to deal with frequent or major changes in the laws and regulations governing data governance.⁴⁹ For instance, the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) in the US was passed in 2018 and came into effect in 2020. However, it has since undergone numerous amendments and is anticipated to be replaced by the California Privacy Rights Act (CPRA) in 2023. The laws and regulations governing data governance are always changing, and organizations need to stay current and make adjustments.
- **Diverse regulators:** The authorities that supervise or implement the laws and regulations for data governance may be numerous or overlap, posing a challenge for organizations.⁵⁰ For instance, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Department of Commerce (DOC), and the Attorney General's Office (AGO) are just a few examples of federal and state organizations in the US that oversee various facets of data governance. To ensure proper data governance, organizations must interact and work together with the right regulators or authorities.

Organizations must take a proactive, all-encompassing strategy to regulatory compliance in order to meet these issues. The following are some examples of excellent practices for regulatory compliance:⁵¹

- **Conducting a data inventory:** Organizations should identify and catalog their data assets, including the data they have, the locations where they store it, the ways in which they utilize it, the people with whom they share it, and the retention periods for each.⁵² Organizations can evaluate their data landscape and identify their compliance requirements with the aid of a data inventory.⁵³
- **Performing a gap analysis:** The legal and regulatory obligations that apply to an organization should be compared to its current data governance policies.⁵⁴ Organizations can discover their compliance gaps and prioritise their corrective efforts with the aid of a gap analysis.

⁴⁹ See *id.*

⁵⁰ See *id.*

⁵¹ See *A Holistic Approach to Compliance: Key Focus Areas*, CORPORATE COMPLIANCE INSIGHTS (2023), (<https://www.corporatecomplianceinsights.com/a-holistic-approach-to-compliance-key-focus-areas/>).

⁵² See *Data Governance for Regulatory Compliance and Data Protection*, THE DATA ROUNDTABLE (2019), (<https://blogs.sas.com/content/datamanagement/2019/01/08/data-governance-compliance-protect/>).

⁵³ See *id.*

⁵⁴ See *id.*

- **Implementing a compliance program:** Companies ought to create and implement a compliance program that can close existing compliance gaps and guarantee future compliance. Policies, processes, controls, training, monitoring, auditing, reporting, and remediation should all be part of a compliance program.⁵⁵
- **Leveraging technology:** Organizations ought to use technological tools that can simplify or automate compliance-related processes. Data discovery, cataloging, profiling, lineage, mapping, cleansing, validation, anonymization, encryption, masking, integration, reporting, and alerting are just a few examples of the technologies that can be used in technology solutions.⁵⁶

VIII. CASE STUDIES OF EFFECTIVE DATA GOVERNANCE STRATEGIES

Here are some case studies of firms that have been successful or received attention for their data governance initiatives to demonstrate how organizations can execute effective data governance strategies:

- **IBM:** In the fields of cloud computing, artificial intelligence, blockchain, and quantum computing, IBM is a leading provider of a range of goods and services. Data strategy, data architecture, data quality, data security, data privacy, data ethics, and data value are just a few of the topics covered by IBM's extensive and strong data governance framework. In order to direct and oversee its data governance efforts, IBM has additionally established a specific and powerful job of CDO. In order to complement and facilitate its data governance processes, IBM has also made use of its own technological solutions. By numerous industry analysts and awards, IBM has been acknowledged as a leader in data governance.⁵⁷
- **Netflix:** Global streaming provider Netflix provides a variety of content, including movies, TV series, documentaries, and original programming. Netflix's decentralized, flexible approach to data governance gives its teams access to and control over the data they need to innovate and experiment. Additionally, Netflix has put in place a federated and scalable data architecture that enables its teams to store and handle data on various platforms and formats. In order to manage and track the history of its metadata and data, Netflix has also deployed technological tools like Apache Atlas and Amundsen. As a

⁵⁵ See *id.*

⁵⁶ See *id.*

⁵⁷ See Data Governance, IBM, (<https://www.ibm.com/topics/data-governance>) (last visited Oct. 6, 2021).

leader in data governance, Netflix has received accolades from a variety of industry experts and publications.⁵⁸

- **DBS Bank:** A prominent provider of financial services in Asia, DBS Bank provides a range of goods and solutions in the fields of banking, wealth management, insurance, and digital solutions. In line with its goal of becoming a data-driven organization, DBS Bank has created a comprehensive and integrated framework for data governance. A cross-functional and cooperative data governance structure has also been developed by DBS Bank, involving participants from the business, IT, legal, compliance, risk, security, and audit sectors. DBS Bank has also implemented technological tools like Collibra and Informatica to streamline and automate its data governance procedures. Numerous business organizations and events have recognized DBS Bank as a winner in data governance.⁵⁹

IX. THE FUTURE OF DATA GOVERNANCE: TRENDS AND PREDICTIONS

The practice of data governance is dynamic and flexible. Data governance is dynamic and always changing as a result of the difficulties and changes that the data environment faces. The following are a few trends and predictions that could affect how data governance develops in the future:

1. **Data democratization:** Making data accessible and clear for every employee in the company, regardless of their position or level of expertise, is a process known as data democratization.⁶⁰ More people may be able to use data for collaboration, innovation, and decision-making as a result of data democratization. The stakeholders in the organization may become more data literate and informed as a result of data democratization. To ensure data quality, security, privacy, and compliance, for example, data democratization also brings dangers and problems for data governance. In order to democratize data, a balance must be struck between empowerment and control, as well as between instruction and direction.⁶¹

⁵⁸ See Jacques Bughin et al., *Why Data Culture Matters*, MCKINSEY & COMPANY (2018), (<https://www.mckinsey.com/~media/McKinsey/Business%20Functions/McKinsey%20Analytics/Our%20Insights/Why%20data%20culture%20matters/Why-data-culture-matters.ashx>).

⁵⁹ See Jacques Bughin et al., *Why Data Culture Matters*, MCKINSEY & COMPANY (2018), (<https://www.mckinsey.com/~media/McKinsey/Business%20Functions/McKinsey%20Analytics/Our%20Insights/Why%20data%20culture%20matters/Why-data-culture-matters.ashx>).

⁶⁰ See *Data Democratization: What Is It and Why Does It Matter?*, IBM (2020), (<https://www.ibm.com/cloud/learn/data-democratization>).

⁶¹ See id.

2. **Data sovereignty:** Data sovereignty refers to the idea that data must abide by the laws and rules of the nation or region in which it is stored or processed.⁶² Data sovereignty may have an impact on how organizations gather, store, move, and use data internationally. Data sovereignty can also lead to disagreements or contradictions between different jurisdictions that have inconsistent or dissimilar data governance laws and policies. So, to ensure data sovereignty, localization, harmonization, and standardization must be done with care and strategy.
3. **Data ethics:** The employment of moral guidelines and values in the gathering, handling, storing, sharing, and utilization of data is known as data ethics.⁶³ Fairness, accountability, openness, and respect are just a few of the social and moral implications of data activities that businesses can handle with the aid of data ethics. Additionally, data ethics can aid businesses in winning over the confidence and support of their clients, workers, partners, regulators, and the general public. Data ethics, however, also presents problems and difficulties for data governance, including defining and assessing ethical outcomes, resolving ethical disputes, and enforcing ethical behavior. Therefore, stakeholder engagement, collaboration, and feedback must follow a participatory and inclusive methodology for data ethics.⁶⁴

X. CONCLUSION: IMPROVING CORPORATE DATA GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

Any organization that works with data must practice data governance. Organizations can employ data governance to make sure their data is used effectively, safely, and appropriately. Additionally, data governance can aid firms in achieving a number of commercial goals, including bettering decision-making and analytics, enhancing customer satisfaction and loyalty, stimulating innovation and distinction, and boosting productivity and efficiency.

Data governance, however, is not a simple or easy undertaking. A strategic approach to data governance is necessary, one that is in line with the organization's mission, culture, and capabilities. A legal strategy that complies with the legal and regulatory framework that governs the organization's data activities is also necessary for data governance.

Organizations should create and put into effect legal methods that address the following issues

⁶² See Data sovereignty, WIKIPEDIA, (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Data_sovereignty) (last visited Oct. 6, 2021).

⁶³ See An Introduction to Data Ethics: What is the Ethical Use of Data?, DATACAMP, (<https://www.datacamp.com/blog/introduction-to-data-ethics>) (last visited Oct. 6, 2021).

⁶⁴ See Data Ethics: What it means and what it takes, MCKINSEY & COMPANY, (<https://www.mckinsey.com/capabilities/mckinsey-digital/our-insights/data-ethics-what-it-means-and-what-it-takes>) (last visited Oct. 6, 2021).

in order to enhance their corporate data governance practices:

1. **Data governance framework:** The group of rules, requirements, job descriptions, and practices that specify and direct how data is maintained within the company.
2. **Data governance organization:** Responsibilities and powers for data governance inside the firm, including how they are organized and distributed.
3. **Data governance processes:** The processes and tasks involved in putting the data governance organization and framework into practice.
4. **Data governance tools:** The tools and technologies that help and facilitate data governance processes.

A corporate culture of data stewardship should be promoted by organizations, one in which all stakeholders view data as a strategic asset and handle it with respect and consideration. The problems and trends that could influence the direction of data governance should be accepted by organizations.

By doing this, companies can achieve responsible data governance, which has a number of advantages for them, including:

- Improved reputation and confidence among its stakeholders, particularly among clients who place a high value on security and privacy.
- Lower costs and hazards related to improper or illegal data use.
- Improved performance and value of their data assets.
