

Paris 21 - Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century

5.7 Technical cooperation and capacity building programmes (Paris21)

Purpose

PARIS21 is a partnership of national, regional and international statisticians, policy makers, analysts, development professionals and other users and producers of statistics, including civil society. It was established as a global forum and network to promote, influence and facilitate statistical capacity building activities and the better use of statistics. PARIS21 acts as a catalyst, building on existing work and processes. The main activity of the PARIS21 work programme is the promotion of national strategies for the development of statistics.

Objectives and outputs

PARIS21 Consortium activities focus on assisting all low-income countries in the design and implementation of National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS). PARIS21 carries out this work through advocacy, methodology development, partnership, and regional programmes. Advocacy activities have included the creation of videos featuring high-profile policymakers and development professionals discussing the importance of statistics in poverty reduction decision making processes. PARIS21's methodological work includes the development of documentation and guidance intended to assist countries in the design and implementation of their NSDSs. Partnership activities include gathering information on technical and financial partner support to statistics as an initial input to donor collaboration. PARIS21's regional programmes include the organisation of regional workshops to take forward the NSDS design and implementation processes. The workshops and follow-on national programmes assist countries to plan strategically for the overall development of the countries' entire statistical system and to address immediate and longer-term information needs for setting and monitoring policy in the context of poverty reduction strategies.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Dem. Rep. of Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, East Timor, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Moldova, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Sudan, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Tonga, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Main Developments for 2010

General aspects:

In 2010, in collaboration with bilateral, regional, and international partners, PARIS21 will conduct the next round of its "Partner Report on Support to Statistics (PRESS)." The aim of the exercise will be to report on donor activities in support of statistical development, with an ultimate objective of facilitating donor collaboration.

Statistical Capacity Building

Ongoing work:

- The PARIS21 work programme for 2010 will primarily involve activities at the national level. The activities related to country support will focus on the facilitation of NSDS implementation. While regional workshops will still be organised to allow countries to share information and benefit from other countries' experiences in statistical development, PARIS21 will engage with a selection of countries to intensify country-level activities. These would include advocacy, resource mobilisation, partnership activities, and developing and facilitating donor coordination.

Priority objectives:

- The main aim of the PARIS21 partnership is to support implementation of well-designed and well-coordinated national and international statistical programmes, which have adequate funding and are centred on implementing NSDSs which both build statistical capacity and provide data for immediate priority needs. To carry this work forward, PARIS21 will produce methodological guidance on strategic planning, help track countries' progress with their NSDSs, find solutions to the obstacles that countries may have encountered, and facilitate advanced countries sharing their experiences on follow-up and strategic plan development with countries aiming at taking similar steps. PARIS21 also co-implements two "satellite programs" — the International Household Survey Network (IHSN) and the Accelerated Data Program (ADP). The IHSN's objective is to bring survey producers, sponsors, and users together to improve the use of survey data for policy making and monitoring. The ADP is a pilot program intended to assist selected countries to undertake urgent improvements to produce consistent results for monitoring progress and measuring change in key development indicators, including the MDGs.

New activities:

- In 2010, PARIS21 will define and launch a programme of support tailored to the needs of fragile and post-conflict states. PARIS21 will convene two task teams in 2010: to enrich the NSDS guidelines with lessons learnt from the previous five years and (ii) to determine how to measure the use of evidence in decision-making. PARIS21 will also monitor the implementation of the Dakar Declaration on the Development of Statistics, which outlines a five-point call to action for the Partnership on issues relating to: strategy implementation, mobilisation of technical and financial resources for statistics, co-ordination of donor support to statistics, meeting the needs of data users, and development of statistical tools and methodologies.
