



## **Documents Supporting National Strategies for the Development of Statistics**

**This paper updates the Steering Committee on progress in identifying and developing NSDS documentation needs. The Steering Committee is invited to agree on the set of documents envisaged (paragraphs 4–6), to contribute to them and to agree on the process to produce and adopt them (paragraphs 7–12).**

### ***Background***

1. The last Steering Committee meeting agreed that PARIS21 should concentrate its efforts in 2004–2006 on encouraging all low-income countries to establish a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) by 2006. It was noted that PARIS21 must have a long-term approach while recognising the immediate needs for data and that this process must be incremental with clear action plans. There was a consensus that the language around NSDSs should be standardised and that the international community has an interest in supporting the design and implementation of NSDSs.
2. The work of the “Strategic Statistical Development Plans” Task Team has been mainstreamed into the PARIS21 Secretariat’s work, and it was agreed that NSDS guidelines, including implementation guidelines, will be drafted and training of national statistical representatives organised at regional events.
3. The Second Roundtable on Managing for Development results in February 2004 and the resulting Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics put the emphasis on NSDSs to provide a strategic framework for developing relevant poverty-focused statistical development programmes. A target was adopted for all low-income countries (who want them) to have NSDSs by 2006.

### ***NSDS documents***

4. A set of documents and materials, targeting different audiences and purposes, is needed to support NSDS processes, comprising both methodological and advocacy materials. These are set out with their attributes in the following table.

**Methodological and Advocacy Materials to Support NSDSs**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Languages</b>
<b>NSDS methodological material</b>				
NSDS Key Principles	All	Summary of key principles	Leaflet	E, F, S, A, P
Guidelines on Designing NSDS	NSDS Team	Basic advice on designing NSDS	Printed and electronic	E, F, S, A, P
“How to” Notes	NSDS Team	More detailed advice and good practices	CDROM	E, F, S, A, P
PARIS21 Knowledge Base	NSS and policy makers	Building knowledge and sharing information	Web site, CDROM	Depending on the documents

Title	Audience	Purpose	Type	Languages
<b>Advocacy material</b>				
NSDS advocacy paper	Developing countries governments	To convince national governments that it is worth investing more in statistics and of the value of designing and implementing an NSDS	Printed and electronic	E, F, S, A, P
DAC reference/ advocacy paper for donors	International development community	To explain NSDSs to donors and persuade them of the value of contributing to funding the design and aligning their future support for statistics with NSDSs	Printed and electronic	E, F, S, A, P
NSDS Newsletter	Development policy makers, and NSS	Sharing information	Printed and electronic	E and articles in F, S, A, P
Other material including video	General advocacy	Advocacy	Video	E

*E: English F: French; S: Spanish; A: Arabic; P: Portuguese.*

5. On **methodology**, the logic is that the **NSDS Key principles** will summarise the more detailed materials, drawing out the main messages to inform the NSDS design process and serve as an agreed set of criteria against which the quality of NSDSs and their processes can be judged. The **Guidelines on designing NSDSs** will cover a broad range of issues to explain the rationale and what an NSDS is; and set out the principles of strategic planning, assessment, consultation, costing, funding, and implementation. The language around NSDSs / Statistical Master Plans / GDDS / MISPs, etc. and what they are will be clarified and key principles elaborated briefly. But the guidelines will necessarily be broad yet sufficiently detailed to satisfy the needs of an NSDS design team dealing with some of these concepts for the first time. The Guidelines will therefore be under-pinned by more detailed, supporting **‘How to’ notes**, perhaps 100 key documents on carrying out the processes (e.g., how to carry out a SWOT analysis, a stakeholder analysis, a user needs assessment, Human Resource strategy, assess data quality). Most of this material exists already but where there are gaps new guidelines will be commissioned. The ‘How to’ notes in turn will facilitate access to and be a tailored part of the extensive **PARIS21 Knowledge Base**.

6. The **advocacy materials** will need to be short, focused, and convincing to encourage broader recognition by national and international policy makers and financiers of the role of statistics in development and poverty reduction and of the necessity of strategic planning. National governments and donors will provide more funding for statistics only if they are convinced that poverty reduction and development generally (and/or aid effectiveness) is constrained by inadequate statistics. This needs to be demonstrated. Separate papers for developing country governments and donors will allow the messages to be more focused and potentially have more impact. These will be complemented by an **NSDS Newsletter** and **other advocacy materials**, possibly including a video.

### ***Process for developing and endorsing documents***

7. The Steering Committee is invited to contribute to these documents and to agree on the processes proposed in the table below for producing, reviewing, and adopting them.

Title	Producer	Review and endorsement process	Final approval date	Person in charge (PARIS21 Secretariat)
<b>NSDS methodological material</b>				
NSDS Key Principles	P21 Sec.	P21 SC	November 2004	TW
Guidelines on Designing NSDS	P21 Sec.	P21 SC, UNSC, and Regional UN Commissions	P21 SC: Nov. 2004 UNSC: Nov. 2004/March 2005 Reg. Com.: depending on dates	GC/EB
“How to” Notes	P21 sec. with P21 partners institutions	International reviewers	Continuing process	GC/SB/All
PARIS21 Knowledge Base	P21 sec. with P21 partners institutions	Not applicable	Continuing process	GC/SB/All
<b>Advocacy material</b>				
NSDS advocacy paper	P21 Sec.	P21 SC	November 2004	TW
DAC reference/ advocacy paper for donors	P21 Sec.	P21 SC	November 2004	TW
NSDS Newsletter	P21 Sec. with countries and P21 partners	Not applicable	Draft 0 for June SC (room document)	EB
Other material including video	P21 Sec.	P21 SC	To be determined	---

8. First drafts of the **Key principles** and the **Guidelines on designing NSDSs** will be available as room documents at the Steering Committee meeting. They represent the work in progress by the PARIS21 Secretariat. The **Guidelines** draw heavily on the work of the Task Team on “Strategic Statistical Development Plans” and on the advice of Prof Ben Kiregyera, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Uganda Bureau of Statistics and an experienced international consultant to a number of African countries producing NSDSs. Advice was also received from Graham Eele (World Bank), Jean-Francois Divay (INSEE/Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France), Xavier Charoy (consultant), and Brian Hammond of OECD/DCD. The following review process is proposed for the **Guidelines**:

- Circulation for review by Steering Committee members (mid-June, comments by mid-July); second draft circulated and comments incorporated (by mid-August)
- Review by regional groups, e.g. FASDEV, regional UN commissions and groups at their next meetings
- Submitted in November 2004 for review by UN Statistical Commission (March 2005)

9. It is recommended that following endorsement the Guidelines and Key principles should be posted on UN, World Bank, PARIS21, etc. websites and circulated to all NSDS teams. Drafts should be made available to NSDS teams as soon as possible, after approval in principle by the Steering Committee, regional bodies, and UN Statistical Commission.

10. The more detailed **‘How to’ notes** will be collated and new work commissioned by the PARIS21 Secretariat. New work will be submitted for scrutiny by international reviewers. The ‘How to’ notes will be part of the **PARIS21 Knowledge base**, which the Secretariat will continue to develop.

11. A background paper will be commissioned to support production of the NSDS **advocacy materials**, linked closely to the strategy for strengthening donor support for statistics. The two **papers for national governments and donors** will then be drafted by the PARIS21 Secretariat for review by the Steering Committee at its meeting in



November 2004. After endorsement by the Steering Committee, the papers would be fed into the most relevant events and processes. A zero draft of the **Newsletter**, collating existing information, will be provided as a room document at the June 2004 Steering Committee meeting. The **other materials** will follow to target needs that are identified and opportunities that arise.

12. The **Key principles for NSDSs** leaflet will be developed to reflect the evolution of these other documents and be put to the Steering Committee for endorsement at its meeting in November 2004.