On 3 April 2019, PARIS21 held its Annual Board Meeting in Paris, France, bringing together representatives from 30 countries, 17 international and regional institutions and 7 civil society organisations/foundations/private sector. All documents and presentations are available for download on the PARIS21 website. Results from the satisfaction survey are available in the Annex.

Contents

1) Board Meeting Minutes [Final]

2) Annex: Satisfaction Survey Results
1. Board Meeting Minutes [Final]

Chair: Ms Lisa Bersales, Philippines Statistical Authority.

I. Welcome Statement

The Chair asked the Board members to approve the agenda.

**Decision:** The agenda was unanimously adopted

II. PARIS21 in 2018: select highlights

Welcome to new members and report on Executive Committee meetings

The Chair welcomed the participants and introduced two proposals for the board

**Proposal 1:** The Chair asked the Board to approve the two new Executive Committee members—Jordan and Switzerland.

**Decision:** The two new Executive Committee members (Jordan and Switzerland) were unanimously approved

**Proposal 2:** Lisa Bersales will step down as PARIS21 Chair and nominated Ms Ayush Ariunzaya from the National Statistics Office of Mongolia (NSO) to take over as PARIS21 Chair, effective after the 2019 Board Meeting.

**Decision:** Ms Ayush Ariunzaya was unanimously approved to become new PARIS21 Chair.


The PARIS21 Secretariat presented the 2018 Progress Report along the 4 pillars of the approved Strategy (Knowledge-Sharing and Innovation Incubator, Advocacy, Co-ordination & Monitoring and Technical Support). Highlights of PARIS21’s work in 2018 include:

- 29 countries were directly engaged in 2018
- 63 countries were reached through national and regional activities
- 12 small island developing states (SIDS) and 8 fragile states were involved in PARS21 activities

The following activities were highlighted under the four pillars of the PARIS21 strategy:

- Knowledge-Sharing and Innovation Incubator
  - Developed human resources strategies for NSOs in Philippines and Senegal to assist in attracting talent and retaining staff
  - Adapted NSDS guidelines to small island developing states
  - Piloted a capacity building scheme on “New data sources and analytics for policy data needs” in Nepal, focusing on mobile and geospatial data and their contribution to NDP/SDGs data needs.
  - Released the NSS Assessment Guide
Advocacy
- Drafted a chapter on “Data and diagnostics to leave no one behind” in the OECD Development Co-operation Report 2018: Joining Forces to Leave no One Behind.
- Played a leading role in the second UN World Data Forum, with five sessions organised or co-organised by PARIS21.
- Support to regional statistical advocacy initiatives – CARICOM RSDS, SIDS Round Table Inception Meeting.
- Signed MoUs with the World Data Lab and the Royal Statistical Society to widen co-operation with new stakeholders
- Active in High Level groups (UNECE, Praia, SDMX, CCSA, IAEG-SDGs) and issue partner of HLG-PCCB for the 2030 Agenda

Co-ordination & Monitoring
- Developed the Statistical Capacity Monitor, and mapped available capacity assessments to CD4.0
- Launched gender module in the Partner Report on Support to Statistics (PRESS)
- NSDS support in 16 countries

Technical Support
- Implemented effective rollout of the Advanced Data Planning Tool (ADAPT), leveraging webinars, distance learning and global/regional partners. Support provided to 10 countries and refined the SDG readiness methodology to align to UNSD
- Developed the Data Flow Assessment Framework (DFAF) to help countries improve their digital dissemination environment
- Assisted Grenada in change management at the NSO as part of its establishment as an independent authority
- NSDS regional training courses in Africa and Asia-Pacific

The PARIS21 Secretariat also presented the following results in communication activities:
- 39% increase in website visits between 2017 and 2018 due to the implementation of the new website and increase in social media activity
- Six SoundCloud interviews with National Statistical Offices and other data actors for the Data Talk podcast
- Three discussion papers on measuring statistical capacity development, financing of national statistics and emerging labour market data sources
- Two newsletters (one spring and one fall bulletin) reaching 4 000 recipients

Insights from the field (2018)
The Secretariat and members from the Board presented five stories about work done with countries in 2018. The aim of the presentations was to highlight the various activities and the impact they had on countries and partners. The following five activities were presented:
Discussion
Before opening the floor to discussion, the Chair congratulated the small PARIS21 Secretariat team for the excellent work implemented.

Participants thanked PARIS21 for their work and engagement at the national and regional levels. In particular, Suriname, World Bank, The Pacific Community, FAO and UNSD expressed great appreciation for the relevance and agility of the support provided in 2018. The participants focused their comments on the importance of contextualising and adapting the NSDS, appreciation of ADAPT and the importance of developing IT strategies.

Suriname highlighted the importance of having the Prime Minister of Grenada as a statistics champion in the CARICOM region. The Pacific Community presented their gratitude for the focus on SIDS, and also pointed to the usefulness of simplified and tailored guidelines for developing NSDSs in SIDS. FAO chose to acknowledge the work of PARIS21 and the development of new innovative tools in the NSS process. South Africa brought to discussion the possibility of extending the work on IT strategies to other African countries with the support of PARIS21, and showed appreciation for the important work by Cabo Verde on the Praia City Group on Governance Statistics.

III. PARIS21 in 2019: planned activities

Programme of Work and Budget (2019)
The PARIS21 Secretariat presented the proposed work programme for 2019. This was followed by an update on the current financial situation, which explained how the Secretariat’s fundraising efforts had secured 85% of the 2019 funding. Norway generously offered to fill a funding gap of 210,000 euros as a contribution for the 2019 budget.

Next, the PARIS21 Secretariat presented e-PRESS, an accompanying planning tool to PRESS for tracking support to statistics with the most recent information on partners’ commitments.

DFID UK, the current Chair of the NSDS Guidelines Expert Reference Group, presented the newly incorporated updates into the NSDS and summarised the decisions taken during the last NSDS Guidelines Expert Reference Group meeting.

The PARIS21 Secretariat introduced three new initiatives for 2019:

- Improving costing of statistical activities
- Data Journalist Initiative
- PARIS21 Foundation (The Secretariat chose to inform the Board that this initiative is under development, and that it will presented in a more advanced state of play.)

The Secretariat encouraged all members to provide any comments via written procedure.
Discussion
The Board commended the Secretariat for its 2019 Programme of Work and Budget, which continues to support developing countries, particularly fragile states and small island developing states (SIDS). The e-PRESS, the costing exercise and the Data Journalism Initiative were all well received by the meeting. Some members also proposed to contribute to the NSDS Guidelines Reference Group, to provide supplements to e-PRESS and to share papers related to the Costing exercise.

Board members also highlighted the following key items for the Secretariat to consider and the Secretariat provided initial reflections on the points raised:

- Call from several members such as The Pacific Community, Suriname, South Africa and World Bank to set more priorities when planning activities, in particular in light of the financial history; some members also suggested to drop certain activities in order to take on new ones and not overstretch capacities and resources
  → The Secretariat replied that there is a prioritisation system in place, which is monitored on a monthly basis based on the funding of the activities, and that the prioritisation is done based on parameters of urgency. The Secretariat will be following up on the suggestion of dropping activities and will revert to the Executive Committee at an appropriate moment.
- Several participants showed strong support and interest in the costing exercise, in particular emphasising the use of unit costs.

**Decision:** The Board approved the Programme of Work and Budget 2019

IV. Launch: PARIS21 Statistical Capacity Development Outlook and Statistical Capacity Monitor

PARIS21 presented the PARIS21 [Statistical Capacity Development Outlook](#) and Statistical Capacity Monitor, which have been developed under three specific objectives:

- To support countries in their efforts to improve statistical capacity
- To provide performance information on capacity building
- To improve statistical capacity development approaches

The PARIS21 Secretariat also presented the Statistical Capacity Monitor website ([www.statisticalcapacitymonitor.org](http://www.statisticalcapacitymonitor.org)) to the Board.

The newly developed tools were greatly appreciated by the participants. The Monitor’s user-friendliness and anchor to the SDGs were emphasised as very welcomed features. The discussions evolved around avoiding the ranking fallacy and the possibility of providing additional granularity in some areas of statistical capacity. Both UNSD and World Bank provided suggestions on how to finesse this tool without being too broad and improvements to be considered in the future. The Secretariat encouraged the group to familiarise themselves with the tool, test it and share it with colleagues.
V. Mini-workshops

Board members broke out into 5 workshop groups to discuss different statistical capacity development activities.

Group I: Statistical Literacy

- Facilitators: El Iza Mohamedou, Archita Misra and Yu Tian (PARIS21)

The mini-workshop on statistical literacy began with a presentation on the importance of statistical literacy in a data-driven society, especially for youth - and the past and planned initiatives of PARIS21 in this area. It was followed by a round table and interactive discussion on what NSOs and their partners are currently doing to develop statistical literacy effectively for youth/young adults, what challenges they face and identify some best practices that can be shared among various actors.

Countries shared stories on literacy – for instance, Statistics South Africa implemented an innovative statistical literacy programme called 'Stats4Soccer'\(^1\) with schools of selected provinces where high school students were taught a wide range of mathematical and statistical concepts in data collection, processing and analysis by gamifying the process and tying it with soccer results on the field. Similarly, the Philippines Statistical Authority has a 30-year old comprehensive programme on statistical literacy, facilitated by partnerships with different line ministries and a ‘National Statistics month’\(^2\), where each year there are nation-wide competitions and events around a thematic area related to data. CARICOM’s Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics also prominently featured statistical literacy.

Participants acknowledged some common enablers in effective statistical literacy programmes such as clear political mandates, tying up programme activities with the statistical offices’ main activities (e.g. censuses and surveys), destigmatising the fear of mathematics and statistics among students, and making data and statistics “fun “and relevant to their lives. For example, the NSO of Mexico had a section on the website called “How many like you”\(^3\) that was very popular with wider audience. It ask users some simple questions such as “Do you speak an indigenous language?” and then shows information from national surveys related to this question, such as “6% of the population over 5-years-old speak an indigenous language”. Participants also noted that easy-to-use interfaces of the NSO websites and databases enhance visibility. Important barriers identified included the challenge of forging effective partnerships, in particular with Ministries of Education; making programmes scalable and sustainable on a long-term basis. The need for awareness raising programmes with NSOs and Ministries of Education to advocate for better support to statistical literacy were also raised.

**Next Steps:**

- PARIS21 to develop and pilot small projects on measuring and improving statistical literacy in countries, including the testing of statistical literacy levels and identification of gaps in statistical education.

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1. [https://stats4soccer.com/](https://stats4soccer.com/)
2. [https://psa.gov.ph/content/about-national-statistics-month](https://psa.gov.ph/content/about-national-statistics-month)
• PARIS21 to collect and document lessons learnt and best practices to share experience for NSOs and develop tools and guidelines for improving statistical literacy building on existing experiences.
• PARIS21 to consider the inclusion of statistical literacy development as a component in the NSDS.

Group II: Costing statistics and statistical activities

• Facilitators: François Fonteneau, Rolando Avendano, Giorgi Schavardze (PARIS21) and Alejandro Medina Giopp (World Bank)

PARIS21 welcomed participants and introduced the objectives of the workshop. Three presentations were made to provide an overview to the workshop. The first presentation by PARIS21 discussed the recent costing exercise of the funding gap for the Cape Town Global Action Plan, and its underlying hypothesis. The World Bank then showed some recent work aiming at measuring productivity and cost efficiency of statistical processes, highlighting the methodology and the tool. PARIS21 concluded with a third presentation on the costing module of the Advanced Data Planning Tool and its usefulness in the context of data planning. The first presentation provided the macro perspective, while the two others provided micro perspectives with ex-ante costing (estimates) and ex-post costs structures evaluation (actuals).

The group discussion focused on the challenges of the costing & budgeting process were also discussed, both from the NSO and the technical partners’ perspectives (FAO and UNICEF). Suriname expressed an interest to volunteer to use both the ADAPT and WB tool for costing. The group agreed that both, WB tool and PARIS21 ADAPT have a great potential in terms of the costing exercise and should be further implemented with partner countries. Participants also welcomed the suggestion of a PARIS21 Task Team on costing, where the TORs should look at both the macro and micro perspectives.

Next Steps:

• Testing of costing module in ADAPT with pilot countries
• Continuation and progression of “Costing Task Team”
• Explore potential synergies with World Bank’s “costing tool”

Group III: Citizen generated data and official statistics

• Facilitators: Karina Cázarez and Rajiv Ranjan (PARIS21), Thomas Wollnik (GIZ/P4R)

The mini-workshop on Citizen Generated Data (CGD) strived to come up with defining aspects of CGD and explore potential frameworks for NSO engagement with CGD. In addition, the workshop participants also indicated a few activities that PARIS21 could undertake to support NSOs in this process.

The workshop started with an interactive session, in which the participants identified examples of CGD from the sample presented by the facilitators. That led to the defining aspects of CGD. The participants discussed the granularity of defining aspects (data producers: by non-state actors, citizen agency: active, and primary purpose: non-statistical reasons) and agreed that additional work is needed to clearly define the boundaries of CGD.
Participants of the workshop also agreed to the argument that the data quality framework offers the criteria based on which the affordance of CGD can be evaluated for its use in official reporting, especially for the SDGs where official data is missing or inadequate.

Participants suggested that PARIS21 should continue its work on CGD in the following areas:

- Develop a comprehensive definition of CGD and clarify its value for NSOs
- Collect case studies of the use of CGD for official reporting
- Conduct regional workshops to define a CGD quality framework
- Facilitate workshops on how to validate CGD
- Assess and build capacities of NSOs to interact with CGD

Next steps:

- Produce a discussion paper on CGD
- Organise a workshop on CGD operationalization in the Philippines
- Produce country case studies (Philippines and Kenya) on CGD

Group IV: PARIS21’s 2021-2025 Strategy

- Facilitators: Johannes Jutting, Paz Patino, Gay Tejada (PARIS21), Ariunzaya Ayush (Mongolia)

The participants shared their suggestions and views on the possible process to adopt and the focus areas to consider for the upcoming 2021-2025 PARIS21 Strategy. In terms of the process, it was suggested to consider a combination of approaches such as organising a task team; engaging an external facilitator to guide the task team in the planning process; review of lessons learned in the past years including any previous evaluations of PARIS21; and ensuring an inclusive consultation process where partners are part of the discussions and validation of strategy.

Two resource persons, Ms Shaida Badiee and Mr Simon Scott shared their perspectives on the external environment that would impact the work of PARIS21 in next medium term 2021-2025. Ms Badiee looked back at the journey of PARIS21 since its creation and highlighted the features that have made PARIS21 successful, including its reputation, accessibility, and good brand name. She pointed out the growing role of the NSOs in a wider data ecosystem, new data sources, diversification of stakeholders, trust issues, and the need to analyse the congruency between demand and supply of products. Ms Badiee concluded by asking PARIS21 to complement partners’ work and to rethink the mix of products to identify its flagship priorities. On the other hand, Mr Scott highlighted global challenges in terms of migration, populism, infrastructure, slowing growth and other emerging issues that constrain budgets for statistics. He also mentioned the impact of new technologies in the field of data production and its implications for privacy protection. He further highlighted the importance of setting priorities since budgets for statistics will continue to be limited and the role of PARIS21 as adviser on statistical legislation and as a key actor for knowledge sharing, particularly for NSOs would be important.

The other participants also suggested various focus areas that PARIS21 should consider for its 2021-2025 Strategy, taking into account its unique comparative advantage such as ensuring wider data use, development of tools, better financing for statistics, and stronger partnership/co-operation/ coordination in statistics. It was also suggested that PARIS21 facilitate the leap-frogging of NSOs in becoming modern statistical organisations that widely uses technology in statistical processes. There
was a general call to prioritise the work of the Secretariat and to reduce the scope of its activities in the next strategy.

Main outcomes of the workshop include:
- Recommendations on the process and modality for the preparation of the new strategy – the point of transparency and inclusiveness was stressed
- Suggestions on the strategic areas (scope) of work in the next medium term in consideration of the current development and statistical landscape

**Next Steps:**
- PARIS21 Secretariat will establish a time-line until end of this year to develop the strategy
- Identify external facilitator to help with the process
- Inform Executive Committee about progress and get feedback and advice

**Group V: CD4.0 Guidelines**
- Facilitators: Pieter Everaers (Statistical Journal of the IAOS), Manuel Kuhm and Liliana Suchodolska (PARIS21)

The CD4.0 Guidelines group started by clarifying the main components of CD4.0 implementation as opposed to traditional capacity development efforts: a) a holistic vision outlined by the CD4.0 conceptual framework; b) an iterative approach, integrative multi-stakeholder consultation and collaboration; c) a focus on the new data ecosystem (new data sources and providers).

The following discussion addressed solutions to missing SDG indicator data and quality frameworks, integrating the main CD4.0 components. The workshop members highlighted key aspects for the CD4.0 Guidelines: preliminary stakeholder mapping exercise and identification of national priorities (demand-driven), substantial focus on preparation & design phase, reconciliation of data & interoperability through the harmonisation of exchange processes, sustainability through synergies and institutionalised knowledge production, need for more and better funding (consortium and seed funding potential) and the necessity to understand the recipient’s voice in all phases of projects through regular consultations and engagement. The resulting project management tool was stressed to be generic in its recommendations, but strengthened through supportive and comprehensive examples brought forward by the statistical community. First examples were raised in the discussion, such as the usage of a data flow mapping tool by Statistics Norway in oil stakeholder consultations and CD4.0 application in a regional water supply project in the Philippines.

**Next Steps:**
- Finalise the first draft of the CD4.0 Guidelines (end of April)
- Collect examples to be included (April - mid May)

**VI. Conclusion**
The Board meeting finalised with a short reflection of the main activities of the day, next steps on the mini-workshops and logistical information for attendants. The PARIS21 Manager thanked all the participants and the team for the successful completion of the meetings.
2. Satisfaction Survey Results

Summary of the Results

Below is a summary of the responses received in the Satisfaction Survey for the Annual Meetings covering the conference “Society in a data-driven world: Ensuring no one is left behind” on 2 April and the PARIS21 Board Meeting on 3 April. This satisfaction survey was only distributed on day 2; the respondents are thus only Board Members and five observers. For each question, respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction on a scale from 1 to 10, 10 being the highest level of satisfaction. 31 people out of 54 participants to the Board Meeting filled out the form, representing a 57% response rate.

Participants also made written comments on their evaluation sheets.

Participants particularly liked:

- (Conference) “good topic and it was interesting to hear DIVERSE views”
- (Conference) “Great to see PARIS21 in this space. Would it be possible for a wider network of NSOs not present in person to join remotely another time?”
- (Board Meeting) “Please continue inviting persons with different points of view. Mini-workshops are good to continue”
- (Overall) “I like the combination of the thematic conference with the annual board meeting”

Participants felt a need for change and improvement in these areas:

- (Conference) “New data tech is important, but would want more relevant areas of it”
- (Conference) “Important for conference to include more diverse audience, including policymakers”
- (Board Meeting) “Not enough time for discussion on work programme”
- (Board Meeting) “More discussion of core paris21 activities. E.g.: NSDS implementation success, results of capacity survey, presentation of adapt tool”
- (Overall) “Full day conference might have allowed more time for discussion. Board meeting discussion should have been open and not another panel”
- (Overall) “Important to have at least one day for board meeting + 0.5 for mini workshops”
Figure 1. Average score for overall evaluation of the 2019 Annual Meetings
[from 1 (very low) to 10 (very high)]

- Overall evaluation of the Annual Meetings: 8.7
- Combination of open/public Conference and Board Meeting: 8.9
- Location of the Annual Meetings outside of Paris: 8.7
- Logistical organisation and support: 8.7

Figure 2. Average score for Conference “Society in a data-driven world” – 2 April 2019
[from 1 (very low) to 10 (very high)]

- Overall evaluation of the seminar: 8.3
- Length of discussion/interactive time: 7.7
- Selection of panellists: 8.2
- Use of interactive questions: 7.7
- Invitation of non-Board members: 8.8
- Relevance of presentations: 7.8
- Relevance of the main topic to data and statistics: 8.4
- Format of the conference: 8.5
Figure 3. **Average score for the Board Meeting – 3 April 2019**
(from 1 (very low) to 10 (very high))

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Area</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<td>Overall evaluation of the Board Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Usefulness of mini-workshops</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection of mini-workshop topics</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of presentations and discussions</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of documents provided</td>
<td>9.1</td>
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Figure 4. **Average score of previous Annual Meetings**
(from 1 (very low) to 10 (very high))

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>8.7</td>
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### Top scores (excluding the overall evaluation of the conference, of the Board Meeting and of the Annual Meetings)

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>Quality of the documents provided during the Board Meeting</td>
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<td>8.8</td>
<td>Invitation of non-Board members to the Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>Combination of open/public Conference and Board Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>Logistical organisation and support</td>
</tr>
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### Bottom scores (excluding the overall evaluation of the conference, of the Board Meeting and of the Annual Meetings)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>7.7</td>
<td>Length of discussion/interactive time during the Conference on 2 April</td>
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<td>7.7</td>
<td>Use of interactive questions during the Conference on 2 April</td>
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<td>7.9</td>
<td>Relevance of presentations during the Conference on 2 April</td>
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<td>8.2</td>
<td>Selection of panellists during the Conference on 2 April</td>
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