

Terms of Reference (ToR)

MOBILISING PRIVATE SECTOR DATA FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

I. Background

The [PARIS21 Foundation](#) is an independent non-profit charitable organisation founded in Geneva, Switzerland, in 2021 by [PARIS21](#), a Partnership hosted by the OECD and which works to bring “better data for better lives”. The PARIS21 Foundation seeks to promote innovative activities that strengthen inclusive, participatory data systems to advance robust decision-making that promotes better lives for people everywhere and leaves no one behind. In complement to PARIS21’s work with international organisations, national governments and civil society, the Foundation seeks to enable private organisations, companies and high net worth individuals to take part in the development of transformative solutions to enhance the production, use and dissemination of trustworthy data to advance robust decision-making that promotes better lives for people everywhere and leaves no one behind.

One of the core areas of work of the PARIS21 Foundation is to investigate and develop innovative solutions for data-driven and inclusive policymaking to tackle climate change. Premised on [PARIS21’s approach to a Climate change data ecosystem \(CCDE\)](#) for coordinated climate action, the Foundation aims to complement PARIS21’s work to better grasp how private sector data can be leveraged into CCDEs at local, national and global level.

Tackling the complex policy challenge of shifting current socio-economic models towards sustainable environmental practices and fighting the adverse effects of climate change is dependent upon access, collection, analysis and sharing of quality, actionable data. The private sector holds numerous data that are relevant to the fight against climate change. In forestry and agriculture alone, much of the data collected by private companies are not readily available to public institutions – from logging reports, to the volumes of agricultural goods exported through ports, acres of land dedicated to specific crops, or volumes of water used to grow those crops.

For policy makers, access to data, including data that the private sector can make available, is essential to achieving the ambitious climate change objectives that countries must design and implement. In this context, finding ways for the private sector to share or help curate this data could bear a critical impact on the fight against climate change. Yet there is at present a lack of understanding of what data from the private sector could be used for public policy making, how it could be accessed, and under what conditions it could be mobilized.

II. Objectives

With financial support from the United Kingdom’s Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, the PARIS21 Foundation seeks to hire an independent Consultant to write a Technical Report on the mobilization of private sector data for climate change.

The primary purpose of the Technical Report is to:

- provide a review of the state of the art of mobilization and use of private sector data for policy making on climate change,
- identify current bottlenecks, and
- make proposals of how to remedy those.

The objectives of the Technical report are to:

- Review the state of knowledge on the sharing of private sector data for climate change, in particular:
 - challenges and opportunities surrounding private sector data sharing,

- methodologies, techniques and tools for doing so,
 - existing datasets and models for large scale data- and metadata sets,
 - regulations (or draft bills) on compulsory and voluntary sharing of climate change data,
 - best practices on the mobilization of private sector data on climate change for public good use that are currently in existence or under development;
- Promote a common understanding of the nature, usefulness and opportunities for mobilising private sector data on climate change;
- Help companies of all sizes, policymakers, civil servants, civil society experts, academics to identify current bottlenecks and opportunities for the sharing of data on climate change between private- and public sector entities, with the triple objective of
 - Encouraging new initiatives;
 - Guiding further research and due diligence in identified areas;
 - Preventing caveats in the implementation of data sharing initiatives;
- Serve as a basis of reflection for policymakers, non-governmental organisations and companies who wish to engage in the sharing of interoperable data between the various stakeholders in local, national and global climate change data ecosystems;
- Provide stakeholders with a list of existing tools, resources, best practice scenarios and contacts to support mobilization of private data on climate change for public good.

III. Scope of work and key deliverables

The key deliverables under this project are:

- A Technical report (15-20 pages in length) – this is the primary deliverable;
- A brief Note on key messages and recommendations of the Technical Report (2 pages);
- A powerpoint presentation summarizing the key findings and recommendations of the report.

The development process is to be interactive with various exchanges between the Foundation team and the consultant.

Some of the (non-exhaustive) guiding questions to be considered for the Technical Report are:

- What is the state of the art of the conversation on the main issues surrounding the freeing of data and technology for climate change coming from the private sector for use in public policy making? How can this relate to the data and statistics community?
- What kinds of private sector data are most useful for local and national governments in developing, measuring and achieving their environmental goals and actions?
- What kinds of replicable data use and analysis techniques can governments use to make the most of existing private sector data relevant to their sustainability goals?
- How can open data be made more usable and what types of data infrastructure are needed?
- How can data portals be improved to increase input from private sector?
- What questions are material to making use of private sector data to improve the environment?
- What technical tools are available to help translate private sector data into insights for policy making?
- In how far could a climate change data ecosystem be improved by focusing on the role of the private sector while bearing in mind the central role of government for regulation, governance and overall oversight?
- Which privately held data sets would be most pressingly required to carry out measurements and monitoring to fight climate change? And which of those priority data sets could be leveraged / shared most readily?
- What are the key challenges surrounding methodology, systems, trust and privacy?
- From a financial point of view, what are currently the key sticking points for leveraging and promoting non-monetary climate change data sharing between the public- and private sectors?

- Within the current debates about “greenwashing”, “ESG” screening and the need for more and better information about how investments of companies can effectively contribute to reduce or mitigate against climate change, what are the key climate change data issues surrounding private sector investments? What types of data, methods and tools are needed for companies to make sure that their investment is contributing to combating climate change, in particular in the Global South?
- How can the data collected by the private sector itself feed into the global fight against climate change and be usefully leveraged by public institutions? What types of existing models and feasibility studies could be used to systematically understand such contributions? What are the 2-3 methodologies that could potentially be used, and what are the strengths and limitations of each, including the trade-offs in terms of cost, time and robustness of monitoring?
- What are the comparative advantages and disadvantages of existing models to leverage private sector data through a) voluntary incentives, b) monetary incentives, c) regulatory obligations?
- What are best-practice monetary and non-monetary models using private sector data as a public good in climate change and other sectors? What are the 3-4 examples of public-private partnerships for climate change data as a public good?
- How could topics such as harmonisation, standardization and interoperability of data, which are well discussed in official statistical circles, be linked up with conversations in the climate finance and investment field, and in the realm of private sector data on climate change at large? Similarly, data and technological innovations – including analytics – from the private sector take too long to benefit official statistical circles: are there identifiable short cuts to speed up the uptake?

The outline below is indicative and will be adjusted based on the proposals from the Consultant

1. Overview of the state of the art (approx. 5 pages)
2. Description and analysis of prevalent opportunities, challenges and risks for the mobilization of private sector data for public policymaking (approx. 5 pages), that take into account:
 - Operational considerations
 - Financial considerations
 - Methodological considerations
 - Regulatory environments
 - Trustworthiness of the data and privacy / protection issues
3. Existing responses to private sector data sharing on climate change and gaps in response – using illustrative examples / best practice analyses (approx. 5 pages)
4. Conclusions and recommendations (approx. 2 pages), with a focus on:
 - Actionable recommendations to companies and governments on how to take this issue forward;
 - Opportunities to take forward, from the perspectives of various stakeholders (private sector, local government, national government, multilateral institutions);
 - Grey zones to be investigated further;
 - Specific project opportunities at the local and/or national level in the Global South.
5. Methodology and research limitations (1-2 pages)
 - A brief methodology detailing how the core research was conducted and any desktop research that was carried out as well as the consultation process.
 - Analysis on the limitations of the research based on the desktop review, interviews and outcome of the consultation process. This could be incorporated into an introduction or as an annex, to be determined in consultation with the Foundation.

IV. Methodology

The study shall be mainly conducted through desktop research and targeted interviews. A proposed methodology should form part of any prospective consultant proposal. The methodology will be further agreed between the successful candidate and the PARIS21 Foundation during the research planning, and should be included in the final report (see section III, Key Deliverables 5, above).

V. Timeline

The consultant is expected to commence the work in January 2023.

A draft Technical Report is expected by February 28, 2023, a final Report by mid-March, and a revised final Report by mid-April.

A workshop will be held in Geneva on March 24, 2023, which the Consultant will be invited to attend.

Timeline	Activities	Deliverables from the Consultant
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sign the contract with the OECD - Join a virtual kick-off meeting - Prepare the work plan, including timeline, methodology and deliverables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A work plan with timeline, methodology and deliverables - Propose a list of stakeholders to be consulted on the Technical Report
Early – Mid February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare a detailed outline of the Technical Report (approx. 15 pages) - Conduct research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Detailed outline (approx. 15 pages) of the Technical Report, including proposed items for annexes
Mid – End February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a full draft of the Technical Report - Collect feedback on the Technical Report from select interviewees - Review the draft and interviewees’ additional feedback with the PARIS21 Foundation - Update the draft with comments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft of the Technical Report
End February – Mid-March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalize the Technical Report - Develop a brief note on key messages and recommendations of the Technical Report (2-5 pages) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final version of the Technical Report (in Word, English) - Note on key messages and recommendations of the Technical Report (in Word, English) - Powerpoint presentation with accompanying narrative, in view of the launch of the report at a Technical workshop (March 24, 2023, Geneva)
24 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attend the Technical Workshop and launch of the Technical Report in Geneva 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporate feedback from the Technical Workshop in Geneva into the Technical Report and its Note on key messages and recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revised final version of the Technical Report (in Word, English) - Revised Note on key messages and recommendations of the Technical Report (in Word, English)

VI. Governance structure

The consultant will work independently under the supervision of the PARIS21 Foundation. It is anticipated that regular (weekly) conference calls will be held between the Foundation and the consultant to feed into the research and review findings together.

While the consultant will be responsible for delivering all activities under these ToR, the PARIS21 Foundation will play an active role in supporting the project in the following ways:

- Providing substantive and timely feedback on the work plan and outline of the Technical Report and Maps;
- Providing inputs into the list of proposed interviewees;
- Providing feedback on questions for interviewees;
- Shadowing or leading select interviews;
- Reviewing drafts and providing substantive and timely feedback.

VII. Qualifications

An offer may be made either by an individual or organisation (company, research institution, etc.) responding to the minimum requirements described below:

- Demonstrate in-depth and relevant knowledge and expertise on climate change data, data-driven policy-making, and/or private-public partnerships (minimum of 10-15 years of research and/or field experience);
- Have a proven record of strong research, analytical and drafting skills, ability to speak with and interview people, and have excellent project management and communication skills;
- Have demonstrated experience leading or co-leading a multi-stakeholder consultation process on highly sensitive issues, ideally relating to responsible business conduct, human rights, corruption or environmental due diligence topics, and have a proven track record of contribution towards successful outcomes in consensus-building between stakeholders in this context;
- Have demonstrated experience in developing policy guidance related to climate change data systems and data use for policy making;
- Successful candidates will be able to demonstrate the ability to exercise great sensitivity, tact and patience in communicating with stakeholders and to observe appropriate social norms and diplomatic protocol;
- Hold at least a Master's degree, preferably a PhD, in a relevant discipline (e.g. economics, international development, public policy, business, statistics, etc.).

VIII. Additional items

Language: The outline, drafts and report will be written in English. No translation or interpretation services are envisaged under this ToR.

Travel: No travel cost is expected in the proposal. Should travel costs arise, and upon explicit prior approval, they will be covered by the PARIS21 Foundation.

Event management and costs: The PARIS21 Foundation will coordinate venue booking and hospitality organisation and costs for the final event foreseen as part of this project.

Intellectual Property: Any intellectual product that results from this framework contract shall be the property of the PARIS21 Foundation.

IX. Proposal

A proposal (a maximum of 5 pages) should be written in English and submitted by email with the subject line "Proposal P21F – Private sector for CC" to Elisa.Narminio@oecd.org before 18:00 in Paris on 22 January 2023.

A proposal should include:

- Name(s) of consultant(s), qualifications, experience (level of seniority, examples of relevant prior work), and the contact information of previous clients who could act as references [1-2 pages]
- Confirmation that consultant(s) is able to start work from January 2022 and available for the entirety of this project
- A short proposal detailing the consultant(s) approach to implementing activities of this project [1-2 pages]
- The budget that indicates the number of days of work needed for each activity and the daily rate

A budget proposal providing a lump sum for to carry out the services and provide the deliverables described above, with details on the number of days of work needed for each activity and the daily rate of the consultant(s).

Any travel required for this work will be funded separately by the PARIS21 Foundation as required, and should therefore not be estimated as part of the proposal. The PARIS21 Foundation will not cover any additional consultants' expenses related to implementation of their tasks.