



Tracking progress of the PARIS21 partnership and revised PARIS21 logframe

It is recommended that:

- (1) starting in November 2008, the Secretariat will be mandated to prepare an annual report on progress towards Partnership outputs and outcomes, which will supplement the six-monthly progress reports on the activities and outputs of the Secretariat, and that the Secretariat will conduct a baseline study by June 2008 to provide benchmarks;**
- (2) the evaluation of the PARIS21 programme for 2007 – 2010 will be carried out early in 2010;**
- (3) the Steering Committee adopt the proposed revised Logical Framework to provide the basis for monitoring and evaluating progress by the Partnership.**

Introduction

1. At its meeting in November 2007, the PARIS21 Steering Committee requested the Secretariat to report on progress of the partnership towards its objectives, in addition to the six-monthly progress reports on Secretariat activities and outputs. The chair called on the Secretariat to produce annual outcome-focused partnership progress reports along the lines of the Logical Framework. The latest proposed version of the Logical Framework is attached and discussed in paragraphs 13-14 below.

Proposed timing and nature of tracking reports

2. A three-tier programme of six-monthly, annual and 3-5 yearly monitoring and evaluation reports is proposed, as follows:

- 1) Every six months (next in November 2008) the PARIS21 Secretariat will report to the Steering Committee on progress on the activities and outputs in its work programme. The format will be the same as the progress reports already presented to each Steering Committee meeting. Progress will be assessed against the Secretariat activities and outputs set out in the Logical Framework and the more detailed forward work programme agreed by the PARIS21 Steering Committee in November each year, including quantifiable objectives and targets for the Secretariat which will be set each year.
- 2) In November each year (first in November 2008) the Secretariat will prepare an additional report on the progress of national and international statistical programmes towards partnership outputs and outcomes, in terms of the centrality of NSDSs, coordination, capacity building and availability of better statistics. This is considered in paragraphs 3-8 below.
- 3) Every three-to-five years (next in 2010) there will be an evaluation against progress towards the partnership's goal and purpose, relating to the use of statistics to inform



development policy decisions and implementation; and towards developing a culture of evidence-based decision-making. This is discussed further in paragraphs 9-12 below.

Baseline study and annual tracking reports on progress of partnership outputs and outcomes

3. The PARIS21 work programme extends from 2007-2010 and progress towards partnership outcomes and outputs (tier 2 above) will be benchmarked against 2006/07 information. The Secretariat will conduct a baseline study by June 2008 to provide benchmarks.

4. The sources of this baseline and tracking information are specified in the Logical Framework and will include:

- 1) the PARIS21 Secretariat's NSDS progress reports (baseline: 2006);
- 2) the World Bank's Statistical Capacity scores (baseline: 2006/07);
- 3) reports about the availability of national data from the Inter-Agency and Expert Group (I-AEG) on MDG indicators (baseline: UN Secretary General's MDG report for 2007);
- 4) information from other international sources, such as the Human Development Report and World Development Indicators;
- 5) information from global initiatives, particularly in the area of health, such as Health Metrics Network, Global Fund, Roll back Malaria, etc.;
- 6) information from the new development partner reporting system (PRESS) (benchmark for Africa only from PARIS21's 2005 pilot Light Reporting Exercise);
- 7) information from national policy documents such as Poverty Reduction Strategies/Papers, sector strategies and MDG country reports (baseline 2006/07 reports);
- 8) information from donor country assistance strategies (baseline 2006/07 reports).

5. Information from the latter two sources will be the most demanding to collate and potentially most revealing. Looking first at national policy documents, the aim is to establish a 2006/07 baseline and a process for annual review of:

- 1) The use of statistics in policy documents (particularly PRSPs¹) for "upstream" policy development and "downstream" monitoring and evaluation (M&E) purposes.
- 2) The extent to which statistical development is programmed into PRSP investment plans, for which we are looking for evidence that PRSPs acknowledge the importance of statistical capacity building and programme an appropriate portion of government and donor funds for this purpose, ideally to implement NSDSs.

6. These judgements cannot be made by the PARIS21 Secretariat by itself, particularly about the extent of use of statistics for "upstream" policy development purposes. Much of this will be invisible and the focus in policy documents is likely to be on the downstream demands of M&E. All PRSPs will have a monitoring and evaluation framework, setting out intermediate (input and

¹ For the purpose of this note we concentrate on PRSPs but believe that the analysis and conclusions are relevant also to other country reports.



output) and final outcome (outcome and impact) indicators and sources. While it is simple to record the existence or otherwise of references to statistics and to statistical development, this is not particularly informative and needs to be validated and qualified or quantified in a way that will allow comparison between PRSPs over time. Engagement with countries is needed to collate information which goes beyond what can be read in policy documents. The Secretariat proposes to supplement desk research through visits to a selection of countries to collate information from heads of NSOs and PRSP coordinators.

7. Similarly, a selection of donors will be contacted, both through their headquarters and their offices in countries being visited, after a desk review of country assistance strategies.

8. Decisions on the selection of countries will be based on a list of countries that are in the process of preparing a PRSP or having recently finalised their PRSPs.

Evaluation

9. The latest evaluation of PARIS21 was carried out in 2006 to review the PARIS21 work programme for 2004 – 2006. This was a “light” evaluation in the sense that it neither evaluated the impact of the PARIS21 work programme, nor did it consider the outputs or outcomes of the Consortium as a whole. Instead it focused on the PARIS21 Secretariat’s work programme: firstly on whether the Secretariat was delivering the outputs set out in its work programme; and, secondly, were the outputs still relevant and were they being delivered efficiently and effectively. The implicit assumption was that if the outputs were relevant and they were being delivered efficiently and effectively, then they would facilitate the achievement of the Consortium outcomes, purpose and goal set out in the Log frame for 2004 - 2006.

10. The independent facilitator/ evaluator noted a certain amount of “fuzziness” during the evaluation about whether PARIS21 was taken to refer to the Consortium or to the Secretariat. He recommended that the next full-fledged evaluation should look at outcomes and impacts of the Consortium and make a clear distinction between the Consortium and Secretariat, particularly in what is expected with regard to coordination of partner activities in countries. The Steering Committee at its meetings in April and November 2006 noted the need to distinguish between what the wider Partnership must do to help achieve the outcomes and what the Secretariat does to support this.

11. PARIS21 is in the middle of the second year of its 2007-2010 programme. The most logical timing of the next evaluation of the PARIS21 programme is in early 2010 to allow sufficient time to prepare for what might follow after 2010. This timing fits with the Consortium meeting proposed for late 2009, which – together with the background paper for that meeting – will provide valuable inputs into the evaluation. This timing will also avoid an overlap with the evaluation of support to statistical capacity building being carried out in the context of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (for the Accra High-Level Forum in September 2008); and the World Bank-led evaluation of the Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics, also in 2008.



12. The evaluation will assess progress towards the partnership's goal and purpose, relating to the use of statistics to inform development policy decisions and implementation; and towards developing a culture of evidence-based decision-making.

Proposed revision to PARIS21's Logical Framework for 2007–2010

13. The Logical Framework has been revised to reflect further thinking within the Secretariat and to take account of comments from, and discussion with, DFID and NORAD. Representative from both organisations advised that the Logical Framework is not well constituted, either in terms of the indicators (many of which are not readily measurable and do not have benchmarks) or in terms of the logic between the different levels (goal, purpose, etc). The logic followed in the revised version of the Logical Framework is that the Secretariat's activities and outputs facilitate the outputs and outcomes of the partnership as a whole, which in turn enable evidence-based (or informed) policy-making. The main elements of the new Logframe are to:

- Retain the PARIS21 goal set when PARIS21 was launched in November 1999 (a decision of the November 2006 Steering Committee)
- Revise the purpose statement to distinguish between the goal (the development objective) and the purpose (what it is reasonable to expect PARIS21 to deliver within this time frame)
- Reduce the number of levels by combining partnership outcomes and outputs
- Reduce the level of detail, including under Secretariat activities and outputs - where management activities have been left out following advice that they are too detailed for the Log frame; and NSDS and donor partner reporting activities have been merged (for the purpose of the Log frame) respectively with the regional programmes and partnership activities
- Reduce the number of indicators and ensure they are SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-Bound)

14. The Objectively Verifiable Indicators and Means of Verification in the Logical Framework will provide the basis for the six-monthly, annual and 3-5 year monitoring and evaluation reports proposed above.



PARIS21 2007–2010 Logical Framework

Draft (2 May 2008)

Narrative Summary	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Partnership Goal:			
<p>- Develop a culture of evidence-based policy making and implementation which serves to improve governance and government effectiveness in reducing poverty and achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).</p>	<p>- Demonstrable increase in the use of policy relevant statistics to manage for development results and aid effectiveness (measured every 3-5 years against a 2006/07 baseline)</p>	<p>- UNSG’s annual report on progress to UN General Assembly</p> <p>- Reports on follow-up to Roundtables on Managing for Development Results and Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, including progress towards indicator/ target no. 11 to “Reduce the proportion of countries without transparent and monitorable performance assessment frameworks by one-third”</p>	<p><i>(Goal to Super-Goal)</i></p> <p>- Better policies based on the better use of better statistics contribute to achieving the objectives of the national development policy and the MDGs</p>
Partnership Purpose:			
<p>- Statistical information is used by PARIS21 partners to inform development policy decisions and to manage their implementation</p>	<p>- Increased use and analysis of statistics in policy documents (measured every 3-5 years, when documents can be compared with their 2006/07 equivalents)</p>	<p>- Analysis of national policy documents such as Poverty Reduction Strategies/ Papers (PRS/Ps) and MDG Country Reports compared with their 2006/07 equivalents</p> <p>- Analysis of donor country assistance strategies compared with their 2006/07 equivalents</p>	<p>- The availability and use of improved statistics leads to better economic and social development policies and better management for results</p>
Partnership Outcomes and Outputs:			



Narrative Summary	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/ Risks
<p>National and international statistical programmes of each PARIS21 Partner:</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased investment leads to better statistics that meet the needs of policy makers and analysts - Statistics integrated into national development policy processes; and funded through national budget frameworks, incorporating donor support - Development assistance programmes based on sound national data for greater aid effectiveness and efficiency
<p>1. Are centred on designing and implementing NSDSs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in number of countries who have (a) designed; and (b) are implementing NSDSs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual PARIS21 progress report will show trend of NSDS design and implementation - Peer reviews and NSDS Check List will provide a check on quality 	
<p>2. Are well coordinated across NSSs and between governments and donors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Percentage of technical cooperation flows that are implemented through coordinated programmes consistent with national development strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development partner reporting system (PRESS) - Annual PARIS21 progress report for other aspects of coordination 	
<p>3. Build statistical capacity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved capacities to produce, analyse and use statistics in countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statistical capacity indicators (World Bank) compared with 2006/07 - Annual PARIS21 progress reports 	
<p>4. Provide better statistics for immediate priority needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthened national data available on the MDGs by 2010 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inter-Agency and Expert Group on MDG indicators (e.g. DFID has a target for internal purposes to “Increase the number of countries by 4% each year, with at least 2 data points, (excluding modelled data by agency) for seven of the MDG indicators”) 	



Narrative Summary	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/ Risks
Secretariat Activities and Outputs:			
Regional Programmes: Facilitate successful implementation of NSDSs in low-income countries in Africa, the Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America; incorporating NSDS country reporting.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Facilitate successful country events and regional workshops; and strengthen regional and country partnership ▪ Organise successful peer reviews ▪ Comprehensive reports on country progress with NSDS and statistical development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number and quality of events held and joint partner missions to countries ▪ 4 per annum successful peer reviews organised ▪ Comprehensive annual report on NSDS global and country progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Feed-back forms from participants ▪ Feedback from host countries and reviewers ▪ Annual report on progress of partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommendations and follow-up lead to strengthened and better co-ordinated statistical programmes.
Advocacy: Facilitate effective design and implementation of advocacy tools and messages to reach out to the various stakeholder groups.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop and deliver PARIS21 advocacy strategy, messages, materials, interviews, and events adapted to audiences ▪ Roll out effective country advocacy tool kits to help countries develop and implement their own advocacy strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advocacy messages and delivery mechanisms/ tools developed in line with PARIS21 advocacy strategy ▪ Country Advocacy Toolkit developed and 10 countries helped to design, implement and monitor impact of advocacy strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of leaflets printed and distributed; feedback from countries is positive ▪ Number of countries assisted; positive feedback on advocacy impact from countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocacy messages are heard and acted upon
Partnership: Engage an expanded partnership in NSDSs at country level including through activities at regional and international level; incorporating development partner reporting.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expand engagement by the wider PARIS21 partnership ▪ Hold effective Consortium meeting held involving broad representation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PARIS21 website developed and information notes distributed; comprehensive, up-to-date calendar of events ▪ 80 participants from developing countries participate, balanced by OECD countries, regional and international organisations, and research/ analysis community endorse way forward for partnership ▪ Participation of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 5 to 10 % increase in hits on PARIS21 website achieved and maintained ▪ Meeting reports and evaluation sheets ▪ High quality background report produced for Consortium meeting ▪ Numbers, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partnership activities lead to strengthened and better co-ordinated partnership programmes.



Narrative Summary	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Assumptions/ Risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PARIS21 members and agenda represented in partner events ▪ Agreed donor reporting system that is regularly updated 	<p>developing country managers at international events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Report on donor support to statistical development 	<p>representation and engagement of participants at PARIS21 and international events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coverage of partner reporting system 	
<p>Studies and Knowledge Development: Effective knowledge base on statistical development and strategic planning issues supports NSDS implementation.</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop the PARIS21 knowledge base in response to identified needs ▪ Produce studies relating to NSDS processes, national statistical development, and financial and technical support ▪ Task Teams provide a forum for discussing specific issues relating to statistical development and harmonising statistical capacity building activities, e.g. on training and sub-national statistics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 20 to 40 new materials loaded into database ▪ 5 new studies produced and disseminated ▪ Effective task team outputs and meeting reports ▪ Work mainstreamed into Secretariat work programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of new materials and studies; how many distributed ▪ Feedback from reviewers ▪ Steering Committee feedback on quality and relevance 	