

REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF STATISTICS (NSDS)

Virtual Training

December 3-5th, 2024

Information Bulletin

1. Rationale

Better national, regional, and global development policies underscored the need for resilient and trusted public data systems in evidence-based policymaking. Building back better from the pandemic and other crises, many public statistical systems need to develop adequate capacities to cope with these new and rising data demands and coordinate strategically across the new data ecosystem:

Firstly, data producers need to coordinate efficiently to close data gaps at national level. Smart planning, monitoring and evaluation, and service delivery measures require highly disaggregated data. Yet, for low and middle-income countries, limited statistical capacity threaten response and future resilience. For instance, administrative data systems including sectoral and local data are often inefficiently coordinated.

Secondly, entering a decade of action, governments need to align global, regional and national policy objectives. This in turn, requires an in-depth mapping of data availability vis-à-vis data requirements. The heightened demand for data to monitor progress and inform policy and development choices necessitate a comprehensive data assessment and mapping at national level, which support better alignment of the national strategy for the development of statistics (NSDS) to data demand.

Thirdly, statistical offices need to improve coordination with national and international partners to attract funding efficiently. Prioritisation and increased coordination of statistical activities, for instance through a national strategy for the development of statistics, can be conducive to attract more domestic funding as well as external resources. At the same time, there is ample scope to strengthen coordination between and among development cooperation partners and partner countries and promote south-south cooperation to make the status quo of funding for statistics more cost-efficient.

The Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) in collaboration with the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) developed a unique training course for NSS, NSO leaders and national planning senior managers to improve strategic planning for data and statistics development, using innovative tools and methods. The course will give a thorough introduction to the NSDS design process. In addition, this course will feature special topics on gender statistics, climate change data, children data as well as communications around the NSDS.

2. Quick overview over the proposed toolbox: NSDS and special topics

[National strategies for the development of statistics \(NSDS\)](#)

PARIS21 provides support to developing countries in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the NSDS to enable their national statistical systems to better respond to increased demand for data. An NSDS provides a country with a vision of the development of statistics consistent with national

development plans. NSDS is a strategic planning framework and process that enables developing countries to build a reliable statistical system capable of producing and disseminating quality data and statistics necessary to formulate, implement, and monitor national, regional and global development policies and programmes. The NSDS design and implementation process provides an opportunity for engaging both data producers and data users in making strategic choices to properly rationalise resources for statistical development.

[NSDS and gender](#)

The workshop will pay special attention to the topic of gender statistics in the NSDS process. As part of its [collaboration with UN Women](#), PARIS21 developed a comprehensive framework to assess data and capacity gaps linked to gender statistics. The framework, aimed at national statistical offices, proposes methods, activities and tools for conducting assessments related to gender statistics to support the mainstreaming of gender statistics in national statistical systems (NSS). The assessment report resulting from the application of this framework is meant to inform [national strategies for the development of statistics \(NSDS\)](#).

[NSDS and climate change data](#)

As the climate crisis moves from hypothetical to real, the global community is only starting to discover the myriad of impacts it is having. For various reasons, traditional approaches to gathering data do not produce the data and statistics that countries and international organisations need in order to tackle climate change. PARIS21's "ecosystem" approach provides a framework that can help gather and analyse data across different entities and departments who do not have a systematic approach to collaboration. A number of small islands who are on the frontline of the climate crisis are eager to adopt this approach to data to improve their resilience and adapt to climate change. PARIS21 developed a framework and toolkit to Mobilize Climate Change Data Ecosystems to support countries efforts in this area.

[NSDS and children's rights](#)

Supporting the rights of children (people under the age of 18) via official statistics is a significant obligation, opportunity, and challenge for a wide range of stakeholders. No one body is responsible for mainstreaming Child Rights into statistical system planning. Official statisticians, UNICEF Country and Regional Offices, government, NGOs, bilateral partners, international and regional organisations need to work together. PARIS21 and UNICEF developed a toolkit to support stakeholders throughout the planning process and informs how to best to make the business case for investing resources. The toolkit is focussed on supporting processes for National and Regional Strategies for the Development of Statistics so that they optimise their support for the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), not by adding on considerations about children, but by mainstreaming Child Rights into strategic planning

[NSDS and communications](#)

TA communications strategy provides both a strategic vision and roadmap for communications over the long term. This helps to align communications activities and messaging with national statistical office processes and frameworks, such as the national strategy for the development of statistics (NSDS). A communications strategy helps an organisation to map out a series of activities and

programmes that not only help it engage with key stakeholders (internal and external) in an effective and streamlined way, but also help reach the organisation's core objectives.

3. Objectives and expected results

The objective of the training course is to strengthen the capacity of NSOs and national planning agencies senior managers to a) undertake strategic planning for statistical development and prepare data plans; b) learn how to communicate about the NSDS to advocate for its process and implementation; and c) design and implement responsive NSDS, taking into consideration the evolving needs arising from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and national development priorities.

The training course will provide a brief overview of the NSDS framework and strategic planning processes for statistical development and an introduction to tools to mainstream cross-sectional topics into strategic planning. It will also cover best practices in communicating throughout the NSDS process to advocate for its development and implementation.

More specifically, participants will:

- Learn about the challenges in aligning global, regional and national development agendas
- Understand the modern NSDS lifecycle, including the review of strategic planning concepts related to NSDS;
- Discuss special topics of gender statistics, climate change data, children's rights, and how they can be integrated in the NSDS process
- Explore best practices linked to communications needed to advocate for the NSDS during its development and for its implementation
- Share country practices and experience in designing and implementing the NSDS as well as gender statistics and special context of NSDS in crisis situation.

4. Participants

The training course is targeted at senior managers of NSOs and national planning agencies in Asia-Pacific:

- a. NSO – responsible for the overall planning and design of the NSDS/strategic plan on statistics and/or implementation of the NSDS; committed to carry out and lead in coordinating the NSDS activities and processes; have knowledge and/or involved in the preparation of national indicator monitoring framework.
- b. National planning agency – responsible for the preparation of the national development planning framework specifically in designing the indicator monitoring framework for the national plan / SDGs and has keen understanding of data and statistics

Participants are expected to share/present country practices and experiences in national development planning and strategic planning in statistics to enrich cross-country learning. Please be prepared to participate in interactive breakout sessions during the training.

5. Date and venue

- 3-5 December 2024
- Virtual sessions: 90 minutes for each day.

6. Proposed Training Agenda

Time (Tokyo time)	Agenda Item	Facilitator/Trainer/Speaker
DAY 1: Tuesday 3 December 2024		
16:00 - 16:15	Welcome participants and housekeeping information	SIAP
	Opening message Director UNSIAP Deputy Head of PARIS21	SIAP PARIS21
	Introduction of participants and facilitators	All participants
16:15 – 16:25	Overview of the training programme <i>Objectives/goals; agenda</i>	PARIS21
16:25 – 17:00	The need for NSDS in a modern national data ecosystem: Why does it matter? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding data demand and use for policy decision-making. NSDS to achieve fit-for-purpose National Statistical Systems: an overview of the NSDS Guidelines 3.0. 	PARIS21
17:00 – 17:30	Discussions	All participants
DAY 2: Wednesday 4 December 2024		
16:00 - 16:45	NSDS and gender data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A sustainable approach to improve data for gender policymaking Discussions	PARIS21 All participants
16:45 – 17:30	NSDS and climate change data for better climate change action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobilising national climate data ecosystem: framework and tools Discussions	PARIS21 All participants
DAY 3: Thursday 5 December 2023		
16:00 - 16:40	NSDS and children’s rights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the rights of children via official statistics Discussions	UNICEF All participants
16:40 – 17:15	Communicating about the NSDS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key communications practices to advocate for the NSDS development and implementation Discussions	PARIS21 All participants
17:15 – 17:30	Evaluation and closing	SIAP & PARIS21