REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON THE NSDS AND ADAPT
Information Bulletin

1. Background

The Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) *promotes the better use and production of statistics throughout the developing world. It advocates for the* better use of statistics in developing countries, by providing support in strengthening national statistical systems and their capacity to improve the provision, availability and use of high quality data for better accountability and evidence-based policies and decisions. As demand for data increases and evolves in the face of changing national priorities and regional and global development agenda, there is a need to ensure statistical systems are capacitated and ready to address these new demands on statistics.

One of the core programmes of PARIS21 is the provision of support to developing countries in the design, implementation and monitoring of national strategies for the development of statistics (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 quality data necessary to formulate, implement, and monitor national development policies and programmes. It facilitates countries' compliance to regional and international commitments with respect to statistics (i.e., Sustainable Development Goals, regional integration processes, etc.). It contains detailed and costed action plan for the production and dissemination of statistics over a period of 5 to 10 years, including capacity development needs, and required institutional and infrastructure improvements.

With the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, more and more governments are requiring in-depth mapping of data availability vis-à-vis data requirements of their national development plans that incorporates the Sustainable Development Goals. This robust attention for better data and statistics to monitor progress and inform policy and development choices necessitate a comprehensive data assessment and mapping to be conducted at national level. In this context, PARIS21 developed the Advanced Data Planning Tool (ADAPT), an innovative web-based planning tool for National Statistical Offices, national planning agencies and other data producers to adapt data production to the priority data needs for policy, planning and monitoring.

ADAPT is a means to inventory data and funding gaps in the national statistical system, specifically the inventory of indicators required for monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of key policies at sub-national, sectoral, regional and global levels. It allows easy entry, comparison, mapping and visualization of the indicators required in key policies, through their M&E frameworks. By mapping these demands together, ADAPT shows overlaps, duplications, disaggregation requirements missing, etc. It also supports the supply/demand analysis by matching those demanded indicators to the ones currently being calculated in the country, linking these to their data sources. As such, ADAPT is a key tool for inventorying data gaps, and identifying which are the core data collection exercises which are required in medium and long-term planning. ADAPT also enables the inventory and visualization of specific skills associated with the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) steps which are required but missing in the agency or the NSS at large. Further, it offers some simple but fundamental budgeting

features that allows the mapping of existing funding gaps to sectors, agencies, planned data sources, etc. These basic costing functionalities will be introduced in this year's training course. All these are key information for the design of any NSDS.

The NSDS formulation process is a platform for engaging both data producers (i.e., national statistics office, sectoral line ministries, central bank, etc.) and data users (e.g., policy makers, parliamentarians, researchers, analysts, private sector & businesses, regional and international organizations, development partners & donors, the media, civil society organizations, non-government organizations, and citizens) in the development and implementation of high-quality strategy and in making strategic choices to properly rationalise resources for statistical development. This year's NSDS course will feature special topics on gender statistics, Capacity Development 4.0 framework, innovation, and subnational statistics that are relevant in the modernization of NSOs and NSS and therefore important aspects to consider in preparing responsive statistical plans/strategies.

2. Objectives and expected results

As part of PARIS21's continued support to national statistical systems in strengthening strategic planning for statistical development, and in proactively responding to increased demand for data, including the global call for a data revolution, a 4-day NSDS and ADAPT regional training course for countries in Asia-Pacific will be conducted in collaboration with the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP). 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 new tools to aid in the coordination of the NSS and to identify data and funding gaps; 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 is intended to provide a brief overview of the NSDS framework and strategic planning processes for statistical development and a hands-on training on the ADAPT to familiarize participants in the key functionalities of the tool and its usefulness in statistical planning and national development planning. Specifically, participants will:
- Review strategic planning concepts related to NSDS (specifically results-based management framework and process in designing and implementing the NSDS);
- Understand special topics on gender statistics, Capacity Development 4.0 framework, innovation, and subnational statistics relevant to NSDS preparation;
- Understand the purpose and benefits of the ADAPT Tool;
- Have a hands-on exercise to input information in the ADAPT system, simulate the generation of preliminary reports on data and funding gaps vis-à-vis national development framework.

3. Participants

Participants to the training course are senior managers of NSOs and national planning agencies in Asia-Pacific who are:
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 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. Each participant would need to bring their own laptop to the training.

4. Date and venue

The training course will be conducted on 11-14 November 2019 at the SIAP Headquarters in Chiba, Japan.