

Success Stories: Top 10 of 2010



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Celebrating National Statistics Day, Vientiane

NSDS, a game changer for statistical development in Lao PDR

The National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) is the centerpiece of PARIS21's work. Among the many NSDS success stories in which PARIS21 has been involved, the Lao PDR case stands out. PARIS21 supported Lao PDR in consolidating three separate strategic planning processes into a single NSDS, drawing on the priorities and input of actors within the national

statistical system and the community of donors. In addition, PARIS21 conducted joint missions with the FAO to help the country in designing a strategy to develop agricultural statistics that is integrated into their NSDS. The NSDS process that Lao PDR has conducted has already resulted in several positive outcomes: a new statistics law, an official national advocacy day, the upgrading of the DoS into a sub-ministry, renewed trust and interest by the government, agreement to establish a national statistical council and a national partnership (country–donor co-ordination group), and a considerably raised profile for the statistical system as a whole. The Laotian example has achieved such impressive results that the Statistics for Results Facility (SRF) Catalytic Fund has extended an invitation to the country to apply for funds to support strategy implementation.

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Life colors, Mali

Mali improving survey management with ADP

After a successful implementation of the Accelerated Data Program Task 1 in the Malian National Statistical Office (INSTAT) and in the other main statistical units, all past surveys and censuses have been inventoried, documented and archived. A series of local trainings have created the necessary capacity within INSTAT to undertake these tasks as a routine exercise. INSTAT, like all data producers,

is faced with an ever expanding demand for relevant and accurate information. Recognising the potential benefits of providing researchers with access to microdata, INSTAT has embarked on the design and adoption of a formal microdata dissemination policy which meets the requirements of the country's statistical and privacy legislation. This policy is being finalised, after a successful national workshop where users, producers, and legal experts discussed and agreed on the best way to proceed. The practice of providing access to microdata files has been in existence for over 40 years and has recently received greater attention from international statistical agencies. This agenda pursued by INSTAT is supported by the ADP and by local partners (EU, Swedish Cooperation). Mali was one of the very first countries to join the ADP.

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Population Census, El Salvador

Advocacy: Opening a brighter future for statistics in El Salvador

PARIS21 has been particularly active this year in terms of advocacy. The country-level toolkit was rolled out in several countries and provided a good basis for the organisation of specific workshops. NSDS-linked advocacy material was widely produced on demand and disseminated by the countries in specific national and regional events. Advocacy products ranged from booklets,

summaries, leaflets and posters to video clips. Undoubtedly, the first-ever celebration of the World Statistics Day on 20th October 2010 generated even further demand from various countries. For example, with PARIS21 support in 2010, El Salvador produced a poster to mark the occasion, an NSDS booklet that was distributed during the NSDS launching event to high-level participants, along with an NSDS-oriented advocacy clip that was viewed during this same event. As a CENTROESTAD (Statistical Commission of SICA) member, El Salvador also collaborated with PARIS21 to produce a regional booklet on the harmonisation of regional statistics and their importance for the Central American integration process.

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PARIS21 Consortium, Dakar

Making the partnership work in the field

As a partnership PARIS21 is also promoting and fostering better co-ordination of the implementation of activities in beneficiary countries. Two examples of positive work through partnership can be highlighted: (i) the PARIS21 Secretariat systematically encourages the organisation of joint missions in countries to bring more experience and lessons learned into discussions – 16 joint missions on NSDS

were organised in 2010 with a wide range of partners: World Bank, Eurostat, UNECA, Afristat, ACBF, InWent, ENSEA Abidjan, University of Ibadan, FAO and SPC; (ii) the PARIS21 Secretariat is also trying to inform technical and financial partners present in the countries about upcoming missions: for example Eurostat systematically informs EU delegations about the objectives of the mission and the importance of giving support to statistics before the mission; a good practice which should be implemented with more partners.

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ISSER, Accra, Ghana

PRESS 2010: Using data to improve aid

With the third round of the Partner Report on Support to Statistics (PRESS) in 2010, the PARIS21 Secretariat streamlined the data collection process, launching an online questionnaire that resulted in an increased response rate and a more comprehensive harvesting of data. The international community has come to recognise the unique contribution that the PRESS offers to the development and

aid effectiveness agenda, in particular its principles of ownership, managing for results, use of country systems, and mutual accountability. In fact, Eurostat systematically sends the PRESS report to all EU delegations and encourages them to use the data in designing their programmes. In addition, in the margins of its 2010 Committee on Statistics, UNESCAP held a Meeting of Partners for Statistics Development in Asia-Pacific, at which participants agreed to use PRESS data as their official information source to co-ordinate their work.

Mid-Term Review Report

on the

**National Strategy
for the Development
of Statistics (Nsds)**

Mid-Term Review Report, Liberia

Malawi NSO engaged in South-South cooperation

South-South cooperation plays an important role in building capacity, advancing development and promoting mutual benefit. The PARIS21 Secretariat fosters the exchange of best practices, relying on strong country ownership and leadership. For several years PARIS21 has drawn from the experience of former heads of Statistical Offices from developing countries. In 2010,

the Secretariat has again encouraged this approach and has engaged more collaboration with NSOs. For example, high-level experts from the Malawi NSO have facilitated the NSDS process in other countries: in Liberia and Mozambique, they led the mid-term reviews of the NSDS while in Ethiopia the National Statistician of Malawi provided recommendations on the funding mechanisms based on their own experience in terms of basket funding. This kind of support has been greatly appreciated by beneficiary countries and will be expanded by the PARIS21 Secretariat in the future.



Ethiopia Statistical Institute

Microdata access made easier with the new IHSN NADA 3!

In 2010, the International Household Survey Network (IHSN) released the latest version of its free survey cataloging system, the National Data Archive (NADA) 3. NADA makes it possible for a data producer to publish survey and census metadata in a searchable on-line catalog and disseminate datasets according to its policies. NADA is the portal for researchers to browse, search, compare,

apply for access, and download relevant census or survey information. The new NADA provides increased services for data users and additional benefits for data providers, such as features to monitor data use and to follow new data demands. It is fully compliant with the DDI and the OAI international standards. Where it has been implemented, NADA has contributed to a greater visibility and use of data and has improved the visibility of the host institution. NADA is available for download at www.ihsn.org/nada. It is available in Arabic, English, French, Spanish and Russian. Support is available through the Accelerated Data Program.

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The Nabemba Tower, Brazzaville

Reviews: Peers help adjust the course in Benin and Congo

In order to better take into account the quality dimension of the NSDSs, two key activities have been successfully undertaken in 2010: peer review exercises and the midterm reviews of NSDS in Mozambique and Liberia. Two new countries have been reviewed through the peer review exercise (Benin reviewed by Burundi and Guinea and Congo by DRC and Benin). The results of this pilot phase

are very encouraging: the methodology has proven to be relevant; participating countries have been very satisfied with the experience and learned considerably from each other; and other countries are now interested in participating in the exercise. This experience should be continued and scaled up in the coming years, under the responsibility of the African Union Commission.



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Logical framework: the partnership's dashboard

At the November 2009 Consortium meeting, the Partnership endorsed a new strategy for 2010–14 and a Dakar Declaration on the Development of Statistics (DDDS). The Partnership then agreed a logical framework (logframe) to measure progress towards DDDS objectives, with the assistance of a UK-led task team in defining baseline, milestone, and target indicators. The

logframe provides objective measures for progress in the DDDS, including such areas as: implementation of NSDSs, alignment of donor support with NSDSs, funding levels targeting statistical development, co-ordination of statistical activities, and increases in statistical capacity. The Secretariat, in collaboration with the wider Partnership, will produce a report on monitoring the DDDS, drawing on data from the logframe, in time for presentation at the Busan High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in November 2011.

**Activity planning
and follow-up (CMU)** Data input and search**Staff / Non-staff annual
budget planning** Data input**Data (from SAP only)** Search**Reporting**

- Grants analysis
- Budgets analysis
- Costs analysis
- Experts/suppliers analysis

Database management

- Experts & suppliers & other OECD staff
- Grants
- PWB
- Continents
- Geographical regions
- Regional organisations
- Countries
- Chart of accounts
- Currencies
- Reports hierarchy
- PARIS21 activities
- Projects
- Users

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Management Information System: Eurêka!

Human and financial resources have been invested in 2010 to develop and deploy an innovative management information system within the PARIS21 Secretariat. The system, named Eurêka, is built on the OECD corporate financial system and handles many types of information that were not available and analysed up to now. The overall objective of Eurêka is to enable the Secretariat to manage

its activities, to get the clear and concise information needed to take strategic and operational decisions in a more efficient and less time-consuming way. The system also facilitates the exchange of information with an ultimate goal to optimise Secretariat resources and meet the requirements of an expanding number of donors.



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