

MOBILISING CLIMATE CHANGE DATA ECOSYSTEMS FOR BETTER CLIMATE ACTION

About PARIS21 and our work on climate change data

The Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) has as core goal to make progress towards better data for sustainable development. Within its areas of action, PARIS21 promotes better use and production of statistics to support and accelerate climate change mitigation and adaptation actions under Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 13.

In order to build resilient data ecosystems that harness the value of data for transformative climate action, PARIS21 is working together with its partners to facilitate statistical capacity development, advocate for the integration of reliable data into decision making, and create opportunities for South-South co-operation, peer learning and exchange of experiences.

Enabling coherent data ecosystems for climate action

The availability and use of coherent climate change data are crucial to help countries to mitigate the effects of climate change and help societies to adapt to new climate realities. This is particularly relevant for countries at the frontline of climate action such as small island developing states and Least Developed Countries (LDCs), considering their vulnerability and imminent need to adapt to climate change impacts. Yet, many low-capacity countries suffer from the lack of resources and capacity constraints, data and data literacy gaps, weak co-ordination and data stewardship, and outdated regulatory frameworks.

In this light, PARIS21 promotes the development of a climate change data ecosystem, a CCDE, as scoped in the paper "[Envisioning a climate change data ecosystem - A path to co-ordinated climate action](#)", which encourages adopting a systems approach to climate change data to help countries to activate its power to become more resilient. Mobilising a CCDE approach offers countries a multi-stakeholder framework to enhance collaboration across different data and climate communities, including decision makers, government agencies, climate experts, the private sector and civil society. By breaking down silos, a CCDE approach allows to improve climate data interoperability, quality, knowledge, and analytical capacities, all essential to develop more coherent and integrated national climate data systems that can support effective and evidence-based climate action.

Ultimately, strengthening such an ecosystem for climate change data has the potential to support countries in fulfilling their climate monitoring and reporting requirements under the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement, as well as their national mitigation and adaptation plans.

Introducing an assessment framework:

Towards integrated, inclusive and sustainable climate change data ecosystems for better climate action

Currently, PARIS21 is developing a country-level assessment framework of the data landscape for climate change data, with a view to providing guidance for countries on how to mobilise their national CCDEs. Such a framework will facilitate National Statistical Offices (NSOs), line ministries and other critical data actors for climate change to map national climate change data needs, gaps, and key actors, and further assist countries to identify crucial capacity bottlenecks to mobilise the CCDE. These comprise institutional challenges linked to coordination, governance and financing, as well as technical challenges such as interoperability and harmonisation between various data sources and quality standards.

Based on the evidence derived from the assessment, NSOs in collaboration with key line ministries will be able to identify actions to develop capacity in prioritised areas for national climate change data. In particular, the PARIS21 assessment framework facilitates the development of a climate change action plan that can help countries to mobilise resources for more effective use of climate change data across the system.

The proposed assessment framework complements and builds on already existing tools. In particular, the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) [Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool \(ESSAT\)](#), and the Climate Change Statistics / Indicators Self-Assessment Tool (CISAT), the [UNFCCC Enhanced Transparency Framework](#) and assessments such as the [Open Data Inventory framework \(ODIN\)](#).

Events and outreach

- On 5-6 April 2022, [PARIS21 2022 Spring Meetings](#) took place. In this two-day virtual event attended by 400 participants from 100 countries, PARIS21 introduced for the first time the ground-breaking concept of climate change data ecosystems for climate action, and explored challenges and opportunities for leveraging data for climate reporting and action at the country-level.
- On 23-24 August 2022, PARIS21 in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) co-organised the seminar “[Strengthening environment, climate change and disaster information in the Caribbean](#)” in Santiago, Chile. It gathered representatives of the Ministries of Environment and National Statistical Offices from 13 small island developing states from the Caribbean¹. PARIS21 presented its Climate Change Data Ecosystem approach and assessment framework, and engaged with countries and regional partners to discuss critical challenges, best practices and emerging solutions around climate change data in the Caribbean. Contributions from experts validated and informed PARIS21’s current work.

Next steps

1. PARIS21 will present results and main outcomes from the two regional events in the Caribbean and Asia at the 2022 Fall Meetings, held at the OECD in Paris on 9-10 November 2022.
2. PARIS21 will host a virtual side-event at the OECD Virtual Pavilion organized during COP27 on 7-18 November 2022, in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.
3. Awarded with a grant from the Hewlett Foundation, PARIS21 upcoming work during Q42022 and 2023 will focus on testing the Climate Change Data Ecosystems Assessment Framework in a pilot country, together with its partners the Center for Open Data Enterprise (CODE) and Open Data Watch (ODW)..

By securing more long-term funding, PARIS21 will be able to support more countries in developing a more coherent approach to climate change data and in fostering national evidence-based decision-making to address climate change impacts and improve the lives of their citizens.

Explore our work and further resources on Climate Change Data Ecosystems

- “How can data help to accelerate climate action?” Visit our web page [here](#).
- Envisioning a climate change data ecosystem - A path to co-ordinated climate action. Read report [here](#).
- UN ECLAC-PARIS21 seminar Strengthening environment climate change and disaster information in the Caribbean (August 2022). Access event documents [here](#) and [here](#). Watch PARIS21 summary video of the seminar [here](#).
- 2022 PARIS21 Spring Meetings - Data Ecosystems for Climate Action (April 2022). Access event documents, recording and presentations [here](#).
- PARIS21 Expert Workshop exploring an ecosystem approach to data for climate action (December 2021). Read main highlights [here](#).
- “How can societies become more resilient to climate change?” by Cathy Krüger, inter-regional advisor at PARIS21, and Joel Gurin, president of CODE, published by Apolitical. Read article [here](#).
- Series of climate change podcasts. Listen to all episodes [here](#).

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¹ Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.