



Steering Committee Meeting

1–2 July 2003

Secretariat Report to the Steering Committee: November 2002 – June 2003

PARIS21 Secretariat

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I. PARIS21 Executive Summary

PARIS21 has made good progress since the last Steering Committee meeting. Since October 2002, five regional workshops have been held, and 39 countries have identified an action plan to carry out the PARIS21 agenda at the country level. Work on task teams has also advanced considerably. The Statistical Capacity Building Indicators team's questionnaire has been translated and presented at each of the regional workshops and at the UNECA Committee on Development Information (CODI) III meeting. The Improved Statistical Support for Monitoring Development Goals team has begun its international and desk studies and held an international conference in June in Washington, DC. The METAGORA project under the auspices of the Tools and Methods team held an inaugural workshop in Paris in May. On advocacy, the third and fourth issues of the PARIS21 newsletter have been published, and a directory of PARIS21 Consortium members is now available. The advocacy video has seen further exposure at regional workshops and international conferences, and its script has been translated into several languages. A team of evaluators has consulted with many stakeholders and recently completed an evaluation of PARIS21. Partnership has been strengthened with the Asian Development Bank and Inter-American Development Bank as well as the UN Regional Commission statistical units and some bilateral countries.

Regional Workshop and Country Follow-up

The PARIS21 evaluation has shown very strong support from countries for regional and national workshops. Not only have these offered opportunities to network with and learn from neighbouring countries and the international community, but the partnerships with users and decisionmakers which are forged at the workshops lead to country-owned action plans which, as the evaluation has shown, most country teams have continued to develop after the workshop is over. One of the weaknesses identified by the evaluation team of the regional activities is the follow through from PARIS21 after the workshop. Future follow-up would enable PARIS21 to introduce further energy and momentum to be directed into implementation of the action plans and for PARIS21 to take a more effective role. In addition, partners could evaluate more effectively the successes and weaknesses of their workshops.

Each country team attending a PARIS21 regional workshop develops its own action plan for implementation after the meeting. Typically, plans include actions for better use of data, promoting statistics, improving relations with the media, policymakers, and users, developing dissemination and communications policies, conducting national stakeholders' workshops, investigating best practices in the region, and embarking on strategic statistical planning activities. The PARIS21 evaluation has shown that countries are taking these action plans seriously and initiating follow-up.

To date, PARIS21 has taken a reactive position to country follow-up, responding to direct country requests and facilitating follow-up in a number of countries. This involvement has ranged from assisting in the organisation of full stakeholders' workshops and the drafting of Trust Fund applications, to liaising with bilateral donors for support or sourcing consultants and regional expertise to assist with the development of statistical plans. In the last six months, Chad, Congo–Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Mauritania, South Africa, and Zambia have all been assisted in this way.

PARIS21 proposes to adopt a more systematic approach to country follow-up in the future. A second round of workshops has been proposed by the evaluation team. While individual country follow-up is possible, a workshop would be a more efficient means of utilising limited staff resources in the Secretariat. Phase II workshops were recommended to the evaluators by countries. These workshops would help track progress with the plans, find solutions to the obstacles that countries may have encountered, recommend a second round of actions, and enable more advanced countries to share their experiences of follow-up and strategic plan development with countries thinking of taking similar steps. Progress with new agreements and instruments such as peer reviews of statistical systems, advocacy materials, donor co-ordination, and stakeholder workshops could also be introduced.

Each country would report systematically on its statistical activities. Countries asked that a common format for these reports be agreed, and PARIS21 will play a part in ensuring that these reports include a report of ongoing statistical production activities and the use of statistics in policymaking as well as the results of peer

reviews, stakeholder consultations, indicators of statistical capacity, GDDS plans, and donor support to statistical systems. Status of PRSP and MDG indicator needs should also be included. In this way, the country reports will provide a focus for support for statistical activities and serve to harmonise donor activity. Further, country reports will feed directly into the future Report on Statistics for Development to be prepared by PARIS21.

Donor Co-ordination

Many activities related to the development of national statistical systems are carried out by various partners, but the information and the relevant documentation is inadequately disseminated. Often, similar activities such as the evaluation of the statistical system are carried out several times. While the collaboration and co-ordination among donors is in some way satisfactory at the headquarters level, there is no systematic tool to support the co-ordination at the country level. PARIS21 is proposing to collect and make available the existing information on the development of statistical system by country (the Partnership Library of Statistical System Documentation — PARLISTAT). By serving as a repository of documentation on national statistical systems, PARLISTAT would facilitate the work of both the countries and the donors supporting them and be a tool for the national and international statistical systems. Stakeholders would access this online database for an up-to-date account of all work on developing and evaluating a national statistical system that is currently being done and that has already been done in a particular country by stakeholders.

New Task Teams

The PARIS21 task team feature seems to be popular among the international statistical community, as evidenced by an increasing demand for more teams. This interest could be a result of a growing awareness of the need to harmonise and collaborate, but these activities are being impeded by a rigidity of the institutional structures to facilitate it. PARIS21 offers an informal, open space to discuss and propose solutions to specific issues. The task team approach attempts to answer different types of needs. The first is to produce a tool, an instrument which will support the PARIS21 agenda such as the SCBI, the strategic statistical development plan, or instruments for measuring governance and human rights as in METAGORA. Once it is developed, it has to be applied, and the application becomes part of the work programme of PARIS21 or of other institutions. The second type is to provide a forum for debate and research. The task teams on Population Census and Improved Statistical Support for Monitoring Development Goals are examples of this second type of team. Several requests/ideas for new teams have been proposed: (i) costing of statistical activities and financing; (ii) statistical training (SIAP, ENSEA); (iii) sub-national statistics (World Bank); (iii) employment statistics (ILO); (iv) multisectoral data for decentralised governance and local accountability (academia, foundations); and (v) statistics dissemination (Italy).

The success and popularity of the task teams suggest that PARIS21 ought to continue its support to both the existing and new teams. The Steering Committee has to be very selective in agreeing to establish new task teams.

Advocacy

Advocating for the use of statistics and the importance of an evidence-based culture is a key element of PARIS21's work and is perhaps its most defining characteristic. The success of the advocacy video makes obvious the demand for advocacy activities at the country level. In addition to advocacy at the country level, there is also a need to advocate for the use of statistics and the need to support statistical activities within international and regional institutions. It has been more satisfactory to incorporate this core area of work as part of the regular Secretariat work programme, but it is still not effective enough. To improve the impact of this activity, there is need to:

- design a strategy for advocating for the importance of statistics at the national, sub-regional, and international levels including strategies for action within international and regional institutions;
- continue to develop appropriate tools and instruments to support advocacy including documenting best practices and to prepare materials that can be adapted by countries to suit their situations;
- develop an action plan to intervene at critical moments of policy design and review at the country level (Consultative Group, PRSP review, etc.) and international and regional levels; and

- provide the Secretariat with professional staff in the field.

The Secretariat will prepare a detailed advocacy strategy for the next Consortium meeting.

Reporting

The need to report regularly on the use of statistics for development, and on the status and trends of the national statistical systems in developing and transition countries, is now more acute than ever. It is proposed that PARIS21 launch a report on the progress of statistical capacity worldwide with the strong participation of national and international statistical institutions as a condition of its success. The objective would be to report on the progress in using statistics in the development of policies and in monitoring their effectiveness via the MDGs and PRSPs. The report would also highlight the evolution, constraints, and best practices in statistical systems and would propose recommendations. The report will use the SCBI as performance and trend indicators. The audience would be the key policymakers in the international community and in developing countries. The report would be an output of the partnership between countries and sub-regional, regional, and international institutions. The Secretariat will produce a concept note for such a report which would include implementation processes.

Secretariat Staffing

Since PARIS21's inception, partners have agreed that the PARIS21 Secretariat should be light and not another large organisation; however, it has to be recognised that the volume and the scope of the work programme implies an expansion of the Secretariat. Country follow-up depends directly on human resources allocated to the task. After three years of implementation, it is possible to assess what will be a reasonable and minimum size for the Secretariat assuming that the work programme has the same scope.

Fund Raising and Partnership

Since the creation of PARIS21, the total amount of funding is €5.3 million plus €800,000 funding offers. This amount does not include co-financing of regional workshops by institutions that were in charge of the organisation of these events (Afristat; Asian Development Bank; Governments of Cameroon, Senegal, Nigeria, and El Salvador). The amount of actual expenditure is €3.8 million as of May 31, 2003, plus €488,000 of already committed expenditure for salaries (various time periods), and events which will take place in September 2003. The cost of additional activities planned for the period June–December 2003 is €770,000. Some activities planned for 2004 are already financed (mainly Asian workshops) through earmarked funding for €283,000. The total cumulative expenditure until December 2003 is expected to be €5.95 million, leaving a balance of €141,000.

Depending on the decision of the Steering Committee, the extension of PARIS21 will require a financing of approximately €2.5 million per year assuming that the program of activities will be as planned. Some commitments have already been made verbally. PARIS21 needs strong support from the Steering Committee to launch fund raising actions for the period 2004–2006. This fund raising could be coupled with the replenishment of the Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building.

II. Description of PARIS21 Activities

A – PARIS21 Management

A-1 PARIS21 Reporting

On 18 February 2003, PARIS21 presented its annual report to the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and from 4–7 March 2003 its annual report to the United Nations Statistical Commission at the UNSC’s 34th Session. Both reports highlight PARIS21’s objectives and achievements and define its outputs. PARIS21 intends to submit a new report to the DAC in the second quarter of 2003 after the evaluation is complete. PARIS21 will also submit a report on statistical capacity building as well as a report on the dissemination of statistics (in collaboration with the Italian National Statistical Institute) to the UNSC in March 2004.

A-2 Evaluation

Since the last Steering Committee meeting, bids for the evaluation of PARIS21 were submitted, and the Evaluation Reference Group selected the winning proposal. Oxford Policy Management Ltd. began work on the evaluation—which was funded by the World Bank Development Grant Facility—in April 2003 and provided an inception report based on a review of key documents supplied by the Secretariat. Interviews were conducted throughout April and May, and a preliminary report was received 19 May. A draft Evaluation report will be presented at the July 2003 Steering Committee meeting and will be finalised for the Consortium Meeting by mid-August.

A-3 Steering Committee

By the next PARIS21 Steering Committee (to be held in October 2003), the terms for developing country representatives to the Steering Committee will have come to an end. The election process for these positions must be reviewed by then. The Steering Committee can either choose to maintain the current election process of six representatives (one from each developing country region) or can adopt the recommendations outlined in the Evaluation report under paragraph 83.

A-4 Individual Membership

A review of Consortium membership was started by the Secretariat in March 2002. A new category for individual members was created, OM or “other member.” This category corresponds to the potential members identified, participants who have attended meetings, contacts made during missions, etc., but who have not officially registered themselves. An online membership form was made available on the website and has already produced 145 new individual members since August 2002. The total number of “partners” (i.e., members and other members) as of 31 May 2003 is 1855 from 163 different countries. The summary table in Annex V lists in descending order the number of members per country. Please see the full directory of partners sorted by country in the Membership Directory [*document#*: P21/SC1(2003)4].

A-5 Institutional Membership

PARIS21 has put in place a strategy to deepen its relationship with partner countries and institutions. A “Memorandum of Understanding” (MOU) is becoming the standard element in this kind of partnership. Neither a financially nor legally binding arrangement, the MOU is instead a substantial agreement on mutual objectives to improve statistical capacity in developing countries. The first MOU was signed with the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States. Currently under preparation is an MOU with the Asian Development Bank. MOUs also serve the purpose of establishing PARIS21 Consortium membership for the institution. For a draft MOU, see Annex II.

A-6 General Administration

On 9 May 2003, the PARIS21 Secretariat, along with the rest of the OECD's Development Co-operation Directorate, relocated from its offices at the OECD headquarters at La Muette to the Tour Europe building at La Défense. PARIS21's mailing address, phone numbers, fax numbers, and email addresses all remain the same.¹ As a result of this move, PARIS21 is now responsible for paying the rent for part of the Secretariat office space in La Défense.

A-7 Human Resources

The Secretariat received additional support from INSEE, France with a *Chargé de mission* who is responsible for relations with PARIS21 partners. He started in December 2002. A consultant was hired in December 2002 to organise the work for Latin America countries including the El Salvador workshop and the follow-up activities for Andean Community and Central America countries. Two OECD project posts were created in May 2003 for information exchange and membership activities. Finally, the seconded staff member from DFID will leave the Secretariat in August 2003: she was in charge of Southern and East Africa region activities and advocacy, *inter alia*.

A-8 Partnership/Fund Raising

Several donor countries and international institutions have already decided to participate in PARIS21 activities and to contribute financially, such as the United Kingdom, World Bank, France, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Ireland, Sweden, the European Commission, and Japan.

A systematic contact with all country members of the OECD/DAC has been started in order to deepen existing partnerships and to create new ones. So far, contacts have been initiated with Luxembourg, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Norway, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, and Finland.

B – Knowledge Base and Advocacy

PARIS21 has continued to broaden its reach of statistical advocacy through the medium of film. Building on the success of its first film, PARIS21 obtained new, recent footage that will lead to additional advocacy messages for both video and digital distribution. Furthermore, PARIS21 has created a new workshop guide for use in organising country workshops. The former Advocacy task team has also provided the basis for continuing work in revising the *Why Statistics?* materials. Combined, these tools form a growing collection of PARIS21's knowledge base and advocacy materials.

B-1 Advocacy films

The advocacy video, entitled *Measuring the Change in World Poverty*, has been shown at every PARIS21 sub-regional workshop since the last Steering Committee meeting: Manila, Philippines; Yaoundé, Cameroon; Dakar, Senegal; Abuja, Nigeria; and San Salvador, El Salvador. Since its completion, the film has also been shown at various OECD and international meetings. Comments from developing country users and producers of statistics, DAC delegates, academics, and international donors continue to laud its effectiveness in statistical advocacy. The film is available in a variety of video formats and on the PARIS21 website. Over 200 copies have been selectively distributed since October 2002, including at the recent OECD Forum and Ministerial Conference in Paris in April 2003.

¹ To visit the Secretariat, visitors must now go to the following address:

PARIS21 Secretariat
Tour Europe
First Floor
33, place des Corolles
La Défense FRANCE

Demand for the advocacy video has grown in the past year and requires that PARIS21 expand its target audience. The script for the original, English-language film has since been translated into French, Russian, Albanian, and Spanish. An Arabic version is currently being produced. The result of these translations will be a multilingual DVD that will enable viewers to choose subtitles for the original English-language film. This option is already available in French and Spanish.

The film's popularity enabled PARIS21 to persuade ministers and other meeting participants at the PARIS21 regional workshop in Dakar to be interviewed for a second film which will focus on Francophone Africa. PARIS21 also secured footage at the April 2003 meeting of the Ministers of Finance and Governors of Central Banks of the Zone Franc in Niamey, Niger. A third collection of footage, filmed at the PARIS21 workshop in San Salvador, will contribute to the production of a film for a Latin American audience.

The Secretariat is now developing an archive of statistical advocacy videos, using film footage collected over the last six months of senior policymakers and politicians speaking about the importance of using statistical information in the policymaking process. This will be made available to PARIS21 partners wishing to use video material for advocacy purposes.

B-2 Workshop Guide

A guide for partners wishing to undertake stakeholders' workshops is now available in draft form. This practical tool provides guidance in preparing for and conducting workshops for the users and producers of statistical systems. It includes a checklist of activities in the planning, implementation, and follow-up of country or regional workshops with supplemental reference materials. The guide includes several films which could be shown at these workshops. There are two advocacy films featuring interviews with Clare Short and Trevor Manuel and two training films on best practices from Uganda: *Tips for Developing Indicators and Monitoring Health Reforms*.

B-3 Advocacy materials

Since the absorption of the Advocacy task team into the Secretariat work programme, significant progress has been made in updating the *Why Statistics?* materials. The former task team convenor from the World Bank has met with the Secretariat several times since the last progress report to help develop this work and to jointly complete the *Why Statistics?* website for general use. Examples of good practice in using statistics for evidence-based policymaking will be added over the coming months. For information on the revision of the *Why Statistics?* advocacy materials, please see Annex IV.

Posters, brochures, and other products will become available after the evaluation process is complete and will include any changes of emphasis.

B-4 PARIS21 Advocacy Materials

A PARIS21 poster has been developed and is currently available in six different bilingual combinations (English with Arabic, Chinese, French, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish). These posters are available to accompany presentations at workshops, seminars, task team meetings, etc. A master PowerPoint presentation (145 slides) is also under preparation, and the first draft is currently under review. The idea behind creating this master presentation is to gather and summarise PARIS21's background, vision, and activities, so that this presentation could be adapted to the specific needs of the presenter/situation. The presentation can also be tailored for use by those representing PARIS21 at other meetings.

C – Information Exchange

C-1 Newsletter

Two new issues of the newsletter have been published since the last progress report (*Volume 1, Number 3* in November 2002 and *Volume 2, Number 1* in March 2003). A Russian translation of the newsletter has been

added to accompany the English, French, Spanish, and Arabic versions. The March 2003 issue included an unprecedented number of country reports (25 in total). The newsletter is intended to encourage South–South co-operation and the exchange of best practices. The Secretariat will conduct an evaluation of the effectiveness of the newsletter in the coming months to measure these objectives and will revise its content and dissemination accordingly.

C–2 Website

The PARIS21 website is updated regularly. The Secretariat frequently receives compliments regarding the site’s usefulness. New items on the site include the agendas, papers, presentations, and reports from the South East Asia Regional Forum, Central Africa Sub-Regional Workshop, both West Africa Sub-Regional Workshops, and the Central America Sub-Regional Workshop.

The general meetings page has been revised to be more user-friendly and now includes a listing of PARIS21 missions. Updates to the pages of the following task teams have also taken place: Improved Statistical Support for Monitoring Development Goals, Statistical Capacity Building Indicators, and Strategic Statistical Development Plan. Both issues of the newsletter that have been published since the last progress report have been placed online, in both text and PDF formats.

The Secretariat has also created an archive of country documentation on the site. The page contains country presentations and reports delivered at PARIS21–related events such as task team meetings, national and regional workshops, and Consortium meetings. The presentations often include a description of the national statistical system and user–producer issues. The archive currently contains pages for 66 countries, and partners are invited to post material.

For its regional workshops, the Secretariat systematically produces a CD-ROM of the entire website, which is distributed to participants. These CD-ROMs are intended to allow developing country participants who do not necessarily have reliable or fast Internet connections to access the wealth of information available on the PARIS21 site.

C–3 Consultants Roster

Following a call for experts on the PARIS21 website and in the PARIS21 newsletter, the Secretariat has compiled a database of consultants with varying specialties in the development/statistical field. Currently, over 60 consultants have submitted their CVs. Partners are increasingly requesting assistance from PARIS21 in locating consultants. It is planned to post more information about using this resource on the website and to expand the range of skills included in the roster.

C–4 PARLISTAT

The development of national statistical systems and co-ordination among donors have been impeded by various factors, including a duplication of efforts in developing statistical systems and the lack of an appropriate mechanism to support donor co-ordination at the country level. To address these and other issues hampering the development of national statistical systems, the Secretariat proposes to establish, in the form of an online database, the “Partnership Library of Statistical System Documentation” (PARLISTAT). This site would be intended as a resource for development partners and all interested parties at the international and national level to access the existing country-level documentation on national statistical systems and the use of statistics to improve policymaking. The site would feature website addresses, information on statistical activities, status reports, mission reports, presentations, speeches, video clips, etc. See Annex I for more details on PARLISTAT’s context, objectives, and proposed management structure. The Secretariat will develop a pilot test and project document including budget and time tables.

D – Task Teams and Studies

Brief updates for the task teams that have been particularly active during the period under review:

D-1 Census

At the June 2003 Interagency Census Coordination Committee (ICCC) for Sub-Saharan Africa meeting in Washington, DC, the Census task team convener made a presentation on “Follow-up to PARIS21 2001 Pretoria Meeting on Census Data Dissemination and Advocacy.” Statistics South Africa has requested a follow-up International Seminar to the 2001 meeting to explore the role of new technology in the 2000 round of censuses and the lessons learned. It will be held on 10–12 November 2003 in Pretoria, South Africa. The seminar will be followed by a small two-day Expert Group Meeting on 13–14 November to develop census advocacy materials. Earlier this year, UNFPA published “Counting the People: Constraining Census Costs and Assessing Alternative Approaches” arising out of earlier work of the task team.

D-2 Strategic Statistical Development Plan

In addition to collecting and posting relevant strategic statistical plan documentation to the team’s website, the team convener organised an *ad hoc* meeting at the First Regional Seminar on the International Comparison Programme for Africa (ICP–Africa) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in mid-May 2003. Participants recommended that countries that do not yet have a strategic statistical development plan put one in place, along the lines presented by PARIS21. Participants expressed the need for a guide for developing these plans, which the convener intends to draft by mid-2003. The Nigerian representative in attendance also requested training in strategic planning.

It is planned that an initial version of the guidelines will be presented and discussed at the PARIS21 Consortium meeting in October 2003. The way forward will also be discussed during the meeting, including issues such as development and dissemination of operational materials, needs for training in strategic planning and implementation of the guidelines, and use of an expanded SCBI questionnaire and of peer reviews in conjunction with the guidelines.

D-3 Rural and Agricultural Statistics

Following the High-level Seminar organised in September 2002 in Paris, the Interim Regional Project Proposal for “Strengthening Agricultural Statistics for Poverty Reduction and Food Security in Rural Africa” was approved by the World Bank Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (approximately 400,000 \$US for 18 months) in May 2003. The proposal includes regional capacity building activities open to all African countries and country activities to be conducted in Kenya and Rwanda. The main activities in the Interim Proposal are the following:

- Analysis of PRSPs and the Food and Agricultural Statistics System (FASS)
- Institutional/legal framework and food and agricultural statistics components of PRSP/food security programmes formulated and integrated in the national strategic statistical plans of the two pilot countries (Kenya and Rwanda)
- Research on priority indicators for rural poverty and food insecurity
- Analysis and dissemination of existing data in Kenya and Rwanda
- Regional training courses: One regional training course in agricultural census/survey data processing and archiving (FAO, World Bank) and one pilot training course in data analysis
- Documentation and dissemination of good practices

During this interim period, the main Regional Capacity Building Project Proposal was developed, and the support of PARIS21 was important for steering the process and mobilising resources.

As a follow-up to the Paris seminar, the team organised an informal meeting in February 2003 at FAO headquarters in Rome (with the participation of FAO, PARIS21, EU, French Co-operation) which resulted in the commitment by the French Co-operation to fund a complementary FAO project to expand the activities included in the Interim Regional Proposal to other countries (Mali and Senegal) and future regional activities. This commitment will also include the preparation and adoption of a Charter and Guiding Principles for good practices for statistical information systems (with particular focus on rural and agricultural statistics in Africa). The proposal will have a budget of approximately \$US400,000 for 24 months. These two regional capacity building projects are major achievements of the task team in Africa.

The team's outputs also include reports and documents prepared during the Paris seminar, which are accessible on the website.

The work of the task team has so far focussed only on the Africa region. However, the activities of the team are being expanded to Asia and the Pacific with the support of the Senior Statistician in the FAO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific (RAP). A presentation was made on the work of the team during the last meeting of the FAO's Asia and Pacific Commission for Agricultural Statistics (APCAS) in October 2002 in Seoul, Korea. The Senior Statistician of RAP is working with PARIS21 to organise a workshop on rural and agricultural statistics for the Pacific (in Nadi, Fiji from 9–13 November 2003) followed by a workshop for Asia (tentatively, in New Delhi in August or September 2004) in conjunction with the 20th Session of APCAS.

The French Co-operation has also agreed to allocate €124,000 to PARIS21 for (1) the development of an advocacy strategy in the collection, analysis, and use of agricultural and rural development statistics and (2) the creation of a report on the state of agricultural and rural development statistics in Africa.

D-4 Improved Statistical Support for Monitoring Development Goals

Since the first meeting of the task team in October 2002, phase 1 of a study of the international statistical system has been completed, along with the desk-based work for two of the six country case studies (Malawi and Pakistan). The aim of the international study is to systematically catalogue information about the data collection processes and recording systems needed to provide statistics for the international indicator system, and to agree the actions necessary at the international level to harmonise these processes and resolve inconsistencies in indicator estimates. The country case studies are designed to identify data inconsistencies and to validate the results of the international study and to assess national capacities to provide information for the development indicators.

A meeting of the joint task team convenors (Eurostat and the World Bank) was held in Luxembourg in March 2003. DFID were also represented, since they provided funding for consultants to help the team with the initial phases of the international study and country case studies. A second team meeting was held as part of an international conference on "Improving Statistics for Measuring Development Outcomes" in Washington, DC in June 2003. The results of the studies were presented to this conference and are available on the conference website (www.worldbank.org/data/intconference.html). The conference agreed with the main conclusions of the studies and supported a further phase of the work to develop work plans to address key issues. Revised TORs for this phase will be posted on the PARIS21 website once they are agreed.

D-5 Tools and Methods

In October 2002, the Steering Committee approved the creation of a new task team on "Tools and Methods" that will assess progress and results of pilot work aiming at strengthening the use of statistics and quantitative methods for proper evidence-based monitoring of development policies. The team will consider the relevance of new statistical tools and methods for assessing multi-dimensional aspects of poverty and for measuring progress towards the development goals. The draft terms of reference for this team are in Annex III.

As a first stage of its work, the team will periodically assess the implementation of a two-year pilot project on "Methods and Tools for Assessing Governance through Reporting and Analysis" (METAGORA), financed by the EC, France, Sweden, and Switzerland. This project focuses, *inter alia*, on measuring quality and efficiency of governance and rights-based development. It intends to meet the needs expressed by the UN Statistical Commission concerning the development of a statistical basis and indicators for the measurement of governance and human rights. METAGORA will consist of pilot field operations conducted in several countries around the world and substantial conceptual work conducted by a panel of statisticians. An Advisory Board of the project will gather representatives from some 30 national and international organisations involved or strongly interested in the implementation of METAGORA.

The project will be conducted by an *ad hoc* team of five individuals who will begin work within the PARIS21 Secretariat later this year. The contractual arrangements between the EC and OECD have been established and a partnership agreement is being agreed between the organisations concerned with the project's implementation. This kind of partnership agreement is new to OECD and will offer considerable benefits to all concerned once the institutional complexities have been resolved.

The team delivered a presentation on "Information for assessing and improving governance: The Pilot Approach of METAGORA" at the CODI III meeting 10–17 May in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and held a strategic seminar to launch its activities on 24 May 2003 in Paris.

D–6 Other

At the 34th Session of the UN Statistical Commission in March 2003, the PARIS21 Secretariat fielded requests for new PARIS21 task teams on health statistics, sub-national statistics, improved dissemination of statistics, and statistical training. At a meeting with an International Labour Organization representative in mid-April 2003, PARIS21 was also asked to host a labour statistics task team. Discussions with some of the relevant organisations are underway.

An interagency meeting was recently hosted by Reading University (UK) to explore "Better use of multisectoral data, for decentralised governance and local accountability". This interagency group of PARIS21 partners is exploring methods for delivering better local statistics and for utilising sectoral data more effectively to explore cross-cutting issues such as poverty reduction. Besides energising decentralisation processes and monitoring service delivery, there is evidence that the use of administrative data locally increases its quality and could be expected to improve administrative data generally. The group, which may propose a future task team, is expected to consider new and appropriate technology such as poverty mapping with overlays of other information to enable data from different sources to be linked together. The interpretation and accessibility of data from several sectors by decisionmakers will be a key consideration for the group.

E – Regional Workshops

As mentioned in the October 2002 progress report, PARIS21 regional workshops include three components:

- Each country delegation presents the key problems being experienced and success stories in developing their statistical system to inform policy decisions. A data user and a data producer present their cases separately.
- Donors respond to the problems presented by countries and outline their ongoing or planned programmes of support in the participating countries. The statistical needs of the international community are also addressed.
- The participants then propose actions and outline plans to be taken forward at the country and international levels.

E–1 Africa Regional Workshops

West and Central Africa

In partnership with the national authorities of Cameroon, Senegal, and Nigeria; the sub-regional organisations of ECOWAS, CEMAC, and Afristat; and in collaboration with other development partners, PARIS21 organised a single-session workshop for Central African countries and a second workshop in two sessions for West African countries. The Central Africa workshop was held in Yaoundé, Cameroon from 9–11 December 2002. The first session of the West Africa workshop was held in Dakar, Senegal from 21–23 January 2003 and the second session in Abuja, Nigeria from 18–20 March 2003.

The Yaoundé workshop comprised the six members of CEMAC (Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, and Gabon) plus Sao Tome and Principe; each country delegation included up to five participants. Other countries were also invited to participate, but with a delegation of two people. Those countries who attended were Burundi, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Rwanda.

The Dakar session of the West Africa workshop included Cape Verde, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, and Sierra Leone as participating countries and Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo as observer countries. The roles were reversed at the Abuja session.

The workshops developed a list of priority activities, country by country, for the national delegations to propose to their authorities and partners to quickly improve the use of available statistics and to prepare or strengthen the implementation of statistical system development strategies that better respond to all of the priority needs resulting from national policies and strategies.

The workshops confirmed a long-standing, region-wide desire for assistance in developing national strategic statistical development plans. In fact, Chad, Congo-Brazzaville, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, Mauritania, Senegal, and Togo have since expressed their interest in obtaining assistance in developing their plans, of which one component would be a national workshop. At the three regional workshops, countries also highlighted the need for increased efforts in developing advocacy products. A French-language advocacy video was identified as a priority. PARIS21 is in the process of developing this film and sent a crew to Niamey, Niger in early April to interview ministers at an Afristat Council of Ministers meeting. Countries also affirmed their willingness to assist with a PARIS21-proposed online database of national statistical system documentation.

The presentations of international, regional, sub-regional as well as bilateral initiatives and technical assistance activities made clear that little information is exchanged about programmes among partners, resulting in duplication of efforts and conflicting priorities and agendas at the country level. Discussions following the presentations stressed the need for better co-ordination, harmonisation, and synergy between partners and recipient countries.

Continent-wide

Timed to coincide with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa's Third Meeting of the Committee on Development Information (CODI III), PARIS21 and UNECA organised a special working group on "Governance for Development: Future Directions for Statistics." The CODI III meeting took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 10–17 May 2003. The PARIS21/UNECA workshop was held 11 May. The participants in the PARIS21/UNECA seminar were heads of statistics offices, representatives from sub-regional bodies, and the international statistical organisations including the IMF, World Bank, European Commission, and the U.S. Bureau of the Census and academic institutions. The seminar generated a

Each country delegation at the Central & West Africa Workshops developed a prioritised country action plan for implementation after the meetings. The common themes of the action plans were:

- Seeking national political and financial support for statistics
- Production of a statistical advocacy video at the country-level
- Making existing data more available to a variety of users, especially for PRSPs and the MDGs
- Identifying and disseminating national good practice in the production and use of statistical data
- Development of a communication and dissemination policy
- Statistical assessment of the PRSP requirements as a framework for determining priority statistical demand
- Launching a strategic planning process for statistical development
- Holding workshops for national users and producers of statistical data as an element of the strategic planning process for statistical development
- Production of indicators on statistical capacity building and the completion of the SCBI questionnaire
- Collection and dissemination of documents related to the development of statistical systems (mission reports, project documents, work programmes, etc.)
- Production of a report on the state of national statistical systems (national, regional, global) and ways in which statistical data is being used
- Support for country donor coordination mechanisms

recommendation adopting peer reviews of statistical systems that was formally adopted by the CODI III plenary session; that “member states adopt a process for assessing the statistical capacity of member states. Initially volunteer countries should undertake the testing and adoption of tools and processes for the peer review of statistical capacity for adoption as part of the NEPAD commitment supported by an expert group provided by UNECA/PARIS21.” Six African countries have informally agreed to participate in this process, and Ghana, Kenya, and Zambia have volunteered to pilot a process.

In December 2002, PARIS21 attended the inaugural meeting for the International Comparison Programme for Africa (ICP–Africa) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. At that meeting, it was agreed that a member of the PARIS21 Consortium would serve on the ICP–Africa Governing Board. The objectives of the global ICP programme are to “provide statistics that allow cross-country comparisons of economic aggregates in real terms by using observed PPPs as conversion factors.” In the programme’s Africa component, the intent is “to strengthen national statistical capacity in price and national accounts and as such, ICP-Africa is anchored on a comprehensive and coherent statistical capacity building program.” PARIS21 also sent a representative to ICP–Africa’s First Regional Seminar, which was held in Addis Ababa from 19–23 May 2003. At that meeting, the convenor of PARIS21’s task team on Strategic Statistical Development Plans took the opportunity to hold an *ad hoc* team meeting (for further details, see section D–2 above).

Once the PARIS21 Regional Forum for Arab States (rescheduled for 8–10 September 2003 in Amman) is completed, all African countries except Madagascar will have participated in one of the PARIS21 regional workshops. Proposals have been made and contributions offered to hold a national workshop for Madagascar, to which neighbouring francophone countries could be invited.

Some country representatives have already expressed the need for a second round of regional workshops to evaluate and build on the impacts that previous PARIS21 workshop have had on the countries’ statistical capacity in the Africa region. It would also give the opportunity to agree processes for taking forward at the country level new topics such as statistical governance, the statistical peer review mechanism, training in statistics, costing of statistics, co-ordination of technical assistance, etc.

A common theme arising from PARIS21 workshops, task team meetings, the CODI statistics sub-committee meeting, the ICP–Africa first regional seminar, and the various meetings of sub-regional institutions is the need to improve communications between partners and to harmonise activities. There is also a need to further discuss and improve dissemination of statistical information, harmonisation and comparability of statistical data (MDG, national accounts, prices, etc.), priority setting, surveys and census programming at the continent level, dissemination of best practices, synergies between international, bilateral, regional and sub-regional initiatives and their governance, etc. It has therefore been proposed to convene, within the next twelve months, a seminar for all heads of statistics units of all the central and development banks, sub-regional and regional organisations in Africa, as well as units of international and bilateral institutions directly contributing to statistical capacity building in the region.

E–2 Central America Regional Workshops

In partnership with El Salvador authorities, ECLAC, the IDB, and SICA, the PARIS21 Secretariat organised a workshop on statistical capacity building for Central American countries. The workshop took place from 7–9 May 2003 in San Salvador and brought together 85 participants from the sub-region, from other countries in Latin America as observers, and from international, regional, and bilateral organisations. The participating countries were Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama.

Reactions to the workshop were very positive. Results from the workshop’s evaluation questionnaire show that a very large majority, nearly 90 percent of the participants, felt that the workshop’s goals (advocacy to policymakers, users, and society in general on the need for good statistics; identifying how to best respond to data users’ needs; improving the use of statistics; and promoting the integration of statistics in the region) had been satisfactory.

The workshop had four main components: a presentation from each country on its statistical situation prepared by national policymakers and data producers and users; presentations from international, regional, and bilateral organisations; group sessions for each country and organisation; and an overview of the

problems and solutions in the national statistical systems of the sub-region—a facilitator assisting in drawing out these issues.

Each country outlined the problems in their statistical systems and ranked the most serious weaknesses. The countries and the region can now define goals that, once prioritised, will constitute a proposal of strategic objectives for the region to promote statistical system development.

It was agreed that each country would develop a statistical policy, in collaboration with key stakeholders and representatives of civil society. This policy would be an integral part of the strategic statistical development plan that the countries also agreed to develop and implement. National stakeholder workshops would be a part of the planning process.

Workshop participants agreed to establish an institutional authority for statistical co-ordination within the region, linked to the region's current integration body, the Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana (SICA). A recommendation letter signed by the Central American statistical directors and addressed to SICA affirms the necessity for creating this co-ordinating body to oversee the development and harmonisation of national statistical systems. Honduras then hosted a follow-up meeting from 5 to 7 June 2003 with all the statistical directors of the zone to move this project forward. Participants agreed to create a Council of Statistics in Central America and a temporary secretariat to co-ordinate the creation of the council. The secretariat is to be managed by the National Institute of Statistics of Honduras.

Issues Discussed during the Central American Workshop

Each country delegation gave its impressions on the following issues:

- Launching its strategic statistical development plan
- Holding a national workshop for data users and producers as a first step toward developing statistical plans
- Producing indicators on statistical capacity building
- Drafting a national, subregional, and worldwide report on the state of statistical systems and the use of statistics
- Defining the elements of a subregional programme for Central American statistics

E-3 Arab States Regional Workshops

In collaboration with the League of Arab States and the Department of Statistics of Jordan and with the support of the European Commission, PARIS21 is organising a forum to bring together officials from all Arab countries to review national and regional statistical needs and to promote the use of statistics in policymaking. The forum was originally scheduled for 28–30 April 2003 but, due to the tense situation in the region, has been postponed until 8–10 September 2003 and will be held, as proposed, in Amman, Jordan.

All 22 member states of the League of Arab States are invited to participate: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. The specific objectives of the forum are to foster the dialogue between key national and regional stakeholders among users and producers of statistics and to explore modalities of follow-up at the country level to produce further activities and plans aiming at strengthening national statistical systems to both provide the information required to set and monitor policy and to stimulate demand for such information among decisionmakers.

Expected Output:

The forum intends to increase awareness of the role of statistics in policymaking directly through the forum programme and indirectly through an advocacy strategy to be designed and implemented in the course of planning and implementation of the forum. Specifically, the following outputs will be sought:

- Raised awareness among decisionmakers in the importance of preparing national statistical priority programmes.
- Consensus on co-ordination of statistical activities at the national, regional, and international levels.
- An increased interest in a follow-up action plan at the national level.

A Preparatory Group from the region was formed and mandated by the Statistics Commission of the Arab League to follow up on the planning and implementation of the Forum. The group consists of representatives from Egypt, Jordan, Oman, Palestine, Tunis, ESCWA, and LAS. The group has met twice so far and is overseeing preparations through virtual communications.

E-4 Asia Regional Workshops

The Asian Development Bank and PARIS21 co-organised a “High Level Forum on Statistical Capacity Building for ASEAN Countries” from 7–9 November 2002 in Manila, Philippines. The participating countries were: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. The preparatory committee for the workshop included representatives from the ADB, UN-ESCAP, SIAP, ASEAN Secretariat, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, and Singapore.

The Forum had a wide-ranging discussion on the broader issues of statistical capacity building focussing on five key issues: User Needs, Advocacy/Marketing, Strategic Development Plans, Funding, and Implementation. The Forum Report, which is available on the PARIS21 website, outlines general impressions from all participants on these five issues as well as an overview of user and producer perspectives and a snapshot of each country’s current statistical situation.

The November 2002 Forum was the first in a series of workshops planned for the Asia and Pacific region. From 31 March to 1 April 2003, representatives from the Asian Development Bank met with the PARIS21 Secretariat to discuss the next phase of workshops covering the period 2003–2004, as well as an overall strategy for the region.

Areas of Follow-up Action Identified at the ASEAN Regional Forum

- Improved data dissemination and user–producer dialogue
- Improved data analysis to add value to the data and increase appreciation of the data
- Greater detail, more timely delivery, and rapid response to new data user needs
- Better management of financial and human resource aspects of statistical operations
- Increased external assistance in knowledge transfer, development of statistical infrastructure, and the adaptation of global standards
- Greater guidance on concepts, methods and analytical tools to respond to international data needs

It was decided that ADB and PARIS21—in collaboration with UNDP, UNESCAP, the World Bank, the IMF, the European Union, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand—would co-organise workshops for the following subregions:

- **Central Asian countries** to be held in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic: (*participating countries*: Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan; *observer countries*: Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine).
- **East Asian countries** to be held in Beijing, China: (*participating countries*: People’s Republic of China, Hong Kong–China, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Macao–China, and Taipei–China).
- **South Asian countries** to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal: (*participating countries*: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka; *observer country*: India).
- **India** to be held in New Delhi: (*observer countries*: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka).
- **Pacific Islands countries**. See section below on Small Island States.

The Japan Human Resources Development Fund has agreed to support three of these workshops (i.e., Central Asia, East Asia, and South Asia). Preparatory work for the meetings is already underway. It is intended that the Central Asia workshop will be held in November or December 2003.

E-5 Small Island States Regional Workshops

Two PARIS21 regional workshops have been planned for small island countries, one for the Caribbean and one for the Pacific Islands. PARIS21 has been discussing these events with regional partner organisations. Caribbean Community (CARICOM) members were enthusiastic in requesting a PARIS21 workshop at their 27th Meeting of the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS) in November 2002. The PARIS21 workshop is now planned for 2004. A Pacific workshop has been discussed with the South Pacific Commission, New Zealand, and the Asian Development Bank; the opinion of member states will be sought at the Triennial statisticians meeting in September 2003. The workshops are likely to focus on a number of problems specific to small island states related to providing the information required for indicators and the MDGs.

F – Country Follow-Up

Each country team attending a PARIS21 regional workshop develops its own action plan for implementation after the meeting. Typically, plans include actions for better use of data, promoting statistics, improving relations with the media and users, developing dissemination and communications policies, conducting national stakeholders' workshops, investigating best practices in the region, and embarking on strategic statistical planning activities. The PARIS21 evaluation has shown that countries are taking these action plans seriously and initiating follow-up.

PARIS21 has taken a reactive position to country follow-up, responding to direct country requests and facilitating follow-up in a number of countries. This involvement has ranged from assisting in the organisation of full stakeholders' workshops and the drafting of Trust Fund applications, to liaising with bilateral donors for support or sourcing consultants and regional expertise to assist with plan development. In the last six months, Chad, Congo–Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Mauritania, South Africa, and Zambia have all been assisted in this way.

PARIS21 proposes to adopt a more systematic approach to country follow-up in the future—specifically, to approach all countries that have participated in PARIS21 regional meetings, assist them where necessary, and track their progress. PARIS21 will have a facilitatory role and will support the idea that each country should regularly report on its statistical activities. Countries asked that a common format for these reports be agreed, and PARIS21 will play a part in ensuring that these reports include not only a report of ongoing statistical production activities, but also the results of peer reviews, stakeholder consultations, indicators of statistical capacity, GDDS plans, and donor support to statistical systems. Status of PRSP and MDG indicator needs should also be included. In this way, the country reports will provide a focus for support to statistical activities, serve to harmonise donor activity, and feed directly into the Report on Statistics for Development to be prepared by PARIS21.

As progress is tracked, some countries will be the subject of a more thorough Strategic Annual Report, facilitated by a PARIS21 mission. Countries might be those who have sought PARIS21 assistance in developing a strategic plan, those who have volunteered to pilot peer reviews, or those who are examples of significant progress where best practice might be demonstrated to the international community. Examples of countries that might be considered during 2003–2004 are the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritania, Senegal, and Zambia.

G – Reporting on Statistical Systems

G-1 Statistical Capacity Building Indicators

With the Steering Committee's approval of the Statistical Capacity Building Indicators final report and questionnaire, the PARIS21 Secretariat has translated this documentation into French, Spanish, Arabic, and Russian and posted it to the website. The questionnaire has been presented at each of the sub-regional workshops and at the UNECA CODI III workshop, and the usefulness of such monitoring mechanism has been widely recognised while comments on the contents and the process have been formulated. These

indicators have been used by the ICP programme in Africa to assess the situation of the statistical system in more than 30 countries. They also have influenced the design of the questionnaire that UNSD is sending to review the implementation of the fundamental principles of official statistics.

It is proposed to set up a mechanism:

- To review, expand, and update the questionnaire taking into account the various comments and new needs;
- To roll out systematically the questionnaire in countries using appropriate processes such as peer reviews, and in liaison with other relevant institutions; and
- To report annually on the status of statistical systems.

The Secretariat considers this task as a priority and intends to present a full programme with time table, costs, and countries selection to the October Steering Committee.

G-2 Report on Statistics for Development

The need to report regularly on the use of statistics for development and on the status and trends of the national statistical systems in developing and transition countries is now more acute than ever. It is proposed that PARIS21 produce a concept note for such a report which will include implementation processes.

The objective would be to report on the use of statistics in development issues such as MDGs, PRSPs, improving governance and on the development of national and international statistical systems. The report would also highlight the evolution, constraints, and best practices in statistical systems and would propose recommendations. The audience would be the key policymakers in the international community and in developing countries. The report would be an output of the partnership between countries and sub-regional, regional, and international institutions and would use the SCBI as indicators. Country reports will be produced by the countries themselves.

III. Work Programme for July – December 2003

The following activities are the continuation of the work programme previously agreed. Depending on the decisions of the Steering Committee in July 2003, it could be amended or changed.

Management

- The Consortium meeting, Steering Committee meeting, as well as the Donors meeting will take place in October. The precise dates will be decided during the July Steering Committee meeting.
- Update of the membership of the Consortium and organisation of the elections of Steering Committee members representing the regions.
- Submission of the final evaluation report to the Consortium meeting.
- Preparation of a report to the OECD/DAC and other selected institutions focussing on the evaluation results, and annual reporting to the UNSC
- Preparation of the work programme for 2004–2006 including budget and time table (depending on the SC decisions in July).

Advocacy

- *Why Statistics?* completed and launched with accompanying brochures
- Best Practices material added by December
- Adaptable advocacy material produced
- Stakeholder workshop guide finalised
- Film synopsis and script finalised for Francophone and Spanish-speaking countries
- Video clips library documented and available

Information Exchange

- Two additional newsletters produced and disseminated
- Regular updating of the website including country documentation, and new features depending on the decisions of the SC
- Update of the consultant roster
- Pilot test of PARLISTAT and project document including budget and time table

Task Teams and Studies

- Census – Participation in the meeting to be held in Pretoria in November
- Strategic Statistical Development Plan – Production of the draft guidelines to be discussed at the Consortium meeting
- Rural and Agricultural statistics – First progress report of the Interim Project
- Improved Statistical Support for Monitoring Development Goals – Production of the revised TORs and finalisation of the study
- Tools and Methods – Installation of the METAGORA team and start of activities
- New task teams: presentation of complete proposals depending on the SC decision

Regional Workshops

- Arab States workshop in Amman, Jordan, September 8–10
- Central Asia Countries Regional Workshop, in Bishkek, precise dates to be decided
- Preparation for the other two workshops (South Asia and China)
- Note on small countries statistical system development (Caribbean, Pacific, Africa)
- Preparation for a workshop for Portuguese-speaking countries
- Participation in Pacific States Triennial meeting as preparation for a regional workshop

Country Follow-up

- Support to UNECA Experts Group on peer review
- Strategic note on support to countries including prioritisation and selection of countries
- Support to countries mainly in Africa to develop country reports and facilitate follow-up

Reporting Statistical Systems

- Finalisation and launching of the SCBI programme
- Concept note and implementation arrangements for the report on the use of statistics and the development of statistical systems

Fund Raising

- Fund Raising strategy elaborated with donors and international institutions
- Launch of systematic fund raising activities in relation with the SCBTF

Annex I: Partnership Library of Statistical System Documentation

Background and Context

It has been recognised that the following issues have hampered the development of national statistical systems and the co-ordination of support from donors:

- Many activities related to the development of national statistical systems are carried out by various partners, but inadequately disseminated. Often, similar activities such as the evaluation of the statistical system are carried out several times.
- While the collaboration and co-ordination among donors is in some way satisfactory at the headquarters level, there is no tool to support the co-ordination at the country level.
- The websites of international institutions offer information on the activities carried out by the institutions at the country level, but no focal point exists where the activities carried out by different institutions in a specific country are regrouped.

Objectives

To address the issues hampering the development of national statistical systems as outlined above, PARIS21 proposes to establish, in the form of an online database, the “Partnership Library of Statistical System Documentation” (PARLISTAT). The objectives of PARLISTAT are the following:

- to gather the documentation related to the country statistical system
- to make this documentation available to everyone
- to optimise the work done by various actors on the statistical system of the particular country
- to share the knowledge on country statistical system development
- to improve donor collaboration
- to improve collaboration between the different parts of the national statistical system
- to guide the PARIS21 country strategy
- to be the main source for the PARIS21 Report on Statistics for Development

By serving as a repository of documentation on national statistical systems, PARLISTAT would facilitate the work of both the countries and the donors supporting them. In this light, PARLISTAT would not just be a product of PARIS21, but would also be a tool for the national and international statistical systems. Data users would access this online database for an up-to-date account of all work on a national statistical system currently been done and which has already been done in a particular country by all involved parties.

What will PARLISTAT include?

PARLISTAT will include the existing documentation or information related to the description, evaluation, and programme of the country statistical system. It will include documents, website addresses, contact names, etc. The documents could be mission reports, presentations, speeches, “grey literature”, all related to the statistical system. The data sources would be the countries themselves, multilateral and bilateral donors, research institutes, and even PARIS21. PARLISTAT will not include statistical data, which are available in several other places.

Management of PARLISTAT

At the beginning, PARLISTAT will be managed by the PARIS21 Secretariat. In the short- or medium-term (depending on the countries), it will be managed by the country themselves especially by the institution in charge of the co-ordination of the national statistical system. In most of the countries, it will be the central statistical office (CSO). When this institution is ready to be in charge of the management of PARLISTAT, the PARIS21 Secretariat will transfer the library corresponding to the country.

Annex II: Memorandum of Understanding

Below is a sample Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the OECD and a partner institution. It serves as an example of agreements to be established between the two institutions. It is designed not to act as a binding contract but rather as an expression of common interests and goals and a commitment to engage jointly in certain activities. The PARIS21 Secretariat is actively establishing MOUs with several institutions throughout the world.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between ... and the Consortium PARIS21 “Partnership in Statistics for the Development in the 21st Century”

Article 1

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to set forth the agreement between ... and the Consortium PARIS21 “Partnership in Statistics for the Development in the 21st Century” (PARIS21) hosted by OECD/DCD to jointly support the development of national statistical systems.

Article 2

Despite national and international efforts to finance statistics over recent years, a majority of developing countries do not have systems that are capable of providing policymakers, the general public, and economic and social partners with the statistical data they need to take sound policy, business, political, and personal decisions. Typically demand for statistics is weak—symptomatic of an embryonic statistical culture. National statistical systems are not demand-driven, and are characterised by poor co-ordination between the different bodies producing statistics; by meagre national financing; and by vital international support that is too often *ad hoc* or not attuned to the constraints imposed by the country’s individual needs. The international community is however at a turning point in the history of statistical development. For the first time, statistical demand in countries is made explicit in their national strategies notably in Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers. Statistics are necessary for the definition, the implementation, and the evaluation of poverty reduction policies. On the international level, the Millennium Development Goals and their indicators provide a framework for statistical demand agreed by all countries. Increasing the capacity of systems to monitor the MDGs will need to be considered as one of the costs of their achievement. Sharing this diagnosis, and considering the mutual interest in building country and regional sustainable statistical capacity, the two institutions agree on the following principles related to the development of statistics:

- Statistical information is a resource that should be used in the definition, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development and poverty reduction policies. This includes using statistics in all aspects of the economic, social, and political lives of key stakeholders in countries (parliament, private sector, civil society, NGOs, the media, and the general population) and in the international community, and in particular better use of existing data.
- The development of the statistical system should be integrated in country poverty reduction and development country strategies. This integration should include the financing, co-ordination and accessibility of national statistics.
- Countries are being encouraged to develop and agree consultatively, a multi-annual strategy for the development of the statistical system in its entirety, which better meets the information and statistical needs of policymakers and the public. Periodic reports on the development of the country statistical systems should be produced.

- The co-ordination and collaboration of the different donors that support statistical activities should be developed and be part of the multi-annual strategy to achieve a greater effectiveness in their aid under the supervision of national authorities.

Article 3

In line with their respective work programs, forms of co-operation between ... and PARIS21, envisaged by this Memorandum, may include the following:

- Organisation of joint seminars and workshops with the participation of producers and users of statistics from countries-members of the
- Support to countries in their capacity building programmes in the production and use of statistics including advocacy, strategic statistical development plans, use of existing data, etc.
- Participation in the overall work programme of PARIS21 including task teams, advocacy, information exchange, newsletter, website, etc.
- Participation in the development and maintenance of the library of country statistical system, and in the production of the report on the status of statistical systems and the use of statistics for countries.
- Exchange of methodological documents, statistical publications, experience, and best practices related to the production and use of statistics.

Article 4

Every year, at a date to be fixed, a work programme of joint activities will be agreed by ... and PARIS21. This work programme will include detailed activities, outputs, resources, timetables and all relevant information. When an activity implies financing arrangements, specific implementing addenda, signed by the two parties, will be added to this MOU.

Article 5

The modalities of joint work could include: co-financing of activities, periodic meetings of ... staff and PARIS21 staff, secondment of staff, participation of staff in activities implemented by the other institution, inclusion of some specific activities in the regular work programme of the other institution, etc.

Article 6

Both institutions will seek jointly the support and collaboration of other relevant institutions involved in the development of statistics including the identification of possible sources of funding for the joint work programme.

Article 7

This Memorandum becomes applicable at the date of signature for a three-year period. It can be extended for another three-year period by mutual consent.

(signature)

Co-Chair of PARIS21 Consortium

(signature)

President of ...

Annex III: Draft Terms of Reference for the Tools and Methods Task Team

Recognising the need for updated statistical tools and methods to respond to the changing financial, political, and social environment in developing countries, the PARIS21 Steering Committee agreed in October 2002 to establish a task team on “Tools and Methods.”

Goals

The specific goals of the task team are to:

- Identify, gather, evaluate, and disseminate the tools and methods that have already been developed by relevant institutions in certain areas of development statistics
- Where inadequate or insufficient tools and methods exist in an area of identified need, develop a new project or study to expand the data and knowledge in this area with the collaboration of relevant regional and international institutions

Process and Activities

The members of the task team will identify sectors or areas worthy of study. The team will propose to the Steering Committee three or four areas or themes to be pursued. The team will then examine those areas that the Steering Committee has deemed appropriate. For each area or theme studied, a convenor will be assigned to lead the work, and one or two consultants will collect all relevant data and information in this area for a period of approximately one month to determine whether this is an area which requires further development by a task team project. If it is determined that not enough information exists, the team will seek funds from interested donors to finance a full-fledged project to develop work in this sector. The task team proposes to concentrate at first on (1) tools and methods for measuring governance and (2) tools and methods for establishing and maintaining household surveys. The first project under the task team is “Methods and Tools for Assessing Governance through Reporting and Analysis” (METAGORA).

Outputs

At the completion of the initial phase of collection of data and information on an identified theme, the team will produce a report that will include not only a synthesis of the information gathered but also a recommendation on whether further work should be pursued. If further work is indeed pursued, that phase will also produce a final report. All information collected and generated in a given area is then fed into the PARIS21 knowledge base and linked to the *Why Statistics?* website.

Members

The task team should be staffed by a small core of tools and methods users rather than tools and methods developers.

Reporting

The team is led by a task team convenor and is managed by the PARIS21 Secretariat manager. It reports to the PARIS21 Steering Committee.

Annex IV: Progress Report of the PARIS21 Secretariat/World Bank Team on Advocacy

Introduction

The PARIS21 Task Team on Advocacy was set up in October 2000 and disbanded in October 2002. During its life, the task team produced three main products: a website entitled *Why Statistics?*, a pamphlet entitled “*Why governments need good statistics,*” and a poster on “*Why statistics are crucial*”. The task team also prepared a final report that set out what had been achieved and a work programme to take forward the advocacy work. The main components of this programme were:

- Transform *Why Statistics?* into a proper website, with appropriate web design and links.
- Translate all the advocacy materials – poster, pamphlet, and the main sections of the *Why Statistics?* website into French and Spanish.
- Encourage the production of country- and region-specific advocacy materials based on the general materials prepared so far.
- Disseminate the poster and pamphlet in appropriate languages and combine the general advocacy materials into a PARIS21 package that can be distributed by the Secretariat and other members of the PARIS21 as required.
- Support statistical advocacy at the regional and national levels through regional meetings and possible projects.

The *Why Statistics?* material has been made available in its original form on the PARIS21 website. The other material, including the pamphlet and poster are held by the Secretariat.

Following the completion of the work of the task team, the Secretariat, with support from the World Bank, undertook to carry out at least some of these elements of the proposed work programme. In particular, it was decided to split advocacy work into two major tasks. First, to develop the knowledge base and generic material contained in the *Why Statistics?* pages, and then to support advocacy at regional and country levels, by promoting the use of specific advocacy products and by supporting the development of advocacy and communication skills.

Progress to Date

A small team involving Mary Strode and Dennis Bogusz from the Secretariat and Graham Eele from the World Bank was set up. Inputs were also provided by other members of the Secretariat, including Gérard Chenais, Eric Bensele, and Jenny Gallelli. The first requirement was to review the *Why Statistics?* material and the other products. It was agreed that these form an important set of resource documents. The web text in particular is not really an advocacy product in its own right; rather, it provides the background information required by users to support advocacy for statistics in many different environments and circumstances. It was also agreed that the main users would be senior managers working for national statistical agencies, although the material would also be of use to others, including staff of multilateral and bilateral aid agencies. It was also agreed that while the material was comprehensive and useful, some changes were needed to bring it up to date and to make sure the language and presentation was suitable for the main target audience.

So far, the material has been reviewed, an outline structure has been agreed, and requirements identified for the material to be launched on the PARIS21 website in October 2003.

Proposed Work Programme

Short-term to be completed by the next Consortium meeting in October 2003

The tasks that need to be completed in order to launch the *Why Statistics?* material as a set of web-based resources for statistical advocacy are as follows:

- Review and revise the existing text, in particular to ensure an even presentation and both language and style that are best suited to the proposed target audience

- Add some new material, in particular on the MDGs and poverty monitoring
- Consult with the appropriate specialist agencies to confirm the links to best practice material and to get their general agreement on the text
- Identify and incorporate best practice material in the use of statistics from developing countries
- Edit the complete, revised text to ensure consistency of style, language, and presentation
- Apply web design to the edited text
- Add the pages to the PARIS21 website

It is proposed that this work will be carried out by the existing team, together with some additional inputs. The resource requirements are estimated as follows:

- Approximately 20 person days by the existing team (about 10 by Graham Eele, 5 by Mary Strode, and 5 by Dennis Bogusz)
- A consultant for about 20 days to identify and document good practice material on the use of statistics from developing countries
- An editor for about 10 person days
- A web designer for about 10 days

Discussions are in progress with the Secretariat and the World Bank to see how these additional inputs can be financed. It is proposed to launch the *Why Statistics?* web material at the next Consortium meeting in Paris in October 2003.

Medium-term from November 2003 to December 2004

Once the basic material is prepared, at least in English, in the first instance, the next step will be to disseminate it and to support the use of the material in advocacy in different regions and countries. The tasks that will need to be completed include:

- Translation of the web material into French and Spanish initially and to identify demand for translation into other languages.
- To prepare guidelines and templates for different advocacy products, that could include pamphlets, posters, brochures, briefing notes and presentations. In particular the aim will be to integrate this material with other advocacy products including videos and film footage.
- To provide some guidance in the use of the material and to package this for dissemination to countries. It is envisaged that this package could be introduced through regional and country workshops as well as being disseminated on CD-ROMs.
- In consultation with regional agencies, identify needs for training and capacity building in advocacy and then prepare proposals for presentation to funding agencies.

It is envisaged that this set of activities will require inputs from the Secretariat, from other agencies, including the World Bank as well as consultants. A more detailed business plan will be prepared for discussion with the Steering Committee in October 2003.

Annex V: PARIS21 Membership Summary Table (Number of Partners by Country)

UNITED STATES	138	SIERRA LEONE	13	SPAIN	9	BARBADOS	3	ANGUILLA	1
FRANCE	107	PAKISTAN	13	PANAMA	9	NEPAL	3	BELARUS	1
SOUTH AFRICA	97	BELGIUM	13	NAMIBIA	8	DJIBOUTI	3	BERMUDA	1
MALAWI	92	CONGO	13	NICARAGUA	8	POLAND	3	AZERBAIJAN	1
SENEGAL	64	TOGO	13	SWAZILAND	8	ROMANIA	3	YUGOSLAVIA	1
UGANDA	47	MEXICO	12	VENEZUELA	8	SINGAPORE	3	BELIZE	1
CAMEROON	45	BOTSWANA	12	CAMBODIA	8	SLOVAKIA	3	BHUTAN	1
SWITZERLAND	38	MAURITANIA	12	MOZAMBIQUE	8	BULGARIA	3	MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF	1
UNITED KINGDOM	35	GERMANY	12	ECUADOR	8	CZECH REPUBLIC	3	IRAQ	1
MALI	33	THAILAND	12	GUINEA-BISSAU	7	ALBANIA	3	AFGHANISTAN	1
ZAMBIA	32	EGYPT	12	LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC	7	MALDIVES	3	ICELAND	1
NIGER	31	TUNISIA	11	LESOTHO	7	GEORGIA	3	HUNGARY	1
NIGERIA	30	PALESTINIAN TERRITORY, OCCUPIED	11	SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE	7	YEMEN	3	HONG KONG	1
ITALY	29	INDONESIA	11	BRAZIL	7	IRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF	3	HAITI	1
LUXEMBOURG	29	SWEDEN	11	SUDAN	6	KOREA, REPUBLIC OF	3	KYRGYZSTAN	1
CÔTE D'IVOIRE	26	MAURITIUS	10	ERITREA	6	TURKEY	2	GUAM	1
EL SALVADOR	26	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	10	COMOROS	6	GUYANA	2	GRENADA	1
BOLIVIA	26	EQUATORIAL GUINEA	10	AUSTRIA	5	KAZAKHSTAN	2	FRENCH POLYNESIA	1
LEBANON	24	CHILE	10	CHINA	5	URUGUAY	2	NIUE	1
TANZANIA, UNITED REPUBLIC OF	24	GUINEA	10	GAMBIA	5	BRUNEI DARUSSALAM	2	FIJI	1
ETHIOPIA	23	NETHERLANDS	10	MALAYSIA	5	ISRAEL	2	TAJIKISTAN	1
PHILIPPINES	22	HONDURAS	10	RUSSIAN FEDERATION	5	ARMENIA	2	ESTONIA	1
BURKINA FASO	20	COSTA RICA	10	JORDAN	5	GREECE	2	MONGOLIA	1
GUATEMALA	20	COLOMBIA	10	VIET NAM	5	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	2	CYPRUS	1
NORWAY	19	CONGO, THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE	10	MYANMAR	5	MOLDOVA, REPUBLIC OF	2	NEW CALEDONIA	1
CANADA	19	RWANDA	10	DENMARK	4	TONGA	2	IRELAND	1
PERU	19	CAPE VERDE	9	LIBERIA	4	LITHUANIA	2	COOK ISLANDS	1
CHAD	16	GABON	9	ANGOLA	4	BANGLADESH	2	SAINT LUCIA	1
BENIN	15	BURUNDI	9	PORTUGAL	4	KUWAIT	2	SAUDI ARABIA	1
ZIMBABWE	15	INDIA	9	ARGENTINA	4	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	1	SEYCHELLES	1
KENYA	14	MADAGASCAR	9	MOROCCO	4	UZBEKISTAN	1	SRI LANKA	1
JAPAN	14	AUSTRALIA	9	FINLAND	4	ALGERIA	1	MALTA	1
GHANA	14			NEW ZEALAND	3	AMERICAN SAMOA	1		

The number of partners is indicated after each Country.