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## ***How can PARIS21 support the implementation of the Cape Town Global Action Plan?***

### **What is PARIS21?**

The Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) was established in 1999 as a global network of statisticians, policymakers, analysts and development practitioners committed to evidence-based decision-making. Due to the rapid expansion of the data ecosystem, PARIS21 has welcomed new stakeholders to its network, including think-tanks, civil society organisations, foundations, researchers and consultants.

The mission of our Partnership is to reduce poverty and improve governance in developing countries by promoting the integration of statistics and reliable data in the decision-making process. With this goal in mind, we facilitate statistical capacity development, advocate for the integration of reliable data in decision-making, and co-ordinate donor support to statistics. Our agenda is directly aligned with the general objectives of the CT-GAP.

The strategic direction of our Partnership, as well as the general work programme of the Secretariat, is guided by our Board, which includes representatives from the main stakeholders. Our founding members with a permanent seat are the United Nations (Statistical Division), the European Commission, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. The PARIS21 Board meets once a year to discuss issues relating to the development and use of statistics generally and to review work programs.

### **How does PARIS21 support National Statistical Systems?**

Promoting the integration of statistics and reliable data in the decision-making process requires strategic planning in order to make the most of existing resources. While numerous policy frameworks, such as the Sustainable Development Goals and National Development Plans include performance indicators, most of them do not specify how to procure the monitoring data.

PARIS21 supports countries in the elaboration of their National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDSs), which are frameworks providing guidance for strengthening the capacity of the National Statistical System (NSS). Their key components are the medium-term objectives of the statistics system. The NSDSs outline which statistical operations will be conducted in the medium-term to meet users' needs, identify the actions needed in order to increase the capacity of the NSS, and indicate the available financial, human and technical resources.

PARIS21 offers assistance and support on NSDS, particularly to low income countries. PARIS21 has a unique scope, targeting countries with specific needs, such as Small Island Developing States and Fragile States. As a global network, PARIS21 aims to provide useful solutions for all countries.

In order to simplify the process of planning for statistical capacity development, PARIS21 has designed the Advanced Data Planning Tool (ADAPT). ADAPT is a multi-language cloud-based application that helps to compare data demands (global, regional, national and sub-national) with what is currently being produced by the NSS. ADAPT also assists in identifying the gaps between demand and supply, as well as analysing the root causes. The results feed into the NSDS process.

The Platform for Innovations in Statistics (PISTA) supports innovation exchange between countries, with the aim of assisting countries in finding solutions to match the causes of their data gaps.

PARIS21 has also invested in broadening the understanding of statistical capacity, under the Capacity Development 4.0 (CD4.0) initiative. CD4.0 acknowledges the changes in the data ecosystem and the diverse needs that countries are experiencing. This framework aligns with the CT-GAP as it seeks to “strengthen the national statistical systems so that they can be most responsive to statistical needs to achieve the 2030 Agenda and beyond” (CT-GAP)

### **What is PARIS21's involvement with the HLG-PCCB?**

In the past, PARIS21 has been invited to several meetings of the HLG-PCCB as an issue partner. In this capacity, the Partnership contributed to the design and drafting of the joint survey on New Approaches to Capacity Development and Future Priorities, and has taken responsibility for collecting the responses and disseminating the results.

PARIS21 contributes to other fora related to the CT-GAP, especially to the World Data Forum. In the first edition, PARIS21 served as co-chairs (together with Argentina) and spearheaded the capacity development initiative. PARIS21 is also part of the programme committee for this year's edition.

PARIS21 is currently involved in the monitoring of CT-GAP implementation, as well as drafting the report.

Looking to the future, thanks to our recognised expertise in statistical capacity development and our pivotal position liaising with multiple stakeholders, PARIS21 can continue to support the tasks of the HLG-PCCB.

### **Useful References and Links**

PARIS21 (2018), [New approaches to Capacity Development and Future Priorities](#). OECD, Paris.

PARIS21 (2018), [Measuring Statistical Capacity Development: a review of current practices and ideas for the future](#). OECD, Paris.

OECD (2017), [Development Co-operation Report 2017: Data for Development](#).