A summary of PARIS21’s contribution to health data governance

The WHO highlights five critical areas that can build momentum for health data to be treated as a Global Public Good: i) consensus building, ii) investment (technical, regulatory and policy), iii) implementation (training and capacity building) and iv) multi-sectoral partnerships that include citizen science.

The Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) is committed to building resilient and modern health data ecosystems that harness data for the social and economic good and contribute to an inclusive and sustainable recovery. PARIS21’s activities are reflected across the five areas identified by WHO:

i) **Consensus building**
As a partnership, PARIS21 brings governments, the donor community, civil society, the private sector, academia and development partners together in a range of global and regional events to engage in discussions on data governance and the challenges of data use in policymaking. Together with partners, PARIS21 is helping national statistical partners strengthen data and policy capacities for an inclusive COVID-19 response and recovery.

ii) **Implementation (training and capacity building)**
PARIS21 has twenty years of experience of facilitating statistical capacity development in low- and middle-income countries and bringing innovative solutions to modernize statistical systems worldwide. We have built our strong relationship with national statistical offices and line ministries through numerous technical trainings and knowledge sharing exercises. This strong engagement enables PARIS21 to identify the challenges of national statistical systems in different contexts and emergencies. In addition, PARIS21 develops specific guidance for strategic planning in various sectoral statistics, including health data, highlighting the importance of data openness and transparency of statistical information.

PARIS21’s frameworks serve as foundational tools for countries to establish robust, inclusive and policy-relevant statistical systems. We also guide countries in taking stock of their data reporting and statistical capacities to facilitate innovation and efficiency gains to deliver on health data commitments.

iii) **Multi-sectoral partnerships that include citizen science**
PARIS21 develops tools and support data practices that bring citizens and governments together to strengthen data ecosystems. PARIS21, through its framework on citizen-generated data, supports partner countries in engaging with civil society actors to fill data gaps in national official reporting.

iv) **Investment**
In addition to providing direct technical assistance and analysis, PARIS21 is a long-standing advocate of bringing more transparency in financial flows to data and statistics, including for health information. Most recently, in its capacity as the Secretariat of Bern Network, PARIS21 is developing a Clearinghouse for Financing Development Data. This online platform and community of practice, which will be launched at the UN World Data Forum in October 2021, will, for the first time, bring together data on supply and demand of financing for development data in one place in near-real time. It will help coordinate information from aid providers and recipients connect users together for partnerships and peer exchange and address the lack of coordination. The Clearinghouse is therefore
intended to support the more effective use of limited resources, in particular in the current context of the pandemic and beyond.