

UNFPOS Implementation in Asia-Pacific and SIDS: good practices and challenges

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PARIS 21

Partnership in Statistics for
Development in the 21st Century



Key Points

□ About PARIS21

□ Good Practices in the implementation of FPOS

- Principle 7 – Legislation
- Principle 8 – National coordination
- Principle 9 – Use of international standards
- Principle 10 – International cooperation

□ Challenges in FPOS implementation

□ Future support to countries

About PARIS21... a partnership

Promote

- better use of statistics throughout the developing world and the important role of NSOs

Provide

- statistical capacity building support at national, subregional and regional levels

Develop

- Tools and guidelines to strengthening statistical systems and its institutions

Advocate

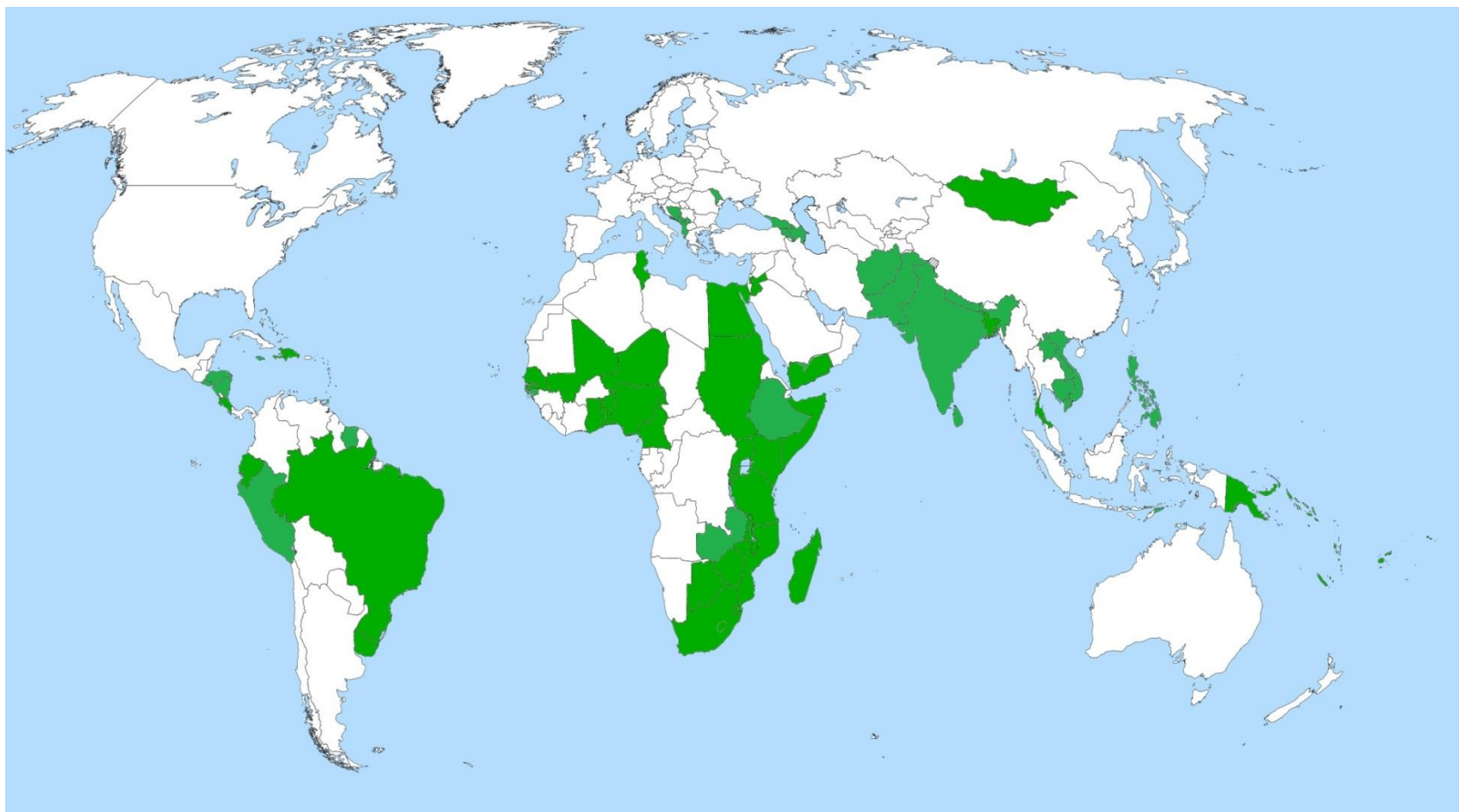
- for the integration of reliable data in policy making and governance

Co-ordinate

- a worldwide network of statisticians, policy makers, analysts, and development practitioners committed to evidence-based decision making

...with a global outreach...

Engages and supports statistical development in **over 90 countries**, in partnership with **international actors** and **regional bodies**



... supporting SDGs ...

- Member of IAEG-SDGs
- Member of Steering Committee of Praia Group on Governance Statistics
- Monitoring 3 SDG17 indicators on statistical development



- ✓ 17.18.2 Number of countries with national statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
- ✓ 17.18.3 Number of countries with national statistical plan fully funded and under implementation, by source of funding
- ✓ 17.19.1 Dollar value of all resources made available to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries

... and engaged in Asia-Pacific and SIDS

❑ 50 countries in Asia-Pacific and SIDS

- 17 in Asia (7 Southeast Asia, 8 South Asia, 2 others)
- 33 in SIDS (15 Pacific, 13 Caribbean, 5 AIMS)

❑ Areas of statistical support

- NSDS
- NSS institutional strengthening and coordination
- Data management
- Statistical advocacy

Good Practices in the implementation of FPOS

(in countries PARIS21 worked with)

Legislation (Principle 7)

- **16 countries in Asia with statistical legislation**
 - ✓ 75% updated on or after 2000
 - ✓ 13% are over 50 years old

- **31 SIDS countries/territories with statistical legislation**
 - ✓ 42% updated on or after 2000
 - ✓ 10% are 50 years old

Legislation (Principle 7)

- Key elements in statistical laws
 - ✓ NSO as leading authority in the NSS (mandate to coordinate and set statistical standards; main producer of official statistics in the country)
 - ✓ Professional independence of NSO
 - ✓ More prominent role of Chief Statistician/Head of NSO
 - ✓ Wider access to administrative data and other data sources by NSOs (including NSS data sharing and exchange)
 - ✓ Access to public use files for research purposes

Legislation (Principle 7)

- Unique elements in statistical laws
 - ✓ Preparation of medium-term national statistical plan/strategy (i.e., Philippines)
 - ✓ National government as principal source of budget for statistics (i.e., Vietnam)
 - ✓ Preparation of annual budget for statistics integrated in government agency budget (i.e., Cambodia)
 - ✓ National indicators defined (i.e., Vietnam)
 - ✓ Horizontal and vertical coordination of the NSS (i.e., Lao PDR)
 - ✓ Support of military/police in the conduct of surveys (i.e., India)

Legislation (Principle 7)

- Regional perspectives:
 - ✓ CARICOM Statistics Model Bill serves as reference in updating statistical legislations in the region
 - ✓ ASEAN Community Statistical System and CARICOM has adopted respective Statistics Code of Practice

NSS Coordination (Principle 8)

- 41% (7) in Asia and 27% (9) in SIDS provide for establishing statistics council/committee/advisory board in the statistical law
 - ✓ Policy-making body
 - ✓ Technical coordination
- Other organizational arrangements are in place to coordinate work in the NSS
 - ✓ Standard-setting and “clearing house” function of NSO
 - ✓ Horizontal and vertical coordination in the NSO and NSS
 - ✓ Cross-posting of NSO staff in other Ministries
 - ✓ Interagency working groups on thematic concerns

NSS Coordination (Principle 8)

- National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) as a coordination mechanism for NSS
 - ✓ engage data producers and users in the development and implementation of high-quality plan and make strategic choices for statistical development
 - ✓ set priorities for data production and dissemination aligned with national development priorities

- NSDS status in Asia and SIDS
 - ✓ Implementation: 65% in Asia; 21% in SIDS
 - ✓ Development: 12% in Asia; 18% in SIDS
 - ✓ Expired: 12% in Asia; 9% in SIDS

Use of international standards (Principle 9)

- International standards on national accounts
 - ✓ 100% (17) in Asia
 - ✓ 79% (26) in SIDS
 - ✓ Of which, 77% (33) 1993 SNA version and 21% (9) use 2008

- Other international standards used
 - ✓ Standard classifications: industry, product, occupational
 - ✓ Economic statistics: BPM, MFMS
 - ✓ Census recommendations adopted (UN, CARICOM, Pacific Community)

Use of international standards (Principle 9)

- Data dissemination standards subscribed
 - ✓ GDDS – 9 Asia, 22 SIDS
 - ✓ SDDS – 4 Asia, 1 AIMS

- National Data Archives
 - ✓ Asia – 11 Asia
 - ✓ SIDS – 13 Pacific (through Pacific Community's PRISM), 2 Caribbean and 3 in AIMS (NSO-based)

International cooperation (Principle 10)

- Areas of cooperation
 - ✓ Capacity building and development
 - ✓ South-south learning and exchange
 - ✓ Global discussions

- Value-added of international cooperation
 - ✓ NSS institutional strengthening and enhancement
 - ✓ Development in domain-specific statistics (e.g., economic, social & demographic, etc.)
 - ✓ Improved data quality, harmonized and comparable statistics

International cooperation (Principle 10)

- Regional statistical cooperation (UN ESCAP, ECLAC, ECA, ASEAN, SAARC, SPC, CARICOM, OECS, AFRISTAT, AUC)
 - ✓ Statistics governance mechanism (i.e., steering committee)
 - ✓ Regional strategy for the development of statistics or RSDS
 - ACSS Strategic Plan 2016-2020
 - Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy 2010-2020;
 - SAARC Statistics Action Plan 2000-2015;
 - Strategy for Harmonization of Statistics in Africa
 - ✓ Regional statistical training program (i.e., SIAP)

International cooperation (Principle 10)

- Committed funding for international statistics cooperation (PARIS21 Partnership Report on Support to Statistics)
 - ✓ USD 470 M total support to statistics for 2014
 - 30% (USD 141) demographic & social statistics
 - 27% (USD 128) economic statistics
 - 22% (USD 104) general and methodological issues
 - 7% committed to Asia-Pacific region
 - ✓ 72% of 2014 total commitments in 2014 provided by Canada, European Commission/EUROSTAT, FAO, IMF, WB

Challenges in FPOS implementation

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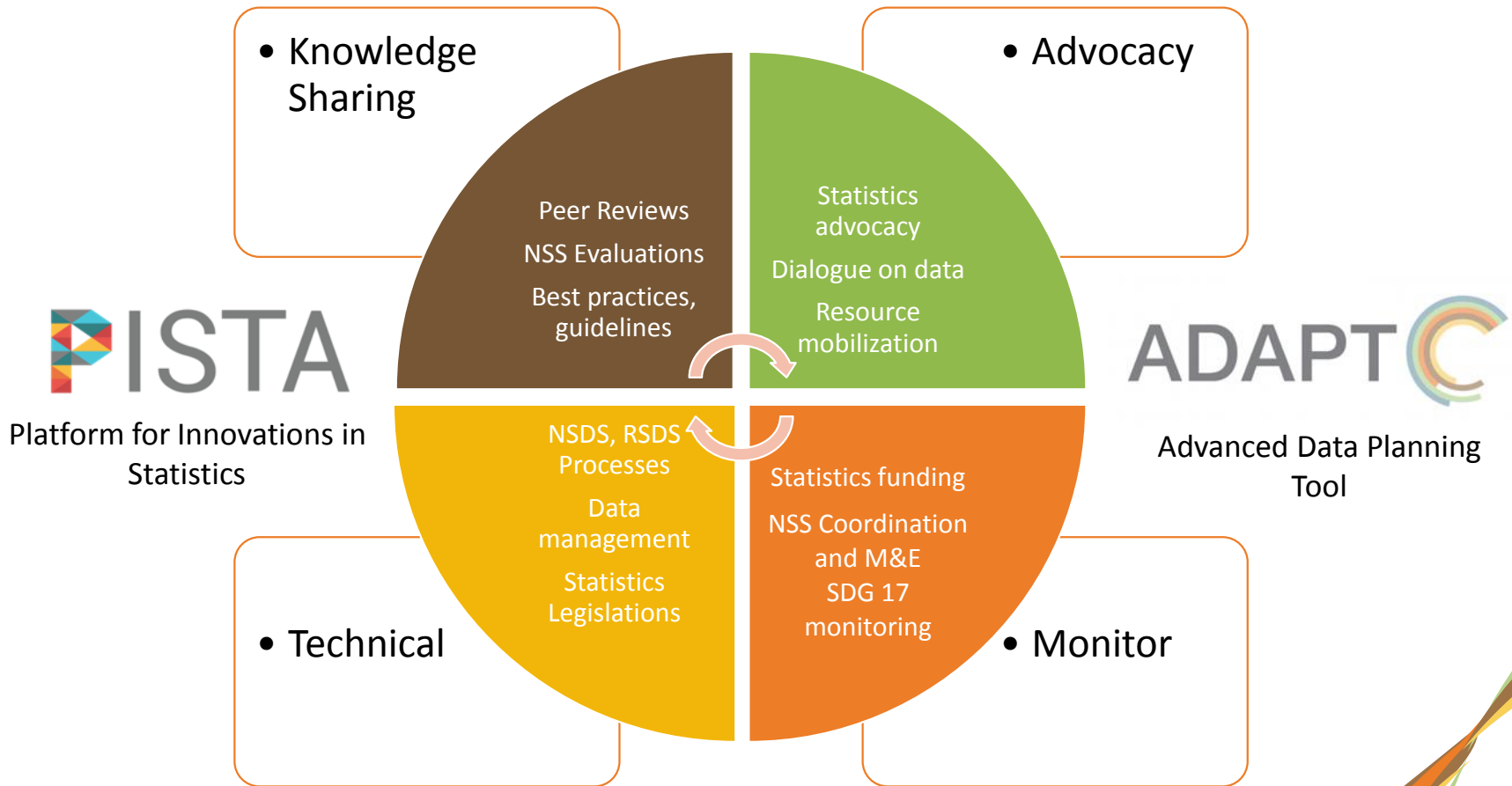
- Significant number of countries with statistical legislations needing updates
 - ✓ Strengthen role of NSO and ensure its professional independence, stature of Head of NSO
 - ✓ Institutionalize NSS coordination and clarify responsibility of data producing agencies
- Statistics and policy link still weak and greater data use need to be extensively promoted
- Clear provisions for use of alternative data sources for official statistics still absent

Challenges in FPOS implementation

- Subnational statistics under-developed and linkage with national statistical system weak
- Statistical standards not widely adopted in NSS (especially other agencies)
- International cooperation needs to be systematic

PARIS21 future support to countries

Towards a Holistic Intervention



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21

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