

23rd meeting of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for the 2030 Agenda (HLG-PCCB)

Virtual meeting

21 July 2021, Open/ closed meeting

Opening

1. Ms. Awad chaired the closed meeting and welcomed new members to the group together with existing members who were either starting a new term or finishing their final term on the group. Ms. Dhuli chaired the open meeting and welcomed issue partners to the meeting.
2. Mr. Schweinfest (secretariat) gave some opening remarks in both meetings to similarly welcome members into the group, thank existing members for their service and encourage members to [register to attend in-person](#) the United Nations World Data Forum in Bern, Switzerland between 3 and 6 October 2021. A short presentation was given by the secretariat on behalf of the co-chairs to emphasize important features of the group to such as the senior representation level needed to direct the strategic decisions made by the group, the expected role and responsibilities of members and highlights of past work.

Preparatory work for the UN World Data Forum (UNWDF) Bern 2021

a. Logistics and communications for Bern 2021

3. Mr. Rothen (Switzerland) was pleased to reconfirm the dates of the UN World Data Forum to be held in Bern, 3 – 6 October 2021. This announcement was made on 9 July with the release of the [provisional programme](#) online and this was followed on 15 July with the opening of the [registration to attend in-person](#) with a deadline of **Tuesday, 31 August**. The registration to attend virtually will be opened in September. Much effort is going into making this Forum as inclusive as possible by adopting a hybrid approach to conducting the events on the programme and launching a [call to host a local Forum meet-up](#) with a deadline to indicate interest also by **Tuesday, 31 August**. At the same time, full attention is paid to the health and safety of those who will attend the event in-person with detailed logistical information available to help participants plan their travel and accommodation and what they can expect during their stay.

b. Provisional programme review

4. Ms. Vukovich (Chair of the [programme committee](#)) reported on the committee's work following the selection of the legacy session proposals reviewed at the last meeting, a new mini-call for special topic proposals was launched and concluded during June. The committee worked quickly on the submitted proposals from this mini-call to identify 11 new sessions to complete the programme, which are before the group for further review. A separate [call for data stories](#) remains open until the 25th July and the material submitted through this call will be used in the plenary sessions and other parts of the Forum promotion. In parallel, much work has been done by the committee to identify speakers for the seven high-level plenary sessions. In particular, the plenary currently titled "The road from Bern...navigating the data future" (related to [thematic area 6](#)) is organised on behalf of this group. The current proposal is to use it to launch the Global Data Facility and Clearing House. Further details of these initiatives will be given in the next agenda item.

Action: Members are requested to provide any further comments on the updated UNWDF programme including specific comments on the new sessions introduced from the mini-call by Friday, 30 July.

c. Outcome document

5. Ms. Awad (on behalf of the outcome document subgroup) reported they last met on the 22nd April and members had the current text of the outcome document before them for final review. The timetable to release the document shared at the last meeting remains in place with the public consultation due to open on 9th August and close on 13th September. Current members of the subgroup are Albania, Angola, Mexico, Palestine, the Philippines, Switzerland, the UK and PARIS21.

Action: Members are requested to provide any additional comments on the current text of the outcome document, by Friday, 30 July.

Process for the selection of the next hosts of the UNWDF and September special meeting

6. Ms. Perucci (secretariat) gave an update on the restarted process to select the next host of the Forum. On 21 June, a direct call was communicated for detailed bids for the next two hosts, fourth (Q1 2023) and fifth (Q4 2024) host to all UN permanent missions and shared with chief statisticians around the World with a deadline to submit of **Tuesday, 31 August**. In addition to the introductory letter, [a set of key host criteria](#) was shared in the communication and these same criteria will also be used by group members to assess the bids received by the deadline. A special meeting of the group will be arranged between 14 and 25 September for prospective hosts to present their detailed bid and for members to then vote on the next two hosts.

Review of the implementation of the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data (CTGAP)

7. The UN Statistics Division in its capacity as secretariat of the HLG-PCCB, the World Bank Development Data Group and Paris21 gave an update on the collaboration they have established to operationalize the [Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data \(CTGAP\)](#), obtain a better understanding of new needs and priorities to update the plan, and create the new financing environment to support the implementation of the plan.
8. The World Bank and PARIS21 informed the group about the two major initiatives they were supporting related to this work, the [Global Data Facility](#) and the [Bern Network's Clearing House](#). Both would be officially launched at next UN World Data Forum, [Bern 2021](#).
9. The Global Data Facility is the new Umbrella Trust Fund for data and statistics hosted by the World Bank. It is a grant mechanism with different modalities to support national data and statistical systems (including at the national and subnational level) as well as relevant public goods. The World Bank is presently working to mobilize resources (with a target of USD \$200m for Phase 1 of the Facility), with initial grant allocations planned for early 2022. The Facility will provide grant financing for a period of 10 years, with a provision to potentially extend for a further 10 years. The Facility is designed to support implementation of the Cape Town Global Action Plan (and marshal insights from key technical sources, including the 2021 World Development Report: *Data for Better Lives*) by: (i) enabling more and better coordination among donors on key country data and statistics priorities; (ii) leveraging larger amounts of resources (including World Bank IDA/IBRD loans) to enable longer-term financial support; and (iii) catalyzing domestic financing across recipient countries. The Global Data Facility will be country-led, flexible, and adaptive, and will seek to directly contribute to, and benefit from, the PARIS21-led Clearinghouse through its timely information sharing on the demand for, and supply of, resources.
10. The Clearing House is an operational platform to bring greater transparency to funding gaps within the area of data and statistics and provide a clearer picture of the capacity development activities are happening around the World with who and on what.
11. In addition, the three entities are collaborating on the implementation of a survey. to monitor progress in the implementation of the [CTGAP](#), provide the necessary information to respond to the [Dubai declaration](#) for an innovative funding mechanism¹ and to inform future desired outcomes in statistical capacity development which should be

¹ In particular, through the World Bank's Global Data Facility and the Bern Network's Clearing House.

communicated and followed-up in [Bern 2021](#) and the two UN World Data Forums afterwards (Q1 2023 and Q4 2024). The design of the questionnaire was at an advanced stage and will be released for completion shortly through a personal invitation to each National Statistical Office².

Report back from other events: High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) programme and side events

12. The High-level Political Forum ran from 6 to 16 July. The regular VNR labs featured a side event "[VNR Lab 4: How data is guiding sustainable recovery from COVID-19 for achieving the SDGs](#)" featuring Colombia, Egypt and Zimbabwe. In addition, a side event on "[Building back better through smart investments in development data](#)" was co-organized by Paris21, UNSD, the Government of Switzerland, Open Data Watch and the HLG-PCCB. Please check the [calendar](#) for all events across the programme.

Administrative and logistical arrangements for further meetings and events

13. The dates for the next meetings are:
 - Special meeting in September to decide the UNWDF hosts (date/time tbc)
 - Sunday, 3 & Thursday, 7 October 2021 (time tbc)

² The questionnaire will use the same software and approach for completion adopted by the different rounds of the '[Survey of National Statistical Offices during COVID-19](#)'

Annex 1: Agenda

**Twenty-third meeting of the High-level Group
for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for
Sustainable Development**

Wednesday 21 July 2021, 7:00am – 9:00am (EDT)

Virtual open/ closed meeting

Time (EDT)	CLOSED MEETING ITEMS	Item type (see link or document ref for details)
CLOSED MEETING		
07:00 – 07:15am	1. Opening and induction of new members	For information
07:15 – 07:25am	2. Preparations for UNWDF Bern 2021	For information
07:25 – 07:40am	3. Process for the selection of the next hosts of the UNWDF and September special meeting	For information
07:40 – 07:45am	4. Report back from other events: a. High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) programme and side events	For information
07:45 – 08:00am	5. Administrative arrangements a. October in-person meeting - 24 th /25 th meeting b. Invitation to issue partners c. Designation of issue partners	For discussion
Time (EDT)	OPEN MEETING ITEMS	Item type (see link or document ref for details)
08:00 – 08:05am	1. Opening	
08:05 – 08:25am	2. Preparatory work for the UN World Data Forum (UNWDF) Bern 2021:	
	a. Logistics and communications for Bern 2021	For information
	b. Provisional programme review	For discussion
	c. Outcome document (latest update)	For discussion
08:25 – 08:55am	3. Review of the implementation of the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data (CTGAP)	
	a. Review tool in collaboration with World Bank and PARIS21	For discussion
	b. Bern Network Clearing house and World Bank Global data facility	For discussion

08:55 – 09:00am	4. Any other business	
--------------------	-----------------------	--

Annex 2: List of participants

Twenty-third meeting of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

HLG-PCCB member countries

1.	Albania (co-chair)	Ms. Elsa Dhuli, Institute of Statistics (INSTAT-Albania)
2.	State of Palestine (co-chair)	Ms. Ola Awad, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)
3.	Argentina	Mr. Mariano Poledo, Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos (INDEC-Argentina)
4.	Argentina	Mr. Martin Chojo, INDEC-Argentina
5.	Argentina	Mr. Nicolás Petresky, INDEC-Argentina
6.	Belize	Ms. Diana Castillo-Trejo, Statistical Institute of Belize (SIB)
7.	China	Mr. Li Xiaochao, National Bureau of Statistics (NBS-China)
8.	Ecuador	Mr. Roberto Castillo Añazco, Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos (INEC-Ecuador)
9.	Ecuador	Ms. Carina Santos, INEC-Ecuador
10.	Ecuador	Ms. Fercita Salvador, INEC-Ecuador
11.	Ecuador	Ms. María Belén Proaño, INEC-Ecuador
12.	Ecuador	Ms. Tania Romero, INEC-Ecuador
13.	Ecuador	Mr. David Munoz, INEC-Ecuador
14.	Finland	Mr. Markus Sovala, Statistics Finland
15.	Hungary	Ms. Gabriella Vukovich, Hungarian Central Statistical Office (HCSO)
16.	Kyrgyzstan	Mr. Samat Nasirdinov, National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic
17.	Kyrgyzstan	Ms. Nazira Kerimalieva, NSC of the Kyrgyz Republic
18.	Kyrgyzstan	Ms. Lola Baimatova, NSC of the Kyrgyz Republic
19.	Mexico	Mr. Julio Alfonso Santaella Castell, Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI-México)

20.	Mexico	Ms. Pilar García Velázquez, INEGI-México
21.	Mexico	Mr. Guadalupe Ornelas, INEGI-México
22.	Mongolia	Mr. Batdavaa Batmunkh, National Statistics Office (NSO-Mongolia)
23.	Mongolia	Mr. Otgonbayar Gantulga, NSO-Mongolia
24.	Nepal	Mr. Hem Raj Regmi, Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS-Nepal)
25.	Norway	Mr. Lasse Sandberg, Statistics Norway
26.	Philippines	Mr. Claire Dennis S. Mapa, Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)
27.	Philippines	Mr. Benjamin Navarro, PSA
28.	Philippines	Ms. Gerlie Espartinaz, PSA
29.	Poland	Mr. Dominik Rozkrut, Statistics Poland
30.	Poland	Ms. Olga Świerkot-Strużewska, Statistics Poland
31.	Poland	Ms. Renata Bielak, Statistics Poland
32.	South Africa	Mr. Risenga Butler Maluleke, Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)
33.	Spain	Ms. Ana Carmen Saura, Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE-España)
34.	Switzerland	Mr. Benjamin Rothen, Swiss Federal Statistical Office (SFSO)
35.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Ms. Nicola Shearman , Office for National Statistics (ONS-UK)
36.	Japan (ex-officio member)	Ms. Azusa Yamada, Statistics Bureau of Japan

IAEG-SDGs

37.	Canada	Ms. Cara Williams, Statistics Canada
-----	--------	--------------------------------------

Issue partners

38.	Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21)	Mr. Johannes Jütting
39.	UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)	Ms. Rachael Beaven

40.	Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD)	Ms. Claire Melamed
41.	Open Data Watch (ODW)	Ms. Shaida Badiie
42.	Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) TReNDS	Mr. Grant Cameron
43.	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)	Ms. Rikke Munk Hansen
44.	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)	Mr. Juraj Riecan
45.	World Bank (WB)	Ms. Haishan Fu
46.	World Bank (WB)	Mr. Craig Hammer

Secretariat

47.	United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD-DESA)	Mr. Stefan Schweinfest
48.	UNSD-DESA	Ms. Francesca Perucci
49.	UNSD-DESA	Mr. Ian Mark Rutherford
50.	UNSD-DESA	Ms. Faryal Ahmed
51.	UNSD-DESA	Ms. Arianna Di Donna