

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Metadata, quality management and data/metadata dissemination

Metadata – why important?

- What is it?
statistical description, unit of reference, reference period, institutional mandate, confidentiality, release policy, frequency of dissemination, dissemination format, accessibility of documentation, quality management, relevance, data accuracy and reliability, timeliness, comparability, coherence, cost and response burden, data revision and statistical processing.

→ data that define and describe other data and processes!
- For statistical production process
- For quality assessment
- Therefore, important to use standard terminology such as defined in SDMX

WoWW – Work on What Works

- Repository of existing metadata used
- Develop a metadata warehouse
 - Comprehensive
 - Consistent/coherent
 - Reliable
 - Availability and contact

Use existing standards

- SDMX
- SDDS/GDDS (IMF)
- *The SDMX content-oriented guidelines on metadata by Eurostat*
- *For FATS:*

inward FATS

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/en/fats_esms.htm;

outward FATS:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/EN/fats_out_esms.htm

Quality Management – Need for standards?

- NQAF -- Generic National Quality Assurance Framework
- DQAF -- IMF's *Data Quality Assessment Framework*
- *Quality assurance Framework Eurostat*
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/ver-1/quality/documents/EHQR_FINAL.pdf
- OECD's *Quality Framework for Statistical Activities (focused on OECD itself)*.
<http://www.oecd.org/std/qualityframeworkforoecdstatisticalactivities.htm>

Data & Metadata Dissemination

- Implement UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
- Ensure consistency between disseminated datasets
- FATS: select variables in accord with quality assessment and information needs
- Disseminate statistics on the international supply of services in a common report regularly (e.g., on an annual basis)
- Maintain statistical confidentiality
- Adopt several formats and means of dissemination to ensure that data and metadata are delivered efficiently to all user groups