

Proposal for the topics and formats of future CCSA special events
Note prepared by Eurostat

Objective

The objective of this paper is to present a proposal and the way forward for future CCSA special events.

Background

The conference on Data Quality for International Organizations has been held since 2004 on a biennial basis under the auspices of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (CCSA).

The evaluation of 2008 CCSA Quality Conference was presented at the 12th CCSA Meeting in Tunis. In general, the usefulness of conferences was emphasized, especially for the exchange of experience and for the development of common and harmonized tools for assuring and assessing quality in statistics. It was as well verified that the implementation of the quality assurance framework, according to the CCSA approved guidelines is beginning to be implemented in some of the International Organisations (IOs).

Next CCSA Special events

The evaluation of the last conference clearly pointed out the interest of continuing these types of events, although changing slightly its focus. The CCSA project on the use and convergence of international quality assurance framework lead to its on going implementation, therefore time has come to focus on other aspects of quality improvement in IOs.

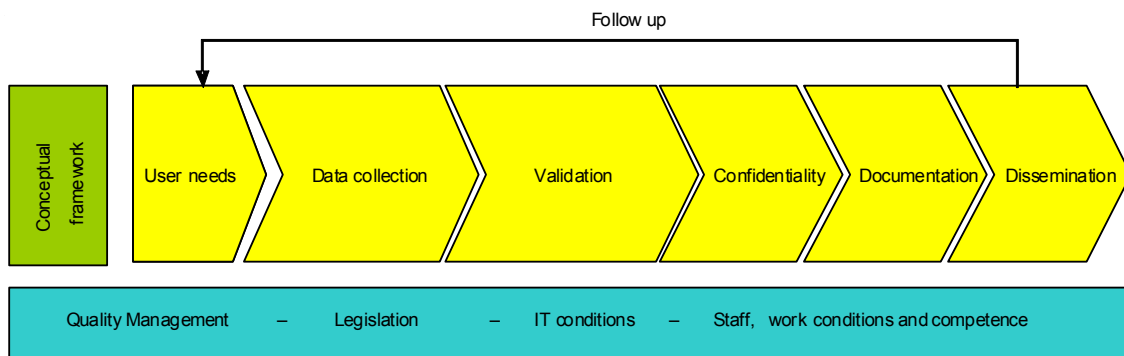
The next CCSA conference should aim to enhance working towards the development and sharing of best practices at international level in order to establish a system of coordinated methods and tools that guarantee adherence to minimum requirements concerning statistical processes and products.

The value of developing common standards and sharing of good practices with other international and national statistical organisations can hardly be overestimated, a more general “strategy” encompassing both ICT infrastructure and quality issues is necessary to orient international organisation activities and to benefit from the opportunities created

by new institutional set-ups and technological changes, bearing in mind the final target of improving the quality of international statistics.

Our proposal is to continue to use the opportunity to have back to back meetings with the Eurostat Quality Conferences as this gives away to additional synergies of having available international experts to participate in both conferences and allows the CCSA quality conference to participate as well. But to focus no longer on the Quality Conceptual Framework per se but have special events focusing on specific processes.

Figure 1: Eurostat Statistical Processes Assessment Checklist



Next Steps

A. Choice of the Topic for the next CCSA Quality Conference

We propose that the next CCSA quality conference focus on two components:

- Validation at international level (methods, best practices, software tools)
- Confidentiality at international level (methods, best practices, software tools)

B. Timetable

Eurostat has just launched the call for proposals for the organisation of the next Q Conference; The time and venue will be know by mid 2009.

Next steps CCSA Quality Conference 2010:

- Eurostat will present the draft programme of the next Quality conference (agenda, topics, key speakers) to the CCSA September 2009 Meeting;
- Organizing committee to be established at the 2009 CCSA September meeting;
- Invitation for papers by end 2009;
- Papers available by May 2010;
- Programme will include presentation of the monitoring results and will focus on the promotion of the best practices in the identified statistical domains.