



Coordination In A Statistical System

- Almost everyone agrees on the need for coordination but almost no one wants to be coordinated.
- Coordination may be necessary but it is hard to do and its cost should not be underestimated.

H1. 1



Approach

- System with central statistical agency
- Decentralized statistical system

H1. 2



Impediments

- Our Ministry is the only one capable of understanding and meeting the user needs
- The area is so specialized that no one but us can understand it
- Legislation prevents us from sharing information with anyone else

H1. 3



Impediments (continued)

- Real concerns about the ability of the statistical agency to do the job
- The work is an offshoot of administrative data

H1. 4



Incentives

- Access to statistical expertise
- Synergies result from access to information not readily available to the Ministry
- Ministerial influence in national statistical initiatives
- The whole is greater than the sum of its parts

H1. 5



Coordination Tools

- Nomenclature
- Approval of data collections
- Government-wide statistical budget
- National Statistics Council
- Managing government statisticians

H1. 6



Decentralized Statistical System

- Statistical agency budgets
- Statistical agency data collection activities
- Defining and enforcing nomenclatures

H1. 7



Application of the Tools

- Strong - formal process or law defining and requiring coordination
- Weak - based on tradition or agreement between the statistical agencies

H1. 8