



MANAGING A STATISTICAL ORGANISATION IN TIMES OF CHANGE

Asian Thematic Conference 2020

Handbook of Statistical Organization

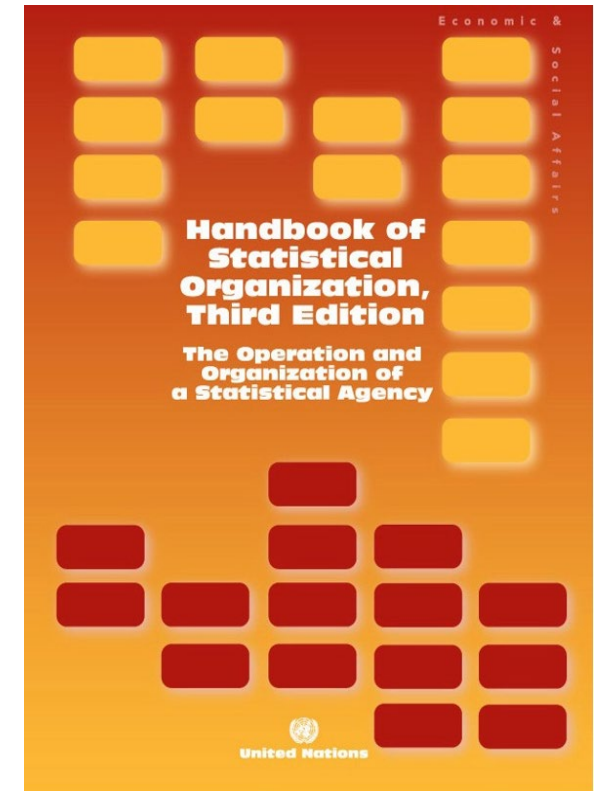
Asian Thematic Conference

12 - 14 February 2020⁹ – ADB Headquarters, Manila, Philippines



What is the handbook of Statistical Organization?

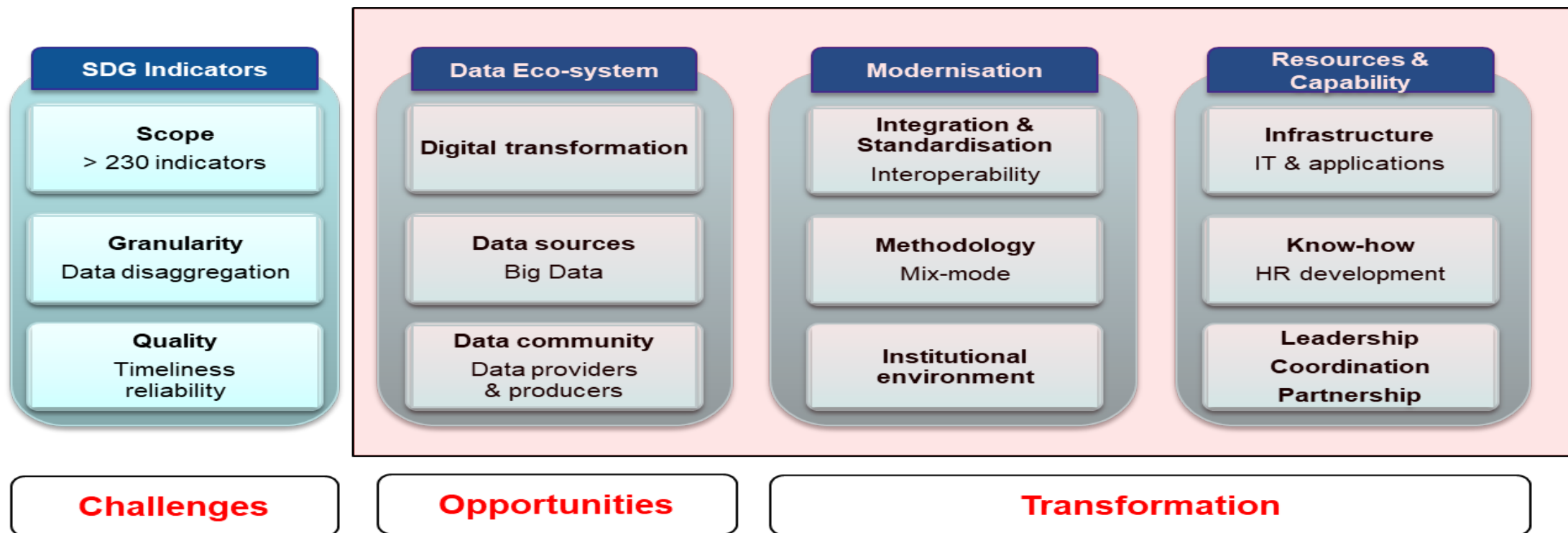
- The primary objective:
“to guide chief statisticians and senior managers of national statistical organizations in developing and maintaining statistical capacity that is fit for purpose”
- First published in 1952 and the most recent (third) edition dates from 2003





What did change since 2003?

The **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, and related regional and national development policies, involve a transformation of national statistical systems to grasp new opportunities





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The mandate

- 48th session UN StatCom requested a revision of the current Handbook
- 49th session UN StatCom:
 - The commented outline endorsed ([E/CN.3/2018/5](#))
 - To address the strategic development areas articulated in the [CT-GAP](#) and the outcomes of the Transformative Agenda Initiative
 - Grasp the potential of the digital transformation in a rapidly changing data environment
 - Reinforce leadership, coordination, communication, and dialogue through institutional, organizational and managerial adjustments
 - Overall updating process to be supported by a series of (sub-)regional Thematic Conferences





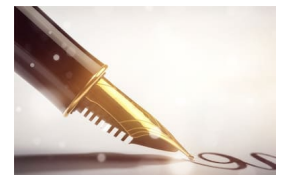
Accessibility – usability - ease of update

- Conceived as a living document on the Web
- Including links to relevant material and country examples
- Hardcopy of Chapter II (overview) for a larger audience and in all UN languages
- Handbook revised every second year, links and country examples more regularly



Drafting Team and Advisory Group

- Drafting team: UNSD Staff and Consultants
- Brazil, Ghana, Kenya, Mongolia, Palestine, Philippines, Poland, Suriname, United Kingdom
- 5 UN Regional Commissions
- FAO, ILO, UNCTAD, Asian Development Bank, Eurostat, Open Data Watch, PARIS21 and SESRIC

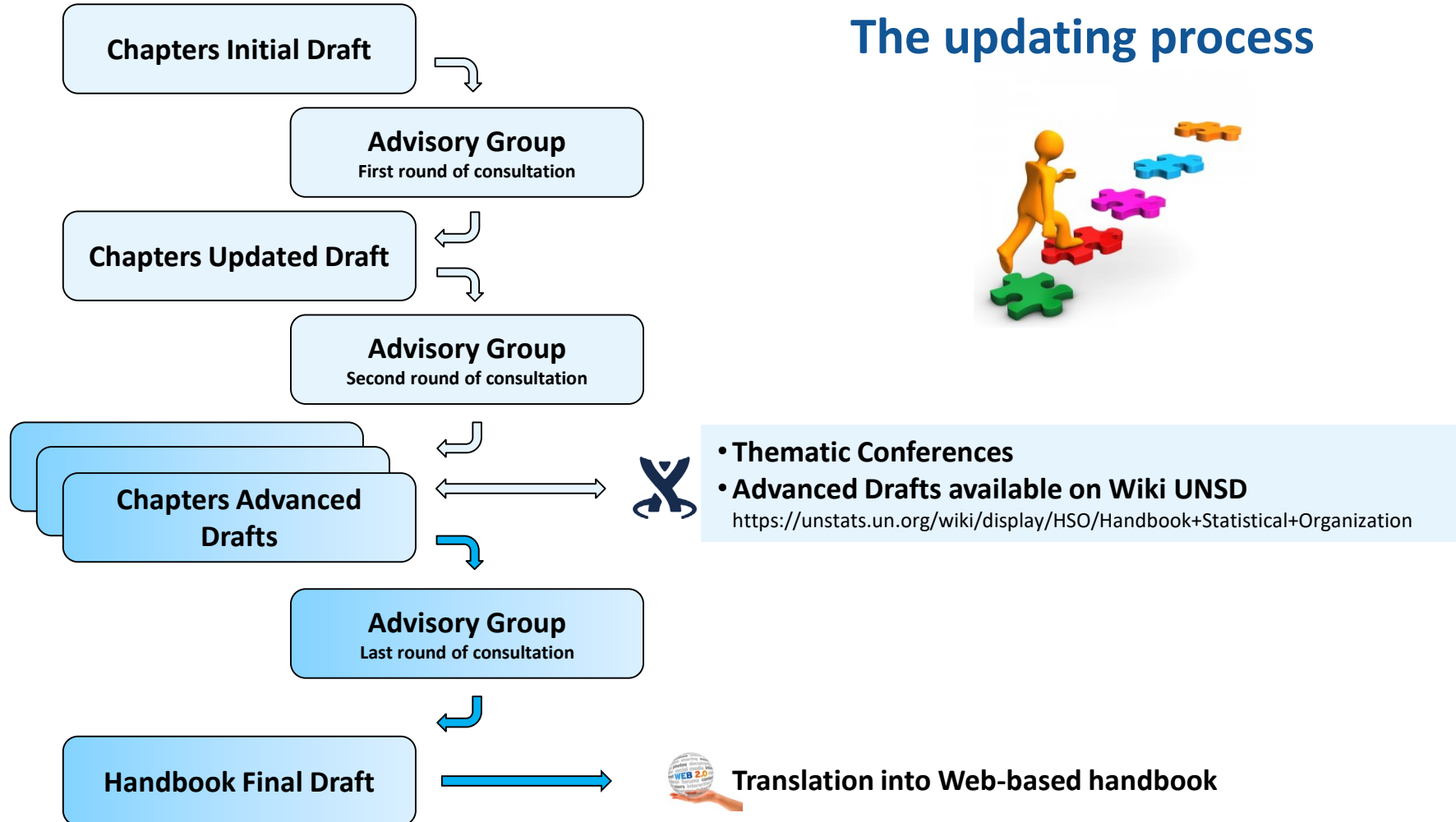




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The updating process





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Timeline for the updated Handbook



Updated Handbook on the Web [test phase]

December 2020 – March 2021





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Thematic conferences:

“Managing a statistical organization in times of change”

- Series of (sub-)regional Thematic Conferences aiming at:
 - Supporting the drafting, raising awareness and sharing information on the new Handbook
 - Identifying regional and sub-regional initiatives to reference in Handbook
 - Identifying national good practices to inform the various chapters of the Handbook.
 - Validating usefulness of content
- But also:
 - Shaping, coordinating and cross-fertilizing modernization programmes and actions at/between global, regional and sub-regional levels
- Organizing Committee for the Asian Conference: Philippines, Mongolia, ADB, UNESCAP, UNSD



Thematic conferences /2

- Four cross-cutting themes covering broadly all strategic areas of the CT-GAP and the chapters of the updated Handbook:

1. Supporting the transformation of statistical production processes from the data collection to dissemination in the context of the digital and technological revolution

Chapter VIII Data sources, collection and processing

Chapter X Dissemination and user communications

Chapter XI Common statistical infrastructure

Chapter XIII Data, information and knowledge management

Chapter XIV Information technology management

2. Strengthening the institutional and organisational frameworks of national statistical systems

Chapter III The basis of official statistics

Chapter IV The National Statistics System

Chapter V The National Statistics Office



Thematic conferences /3

3. Securing quality of statistical information and improving data coherence through statistical analysis and analytical frameworks

Chapter VI Users and their needs

Chapter VII Quality management

Chapter IX Analysis and analytical frameworks

4. Mobilizing and securing adequate resources and infrastructure, and promoting regional and global cooperation for the development of national statistical capacity

Chapter XII Human resources management and development

Chapter XV Management of finance, buildings and physical space

Chapter XIV International activities and collaboration

+ **2 Breakout sessions with 4 groups**



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- Publicly available drafts of the Handbook for comments to:
<https://unstats.un.org/wiki/display/HSO/Handbook+Statistical+Organization>
- Please provide specific success stories and challenges to: statistics-handbook@un.org

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