

I would like to thank you for a good opportunity given for Ukraine to take part in this expert group and to work on the national quality assurance framework.

Please find below my answers to the questions sent in your letter, on behalf of the State Statistics Committee of Ukraine:

What are your country's or agency's experiences - if any - with the development or use of an NQAF?

In the years 2007-2008 quality policy and objectives, the quality regulation, the list of key processes of activity was developed and adopted, responsible persons and the list of services and their users was defined.

A workgroup on development and implementation of self-assessment concerning accordance of Ukrainian statistics to the European Statistics Code of Practice was created. This workgroup developed a National Questionnaire for self-assessment on the basis of the Questionnaire CoP.

In 2009 the State Statistics Committee of Ukraine (SSCU) supported by Twinning light project "Harmonization of Ukrainian official statistics with the EU statistical standards" developed the National principles of the state statistical activity. It is important to mention that Ukraine is first from the CIS countries has started work on development and implementation in its practical activity the National principles of the state statistics developed the state statistics activity harmonized with CoP.

The Principles consist of three parts:

- Institutional structure (principles of total management of bodies of state statistics);
- Statistical processes (principles of realization of statistical processes);
- Statistical outputs (principles of statistical output production).

The principles are based on CoP and also contain the system of indicators PARIS -XXI used for global estimation of statistical systems. They hold 18 principles: 15 principles of CoP and three auxiliary ones. The principle 12 "Partnership relations in state statistical activity" of the National principles of the state statistics activity (the principle 9 of CoP) has additional set of indicators that characterize collaboration not only with respondents, but with all other subjects which take part in realization of state statistical activity.

Moreover during last years we created Model quality report in structural business statistics and started to prepare quality reports for several important statistical surveys.

What problems and obstacles have you experienced or anticipate experiencing in developing and implementing an NQAF?

In the SSCU has not the quality department yet. The problem is connected with lack of specialists on quality and necessity to change the structure of the SSCU. The main problem that we have faced and as many experts have mentioned is related to lack of a quality culture. The concept of a quality assurance framework is



new to staff of the SSCU. The first challenge is to get a common understanding about what quality is and that it is a wider concept than just accuracy. The main obstacle is lack of resources to implement all of the quality improvements that we would like to do.

What are the main needs and priorities from a country perspective vis-à-vis the development and implementation of an NQAF?

We plan to organize workshop sessions to help staff to understand the real nature and importance of quality, and begin the work on training specialists.

With best regards, Oksana

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