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**Workshop on the Implementation of a National Quality Assurance Framework for Official Statistics in countries of Eastern-Europe/Central-Asia Region**  
Belgrade, Serbia, 10-13 December 2019

**Concept note, updated tentative agenda,  
and topics of country presentations**  
(as of 2 December 2019)

**Concept note**

At its fiftieth session in March 2019 the Statistical Commission adopted the United Nations National Quality Assurance Frameworks Manual for Official Statistics (UN NQAF Manual) and the recommendations contained therein (decision 50/106). The Statistical Commission welcomed the *Manual* as an important contribution in guiding countries in the implementation of a national quality assurance framework, including for new data sources, new data providers, and for data and statistics of the Sustainable Development Goal indicators. The *Manual* provides guidance for developing and implementing a national quality assurance framework (NQAF) and aims at addressing quality assurance in different circumstances and situations, hereby supporting countries in safeguarding the role of official statistics as trusted source of information in a changing environment.

In its decision, the Statistical Commission took also note of the results of a country survey on the implementation of national quality assurance frameworks and the fact that many countries have yet to implement a national quality assurance framework.

The Workshop aims at training participants from national statistical offices on quality assurance and the development of a national quality assurance framework and its implementation throughout the national statistical system, using both the new Manual and the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (ESS QAF). The Workshop will first provide an overview of the contents of the new Manual and the global and the European quality assurance frameworks. Subsequently it will focus on specific topics and tools geared towards the needs of participating countries. Please find attached the concept note with the tentative agenda of the Workshop.

## Updated tentative agenda

*In general, morning sessions will be conducted from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and afternoon sessions from 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. There will be a 15-minute break in the morning and afternoon.*

### Tuesday, 10 December 2019

#### Opening of the Workshop

08:30-09:00 Registration of participants

09:00-10:00 Opening, Objectives of the workshop, Adoption of agenda

#### Session 1: Overview of the implementation of national quality assurance frameworks in participating countries

10:00-10:30 Session 1.1: Activities and perspectives of UNSD, UNECE and Eurostat

10:30-12:30 Session 1.2: Implementation of quality assurance in countries  
- Group discussion of national practices

#### Session 2: Review of principles and their requirements (indicators)

13:30-14:30 Session 2.1: Introduction to the UN NQAF Manual and its core recommendations (*see Manual, Chapters 1 and 2*) and Overview of UN NQAF principles, requirements and elements to be assured (*see Manual, Chapter 3 and Annex*)

14:30-15:30 Session 2.2: Introduction of ESS QAF

15:30-17:00 Session 2.3: Review of selected principles and identification of challenges in their implementation (also considering the changing environment of official statistics)  
- Group discussion based on the self-assessment checklist

### Wednesday, 11 December 2019

#### Session 3: Implementation of quality assurance at the national statistical office

09:00-10:30 Session 3.1: Development and implementation of a NQAF at the NSO (*see Manual, Chapter 5*)  
- Introduction, country examples (Montenegro, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, North Macedonia) and discussion

10:30-12:30 Session 3.2: Quality assurance across different statistical domains – use of GSBPM and other relevant practices  
- Introduction, country examples (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Serbia, Turkey, Russian Federation) and discussion

#### Session 4: Implementation of quality assurance throughout the national statistical system

- 13:30-14:00 Session 4.1: Review of UN core recommendations and relevant principles
- 14:00-17:00 Session 4.2: Implementation of a NQAF throughout the national statistical system  
(*see Manual, Chapters 5, 6 and 7*)
- Introduction, country examples (Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Uzbekistan) and discussion

#### **Thursday, 12 December 2019**

#### Session 5 (Part I): Dealing with new data sources and data providers

- 09:00-10:00 Session 5.1: Challenges of the new data ecosystem and responses
- Introduction and round-table discussion
- 10:00-12:30 Session 5.2: Dealing with different (and new) data sources (*see Manual, Chapter 8*)
- Introduction, group discussion of country examples (Albania, Georgia, North Macedonia, Norway, Turkey)

#### Session 5 (Part II): Dealing with new data sources and data providers

- 13:30-14:30 Session 5.2 (continued)
- 14:30-17:00 Session 5.3: Certification of statistical outputs and data providers
- Introduction, country examples (Norway, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan) and discussion

#### **Friday, 13 December 2019**

#### Session 6: Roadmap of countries and support

- 09:00-10:00 Session 6.1: International and regional activities
- 10:00-11:00 Session 6.2: Plans and next steps of countries

#### Closing of Workshop

- 11:00-12:00 Introduction of the draft conclusions of the meeting
- 12:00-12:15 Evaluation
- 12:15-12:30 Closing remarks

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## Annex:

### Suggested specific topics / titles of country presentations during the different sessions

#### Instructions:

- The topic was assigned based on your feedback from the google survey. Please let us know if you wish to present on a different or additional topic OR modify the title or contents of your suggested presentation(s).
- Your presentation should **NOT exceed 10 minutes** to allow time for discussion.
- While focusing on your specific topic, please also refer to the respective parts of the *Manual* as applicable, concerning any additional aspects that you may wish to cover in your presentation.

#### Assignments

##### Session 3: Implementation of quality assurance at the national statistical office

09:00-10:30 Session 3.1: Development and implementation of a NQAF at the NSO

- Montenegro: National quality database, metadata management and quality reports as part of a TQM system
- Kyrgyzstan: Survey of user
- Ukraine: Assessment of the quality management system, and introduction of a risk management system
- North Macedonia: Development and implementation of QAF at the State Statistical Office

10:30-12:30 Session 3.2: Quality assurance across different statistical domains – use of GSBPM and other relevant practices

- Armenia: Use of GSBPM for quality assurance
- Azerbaijan: Use of checklists, internal audits based of GSBPM and quality reports
- Georgia: Quality mappings and quality audits of statistical production processes
- Kazakhstan: National model for describing the production process of statistical information using GSBPM
- Serbia: Implementation of GSPBM in SORS
- Turkey: Monitoring and evaluating quality activity based on GSBPM
- Russian Federation: Rosstat GSBPM model

##### Session 4: Implementation of quality assurance throughout the national statistical system

14:00-17:00 Session 4.2: Implementation of a NQAF throughout the national statistical system

- Albania: Training for the implementation of National Quality Assurance Framework for NSS members
- Belarus: Self-assessment of data quality within the NSS

- Bosnia and Herzegovina: Coordination of quality assessment across NSS
- Serbia: National system for producing reference metadata and quality reports (RZSMETA)
- Uzbekistan: Improving the quality of SDG indicators across NSS

Session 5 (Part I): Dealing with new data sources and data providers

10:00-14:30 Session 5.2: Dealing with different (and new) data sources

- Albania: Road map for quality assurance for administrative data
- Georgia: Assuring quality of data sources and exploration and use of new data sources
- North Macedonia: Quality assurance of administrative data related to next population census
- Norway: Assessment and improvement of the quality of registers
- Turkey: Quality checks and quality reports report across all different types of data sources

Session 5 (Part II): Dealing with new data sources and data providers

14:30-17:00 Session 5.3: Certification of statistical outputs and data providers

- Norway: Norwegian system of quality reviews
- Azerbaijan: Certification of State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan
- Kazakhstan: Internal audits based on ISO 9001

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