
Belgrade, Serbia, 10-13 December 2019

Session 1.1: Global perspective

Matthias Reister, Chief
Development Data Section
Statistics Division, Development Data and Outreach Branch
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
About the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)

UN SECRETARIAT >> DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (DESA) >> Statistics Division

Statistical Division

- Data Innovation and Capacity Branch
- Economics Statistics Branch
- Demographic and Social Statistics Branch
- Environment Statistics and Geospatial Information Branch
- Development Data and Outreach Branch

- Sustainable Development Goals Monitoring Section
- Development Data Section
- Web Development and Data Visualization Section

Belgrade, 10-13 Dec 2019
Importance of data quality for the Member States

- **The General Assembly** in its Resolution 70/1, “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, on 25 September 2015 stressed that follow-up and review processes towards the SDGs at all levels will be informed by data which is high-quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated (para 74.g).

**Please note:** There are only two General Assembly resolutions that deal specifically with statistics


→ The 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 was developed by the Expert Group on National Quality Assurance Frameworks (EG-NQAF) which has been re-establishment by the Statistical Commission at its 48th session in March 2017.

17 countries and 8 international and regional organizations joined the re-established Expert Group on National Assurance Quality Frameworks in 2017.

The Expert Group conducted a survey of national practices in November 2017 which informed its work.

Many countries updated the information about their national practices on the UNSD website at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/dataquality/quality-references/.

In November 2018, the draft of the UN NQAF Manual was sent for worldwide consultation and review to all Member States: More than 60 countries and three international/regional organizations provided their feedback and comments were incorporated as much as possible.
Expert Group on National Assurance Quality Frameworks

Current membership of the EG-NQAF:

- Canada (previous co-Chair), Chile, China, Colombia, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Italy (co-Chair), Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Niger, Norway, Philippines (co-Chair), South Africa, Ukraine, Viet Nam,
- the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the World Bank, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).
- Recent joined: Botswana, Cameroon, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, Statistical Office of the European Community (Eurostat)

EG-NQAF will develop and provide additional materials and tools to support the implementation of a national quality assurance framework in countries, including best practices.
NQAF implementation rate and coverage
based on 127 responses to the NQAF implementation survey received between Dec 2017 and April 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Africa</th>
<th>Americas</th>
<th>Asia and Pacific</th>
<th>Europe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of those responded, 55% cover entire NSS
Reasons for not having NQAF and plans to develop and implement one
based on 127 responses to the NQAF implementation survey received between Dec 2017 and April 2018

Why do you not have NQAF?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lack of financial and/or human resources</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of training resources</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of subject matter support</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not a priority</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of legal basis</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of those responded, 95% plan to develop and implement NQAF

Belgrade, 10-13 Dec 2019
## Assistance needed to develop and implement NQAF

Based on 127 responses to the NQAF implementation survey received between Dec 2017 and April 2018

### What assistance does your country need to develop and implement NQAF?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assistance</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design instruments and support its implementation</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hands on technical material and guidance</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops or specific advisory services</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assess the current situation</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional human resources</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Belgrade, 10-13 Dec 2019
Additional results
based on 127 responses to the NQAF implementation survey
received between Dec 2017 and April 2018

Europe:
- NQAF covers the entire NSS? - YES for 20 countries out of 32
- NQAF applied to data used to calculate SDGs? – YES for 21 out of 30
- NQAF applied to information obtained from alternative new sources – YES for 24 out of 31

Asia and Pacific
- NQAF covers the entire NSS? - YES for 9 countries out 23
- NQAF applied to data used to calculate SDGs? – YES for 8 out of 21
- NQAF applied to information obtained from alternative new sources – YES for 10 out of 22
UN NQAF Manual aims to support countries in..

NQAF development

Implementation at the NSO

Implementation throughout the NSS

Application to expanded data ecosystem

..through

⇒ Recommendations
⇒ UN NQAF
⇒ Implementation guidance

Belgrade, 10-13 Dec 2019
Thank You

Visit as at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/dataquality