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, thereby 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 (NSOs) on quality assurance and the development of a national quality assurance framework and its implementation throughout the national statistical system (NSS). The Workshop will first provide an overview of the contents of the new Manual and will subsequently focus on specific topics and tools geared towards the needs of participating countries.
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.

Monday, 14 October 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: Regional and global perspectives and introduction to the UN NQAF Manual
10:00-11:00 Session 1.1: Regional and global perspective (UNSD, UNECA/ACS, AUC)
11:00-12:30 Session 1.2: Introduction to the UN NQAF Manual and its recommendations (see Manual, Chap. 1 and 2)

Session 2: Status of implementation of quality assurance and national quality assurance frameworks in participating countries
13:30-16:30 Session 2.1: Group discussion of national practices (incl. group presentations)
16:30-17:00 Session 2.2: Identification of best practices and major challenges

Tuesday, 15 October 2019

Session 3: The United Nations National Quality Assurance Framework
09:00-09:30 Session 3.1: African Charter of Statistics (UNECA/ACS)
09:30-10:30 Session 3.2: UN NQAF principles, requirements and elements to be assured (see Manual, Chap. 3 and Annex)
10:30-12:30 Session 3.3: Self-assessment exercise (group discussion and presentations)

Session 4: Development and implementation of a national quality assurance framework and its implementation at the NSO
13:30-15:00 Session 4.1: Development of a NQAF – introduction (see Manual, Sect. 5.B), country examples (Namibia, Botswana) and discussion
15:00-17:00 Session 4.2: Use of assessment tools – introduction (see Manual, Chap. 4), country examples (Zimbabwe, Malawi, Niger, Ghana) and discussion

Wednesday, 16 October 2019

Session 5: Implementation of a national quality assurance framework at the NSO (continued)
09:00-10:00 Session 5.1: Rollout of NQAF, including institutional arrangements and training – introduction (see Manual, Sec. 5.C), country examples (Uganda) and discussion
10:00-12:30 Session 5.2: Other relevant practices including implementation in different domains and use of the GSBPM – introduction, country examples (Kenya, Cameroon, Mozambique) and discussion
Session 6: Implementation of a national quality assurance framework throughout the NSS

13:30-14:00  Session 6.1: Review of UN core recommendations and relevant principles
14:00-16:30  Session 6.2: Implementation of NQAF throughout the NSS– introduction (see Manual, Chap. 6), country examples (Ethiopia, Uganda, South Africa) and discussion of the way forward
16:30-17:00  Session 6.3: Quality assurance for SDG indicators – introduction (see Manual, Chap. 7), country examples (Ghana, South Africa) and discussion

Thursday, 17 October 2019

Session 7: Quality assurance in the case of different data sources - Dealing with different new data sources and data providers (see Manual, Chap. 8)

09:00-10:30  Session 7.1: Statistical data sources – country examples (Egypt, Liberia, Nigeria) and discussion
10:30-11:30  Session 7.2: Challenges of the new data ecosystem – Group discussion of national responses
11:30-12:30  Session 7.3: Administrative and other data sources – Group discussion

Session 8: Quality assurance in the case of different data sources - Dealing with different new data sources and data providers – continued (see Manual, Chap. 8)

13:30-15:00  Session 8.1: Presentation of group discussions
15:00-17:00  Session 8.2: Certification of statistical outputs and providers - country examples (South Africa) and discussion

Friday, 18 October 2019

Session 9: Roadmap of countries and support

09:00-10:30  Session 9.1: Plans and next steps of countries
10:30-12:00  Session 9.2: Issues to be addressed
12:00-12:30  Session 9.3: Regional and international activities

Closing of the Workshop

13:30-14:30  Introduction of the draft conclusions of the meeting
14:30-14:45  Evaluation
14:45-15:00  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 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 4: Development and implementation of a national quality assurance framework and its implementation at the NSO

Session 4.1: Development of a NQAF – introduction (see Manual, Sect. 5.B), country examples and discussion
- Namibia: Development of the national quality assurance framework
- Botswana: Development of the national quality assurance framework and implementation plans

Session 4.2: Use of assessment tools – introduction (see Manual, Chap. 4), country examples and discussion
- Zimbabwe: Use of quality indicators, quality reports, user survey and metadata management
- Malawi: Use of quality indicators
- Niger: Quality report of crop survey
- Ghana: User survey and improvement plan

Session 5: Implementation of a national quality assurance framework at the NSO (continued)

Session 5.1: Rollout of NQAF, including institutional arrangements – introduction (see Manual, Sec. 5.C), country examples and discussion
- Uganda: Actions and challenging in implementing the NQAF

Session 5.2: Other relevant practices including implementation in different domains and use of the GSBPM – introduction, country examples) and discussion
- Cameroon: Use of GSBPM for quality assurance
- Mozambique: Use of GSBPM for quality assurance
Session 6: Implementation of a national quality assurance framework throughout the NSS

Session 6.2: Implementation of NQAF throughout the NSS—introduction (see Manual, Chap. 6), country examples and discussion of the way forward
- Ethiopia: Providing ongoing training for staff to support implementation throughout the NSS
- Uganda: Implementation of quality assurance across the NSS including the local level
- South Africa: Improving statistical processes throughout the NSS

Session 6.3: Quality assurance for SDG indicators—introduction (see Manual, Chap. 7), country examples and discussion
- Ghana: Metadata for SDG indicators
- South Africa: Quality assurance for SDG indicators

Session 7: Quality assurance in the case of different data sources—Dealing with different new data sources and data providers (see Manual, Chap. 8)

Session 7.1: Statistical data sources—country examples and discussion
- Egypt: Quality assurance for surveys and censuses
- Liberia: Effective monitoring and evaluation during data collection processes

Session 8: Quality assurance in the case of different data sources—Dealing with different new data sources and data providers—continued (see Manual, Chap. 8)

Session 8.2: Certification of statistical outputs and providers—country examples and discussion
- South Africa: Assessment of statistical products