
**Workshop on the Implementation of a National Quality Assurance Framework for
Official Statistics in Countries of the Africa Region**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 6 - 9 December 2022

Concept note and tentative agenda
(as of 02 November 2022)

In March 2019, the United Nations Statistical Commission adopted the United Nations National Quality Assurance Frameworks Manual for Official Statistics (Manual¹), including the recommendations contained therein (Decision 50/106²). 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 development of the Manual greatly benefitted from a country survey conducted in 2017 by the Expert Group on National Quality Assurance Frameworks.³ The survey showed that many countries had yet to implement a national quality assurance framework (NQAF). The Statistical Commission at its 52nd session in March 2021 tasked the Expert Group to conduct a follow-up survey to assess progress in the implementation of national quality assurance frameworks by national statistical systems. Countries received the request to complete this global survey end of August 2022.⁴

In addition to the Manual, the Expert Group released a self-assessment checklist.⁵ Also, an e-learning module has been made available.⁶ Most recently, the Expert Group released a draft Roadmap for NQAF implementation for review and testing.⁷ The Roadmap is intended to support countries in their journey of developing and implementing a national quality assurance framework. A further area of interest of the Expert Group has been quality assurance when new and administrative data sources are being used. The recent survey specifically asks countries about their practices in this area.

The Workshop will train participants from national statistical offices on quality assurance and its implementation throughout the national statistical system and support the development of additional guidelines on quality assurance. The Workshop will provide an overview of the contents of the Manual and the UN National Quality Assurance Framework, review and discuss the implementation of quality assurance in participating countries and discuss quality assurance in the case when new and administrative data sources are being used. The sharing of experiences will also support the development of further implementation guidance.

¹ <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/dataquality/un-nqaf-manual/>.

² <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/decisions-ref/?code=50/106>.

³ The results of the survey are available here: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/50th-session/documents/BG-Item3d-NQAF-E.pdf>.

⁴ https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/dataquality/nqaf_survey_2022.

⁵ <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/dataquality/tools/>.

⁶ Available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/dataquality/e_learning/.

⁷ Available at <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/dataquality/roadmap>.

In general, morning sessions will be conducted from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and afternoon sessions from 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. On Friday, the meeting will conclude at 2 pm. There will be a short break in the morning and afternoon.

Tuesday, 6 December 2022

Opening of the Workshop

- 08:00-08:30 Registration of participants
08:30-09:30 Opening and Objectives of the workshop

Session 1: International recommendations on quality assurance and the UN National Quality assurance Framework

- 09:30-10:00 Session 1.1: Introduction to the UN NQAF Manual and its recommendations
(see Manual, Chap. 1 and 2)

10-minute coffee/tea break

- 10:10-10:50 Session 1.2: The African Charter of Statistics and UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
10:50-11:30 Session 1.3: The United Nations National Quality Assurance Framework (see Manual, Chap. 3)
11:30-12:00 Session 1.4: UN NQAF Principles, requirements and elements to be assured (see Manual, Chap. 3)

Session 2: National Quality Assurance Frameworks in practice

- 13:00-14:00 Session 2.1: Country case studies – national quality assurance frameworks (Uganda, Tanzania and Zambia)
14:00-14:30 Session 2.2: Self-assessment exercise (group exercise and discussion)

10-minute coffee/tea break

- 14:40-16:00 *Session 2.2 Continued*
16:00-16:30 Session 2.3: Identifying and addressing common challenges

Wednesday, 7 December 2022

Session 3: Implementation of NQAF in the region and participating countries / Roadmap for NQAF implementation

- 08:30-09:00 Session 3.1: First results of the global survey
09:00-10:20 Session 3.2: Introduction of tools and of the Roadmap for the implementation of NQAF (see Roadmap, Manual, Chap. 4, 5C and 6)

10-minute coffee/tea break

- 10:30-12:00 Session 3.3: Country case studies - Status and progress in implementation and use of tools – (Botswana, Ethiopia, Niger and Nigeria)

Afternoon

13:00-14:30 Session 3.4: Roadmap exercise / review of the roadmap (group exercise and discussion)

10-minute coffee/tea break

14:40-15:30 Session 3.4: *Continued*

15:30-16:30 Session 3.5: Common implementation challenges

Thursday, 8 December 2022

Session 4: Quality assurance of new and administrative data sources

08:30-09:30 Session 4.1: Introduction of topic and the session (see Manual, Chap. 8)

09:30-10:30 Session 4.2: Country case studies (Cameroon, South Africa and Namibia)

10-minute coffee/tea break

10:40-11:00 Session 4.2: *Continued*

11:00-12:00 Session 4.3: Review of additional examples and practices

Afternoon

13:00-14:30 Session 4.4: Review of suggested additional quality dimensions (group discussion)

10-minute coffee/tea break

14:40-15:30 Session 4.5: NQAF and quality assurance for specific outputs, data collections or data sources - additional country case studies (Egypt, Kenya and Ethiopia) and round-table discussion

15:30-16:30 Session 4.6: Integrated use of NQAF and additional guidance on quality assurance of new and administrative data sources (round-table discussion)

Friday, 9 December 2022

Session 5: Development of additional tools / discussion of additional topics

08:30-10:30 Additional checklists or guidance for the use of new and administrative data sources and for other producers of official statistics

10-minute coffee/tea break

10:40-12:00 Certification, Data stewardship and data quality

Closing of the Workshop

13:00-14:00 Introduction of the draft conclusions of the meeting

14:00-14:15 Evaluation

14:15-14:30 Closing remarks
