

Workshop on the Implementation of a National Quality Assurance Framework for Official Statistics

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NQAF implementation in Cameroon:

Tools and practices

By:

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Outline

- *Presentation of the NSIS*
- *NQAF , implementation*
- *Quality and ADS*
- *Challenges and perspectives*

The National Statistical Information System (NSIS)

The statistical law

- Law N° 2020/010 adopted on 20 July 2020 to regulate statistical activity in Cameroon
- The law lays down the basic principles for producing *official statistical data*, rules of professional conduct, the *institutional framework* for statistical production and the terms and conditions for *coordinating statistical activity*
- The law provides some key definitions, in priority *official statistics*, statistical service, statistical production, etc.
- The law gives the composition of the National Statistical Information System, and the organization of the official statistics production with principles such as transparency, objectivity and impartiality, etc.
- The question of individual data protection with the obligation for producers to use individual collected data just for statistical purpose

The National Statistical Information System (NSIS)

Definitions

- Official statistics: statistical data produced by **services under the NSIS**
- National Statistical Information System: comprises all the **national public and semi-public services and bodies** that produce, provide and disseminate statistical data. The NSIS is **responsible** for the collection, processing and dissemination of **official statistical data for public purposes**
 - *Statistics produced by private sector, NGO, civil society are not considered as official statistics*
 - *The law regulates the production of official statistics*

The National Statistical Information System (NSIS)

Coordination and production frameworks

- The NSIS is decentralized: each public administration is responsible for the production of statistics relating to its sector. The NIS is responsible for conducting major operations and the production of macroeconomic aggregates
- The National Institute of Statistics (NIS) is responsible for coordination of the NSIS
- The law establishes the National Strategy for Development of Statistics (NSDS) as the reference framework for national statistical activity
- The law establishes the NQAF to guarantee the credibility and quality of statistics produced by the NSIS
- Statistical visa: aim to bring users to adhere to good practices, not to be perceived as a constraint imposed by NIS. It is a prior visa that ensures technical compliance

The National Quality Assurance Framework

What is NQAF

- Reference framework for the Quality policy within the National Statistical Information System
- Presents the quality ideals/objectives to be achieved
- Adopted at the regular session of the NSC in 2019

How was the NQAF developed?

- Preliminary diagnosis, to identify strengths and weaknesses of the system
- Follow up of UN guidelines on development of NQAF (2012), taking into account lessons from diagnosis
- Technical support of Statistics Canada, Afristat and Paris 21

The National Quality Assurance Framework

What is the content of the NQAF?

- Managing the statistical system
- Managing the institutional environment
- Managing statistical processes
- Managing statistical outputs

How is the implementation of the NQAF planned?

- Development of technical and operational tools (policies, guidelines, specific manuals, etc.)
- Establish regular quality assessments (quality reports)

The National Quality Assurance Framework: **GSBPM**

- Follows the 8 steps of the GSBPM 5.1 (january 2019)
 - *Specify needs, Design*
 - *Build, Collect , Process ,Analyse*
 - *Disseminate, Evaluate*
- *Some sub-processes have been slightly adapted*
- *Outputs (technical and metadata) have been defined for each sub-process, to facilitate the monitoring of the implementation*
- *Implementation guidelines for each sub-process*

Sub process	Guidelines	Output	Metadata

The National Quality Assurance Framework: *Quality assessment*

Self assessment of statistical process, 2021 (NIS)

- **Strength:**
 - *The methodologies are in line with standards*
 - *Relevance, accuracy and reliability*
- **Weakness:**
 - *Some steps are not sufficiently planned in the process*
 - *Timeliness and punctuality, managing metadata*
- *Need to extend to the entire NSIS*
- *Need to be regular and systematic*

The National Quality Assurance Framework on Administrative data sources

Definition and object of administrative data

- Informations produced by institutions as a result of their daily activities
- AD relate more to resources and public actions than to the state of society

Advantages to use AD

- Generally available at lower cost
- Reliability (in general) and completeness
- Reduce respondent burden

Disadvantages

- AD are not collected for statistical purposes
- Definitions are not always in adequation with statistical concepts
- poor quality control

The National Quality Assurance Framework on Administrative data sources

The exploitation of ADS requires the establishment of good statistical information system

- Indicator
- Data sources
- Actors
- Relationships and interactions between actors
- Statistical production process
- System animation and coordination

The National Quality Assurance Framework on Administrative data sources

Identify needs (indicators)

- *Users: the Minister, other ministries, private organizations, international organizations, parliament, local administration, etc.*
- *Needs: follow national policies, international engagements (SDG), etc.*
- *Concertations with users to validate needs*
- *Describe indicators: definition, scope, type, frequency, etc.*

Management and exploitation of data sources

- *Identify potential data sources: administrative records in or out the ministry*
- *Assess and validate sources: objective of data, capacity to be use for statistics, data security, access conditions to data, costs, procedures, concepts, classifications, etc.*
- *Combination of many data sources*

The National Quality Assurance Framework on Administrative data sources

Define relationships and interactions between actors

- **Producers:** *the central producer is the statistical unit, but other services can be involved in the process. We have to define responsibility of each actor in the production system. The production of final statistical data is the responsibility of statistical unit*
- **Producers and data providers:** *establish and maintain good relations with data providers, define a legal framework for access to data, integrate statistical requirements into the data recording system, etc.*
- **Producers and users:** *concertations with users, information on availability of statistics, provide a support for a good use of statistics, users satisfaction, etc.*

The National Quality Assurance Framework on Administrative data sources

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The National Quality Assurance Framework on Administrative data sources

The production process with administrative data

- *The process follows the steps of GSBPM: design, build, collect, process, analyse, disseminate and evaluate; with some adjustments for AD*
- *The SIS must be updated with the evolution of the environment: new indicators to produce, new data sources, new data providers, etc.*

Implementation

- *SIS for 5 ministries set up in 2021 for the production of statistical yearbook*
- *The model of statistical yearbook produced for each ministry*
- *Data collection, analyse, disseminate*
- *Metadata produced for all indicators (concept, disaggregation, user, data source, statistical unit, algorithm, etc.*

Challenges and perspectives

- Sensitization, capacity – building, change habits and adopt new practices
- Develop operational tools (guidelines, directives, guides, quality indicators)
- Build the culture of assessment (define a framework for overall quality assessment: process, data)
- Build strong Information Statistics System and Capitalize alternative data sources (administratives data, big data, etc.)



Thanks