

Report building experience Quality Assurance Framework for Statistical Vietnam

Lately year, General Statistics Office (GSO) - National Statistical Office of Vietnam, very interested in quality statistics. The GSO determines that improving and improving the statistical quality produced by the Productive Authority is the primary objective pursued by the Authority. Accordingly, the GSO has undertaken initial activities to build the foundations for future quality assurance activities. One of the activities is to build the Vietnam Statistical Quality Assurance Framework based on the Common Framework for National Statistical Quality Assurance developed by the NQAF Expert Group of the United Nations Statistics Committee set up. In this brief report, the GSO will present the process and experience in developing the Vietnam Statistical Quality Assurance Framework as well as provide specific recommendations to the NQAF expert group and United Nations Statistics Committee.

GSO initially approached national statistical quality assurance documents, in particular the NQAF General Framework and the NQAF General Framework Guideline (developed and compiled by NQAF) since 2013 through the National Quality Assurance Frameworks Module on the United Nations Statistical Office (UNSD) website. GSO has subsequently decided to translate the NQAF General Framework, the NQAF General Framework Guidance Document, and some existing statistical quality assurance frameworks of countries and international organizations into Vietnamese for study. Besides studying the document, the GSO has organized survey team at national statistical agencies with extensive experience in statistical quality assurance such as Japan, Korea and Australia to learn building experiences establish and operate national quality assurance frameworks. Based on that, the GSO has found that: General framework NQAF sample is a sample of the quality assurance framework of national statistical fairly complete and flexible that can be used to develop the National Statistical Quality Assurance Framework for Vietnam. Accordingly, in 2015, the GSO has established a group of experts including 1 international expert and 3 national experts to build the Vietnam Statistical Quality Assurance Framework. Besides general framework NQAF Research Form and Form Guide NQAF general framework, the team also studied other quality frameworks of international organizations and countries such as: IMF Data Quality Assessment Framework (IMF DQAF), European Statistics Code of Practice (ESCoP), OECD Quality Assurance Framework, African Charter on Statistics, Australian Statistical Office data quality standard (ABS DQF), National Quality Assurance Framework by Statistics Canada, the use of the NQAF framework template by the Japanese Statistics Agency, Quality Framework of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia, United Kingdom, South Korea. At the same time, the expert group conducted reference of

statistical quality tools such as: Self Assessment Checklist for Survey Managers (DESAP), quality norms of Eurostat ... As a result, the GSO has developed the Vietnam Statistical Quality Framework (VSQF) version 1 is presented as a list of practices, procedures, methods, and mechanisms are considered to assist in obtaining good quality statistics; elements guaranteed and some measure concrete results characterize statistical quality (quality indicators). VSQF consists of 219 criteria, arranged in 19 characteristic groups (VSQF1 - VSQF19); These criteria are mainly taken from the NQAF Checklist (175 criteria). Additional criteria were selected from the NQAF Guideline and 16 Eurostat quality indicators. The selection criteria were trying to pick out the criteria fit the situation in Vietnam, while ensuring the appropriate quantities for sustainability. VSQF is currently being submitted to the competent authority for approval and is expected to be further improved before being applied.

In the process of building the VSQF, the GSO recognizes that the development of a national statistical quality assurance framework is not simple with many difficulties and challenges. First, because the field of statistical quality assurance for GSO is a new field so in the early stages of access, The GSO has difficulty in identifying a clear and effective roadmap for statistical quality assurance activities. Second, during the initial approach period, Many concepts, contents and issues in the field of quality assurance in general and statistical quality assurance in particular are still quite "vague", not really understood in depth, even for members of GSO's GSO Expert Group. Third, the support, especially the support of expertise, technical expert group for GSO NQAF quite limited, in addition to the materials available on the Website. For instance, during the VSQF process, the Vietnamese team sent emails to some member countries of the NQAF Expert Group for advice and answers on some unknown issues, however the group received only one response from the UK. Fourth, the experience of using the National Framework for NQAF to develop national statistical quality assurance frameworks is still extremely limited. Fourth, the experience of using the National Framework for NQAF to develop national statistical quality assurance frameworks is still extremely limited. Currently, according to the GSO, only Japan and South Africa are the only two countries using the NQAF General Framework to develop national statistical quality assurance frameworks for their country. This limits a great deal of reference to the international experience of the GSO during the VSQF framework. At the same time, GSO also poses the question: although the general framework NQAF and Guide for general framework NQAF developed and compiled by the NQAF Team are quite comprehensive and flexible compared to the existing quality assurance frameworks but why are so few countries applying / applying NQAF, including members of the NQAF Expert Group? We wish at this session of the GSO will get the answer to this question.

On the basis of the construction process framework VSQF and the lessons learned, especially the difficulties and challenges that GSO has encountered, GSO would like to offer some suggestions for the Statistics Committee of the United Nations as well as the Group NQAF experts are as follows:

Firstly, the GSO would like to join the NQAF Expert Group:

Vietnamese is one of the first countries in Southeast Asia to approach statistical quality assurance and has developed the Vietnam Statistical Quality Assurance Framework (version 1) mainly based on the general framework NQAF and Guide for NQAF common framework. Therefore, the GSO desire to participate in the expert group to be shared NQAF experience building and implementing quality assurance frameworks national statistics with other countries.

Secondly, the GSO would like to receive technical assistance from the NQAF Expert Group:

GSO has recently approached the problem of quality assurance statistics in recent times so there is not much practical experience, many issues still quite "vague" need to coordinate, support, private from the NQAF expert group, international statistical organizations.

GSO experts also expect NQAF Research Group, assisted in the quantitative level of statistical quality assurance. NQAF expert group has built a general framework NQAF sample criteria statistical quality assurance (for dimensional quality is classified into 4 groups). These are mainly qualitative criteria and are designed both for the purpose of ensuring statistical quality and for checking the statistical quality assurance of statistical agencies. However, the Expert Group has not given guidance NQAF or mechanism to aggregate, quantitative assessment level statistical quality assurance. In the context of many countries, this quantitative assessment is of utmost importance. Quantitative assessment of the level of statistical quality assurance will first help the statistical agency to evaluate and compare the effectiveness of statistical quality assurance over time and space, besides being responsible also attached agencies statistical production to the level of statistical quality assurance, thereby contributing to improve and enhance the quality of statistics.

In addition, the GSO needs support from the NQAF Expert Group and international statistical organizations in developing specific action programs to improve statistical quality issues. In the access to and study of the NQAF General Framework and Guidelines for General Framework NQAF, can see for each one-way quality is given,

documentation made recommendations on mechanisms to take to ensure the quality of each dimension. However, this is only the general mechanism, not specific to each country, with the particular features and each case can affect the way ensuring that quality. Therefore, the GSO NQAF proposed Expert Group and other international statistical agencies to support and advise the GSO well as statistical agencies in other countries to develop the specific action programs, detail in order to overcome the statistical quality issues exist (ie the quality criteria are not achieved).

Another issue that the GSO will have to address in the near future is the support from the UN Statistics Committee and international organizations, is to carry out statistical documentation, building the database metadata system (database metadata). This is a closely related issue and has a great impact on statistical quality. However, GSO still faces many difficulties, especially in terms of technology.

Finally, for the quality assurance of SDGs, The GSO is supported by the NQAF Expert Group and the relevant international statistical organizations for testing and piloting quality assurance for some SDGs:

At present, the GSO is in the early stages of building the SDG monitoring system, need to determine the associated quality assurance for SDGs indicators right from the moment. SDGs are classified into three groups: the group has full methodology and data sources; the group has only methodologies and lack of data sources; the group has no methodology. Indicators of 3 groups will need to be guaranteed quality. For example, the group has full methodology and data sources, need to evaluate the quality of the indicators available on this, on this basis to improve and enhance the quality of the indicators. For the group has only methodologies and lack of data sources, the existing methodology should be evaluated, researched to find alternative sources of theoretical sources and ensure the best quality. For the group without methodology, it is necessary to study the methodology and data sources to ensure the quality of indicators. In short, Vietnam as well as countries in the development phase of the SDGs monitoring system need support and advice from the NQAF Expert Group and organizations to ensure the quality of SDGs at national and regional levels and globally, first of all, testing and piloting some indicators of all three groups.

With the experiences and suggestions above, GSO want to be shared its lessons learned in developing the National Statistical Quality Assurance Framework, at the same time, we look forward to the continued support from the UN Statistics Committee, NQAF expert groups and international statistical organizations to further improve the VSQF framework and bring the VSQF framework into practice in an effective manner.