Introduction of the work of the EG-NQAF, the Manual and Checklist

Matthias Reister
United Nations Statistics Division
The Manual

- respond to the new data ecosystem,
- and new demands for detailed and timely data for policymaking,
- in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
Expert Group on National Quality Assurance Frameworks (EG-NQAF)

- The Manual was developed by the Expert Group, re-established by the Statistical Commission at its 48th session in March 2017.

- The Expert Group includes 17 countries and 8 international and regional organizations

- The Expert Group conducted a survey of national practices in November 2017 and worldwide consultation in November 2018

- The Expert Group will develop and provide additional materials and tools to support the implementation of a national quality assurance framework in countries, including best practices.

Five core recommendations

#1 Integrate Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in the legal and institutional frameworks

#2 Include the requirement for quality assurance in the statistical legislation

#3 Establish national quality assurance framework (NQAF); all national statistical system (NSS) members to commit to quality assurance

#4 Base or align your NQAF with international or regional quality frameworks

#5 Implement NQAF at the NSO, throughout the NSS and to data and statistics produced outside the NSS as appropriate

## Structure of the Manual

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
<td>Contents of the Manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommendations</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
<td>Recommendations on quality assurance for official statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN-NQAF</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
<td>UN-NQAF: principles and requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
<td>Assessment tools and risk management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
<td>Development and implementation of a NQAF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
<td>Implementation of quality assurance within the national statistical system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
<td>Quality assurance for statistics compiled from different data sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chapter 8</td>
<td>Quality assurance for data and statistics on SDG indicators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
<td>Quality assurance in the global statistical system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN-NQAF annex</td>
<td>Annex</td>
<td>Detailed list elements to be assured</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quality assurance in the new data ecosystem

- Recommendation #5: It is recommended that the national quality assurance framework is implemented at the national statistical office and throughout the entire national statistical system. Furthermore, it is recommended that the national quality assurance framework is applied to all data and statistics produced outside of the national statistical system that is disseminated with the help and support of a member of the national statistical system or that is used for government decision making, as deemed appropriate and required.

- UN NQAF in Chapter 3 and Annex: updated to reflect changed data ecosystem

- Chapter 7 on different data sources
Self-assessment checklist

- For conducting regular and rigorous quality assessments with the objective to identify improvement actions.
- Also be used to provide an initial assessment for learning purposes or to introduce staff to quality assurance.
- Can be used to draft quality assurance framework.
Thank you

For further information: https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/dataquality/