

Metadata for Users of Official Statistics

Lars Thygesen



Vision

- Statistical information must help users in the turbulent sea of information
 - The place to find quality information
 - Evidence based decisions
- Metadata about content and quality must
 - Allow users to locate relevant data
 - help users in their knowledge processes
 - give users precise information about products

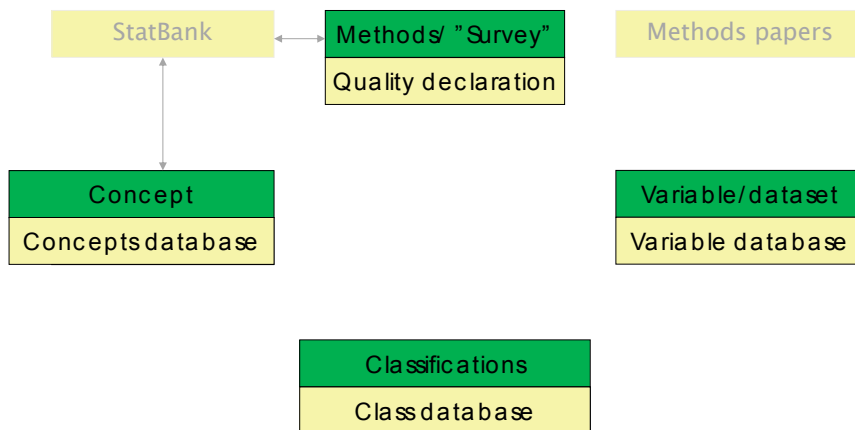


Aren't our metadata good enough?

- Dedicated work since 1995
- Followed best international practice
- Main elements in place



Metadata elements



However...

- Consistent claims of users:

Metadata / documentation isn't
good enough

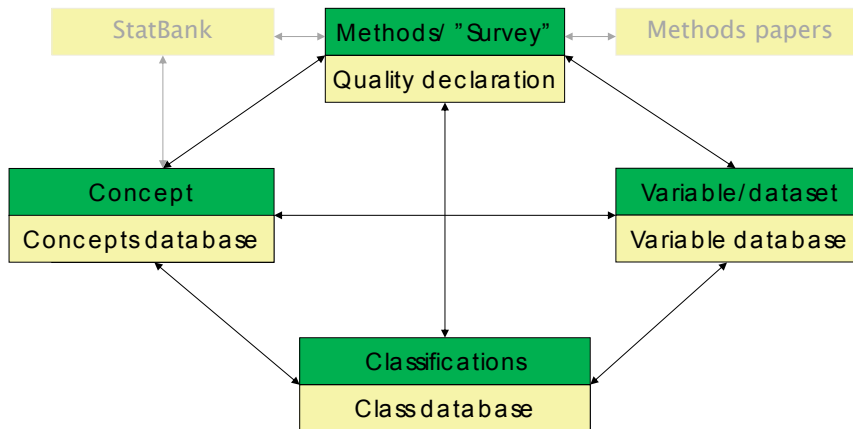


Main result from Danish focus-group

- Need for better integration between variables, concepts, classifications and quality declarations including links to relevant statistical information



Integration of metadata



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Questions for discussion

- How do you use ICBS statistics?
 - Purpose
 - Does it fit purpose?
 - What are you missing?
- When you use it:
 - Do you understand it?
 - Do you know if it can bear your conclusions?
- Metadata
 - Do you use it?
 - Is it any good?

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Challenges of fulfilling user needs - Denmark

- Content of quality declarations can be difficult to understand
- More comparability across domains is needed
- Expert knowledge too sectorial
- Presentation of metadata too fragmented and incomplete
- Concepts database incomplete & inconsistent
- Classifications and code-lists in many places
- Explanation and documentation of breaks & revisions

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