

Quality and Coordination in the National Statistical System

Training course on Quality Management of Official Statistics

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Giovanna Brancato

Project Manager of «Methods and tools for quality measurement and assessment»

brancato@istat.it



Content

- ✓ The European and Italian Legislative Framework and Eurostat Quality activity in NSS
- ✓ Quality management in the National Statistical Systems and Istat experience
 - ✓ Coordination at planning, execution and dissemination
 - ✓ Quality assurance and monitoring



THE EUROPEAN AND ITALIAN LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK & EUROSTAT QUALITY ACTIVITIES



The European Legislative Framework

REGULATION (EC) No 223/2009 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND
OF THE COUNCIL of 11 March 2009

and

its amendment **REGULATION (EU) 2015/759** OF THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 29 April 2015

reinforce

the coordination at the National level in the **development, production and dissemination** of **European statistics**

and assign to National Statistical Institutes(NSIs)

the **responsibility** at the national level for **coordinating statistical programming and reporting, quality monitoring, methodology, data transmission and communication** on ESS statistical actions



The Italian Legislative Framework

The **Legislative Decree** 6 September 1989, **n. 322** as subsequently amended and supplemented

establishes that, with respect to the agencies and offices of the National Statistical System, Istat has the tasks:

- **guiding** and **coordinating** the statistical activities
- providing **technical assistance**
- **assessment of the adequacy** of the statistical activity, based on criteria defined by the Comstat
- setting **classifications** and **methodologies**
- dissemination of data (for the agencies that cannot)
- **training**



The governance and supervision of the Italian NSS

The **governance** of the NSS is assigned to the «Comitato di indirizzo e coordinamento dell'informazione statistica» (Comstat)

- Chaired by Istat President
- National Statistical Plan
- Endorsing binding directives for the statistical offices of the NSS (e.g. exchange of personal data, adoption of the Italian Statistical Code)
- Assistance in the delivery of guidelines and establishment of task forces and working groups.

The **supervisory activity** of the NSS is assigned to the «Commissione per la garanzia della qualità dell'informazione statistica» (Cogis)

- External members
- In charge of monitoring the impartiality, completeness and quality of the statistical information



Eurostat peer review to the ONAs

- For the **second round of peer review**, launched in December 2013, also some ONAs were included
- In order to take different national settings into account, a flexible approach was agreed
- The **NSIs selected a limited number of ONAs** for the peer review based on their role in the production of European statistics and on the risk to the credibility of European statistics in case a problem were to occur
- The NSIs decided whether these ONAs would complete the **full or the light self-assessment questionnaire** on compliance with the CoP
- The ONAs were **interviewed** by the peer reviewers.

The principles on Coordination & cooperation in the ES CoP (not published) and in the CoP for ENP- South countries

Principle 1bis: Coordination and cooperation

National Statistical Institutes and **Eurostat** ensure the **coordination** of all activities for the **development, production and dissemination** of **European statistics** at the level of the national statistical system and the European Statistical System, respectively.

Statistical authorities **actively cooperate** within the partnership of the European Statistical System, so as to ensure the development, production and dissemination of European statistics.

Principle 16: Coordination and cooperation

Coordination and cooperation in statistics contributes to the **improvement of the quality** of official statistics in the national statistical systems of the ENP-South countries

QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN NSSs AND ISTAT EXPERIENCE



Quality management in the NSS

Coordination of:

- planning of statistical production
- execution of statistical processes
- data transmission and communication
- dissemination and quality reporting

Development
Production
Dissemination

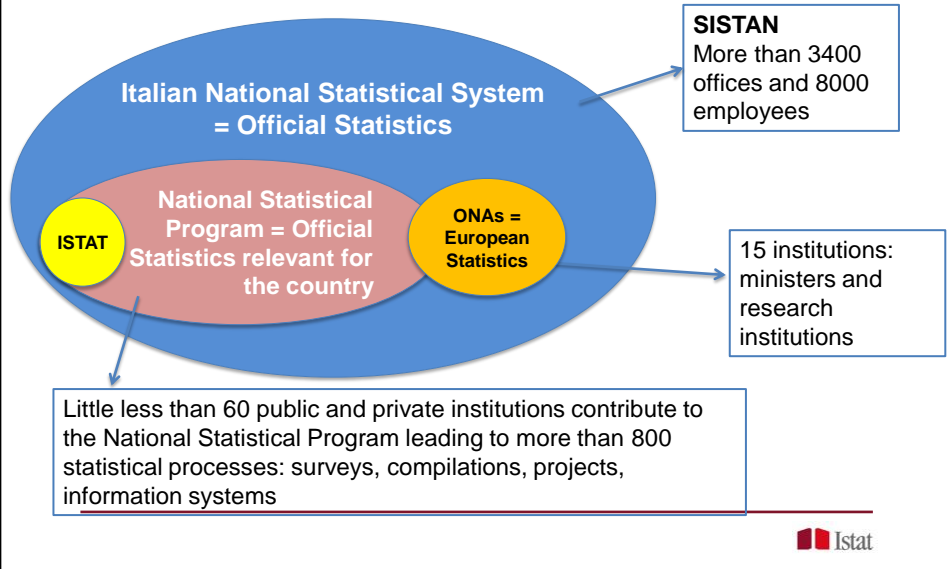
Quality monitoring

Complexity of the national statistical systems

- High number of different producers
- International statistics vs. national statistics



The complexity of the NSSs (the example of the Italian situation)



The coordination of the planning of the statistical production

- To understand who does what
- To establish any form of dialogue with the producers of the system
- Assessing that users' needs are properly met
- Avoiding duplications, agreeing on data sharing, ...

The Italian experience

Survey to update the list of the ONAs: control of European Regulations and datasets transmitted to Eurostat

Commission of the users of the statistical information (CUIS)

Among the tasks of the CUIS:

- "Wedding" between demand and supply

National Statistical Program: Quality circles

The coordination of the execution of the statistical processes

- Foster the use of harmonised concepts, standard classifications and solid methodology
- Spread good practices
- Increase the quality culture and the attitude towards quality measurement

The Italian experience

Training: Extensive training program for the staff of the statistical offices in NSS

Training on the job: On demand, on specific issues (e.g. confidentiality)

Manuals: Guidelines for the improvement of the quality of the dissemination, Guidelines for the quality the statistics produced in the Sistan



Quality assurance and monitoring in the Sistan (2010-2015)

The Italian Code of Official Statistics

Is a code that acknowledges the ES Code of Practice up to the principle level.

- In 2010 formally adopted by the **Comstat** (Comitato di indirizzo e coordinamento dell'informazione statistica)

Monitoring of the Italian code

- Self-assessment and monitoring survey
- Peer reviews
- Results assessed by Comstat → actions



Action: Guidelines for the improvement of the quality of the dissemination of identifies possible lacks of information of official statistics in the Sistan



Coordination and harmonisation of the dissemination

Istat experience (2016-2018)

- Integrated dissemination, i.e. contemporaneous publication on the respective websites of a **Joint Quarterly press release on the occupation trends** by:
 - Istat
 - Ministry of Labour and Social Policies,
 - National Institute for Social Security (INPS)
 - National Institute for Insurance against Accidents at Work (INAIL)
 - National Agency for Occupation Policy (ANPAL)
- Spreading the standards for the data sharing, integration and dissemination (**open data, SDMX**) – Sistanhub
- Assuring **coherence** and **comparability** across statistics produced in the national statistical system, setting rules for quality requirements in the dissemination of statistics (when local statistical offices are intermediate bodies in data collection for Istat)



Quality assurance and monitoring in the Sistan (2016-2018)

In continuation with the 2010-2015 activities, a **statistical auditing program** tailored for the European statistics of the ONAs was planned:

2017 → development of the tools

2018 → launch of the program



Meetings with the ONAs
Sharing of the initiative
Consultation of the main producers of the Sistan
Involvement in the development of the tools



Quality assurance and monitoring in the Sistan (2016-2018)

Auditing for European statistics produced by the ONA

It is an approach aimed at [accompanying](#) the managers of the statistical processes of the ONAs towards an analysis of the [strengths](#) and [weaknesses](#) of the process with the purpose to spread good practices and identify shared solutions for [continuous quality improvement](#)

Based on a set of principles for good statistical production and suggestions on how to comply with the principles ([Quality Guidelines](#))

Assessment is performed by an [interview](#) with a structured questionnaire conducted by experts from Istat

Based on the results of the assessment, Istat launches [local or wide intervention](#) programs to support the statistical authorities in quality improvement