



הלשכה המרכזית לסטטיסטיקה
Central Bureau of Statistics
دائرة الإحصاء المركزية

The ICBS Meta Data Program: Update

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It's All in the Numbers

Overview of the work done

- Meta Data exists at many levels in the ICBS and can be found in publications, on the website, in submissions to International organizations etc
- In the context of the last Twinning Program, the ICBS set out on a program of categorizing, documenting, standardizing and publishing meta data on all statistical topics. This includes reference, structural and management metadata.
- The Government Statistician appointed a steering committee and an implementation team and to research, develop and implement an appropriate approach.

Overview of Work Done

- It was decided that reference metadata would be the first area developed
- The team first reviewed all the international approaches to meta data
- The various international standards (SDMX, DDI, SIMS, SDDS) were examined as well as activity in Europe, NA and Australia
- It was decided to adopt and adapt SIMS
- The team and the committee then intensively reviewed the 78 SIMS categories and subcategories
- Four pilot subject implementations were carried out.
- A sophisticated computerized approach to inputting metadata into the SIMS framework was developed

Overview of Work Done

- A broad pilot test approach was carried out with the Education Statistics Branch. The approach involves subject matter specialists from the Branch inputting the metadata according to specific instructions and guidelines and Implementation Team members interacting with them on line in order to ensure a common interpretation and approach.
- The pilot with the Education and Society Department was thoroughly reviewed and evaluated.

Overview of Work Done

- The team then reviewed the SIMS version used in the pilot and extensively revised it based on the SIMS 2 standard.
- This is presented in an Excel Spreadsheet that also identifies SIMS categories that are user oriented, producer oriented and appropriate for surveys or administrative data. It also identifies SIMS categories that can be used to fill , GSBPM, and Code of Practice fields.

Next Steps

- Updating of the Computerized System
- Planning for Meta Data on the new ICBS Website
- Working with the units for inputting meta data for all subjects.

Phases of The Work Plan

- Phase 1: Bureau-wide general overview of modernization, Metadata and Quality of statistics: objectives, benefits and requirements (Managerial conference, Branch Seminars, Newsletter)
- Phase 2: Training of managers and Contact Persons
 - Develop timetable
 - Detailed explanations of the approach
 - Training in the use of the computerized system
 - Hands-on Experience

Phases of The Work Plan continued

- Practical Work Sessions in Documenting the Meta Data
 - Active work by the Meta data Team and the subject matter contact persons
 - Using the Computerized system the meta data will be inputted, checked edited and verified according to preset standards
 - The work will continue until there is full reference meta data for all subjects .
 - Eventually all meta data will be translated into English and will be mounted on the website in both languages.

Vision for the future

- An Integrated Meta Data System for the entire NSS.