

SIDI/SIQual

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SIDI/SIQual: Information System for Quality Documentation

The SIDI/SIQual system is Istat official system for documenting reference metadata of the statistical production processes

Reference metadata (including standard quality indicators) are stored and continuously updated in the system

Through SIDI/SIQual also ESS standard quality reports are produced

Istat quality reporting is based on SIDI/SIQual

SIDI/SIQual

Istat official information system for documenting quality and reference metadata of the statistical production processes

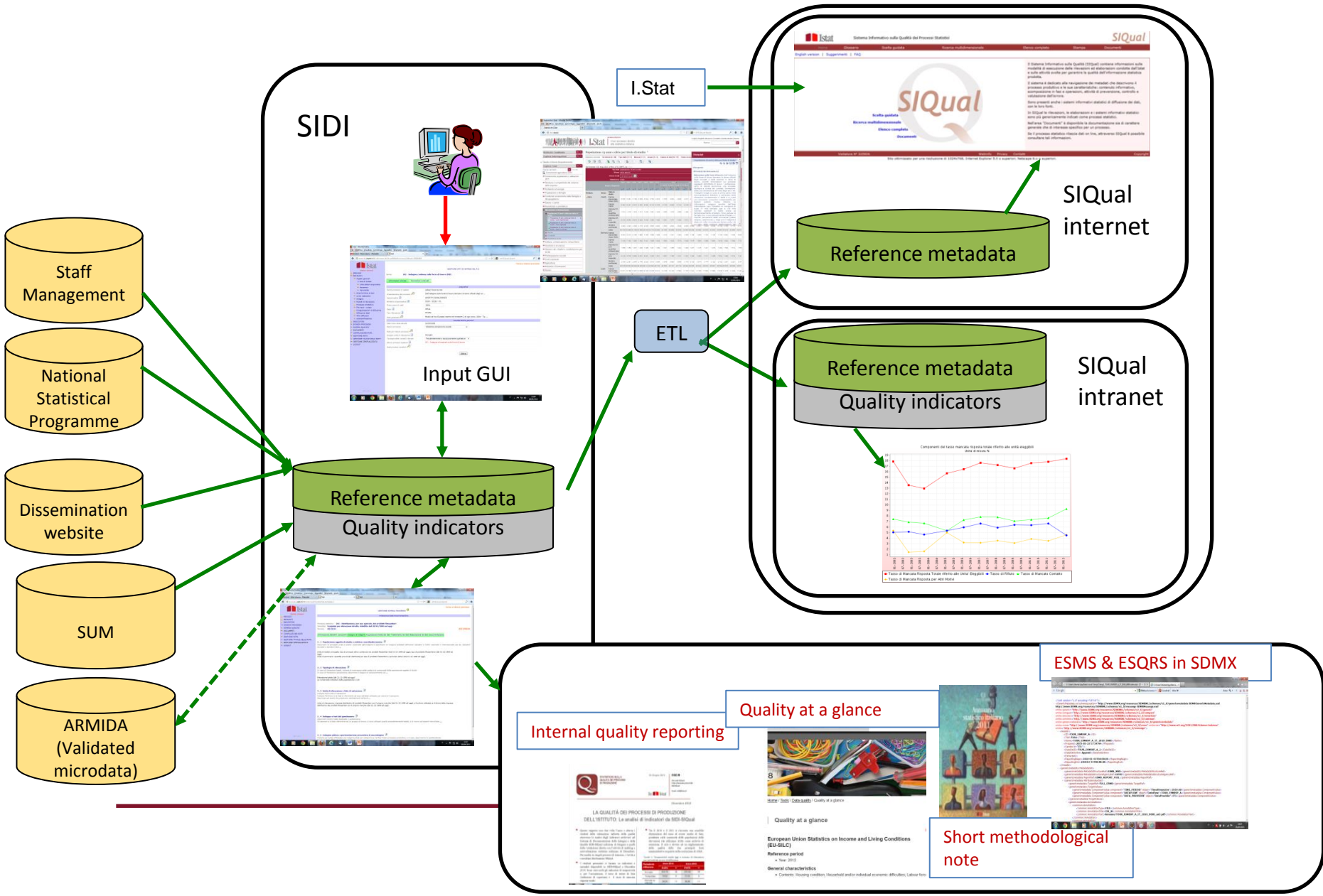
SIDI «input» system, SIQual for consultation

SIDI first implementation in 2001, later converted in a web-based architecture

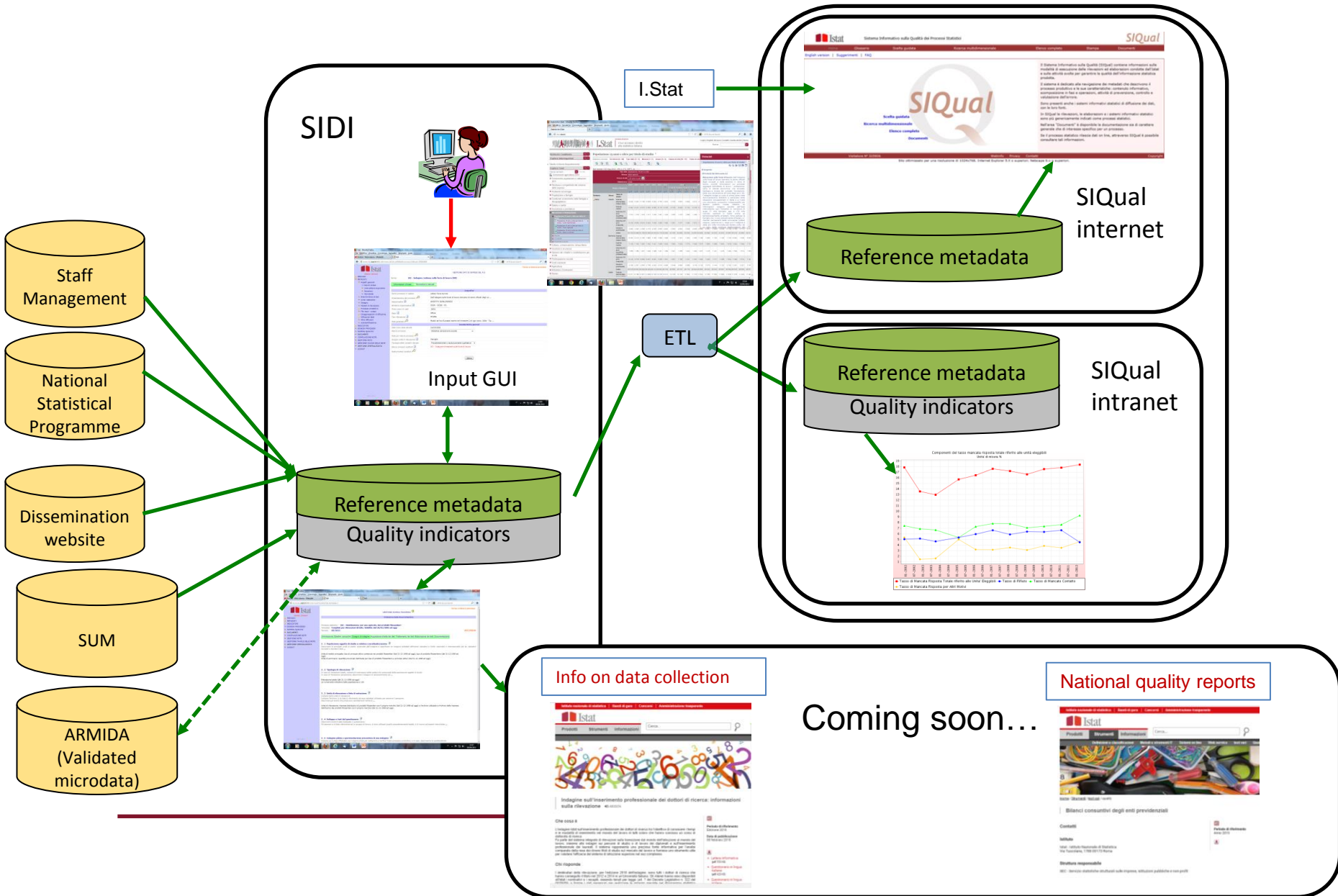
SIQual first release in 2005, English version released in 2008

SIDI/SIQual approach to documentation is highly structured and standardised, descriptive additional fields are available to better describe standard items

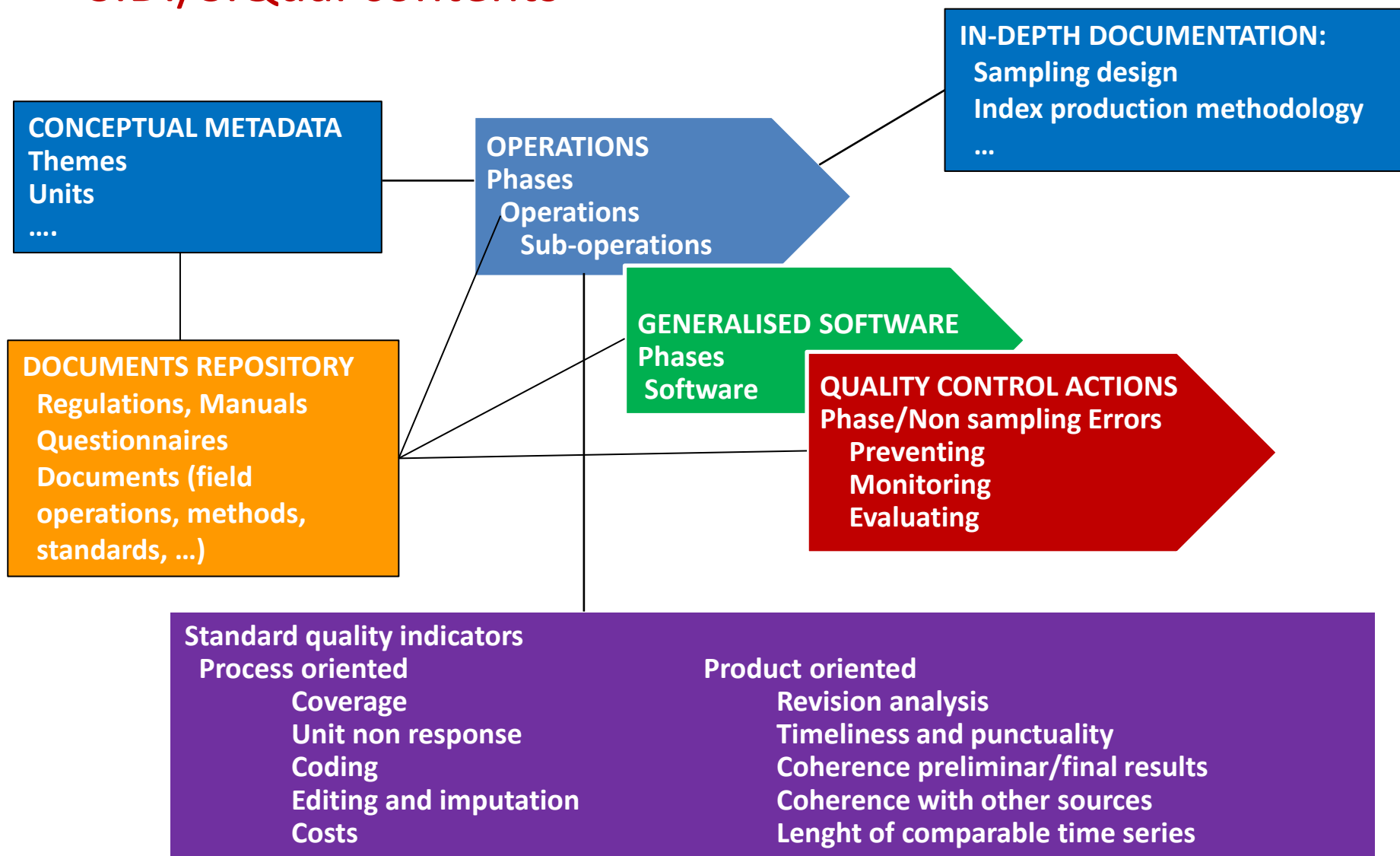
SIDI/SIQual architecture




SIDI/SIQual architecture



SIDI/SIQual contents



SIDI/SIQual reference metadata model: example of operations, quality actions and generalized software

 Information system on quality of statistical production processes SIQual

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Phases of production process

Process description

Insights

- [Summary metadata](#)
- [Legislation](#)
- [Observed phenomena](#)
- [Reporting and observational units](#)
- [Process Design](#)
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- [Generalised software](#)
- [Questionnaires](#)
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- [Standard quality reports](#)



Data dissemination

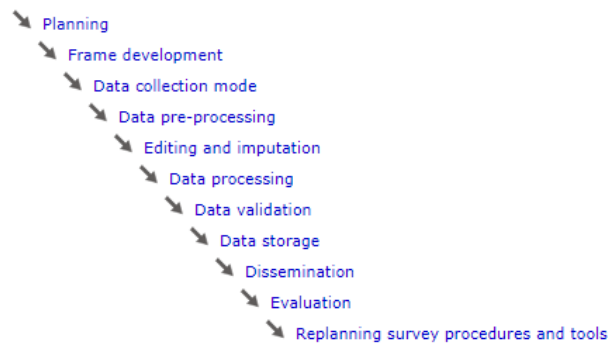
- [Publications](#)

Report

[> home](#) [> Helped search](#) [> Phases of production process](#)

[S] - Survey on abroad foreign affiliates activities controlled by Italy (Outward Fats)

Phases of the production process  




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graph TD; Planning --> Frame_development[Frame development]; Frame_development --> Data_collection_mode[Data collection mode]; Data_collection_mode --> Data_pre_processing[Data pre-processing]; Data_pre_processing --> Editing_and_imputation[Editing and imputation]; Editing_and_imputation --> Data_processing[Data processing]; Data_processing --> Data_validation[Data validation]; Data_validation --> Data_storage[Data storage]; Data_storage --> Dissemination; Dissemination --> Evaluation; Evaluation --> Replanning_survey_procedures_and_tools[Replanning survey procedures and tools];
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SIDI/SIQual reference metadata model: example of operations, quality actions and generalized software

Operations, quality control actions and generalised software

Data collection mode




Collapse

 Self-administered data collection via electronic transmission









 Self-administered data collection by e-questionnaire (Computer Assisted Web Interviewing-CAWI) or through upload of datasets on Istat web site INDATA *(since 31/12/2007)*

Control on unit nonresponse





Prerequisites for control on unit nonresponse

-  Recording and coding of contact outcomes for e-management of follow-ups *(since 31/12/2007)*
 -  Use of the monitoring system for structural business surveys (PERVENUTO) *(since 31/12/2007)*
 -  Control on interview outcome codes (completed, refused, noncontacted, duplicated, etc.) *(since 31/12/2007)*

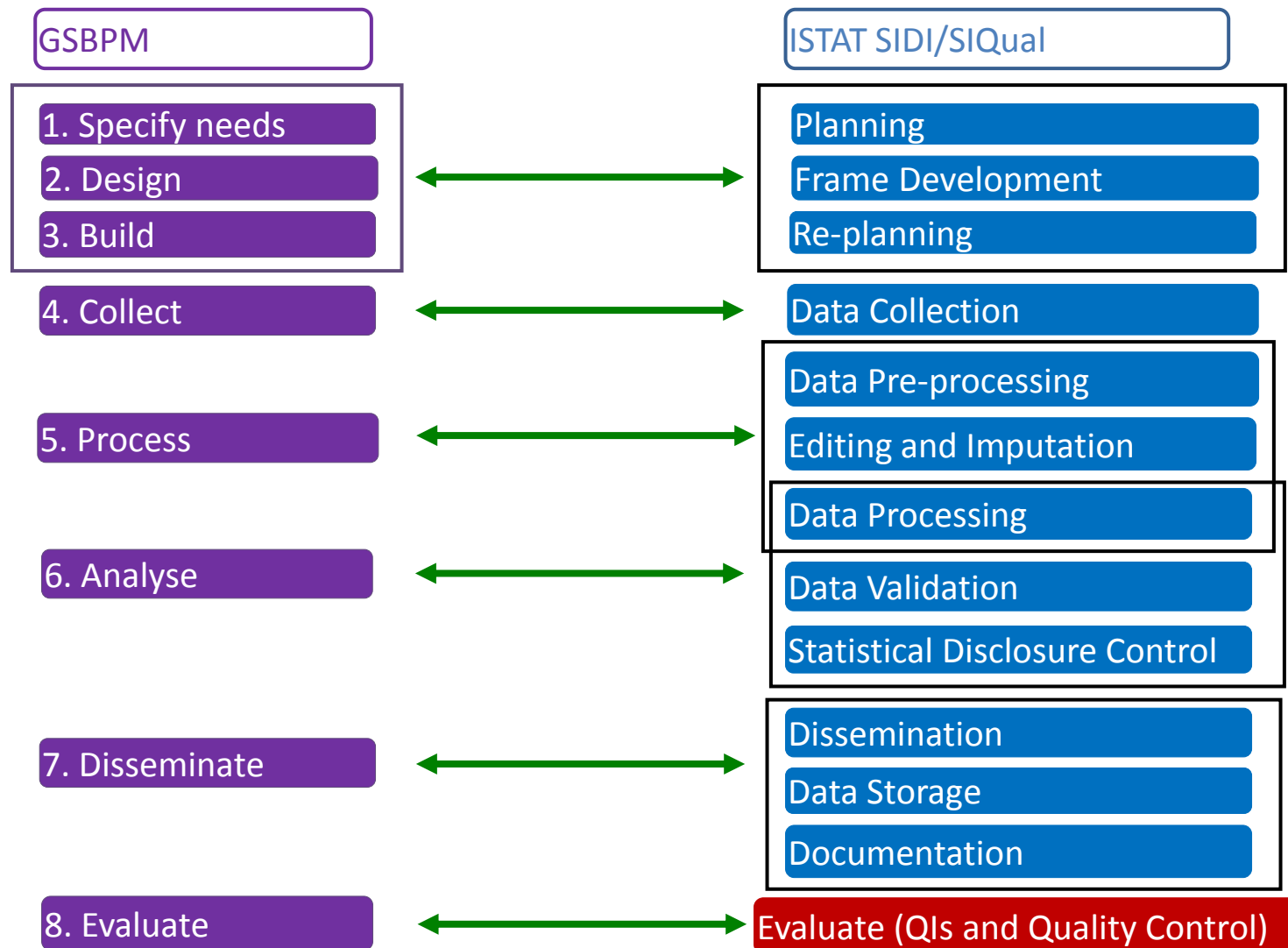
Activities for preventing unit nonresponse

-  Survey presentation letter signed by Istat President *(since 31/12/2007)*
-  Guarantees on statistical confidentiality *(since 31/12/2007)*
-  Written description of survey objectives *(since 31/12/2007)*
-  Special care in writing clear instructions to fill-in questionnaires *(since 31/12/2007)*
-  Establishing a toll free line or telephone number for further explanations *(since 31/12/2007)*
-  Administrative fines for nonrespondents *(since 31/12/2007)*
-  Special care in drafting clear instructions for database setting up *(since 31/12/2007)*
-  Establishing an e-mail address for information on the web procedure *(since 31/12/2007)*

Follow-ups of nonrespondent units

-  Telephone follow-ups *(since 31/12/2007)*
-  Mail follow-ups *(since 31/12/2007)*
-  Follow-ups by Postel *(since 31/12/2007)*
-  Follow-ups by e-mail *(since 31/12/2007)*

Mapping GSBPM and SIDI/SIQual model



Main characteristics

1. Integrated management of metadata and quality indicators
2. High level of standardisation of documentation to improve comparability
3. Limited burden for “documentation providers”. Promotion of integration with other existing systems and development of generalised software to facilitate calculation of quality indicators.

Main uses of SIDI/SIQual

- process and quality monitoring
- standard quality documentation
- support to produce quality reports
- aggregated quality reporting
- support for statistical auditing and self-assessment procedures
- targeted analyses, e.g. evaluations of innovation effects, quality comparisons among processes sharing similar characteristics,
- queries to respond to ESS consultations

The subsystem for quality reporting

- Most of information required by ESMS and ESQRS already documented in SIDI/SIQual
- Grant 2012 “Horizontal and vertical integration: Implementing technical and statistical standards in the European Statistical System”



Development of a SIDI/SIQual subsystem for quality reporting

Subsystem main advantages

Exploit the already available information

Reduce reporting burden for survey managers

Avoid inconsistencies in metadata and quality reporting

Improve the metadata asset

Enhance internal system to be compliant to international technical standards

Facilitate next re-use

Improve internal coordination, harmonisation and centralised monitoring

The SIDI/SIQual subsystem for quality reporting

The subsystem includes:

- Procedures (PL/SQL) that extract information from SIDI/SIQual database and reorganise it according to ESMS and ESQRS concepts' requirements
- Management of statistical «products» and of their association to one or more SIDI/SIQual statistical process
- Mapping function to associate PL/SQL procedures to ESMS and ESQRS sections (useful for generalisation)
- Partial automatic pre-compilation of the report and editor to complete compilation
- Creation of SDMX file
- National dissemination of validated ESS quality reports

The SIDI/SIQual subsystem for quality reporting

The subsystem is highly «generalised»: if Eurostat defines a new standard template it could be easily and quickly adapted

The subsystem itself has already been reused twice:

- to produce the «information on data collection» pages on the website;
- to produce national quality report according to a template that is a subset of SIMS (in progress)

DEMO

SIQual

<http://siqua.istat.it> (internet)

<http://siqua-intra.istat.it> (intranet)

SIDI and quality reporting

<http://sidi.istat.it> (intranet) SIDI production environment

Summing up the experience (SIDI/SIQual)

- It created a common language, increased the quality culture, increased the awareness on quality control and monitoring
- Each process is unique from the survey manager perspective
- Especially at the beginning, it represented an additional task for survey managers, perceived as scarcely useful for the single survey manager
- European work on quality indicators represented both a stimulus and a constraint
- Highly appreciated when information started to be re-used
- Demanding to keep the pace of technological evolutions
- Demanding to be flexible to changing production environment



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