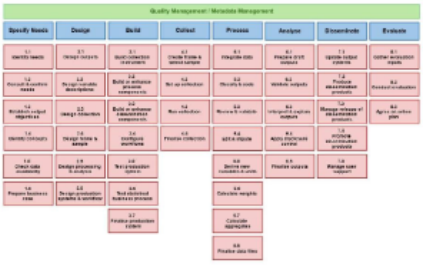
Virtual Standards Helpdesk

Welcome to the UNECE Virtual Standards Helpdesk

This wiki provides a "one-stop shop" for access to information about the standards necessary for the modernisation of official statistics. It is an initiative of the UNECE High-Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics (HLG-MOS).

The standards referenced here are cross-cutting, supporting the modernisation of all types of statistical production, and are endorsed by the HLG. For domain-specific standards, please see the Global Inventory of Statistical Standards.

HLG Standards



Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM)

The GSBPM describes and defines the set of business processes needed to produce official statistics. It provides a standard framework and harmonised terminology to help statistical organisations to modernise their statistical production processes, as well as to share methods and components.

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Modernisation Committee on Standards

GSBPM discussion forum

Generic Statistical Information Model (GSIM)

The GSIM is a reference framework of information objects, which enables generic descriptions of the definition, management and use of data and metadata throughout the statistical production process. It provides a set of standardized, consistently described information objects, which are the inputs and outputs in the design and production of statistics. As a reference framework, GSIM helps to explain significant relationships among the entities involved in statistical production, and can be used to guide the development and use of consistent implementation standards or specifications.

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GSIM discussion forum

GSIM discussion forum

Common Statistical Production Architecture (CSPA)

CSPA builds on existing standards such as the GSBPM and the GSIM to create an agreed set of common principles and standards designed to promote greater interoperability within and between statistical organizations. It provides the “industry architecture” for official statistics.

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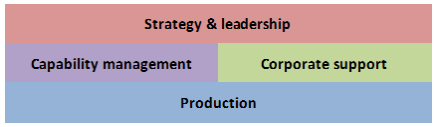
Modernisation Committee on Production and Methods

CSPA Discussion Forum



Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organisations (GAMSO)

The GAMSO extends the GSBPM by covering all activities of a statistical organisation. Version 1.0 was approved for release by the HLG on 1 March 2015.

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GAMSO discussion forum

Other Relevant Standards

Metadata powered by DDI

Data Documentation Initiative (DDI)

DDI is an initiative to create an international standard for describing data from the social, behavioral, and economic sciences. The DDI metadata specification now supports the entire research data life cycle. DDI metadata accompanies and enables data conceptualization, collection, processing, distribution, discovery, analysis, repurposing, and archiving.

DDI Community

Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange

Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX)

SDMX is an initiative to foster standards for the exchange of statistical information.

SDMX Users' Forum

Other materials
Statistical Network's Collaborative Sharing Catalogue

This is a catalogue detailing all the collaborative sharing of code, manuals, joint deliverables etc between SN agencies. It describes what has been shared, when, by whom and what benefits have been achieved through doing this.

Date	What has been shared	Which agencies have taken part	What were the benefits of doing this	Key contact
August 2013	SN BA - EA Dimensions Interactions v1.ppt	ABS, Istat, Stat Canada, Stat New Zealand, Stats Norway	The document linked includes two visual representations of the four interrelated EA dimensions. It outlines the key aspects of each dimension, as well as how they interact with the others.	Sebastian Dubrovsky (ABS)
December 2013	SN BA Key Terms v1.0.pdf	ABS, Istat, Stat Canada, Stat New Zealand, Stats Norway	The table linked includes the first published version of the Statistical Network - Business Architecture team's Key Terms.	Sebastian Dubrovsky (ABS)
December 2013	SN BA Decision Principles v1.0.pdfSN BA Design Principles v1.0.pdf	ABS, Istat, Stat Canada, Stat New Zealand, Stats Norway	Statistical Network Business Architecture Decision and Design Principles - V1.0. Published in CSPA V1.0.	Sebastian Dubrovsky (ABS)
20th Feb 2014	MIAD Output A1.docx	ABS, Istat, Stat Canada, Stat New Zealand	The report aims to provide an inventory of the ways in which ADS can be used in the production of official statistics,and to provide a mapping to the processes and sub-processes of General Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM).It represents the foundation for establishing a common setting for applications of ADS. This will be useful on one hand to guidepossible methods to establish their quality, and on the other to help set up a schema of possible statistical methods for integrating of administrative in the statistical production.	Alistair Rogers (ABS)Piero Falorsi (Istat)
June 2014	Statistical Network Business Activity Model v1.0.pdf SN BA - Activity Model v1.0.xlsx SN BAM Supporting Presentation v1.0.pptx	ABS, Istat, Stat Canada, Stat New Zealand, Stats Norway	The documents linked include the first published version of the Statistical Network - Business Architecture Activity Model.	Sebastian Dubrovsky (ABS)