



EUROPEAN
STATISTICAL
SYSTEM

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European Statistical System Peer Reviews

Third round: 2021-2023

Self-Assessment Questionnaire for

Other National Authorities

**developing, producing and disseminating
European statistics**

Endorsed by the ESS Committee in May 2020

INTRODUCTION

to the Self-Assessment Questionnaire
for the Other National Authorities participating in the peer review

in the third round of ESS peer reviews

The present Self-Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) is the assessment tool used for conducting the third round of European Statistical System (ESS) peer reviews in the Other National Authorities developing, producing and disseminating European statistics (ONAs) and selected for participation in the peer review¹. It was elaborated in concordance with the cornerstone of the ESS quality framework, the European Statistics Code of Practice (ES CoP) and intends to support the assessment of compliance / alignment with it as well as to identify forward-looking improvement recommendations. The filled in questionnaires (from the National Statistical Institutes (NSIs) and the ONAs participating in the ESS peer reviews), including the submitted documents (see paragraph on evidence for more information), will be used by the peer review experts to prepare and perform the peer review visits.

The purpose of the ESS peer review is to monitor the compliance with the ES CoP of all partners of the ESS and to identify forward-looking recommendations for improvement. The peer reviews will therefore cover Eurostat, the NSIs and participating ONAs responsible for the development, production and dissemination of European Statistics. The peer review will focus on all areas of the ES CoP. The product level – meaning specific statistical outputs – will not be monitored.

This questionnaire is a sub-set of the SAQ for NSIs and Eurostat and designed specifically for the ONAs participating in the peer review. The NSI will provide general information on the institutional environment and legislation at national level.

Respondents are invited to answer all questions from the perspective of their ONA, by referring to the current situation that exists in the ONA. All sections of the questionnaire are based on the principles of the ES CoP, except for principle 1bis for which questions are asked on the level of the indicators of the principle.

Organisation of the questionnaire

The SAQ for the ONAs is organised in three main sections, one for each area of the ES CoP: institutional environment, statistical processes and statistical output. Within each section, sub-

¹ Please note that in the main text of the European Statistics Code of Practice, the *Other National Authorities* of the European Statistical System are referred to as '*other statistical authorities*'.

sections correspond to each of the 16 principles and list the relevant indicators, for information. The questionnaire is built in the following way:

I. Standard questions on each principle:

For each principle, there are two questions: one on how the principle is implemented, based on the indicators listed and another one on what is the self-appraisal of the degree of implementation of the principle.

II. Questions on the strengths and weakness on the level of the ES CoP area

For each area, there are reviewing and summarising questions on the strengths and weaknesses of the ONA. In this context, strengths are to be understood as areas in which the ONA excels, as compared to its peer statistical authorities, to the general practices, etc., while weaknesses are those that hinder the ONA from performing at its optimum level.

It has to be underlined that part of the answers to the question on the strengths may be used to collect forward-looking/innovative practices and to produce an ESS report on these practices. The report will be produced in accordance with the decision taken by the ESS Committee in its meeting in October 2019. The meeting concluded that “best and most innovative practices could be identified from the self-assessment questionnaire by the peer review teams and shared in the form of a consolidated report, with agreement of NSIs and ONAs.”

III. Questions on future plans at the level of the ES CoP area

For each of the three areas there are questions on existing and possible future action plans in the given area.

Principle 1bis

For principle 1bis on Coordination and cooperation, respondents are invited to share their views and experiences as well as their assessment on how the coordination and cooperation aspects are implemented in the National Statistical System (NSS) and the ESS from the perspective of the ONA – based on the analysis of the respective indicators of the ES CoP.

Link with the ESS Quality Assurance Framework

The answer to the question on how the principle is implemented should be based on the respondents’ professional judgment and experiences; in addition, inspiration can be found in the respective methods and tools of the ESS Quality Assurance Framework (QAF), version 2.0. The related QAF methods and tools are linked to each indicator of the SAQ in a hyperlink format (to view them, click on the indicator), the ESS QAF is also available as a pdf document at <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/64157/4392716/ESS-QAF-V2.0-final.pdf>.

The ESS QAF has the role of a reference document for the ESS peer reviews, but not that of a benchmark. Respondents are therefore, invited not to limit themselves by the practices and tools described in the ESS QAF.

Evidence

The thorough and clear formulation of the answers is important. In accordance with the audit-like approach of the ESS peer reviews, the ONA is asked to provide evidence for the answers. The following documents have to be submitted with the SAQ for ONAs and the possibility to list these documents is also included into the questionnaire.

- The “core” documents as described in the “Guide for the NSIs and ONAs participating in the peer review”;
- Documents supporting the answers in the questionnaire:
 - if they are publicly available, links can be provided (e.g. web pages, etc);
 - if they are internal documents and /or documents in national language only, they can be listed with their titles/names in English. If peer review experts need (some of) the internal documents, they have to request them from the ONA two months before the peer review visit. The ONA will have one month to send either the translated document or to prepare a summary of the content of the document in English and send them to the peer review experts one month before the peer review takes place.

If documents to support the answers in the SAQ do not exist, the ONA is encouraged to find another way of providing evidence for the statement/answers to the questions.

Scales

Following the answer on the principles’ implementation, respondents are invited to assess the degree of implementation, based on the scale of ‘fully implemented’, ‘broadly implemented’, ‘partly implemented’ and ‘not implemented’. The definitions for these scales are:

Fully implemented: The ONA acts entirely and in a systematic way in accordance with the principle. In the assessment of the ONA no specific / additional action(s) is (are) required to further implement the principle, as it is in line with the ES CoP.

Broadly implemented: The ONA acts to a broad extent in accordance with the principle. In the assessment of the ONA action(s) is (are) possible but not necessarily required to further implement the principle, so it is in line with the ES CoP.

Partly implemented: The ONA acts in accordance with the principle to a minor extent. In the assessment of the ONA, action(s) is (are) necessary to fully implement the principle, so it is in line with the ES CoP. Gaps are recognised and a few possible solutions are identified.

Not implemented: The ONA does not act in accordance with the principle. In the assessment of the ONA, action(s) is (are) required and should be carried out with a high priority to significantly improve the implementation of the principle so it is in line with the ES CoP.

Nature of the questions

The questionnaire is entirely composed of mandatory questions. Respondents are invited to reflect broadly on the issues raised in the questions and to consider the scope of implementation and applicability to the largest extent.

Respondents

The ONA is obliged to fill in this questionnaire and provide the corresponding evidence.

Deadlines, confidentiality

The filled-in questionnaire, together with the corresponding documentation, has to be submitted by the ONA to the NSI, in accordance with the specific arrangements of the NSS.

The NSI has then to submit it to the Contractor and Eurostat at the latest 3 months before the peer review visit takes place, addressing it to:

Peer-reviews-eu-efta@icon-institute.de

ESTAT-2020-ESS-PEER-REVIEWS@ec.europa.eu.

The filled-in questionnaire, including the underlying documents will be confidential and will only be submitted to persons who are directly involved in the peer review and to the Eurostat Task Force for peer reviews and quality for documentation purposes.

Self-Assessment Questionnaire for Other National Authorities (ONAs)

Country:	
ONA:	
Name of the person filling in the questionnaire:	
Position and role of the person filling in the questionnaire:	
E-Mail:	
Telephone:	

Institutional Environment

Institutional and organisational factors have a significant influence on the effectiveness and credibility of a statistical authority developing, producing and disseminating European Statistics. The relevant Principles are professional independence, coordination and cooperation, mandate for data collection, adequacy of resources, quality commitment, statistical confidentiality, impartiality and objectivity.

Principle 1: Professional Independence

Professional independence of statistical authorities from other policy, regulatory or administrative departments and bodies, as well as from private sector operators, ensures the credibility of European Statistics.

Indicator 1.1:

The independence of the National Statistical Institutes and Eurostat from political and other external interference in developing, producing and disseminating statistics is specified in law and assured for other statistical authorities.

Indicator 1.2:

The heads of the National Statistical Institutes and of Eurostat and, where appropriate, the heads of other statistical authorities have sufficiently high hierarchical standing to ensure senior level access to policy authorities and administrative public bodies. They are of the highest professional calibre.

Indicator 1.3:
 The heads of the National Statistical Institutes and of Eurostat and, where appropriate, the heads of other statistical authorities have responsibility for ensuring that statistics are developed, produced and disseminated in an independent manner.

Indicator 1.4:
 The heads of the National Statistical Institutes and of Eurostat and, where appropriate, the heads of other statistical authorities have the sole responsibility for deciding on statistical methods, standards and procedures, and on the content and timing of statistical releases.

Indicator 1.5:
 The statistical work programmes are published and periodic reports describe progress made.

Indicator 1.6:
 Statistical releases are clearly distinguished and issued separately from political/policy statements.

Indicator 1.7:
 The National Statistical Institute and Eurostat and, where appropriate, other statistical authorities, comment publicly on statistical issues, including criticisms and misuses of statistics as far as considered suitable.

Indicator 1.8:
 The procedures for the recruitment and appointment of the heads of the National Statistical Institutes and Eurostat and, where appropriate, the statistical heads of other statistical authorities, are transparent and based on professional criteria only. The reasons on the basis of which the incumbency can be terminated are specified in the legal framework. These cannot include reasons compromising professional or scientific independence.

1.1	<p>Considering the above indicators (1.1-1.8), how is the principle implemented in your ONA? (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><u>Response:</u></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p><u>Links to public documents:</u></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><u>List of internal documents available on request :</u></p> </div>
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1.2	<p>Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the principle?</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Broadly implemented </p>
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Partly implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented
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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.

Indicator 1bis.1:	
The National Statistical Institutes coordinate the statistical activities of all other national authorities that develop, produce and disseminate European statistics. They act in this regard as the sole contact point for Eurostat on statistical matters. Legislation and well defined and established procedures are in place for implementing the coordination role at both national and European levels.	
1bis.1.1	Please describe and assess how the NSI coordinates the statistical activities of your ONA at NSS level. <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>
1bis.1.2	For what areas do you think it is most important to strengthen the coordination and cooperation at the NSS level? <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>
1bis.1.3	Please describe and assess the cooperation of your ONA at the ESS level. <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>
1bis.1.4	How can cooperation be improved at the ESS level? <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>

Indicator 1bis.2:

National guidelines to ensure quality in the development, production and dissemination of European Statistics within the national statistical system are produced by the Heads of the National Statistical Institutes, where necessary; their implementation is monitored and reviewed.

1bis.2.1 **Please describe and assess what tools are used as guidance to ensure quality in the development, production and dissemination of European Statistics within the national statistical system?**

1bis.2.2 **How is the implementation of the national guidelines monitored in your ONA?**

1bis.2.3 **What kind of improvements are possible in the area of the national guidelines?**

Indicator 1bis.3:

Statistical authorities continuously maintain and develop cooperation at various levels with each other and with the advisory bodies of the European Statistical System, as well as with the members of the European System of Central Banks, academic institutions and other international bodies, as appropriate.

1bis.3.1 **Please describe and assess your cooperation with other ONAs, advisory bodies of the European Statistical System and academic institutions and other international bodies.**

1bis.3.2 **How can this cooperation be improved?**

Principle 2: Mandate for Data Collection and Access to Data

Statistical authorities have a clear legal mandate to collect and access information from multiple data sources for European statistical purposes.

Administrations, enterprises and households, and the public at large may be compelled by law to allow access to or deliver data for European statistical purposes at the request of statistical authorities.

Indicator 2.1:

The mandate of the statistical authorities to collect and access information from multiple data sources for the development, production and dissemination of European Statistics is specified in law.

Indicator 2.2:

The statistical authorities are allowed by law to access administrative data, promptly and free of charge, and use them for statistical purposes. They are involved from the beginning in the design, development and discontinuation of administrative records, in order to make them more suitable for statistical purposes.

Indicator 2.3:

On the basis of a legal act, the statistical authorities may compel response to statistical surveys.

Indicator 2.4:

Access for statistical purposes to other data, such as privately held data, is facilitated, while ensuring statistical confidentiality and data protection.

2.1 **Considering the above indicators (2.1.-2.4), how is the principle implemented in your ONA? (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.**

Response:

Links to public documents:

List of internal documents available on request:

2.2 **Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the Principle?**

- Fully implemented
- Broadly implemented
- Partly implemented
- Not implemented

Principle 3: Adequacy of Resources

The resources available to statistical authorities are sufficient to meet European Statistics requirements.

Indicator 3.1:

Human, financial and technical resources, adequate both in magnitude and in quality, are available to meet statistical needs.

Indicator 3.2:

The scope, detail and cost of statistics are commensurate with needs.

Indicator 3.3:

Procedures exist to assess and justify demands for new statistics against their cost.

Indicator 3.4:

Procedures exist to assess the continuing need for all statistics, to see if any can be discontinued or curtailed to free up resources.

3.1	<p>Considering the above indicators (3.1-3.4), how is the principle implemented in your ONA? (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><u>Response:</u></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p><u>Links to public documents:</u></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p><u>List of internal documents available on request:</u></p> </div>
3.2	<p>Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the Principle?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Broadly implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Partly implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented

Principle 4: Commitment to Quality

Statistical authorities are committed to quality. They systematically and regularly identify strengths and weaknesses to continuously improve process and output quality.

Indicator 4.1:

Quality policy is defined and made available to the public. An organisational structure and tools are in place to deal with quality management.

Indicator 4.2:

Procedures are in place to plan, monitor and improve the quality of the statistical processes, including the integration of data from multiple data sources.

Indicator 4.3:

Output quality is regularly monitored, assessed with regard to possible trade-offs, and reported according to the quality criteria for European Statistics.

Indicator 4.4:

There is a regular and thorough review of the key statistical outputs using also external experts where appropriate.

4.1	<p>Considering the above indicators (4.1-4.4), how is the principle implemented in your ONA? (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><u>Response:</u></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><u>Links to public documents:</u></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><u>List of internal documents available on request:</u></p> </div>
4.2	<p>Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the principle?</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Broadly implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Partly implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented </p>

Principle 5: Statistical Confidentiality and Data Protection

The privacy of data providers, the confidentiality of the information they provide, its use only for statistical purposes and the security of data are absolutely guaranteed.

Indicator 5.1:

Statistical confidentiality is guaranteed in law.

Indicator 5.2:

Staff sign legal confidentiality commitments on appointment.

Indicator 5.3:

Penalties are prescribed for any wilful breaches of statistical confidentiality.

Indicator 5.4:

Guidelines and instructions are provided to staff on the protection of statistical confidentiality throughout the statistical processes. The confidentiality policy is made known to the public.

Indicator 5.5:

The necessary regulatory, administrative, technical and organisational measures are in place to protect the security and integrity of statistical data and their transmission, in accordance with best practices, international standards, as well as European and national legislation.

Indicator 5.6:

Strict protocols apply to external users accessing statistical microdata for research purposes.

- 5.1 **Considering the above indicators (5.1-5.6), how is the principle implemented in your ONA?** (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.

Response:

Links to public documents:

List of internal documents available on request:

5.2	<p>Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the principle?</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Broadly implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Partly implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented </p>
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Principle 6: Impartiality and Objectivity

Statistical authorities develop, produce and disseminate European Statistics respecting scientific independence and in an objective, professional and transparent manner in which all users are treated equitably.

Indicator 6.1:

Statistics are compiled on an objective basis determined by statistical considerations.

Indicator 6.2:

Choices of data sources and statistical methods as well as decisions about the dissemination of statistics are based on statistical considerations.

Indicator 6.3:

Errors discovered in published statistics are corrected at the earliest possible date and publicised.

Indicator 6.4:

Information on data sources, methods and procedures used is publicly available.

Indicator 6.5:

Statistical release dates and times are pre-announced.

Indicator 6.6:

Advance notice is given on major revisions or changes in methodologies.

Indicator 6.7:

Statistical authorities independently decide on the time and content of statistical releases, while taking into account the goal of providing complete and timely statistical information. All users have equal access to statistical releases at the same time. Any privileged pre-release access to any outside user is limited, well-justified, controlled and publicised. In case of breach, pre-release arrangements are reviewed so as to ensure impartiality.

Indicator 6.8:

Statistical releases and statements made in press conferences are objective and non-partisan.

6.1	<p>Considering the above indicators (6.1-6.8), how is the principle implemented in your ONA? (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p><u>Links to public documents:</u></p> <p><u>List of internal documents available on request:</u></p>
6.2	<p>Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the principle?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Broadly implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Partly implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented</p>

<p>General questions ON THE ENTIRE AREA of Institutional Environment (Professional Independence, Coordination and Cooperation, Mandate for Data Collection and Access to Data, Adequacy of Resources, Commitment to Quality, Statistical Confidentiality and Data Protection, Impartiality and Objectivity)</p>	
I. a)	<p>What do you consider as the main strengths of your ONA in the area of the institutional environment? Please highlight any solutions that you consider as good/innovative practice (also at NSS level).</p> <p></p>
I. b)	<p>What do you consider as the main weaknesses and areas of improvements of your ONA in the area of the institutional environment?</p> <p></p>

I. c)	<p>What concrete plans does your ONA have in the area of the institutional environment for the coming 3 years?</p> <div data-bbox="277 359 1446 453" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 45px; background-color: #e0e0e0;"></div>
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Statistical Processes

European and other international standards, guidelines and good practices are fully observed in the statistical processes used by the statistical authorities to develop, produce and disseminate European Statistics, while constantly striving for innovation. The credibility of the statistics is enhanced by a reputation for good management and efficiency. The relevant Principles are sound methodology, appropriate statistical procedures, non-excessive burden on respondents and cost effectiveness.

Principle 7: Sound Methodology

Sound Methodology underpins quality statistics. This requires adequate tools, procedures and expertise.

Indicator 7.1:

The overall methodological framework used for European Statistics follows European and other international standards, guidelines, and good practices, while constantly striving for innovation.

Indicator 7.2:

Procedures are in place to ensure that standard concepts, definitions, classifications and other types of standards are consistently applied throughout the statistical authority.

Indicator 7.3:

The registers and frames used for European Statistics are regularly evaluated and adjusted if necessary in order to ensure high quality.

Indicator 7.4:

Detailed concordance exists between national classifications systems and the corresponding European systems.

Indicator 7.5: Graduates in the relevant academic disciplines are recruited.	
Indicator 7.6: Statistical authorities implement a policy of continuous vocational training for their staff.	
Indicator 7.7: Statistical authorities maintain and develop cooperation with the scientific community to improve methodology, the effectiveness of the methods implemented and to promote better tools when feasible.	
7.1	<p>Considering the above indicators (7.1-7.7), how is the principle implemented in your ONA? (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"><u>Response:</u></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"><u>Links to public documents:</u></div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><u>List of internal documents available on request:</u></div>
7.2	<p>Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the principle?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Broadly implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Partly implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented</p>

Principle 8: Appropriate Statistical Procedures

Appropriate statistical procedures implemented throughout the statistical processes, underpin quality statistics.

Indicator 8.1:
When European Statistics are based on administrative and other data, the definitions and concepts used for non-statistical purposes are a good approximation to those required for statistical purposes.

<p><u>Indicator 8.2:</u> In the case of statistical surveys, questionnaires are systematically tested prior to the data collection.</p>	
<p><u>Indicator 8.3:</u> Statistical processes are routinely monitored and revised as required.</p>	
<p><u>Indicator 8.4:</u> Metadata related to statistical processes are managed throughout the statistical processes and disseminated, as appropriate.</p>	
<p><u>Indicator 8.5:</u> Revisions follow standard, well-established and transparent procedures.</p>	
<p><u>Indicator 8.6:</u> Agreements are made with holders of administrative and other data which set out their shared commitment to the use of these data for statistical purposes.</p>	
<p><u>Indicator 8.7:</u> Statistical authorities co-operate with holders of administrative and other data in assuring data quality.</p>	
8.1	<p>Considering the above indicators (8.1.-8.7), how is the principle implemented in your ONA? (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p><u>Links to public documents:</u></p> <p><u>List of internal documents available on request:</u></p>
8.2	<p>Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the principle?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Broadly implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Partly implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented</p>

Principle 9: Non-excessive Burden on Respondents

The response burden is proportionate to the needs of the users and is not excessive for respondents. The statistical authorities monitor the response burden and sets targets for its reduction over time.

Indicator 9.1:

The range and detail of European Statistics demands is limited to what is absolutely necessary.

Indicator 9.2:

The response burden is spread as widely as possible over survey populations and monitored by the statistical authority.

Indicator 9.3:

The data sought from businesses is, as far as possible, readily available from their accounts and electronic means are used where possible to facilitate its return.

Indicator 9.4:

Administrative and other data sources are used whenever possible to avoid duplicating requests for data.

Indicator 9.5:

Data sharing and data integration, while adhering to confidentiality and data protection requirements, are promoted to minimise response burden.

Indicator 9.6:

Statistical authorities promote measures that enable the linking of data sources in order to minimise response burden.

9.1	<p>Considering the above indicators (9.1-9.6), how is the principle implemented in your ONA? (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p><u>Links to public documents:</u></p> <p><u>List of internal documents available on request:</u></p>
9.2	<p>Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the principle?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Broadly implemented</p>

	<input type="checkbox"/> Partly implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented
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Principle 10: Cost Effectiveness

Resources are used effectively.

- Indicator 10.1:**
Internal and independent external measures monitor the statistical authority’s use of resources.

- Indicator 10.2:**
The productivity potential of information and communications technology is being optimised for the statistical processes.

- Indicator 10.3:**
Proactive efforts are made to improve the statistical potential of administrative and other data sources and to limit recourse to direct surveys.

- Indicator 10.4:**
Statistical authorities promote, share and implement standardised solutions that increase effectiveness and efficiency.

10.1	<p>Considering the above indicators (10.1-10.4), how is the principle implemented in your ONA? (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><u>Response:</u></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p><u>Links to public documents:</u></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p><u>List of internal documents available on request:</u></p> </div>
10.2	<p>Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the principle?</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Broadly implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Partly implemented </p>

	<input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented
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General questions ON THE ENTIRE AREA of Statistical Processes (Sound Methodology, Appropriate Statistical Procedures, Non-Excessive Burden on Respondents, Cost Effectiveness)

II. a)	<p>What do you consider as the main strengths of your ONA in the area of statistical processes? Please highlight any solutions that you consider as good/innovative practice (also at NSS level).</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; background-color: #e0e0e0;"></div>
II. b)	<p>What do you consider as the main weaknesses and areas of improvements of your ONA in the area of statistical processes?</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; background-color: #e0e0e0;"></div>
II. c)	<p>What concrete plans does your ONA have in the area of statistical processes for the coming 3 years?</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; background-color: #e0e0e0;"></div>

Statistical Output

Available statistics meet users' needs. Statistics comply with the European quality standards and serve the needs of European institutions, governments, research institutions, business concerns and the public generally. Output quality is measured by the extent to which the statistics are relevant, accurate and reliable, timely, coherent, comparable across regions and countries, and readily accessible by users, i.e. the Principles of Statistical Output.

Principle 11: Relevance

European Statistics meet the needs of users.

Indicator 11.1:

Procedures are in place to consult users, to monitor the relevance and value of existing statistics in meeting their needs, and to consider and anticipate their emerging needs and priorities. Innovation is pursued to continuously improve statistical output.

Indicator 11.2:

Priority needs are being met and reflected in the work programme.

Indicator 11.3:

User satisfaction is monitored on a regular basis and is systematically followed up.

11.1	<p>Considering the above indicators (11.1-11.3), how is the principle implemented in your ONA? (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p><u>Links to public documents:</u></p> <p><u>List of internal documents available on request:</u></p>
11.2	<p>Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the principle?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Broadly implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Partly implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented</p>

Principle 12: Accuracy and Reliability

European Statistics accurately and reliably portray reality

Indicator 12.1:

Source data, integrated data, intermediate results and statistical outputs are regularly assessed and validated.

Indicator 12.2:

Sampling errors and non-sampling errors are measured and systematically documented according to the European standards

Indicator 12.3:

Revisions are regularly analysed in order to improve source data, statistical processes and outputs.

12.1 **Considering the above indicators (12.1-12.3), how is the principle implemented in your ONA?** (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.

Response:

Links to public documents:

List of internal documents available on request:

12.2 **Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the principle?**

- Fully implemented
- Broadly implemented
- Partly implemented
- Not implemented

Principle 13: Timeliness and Punctuality

European Statistics are released in a timely and punctual manner.

Indicator 13.1:

Timeliness meets European and other international release standards.

<p>Indicator 13.2: A standard daily time for the release of European Statistics is made public.</p>	
<p>Indicator 13.3: The periodicity of statistics takes into account user requirements as much as possible.</p>	
<p>Indicator 13.4: Divergence from the dissemination time schedule is publicised in advance, explained and a new release date set.</p>	
<p>Indicator 13.5: Preliminary results of acceptable aggregate accuracy and reliability can be released when considered useful.</p>	
13.1	<p>Considering the above indicators (13.1-13.5), how is the principle implemented in your ONA? (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p><u>Links to public documents:</u></p> <p><u>List of internal documents available on request:</u></p>
13.2	<p>Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the principle?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Broadly implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Partly implemented</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented</p>

Principle 14: Coherence and Comparability

European Statistics are consistent internally, over time and comparable between regions and countries; it is possible to combine and make joint use of related data from different data sources.

<p>Indicator 14.1: Statistics are internally coherent and consistent (i.e. arithmetic and accounting identities observed).</p>	
<p>Indicator 14.2: Statistics are comparable over a reasonable period of time.</p>	
<p>Indicator 14.3: Statistics are compiled on the basis of common standards with respect to scope, definitions, units and classifications in the different surveys and data sources.</p>	
<p>Indicator 14.4: Statistics from different data sources and with different periodicity are compared and reconciled.</p>	
<p>Indicator 14.5: Cross-national comparability of the data is ensured within the European Statistical System through periodical exchanges between the European Statistical System and other statistical systems. Methodological studies are carried out in close co-operation between the Member States and Eurostat.</p>	
14.1	<p>Considering the above indicators (14.1-14.5), how is the principle implemented in your ONA? (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p><u>Links to public documents:</u></p> <p><u>List of internal documents available on request:</u></p>
14.2	<p>Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the principle?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Broadly implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Partly implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented</p>

Principle 15: Accessibility and Clarity

European Statistics are presented in a clear and understandable form, released in a suitable and convenient manner, available and accessible on an impartial basis with supporting metadata and guidance.

Indicator 15.1:

Statistics and the corresponding metadata are presented, and archived, in a form that facilitates proper interpretation and meaningful comparisons.

Indicator 15.2:

Dissemination services use modern information and communication technology, methods, platforms and open data standards.

Indicator 15.3:

Custom-designed analyses are provided when feasible and the public is informed.

Indicator 15.4:

Access to microdata is allowed for research purposes and is subject to specific rules or protocols.

Indicator 15.5:

Metadata related to outputs are managed and disseminated by the statistical authority according to the European standards.

Indicator 15.6:

Users are kept informed about the methodology of statistical processes including the use and integration of administrative and other data.

Indicator 15.7:

Users are kept informed about the quality of statistical outputs with respect to the quality criteria for European Statistics.

15.1 **Considering the above indicators (15.1- 15.7), how is the principle implemented in your ONA? (you can take inspiration from the ESS QAF methods, tools and good practices but can also add other) Evidence should be provided in the form of documents or summaries of documents.**

Response:

Links to public documents:

List of internal documents available on request:

15.2	<p>Based on the answer given above, how do you rate the implementation of the principle?</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Fully implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Broadly implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Partly implemented <input type="checkbox"/> Not implemented </p>
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General questions ON THE ENTIRE AREA of Statistical Output (Relevance, Accuracy and Reliability, Timeliness and Punctuality, Coherence and Comparability, Accessibility and Clarity)

III. a)	<p>What do you consider as the main strengths of your ONA in the area of statistical output? Please highlight any solutions that you consider as good/innovative practice (also at NSS level).</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%; background-color: #e0e0e0;"></div>
III. b)	<p>What do you consider as the main weaknesses and areas of improvements of your ONA in the area of statistical output?</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%; background-color: #e0e0e0;"></div>
III. c)	<p>What concrete plans does your ONA have in the area of statistical output for the coming 3 years?</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%; background-color: #e0e0e0;"></div>

General question ON THE ENTIRE CODE OF PRACTICE

IV. a)	<p>What has been the main progress in the implementation of the Code of Practice in the last 5 years?</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%; background-color: #e0e0e0;"></div>
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