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**ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION
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Topic (ii): Streamlining statistical production

Applying the GSBPM in National Statistical Office of Thailand

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I. Introduction

1. Streamlining the statistical production system has become one of the important objectives in National Statistical Office of Thailand (NSO). The Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) has been applied as a reference model. GSBPM is used as a common process terminology, to provide a structure for documentation, to provide a structural basis for managing operational resources, better governance and to provide a framework for process quality assurance, for example. This paper presents progress of applying GSBPM in NSO. The Labour Force Survey is used as a pilot study to design business process map and workflow, to manage the project; resource allocation and project tracking. GSBPM is also applied to draft the Good Statistical Practice guideline as a manual for other institutions to produce high quality statistics.

II. Background

2. The existing statistical business process model at Thailand National Statistical Office (NSO) consists of four phases; prepare and plan, collect data, process data, and, analyse and disseminate. These phases are used in the organisation only. However, to communicate with outside organisation at both the national and international levels the standard terminology should be used. Therefore the adoption of possible standard model is considered.

3. The Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) is a reference model for process standardisation in statistics production. GSBPM is also a tool to describe and define the set of business processes needed to produce official statistics (Secretariat, 2009). In addition, GSBPM is adopted by some National Statistical Agencies; Australian Bureau of Statistics, Statistics Canada, Statistics New Zealand, Statistics Norway and Statistics Sweden, for example (Lalor). Therefore, the GSBPM is applied in Thailand NSO. Although there are four stages in existing process model, it can be mapped to GSBPM, as illustrated in Figure 1.

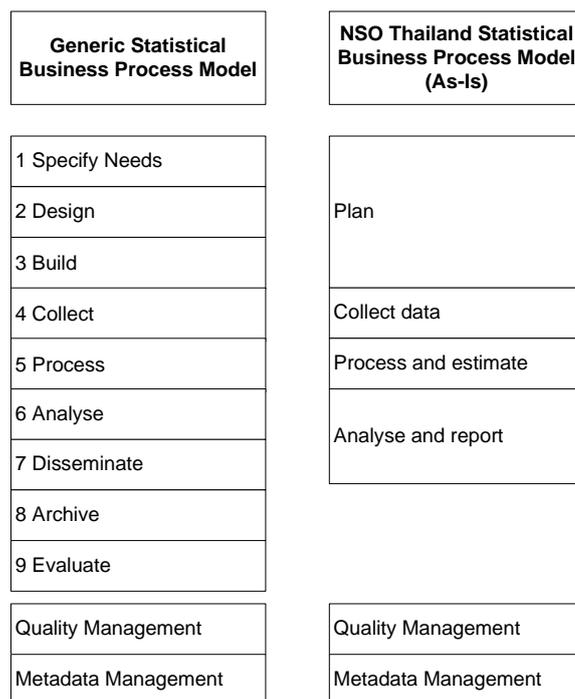


Figure 1 Mapping GSBPM and NSO statistical business process model

III. Applying GSBPM to NSO Thailand Draft Statistical Business Process Model

4. The main objective of NSO process modelling and standardisation is to establish a standardised statistical production structure. The standardised, cost-efficient and well coordinated production processes and statistical metadata systems are needed in the organisation. In addition, administrative data should be used as much as possible. To achieve these goals, GSBPM is applied as a reference model to describe statistical business processes.

5. Labour force survey was selected for pilot study. The objective of the pilot study was to map the existing processes to GSBPM. The process maps and work flows are designed based on GSBPM.

6. The model comprises of three levels, based on GSBPM, as follows:

Level 0, the statistical business process;

Level 1, the nine phases of the statistical business process, shown in Figure 2;

Level 2, the sub-processes within each phase, shown in Figure 2;

Level 3, sub sub-processes within each sub-process with some attributes, shown in

Figure 3;

Metadata of GSBPM (Morgado) is also studied and applied to Thailand NSO draft statistical business process model.

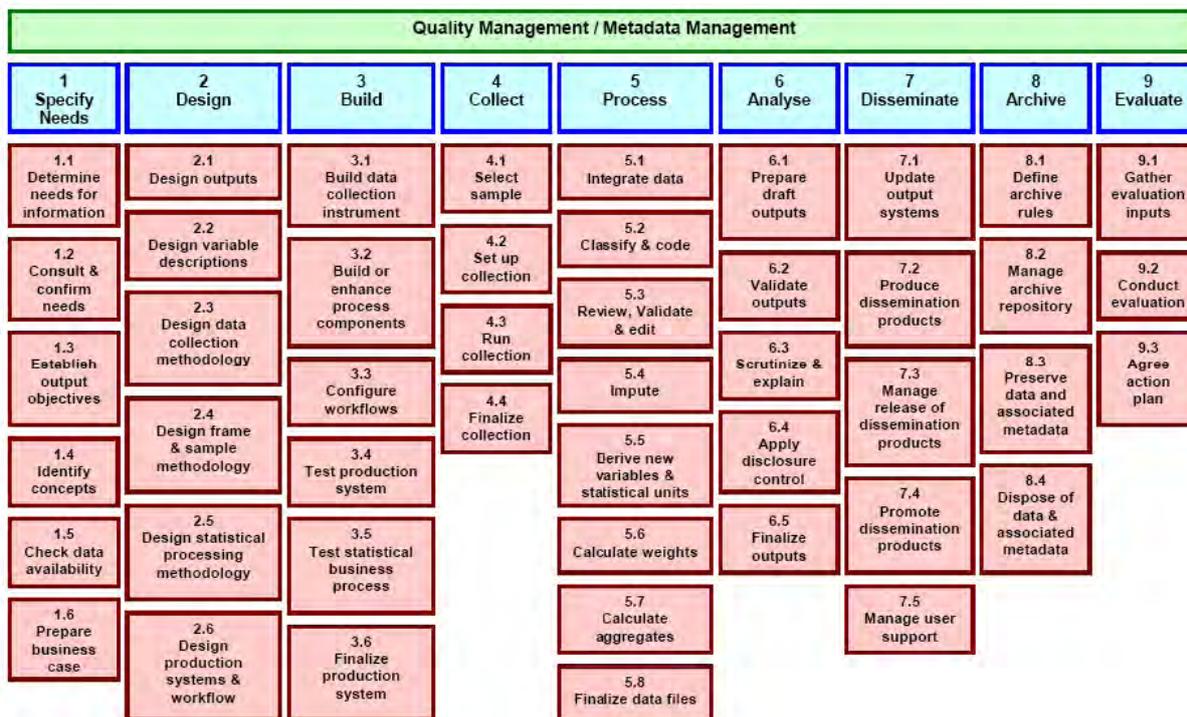


Figure 2 Level 1 and Level 2 of Thailand NSO Draft Statistical Business Process Model (similar to GSBPM)

7. Level 1 and Level 2 of Thailand NSO statistical Business Process Model are similar to the GSBPM which is the reference model. Although there is no explicit process for Archive and Evaluate in the existing business process model, it is a good start point to consider and design these processes.

8. Level 3 is described in GSBPM but transformed into sub sub-processes in Thailand NSO Draft Statistical Business Process Model.

9. In Level 2 and Level 3, each sub-process or sub sub-process contain some of these attributes: input(s), output(s), owner, guides, enablers (people and systems), feedback loops or mechanisms. For example, in sub-process 3.6 Finalize production systems consists of four sub sub-processes with attributes; 3.6.1 to 3.6.4, as shown in Figure 3. The sub sub-process 3.6.1 Finalize collection instruments has data collection method which is defined from sub-process 2.3 Design data collection methodology as an input and produces data collection methods which is completely defined as an output from this sub sub-process. This output will be used in sub-process 4.2 Run collection and 4.3 Finalize collection.

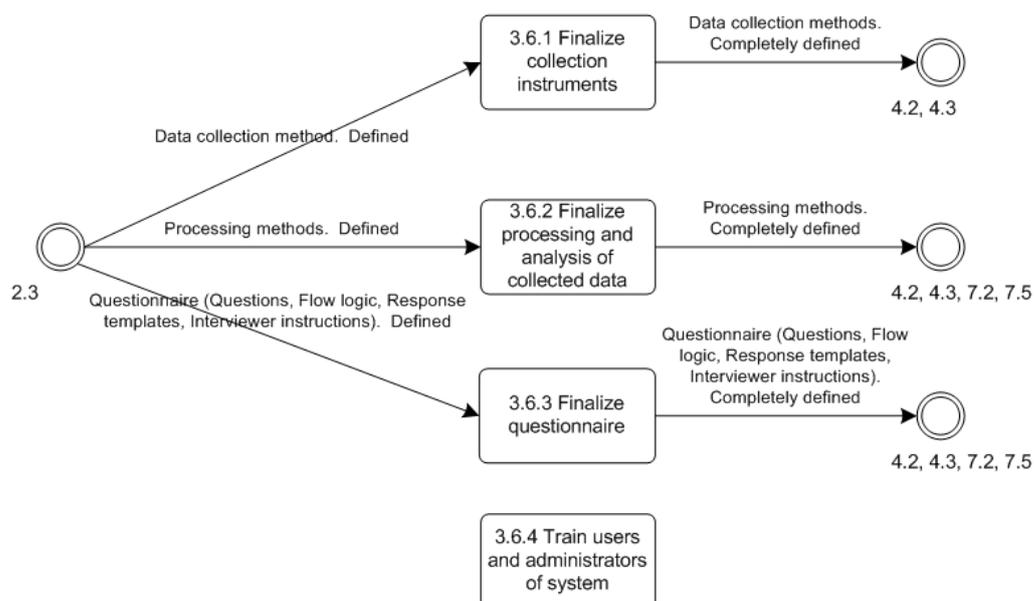


Figure 3 Sub-Process 3.6 Finalize Production Systems

10. When all process maps and work flows have been designed as a generic model for the organisation, it will be applied to a particular survey/census project for project management by adding more details to each (sub or sub-sub) process; for example duration of each task, start date, end date, predecessor tasks and resource load.

IV. Draft Good Statistical Practice Guideline

11. Thailand National Statistical Office produces basic statistics from surveys across almost all sectors, while a number of government agencies produce statistics which are administrative data based on existing reporting and registration system. Before implementing Thailand National Statistic Master Plan (BE. 2554 – 2558) the country’s statistical system has become rather fragmented, without a shared vision and direction.

12. An integrated and reliable statistical system is crucial for national development. The NSO is now empowered by the new Statistics Act 2007 to serve as the focal point of the national statistical system. The NSO, in collaboration with all line ministries, has therefore initiated the development of Thailand’s first Statistic Master Plan (TSMP) for 2011 – 2015, which involved the participation of line ministries and consultations with various stakeholders. Consistent with law, the TSMP is used as a tool for management of national statistical system and as a guideline for direction, objectives, main goals, structures and strategic framework for the development of national statistical system. The TSMP also provides that NSO would serve as the ‘manager’ or ‘coordinator’ of the national statistical system. With this new role, the NSO will coordinate with all statistical units in the government – many of which are line agencies that produce statistics largely from administrative records – to ensure that there are no gaps and redundancies. Therefore, the statistics are useful, timely produced, integrated and linked, and that they meet quality standards.

13. To improve the quality of statistics produced by various government agencies, the Good Statistical Practice (GSP) is used as a tool and a guideline for these agencies. GSBPM is applied to draft the GSP manual in detail about how to produce high quality statistics from survey, administrative records and public opinion survey.

V. Current work and experiences

14. The draft model; process maps and work flows, and draft GSP are under development as there are more processes and detail in each process in GSBPM than in existing statistical business process model.
15. Some terms of GSBPM are difficult to understand and translate to native language (Thai).
16. Most people are still familiar with existing statistical business process model because it has fewer processes and less complicated than GSBPM.

VI. Future Work

17. NSO will create an enterprise architecture by finalizing the draft statistical business process model integrated with a statistical metadata system. Moreover, the GSIM (UNECE, 2012) will be considered to implement.

VII. References

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