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STATIS
Statistisches Bundesamt




Standardisation in the European Statistical System

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MSIS Meeting,
23-25 April 2013



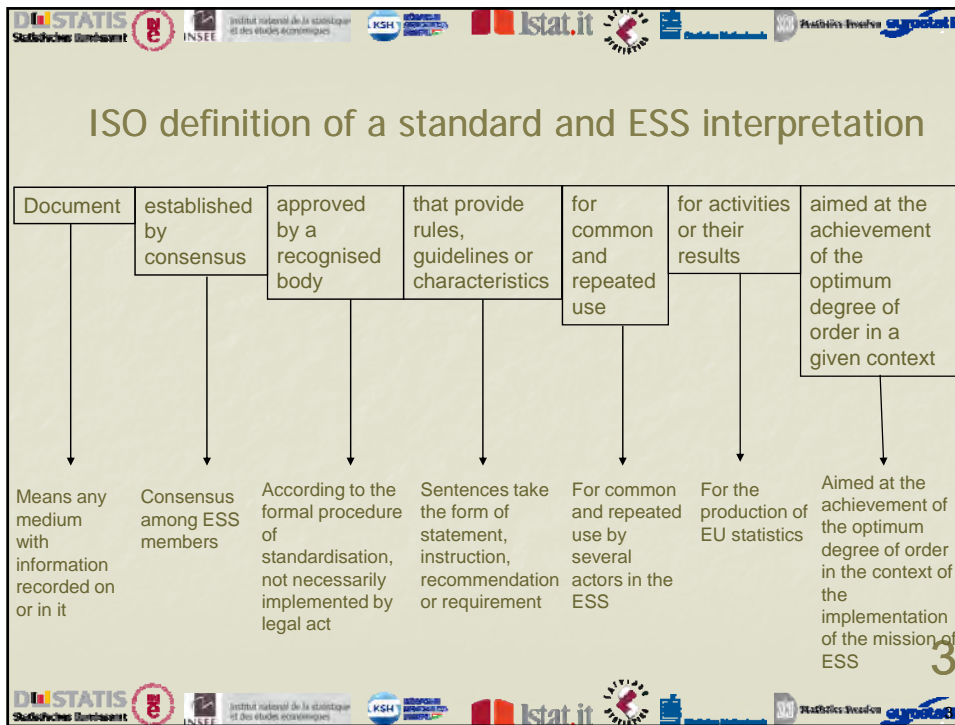

Contents

- ❖ Standards: definition and inventory
- ❖ Process of standardisation and its governance
- ❖ Framework: why, what, how
- ❖ Business case for standardisation: SWOT tool
- ❖ The way forward: next steps and further work

Many thanks to other contributors 😊
(especially on the inventory)

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Inventory of ESS normative documents
(broader than standards alone)

Purpose

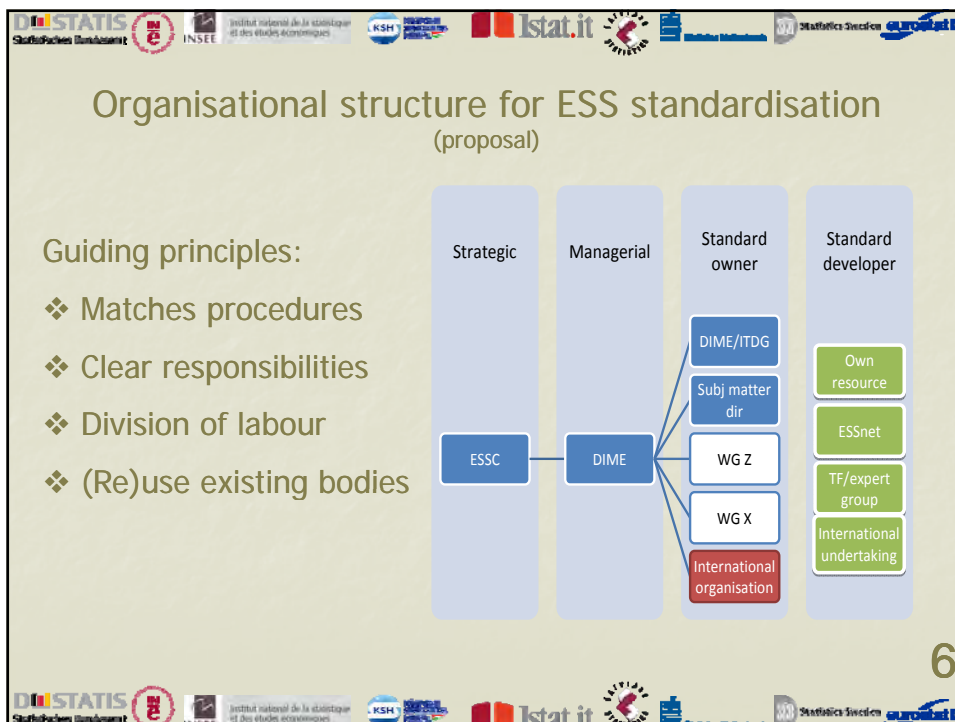
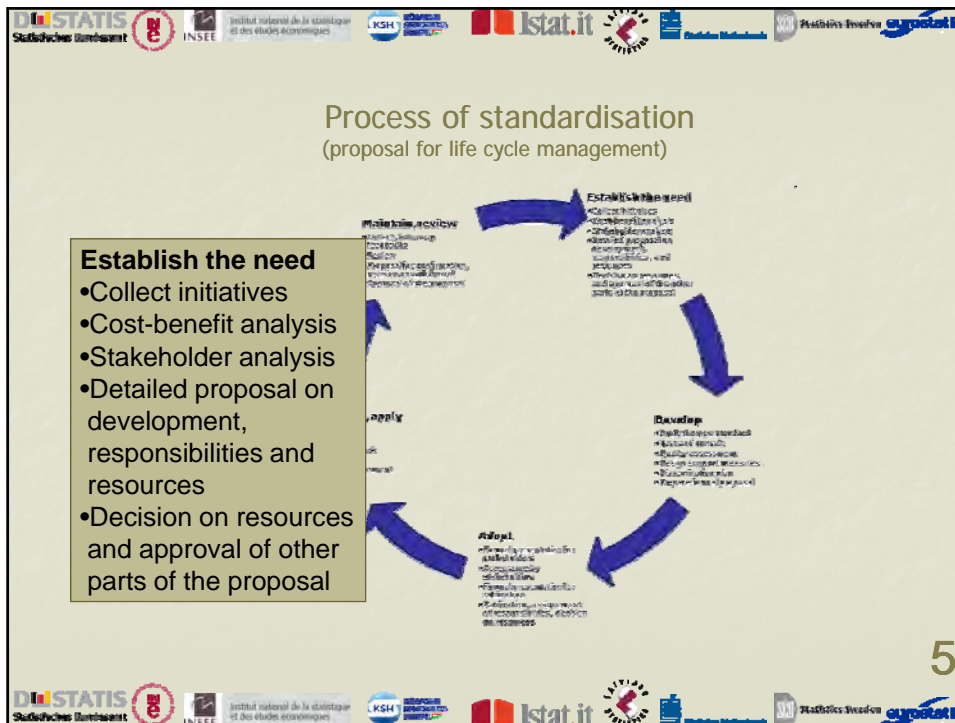
- ❖ Common “rich” list of international statistical normative documents and standards in the ESS
- ❖ Base for further analysis of normative documents (quality, consistency, coverage)
- ❖ Gap analysis (what we have vs. what we need)

Work still in progress (Sponsorship, ESSnet) 

Note: existing inventories differ in scope and attributes

- UNECE: Common Metadata Framework
- UN: Global Inventory of Statistical Standards
- Eurostat: RAMON

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Framework: ESS Enterprise architecture (proposal)

- ❖ Abstract model for the organisation of our business
 - Helps to structure discussions on **to be state**
 - Helps to define **roadmap** for standards development
- ❖ 4 homogeneous business areas can be identified
 - Policy- Design - Management – Implementation
- ❖ 18 activities can be distinguished
 - Data collection, dissemination, budgeting, ...
 - Which may allow different levels of integration

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Why a framework?

The ESS is

- ❖ A complex system/organization
- ❖ With multiple lines of business (NSIs)
- ❖ Which operate in multiple geographies
- ❖ Under the subsidiarity principle and
- ❖ And with a coordination role for Eurostat

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How much do we want in common for each area?

- ❖ Split between individual MS and ESS common

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How far do we want to standardise each activity?

- ❖ Autonomous: No standardisation
- ❖ Interoperable: Parts fit together where needed (e.g. transmission standards)
- ❖ Replicated: Standard parts used where appropriate (e.g. common tools/ processes/ methods)
- ❖ Shared: Everything works the same way (e.g. one single business process, information shared by all)

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Business case for standardisation

Why standardise, and at what cost?

- ❖ Efficiency gains, quality improvement
- ❖ Investment and maintenance costs, loss of autonomy

Quantitative assessment difficult

- ❖ Not always feasible
- ❖ Requires 'guesstimates'
- ❖ Subjective elements
- ❖ May depend on perspective (national, domain ..)

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Standardised SWOT tool

Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats (proposal)

- ❖ Fixed aspects for each SWOT category (4x6)
 - Relevance and effect score for each aspect
 - Scores should be collected from all stakeholders
- ❖ Fingerprints: a graphical representation (toy example)
 - Starting point for further analysis
 - See differences at a glance; organise discussions

'Current situation'

'Full integration'

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The way forward

- ❖ Next steps
 - Forward-looking Feedback Workshop (May 2013)
 - Formulation of recommendations (July 2013)
 - ESSC decision on recommendations (September 2013)
- ❖ Further work
 - Completion of inventory
 - Refinement of architectural framework
 - Gap analysis (desired *vs.* actual situation)
 - Implementation of standards adoption process
 - Elaboration of SWOT tool
 - Discussions on adequate levels of standardisation
 - Identification of priorities for standards development

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