

Generic Law on Official Statistics for EECCA countries

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Introduction

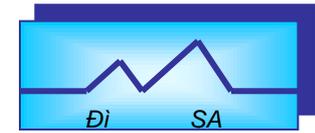
- The production of high quality official statistics is crucial for evidence-based decision-making and requires a strong legal mandate for a statistical system.
- Through the years the general principles, standards and methodologies for all countries in the field of official statistics have been developed and implemented:
 - UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (UN-FPs)
 - Common definitions, classifications, data sources and tools for data collection, processing and dissemination.



Laws

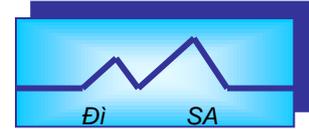
Necessity to develop GSL

- The institutional position and powers of national statistical offices and other producers of official statistics differ significantly across the countries, which sometimes leads to misinterpretation of official statistics.
- The need to develop the generic model law of official statistics at the country level has matured, aimed at providing a legislative framework for official statistics authority to ensure the full implementation of the requirements of the UN-FPs.



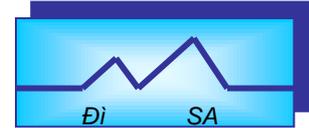
Initiative to develop GSL

- UNECE, EFTA and Eurostat proposed developing a Generic Statistical Law (GSL) to support countries to align their statistical legislation with the UN-FPs and international best practices.
- GSL was drafted and presented as an explanatory guide for EECCA countries, and provides clear explanations and links to the UN-FPs and the ES-CoP, and can be tailored to the institutional and legal environments and general circumstances prevailing in EECCA countries.



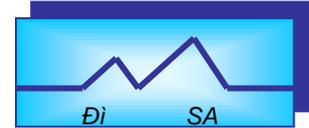
Principles

- The law is fully in line with the principles of UN-FPs and ES-CoP.
- The Law provides a strong framework and solid foundation for producing and disseminating official statistics, and takes into account the environment of the EECCA countries based on the findings of Global Assessments of national statistical systems.



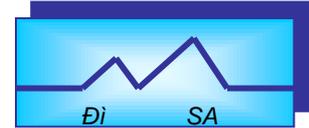
The main objective

- ensure full respect for the UN-FPs
- guarantee professional independence
- enhance public trust and use of official statistics in the EECCA countries,
- support countries in the process of modernization of national statistical systems and increase the NSO`s efficiency.



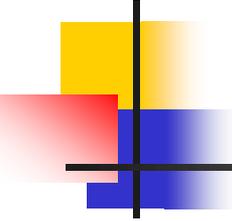
The structure

- Objective and scope of the Law,
- Main principles of official statistics and definitions,
- Organization of the National Statistical System,
- Statistical Council and other advisory bodies,
- Coordination of the national statistical system and statistical programs,
- Data collection,
- Statistical confidentiality,
- Quality of official statistics,
- Dissemination,
- Statistical services,
- International Cooperation,
- Infringements,
- Relationship to other legislation,
- Entry into force.



Novelties of the Law

- definition of Official Statistics,
- determination of UN-FPs,
- description of National Statistical System,
- the Chief Statistician's role, procedures of his/her appointment,
- quality of official statistics,
- statistical services, etc.



Advantages

- The model law defines the distinction between official statistics and other statistics, provides definitions of NSO (the role, responsibilities and position, professional independence), other producers of official statistics, the principles and procedures to be applied in developing, producing and disseminating official statistics, coordination of statistics at the national level, NSO's rights to access and use the administrative data for statistical purposes, statistical confidentiality, dissemination strategy, the responsibility for international statistical activities, etc.
- Explanatory notes are being drafted for each chapter of the Law to support the implementation and to provide more detail on its provisions.



Conclusion

The GSL as a Model Law provides a sample legislative framework to support countries to develop their national laws, taking into account their historical and cultural traditions, and legislative environment.

Thank you



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