



An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh
Central Statistics Office

Business Statistics Transformation in CSO Ireland

**UNECE Workshop on Statistical Data
Collection, Ottawa 2017**



CSO and Enterprise Statistics

- Ireland's NSI with offices in Dublin and Cork
 - Dublin: Macroeconomic statistics and Census of Population
 - Cork: Business, Household Surveys and all support areas
- Staff about 80% of CSO costs
- Business Statistics: 200 Staff and 25% of staff costs



Business Statistics – Current Organisational Structure

Structural
Business
Statistics (SBS)

Short-Term
Business
Statistics (STS)

Prices

Agriculture,
Tourism and
Transport

200 staff

30 statistical
products

170 releases and
publications per
year



Why Business Statistics Transformation (BST) – Why Change

- Peaks and Troughs
- CSO 2020
- European Statistical Code of Practice (ESCOP)
Peer Review
- Central Business Register



Why Business Statistics Transformation – Why Change Continued

- Online Data Collection Portal
- User Needs
- Use of Diverse Legacy IT Systems
- Cost



Establishing a Vision for Business Statistics

Balanced Scorecard

Customer

- Meet them more systematically
- More relevant products
- Compliance – EU, incl. new Regs
- Quality
- LCU +
- Manage respondent burden
- Systematic use of admin / big data
- Collection via online portal

Process

- Business DCU & RAP
- Collection – Automation and prioritisation of interventions:
- Macro-edit, respondent follow-up, linkage, imputation
- Central supports
- Enforcement

Cost

- Know the cost of our surveys
- Know the cost of our processes
- Reduce costs
- Admin / big data, online collection
- Regular evaluation
- How we use savings – e.g. to improve customer service

People

- Process organisation (less peaks & troughs)
- Specialisation & skills (helping with “relevance”)
- Quality management
- Automation – less repetitive work on processing
- Focus on adding value – outputs & customers



BST – Principals to be applied

- Scope confined to Short-term Statistics (STS) and Structural Business Statistics (SBS) divisions
 - Awareness of need for scalability
- Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM)
- Staff Engagement



BST – Principals to be applied continued

- Centralise and Standardise
- Single Point of Contact
- Value Added V Non-value Added Activities
- Structure First



BST Objectives

- User Demand Analysis
- More Integrated Structures
- Establish a Profiling/Medium Cases Unit
- Migration of Silo Systems



BST Objectives - continued

- Change how we conduct core statistical activities
 - Selective Editing
 - Non-response management
 - Administrative Data
 - More centralised and Co-ordinated Sampling
- Business Register Process Improvement



BST – Where We Are Now

- Key Resources assigned – more to come
- Research and Study Visits
- Project plan
- RAP Teams merged
- New structure and roles assigned to Senior Statisticians and Statisticians



BST – Where We Are Now continued

Meanwhile

- Ongoing corporate change – quality management, structures and governance
- Framework Regulation Integrating Business Statistics (FRIBS)
- Globalisation debate
- National user needs



What Does Success Look Like

□ Project A – Merger of 2 Divisions :

- Elimination/reduction in peaks & troughs issue
- Dedicated DCU & RAP allowing for specialisation & efficiency gains as well as quality improvements over time
- Better respondent management
- New structure accommodating new needs
- Single Enterprise file – all data sources for the same enterprise under the ‘one roof’.



What Does Success Look Like - continued

□ Project B - Sprocet migration to DMS for the MII, CIP, Prodcom surveys:

- Surveys successfully migrated to new platform of DMS/Sprocet. Sprocet shut down
- Savings for IT when Sprocet goes + general efficiency gains



What Does Success Look Like - continued

□ Project C – Business Register development:

- Reasons for existence of local registers established
- Recommendations on prioritised elimination of local registers developed
- User needs re Bus Reg established CBR redeveloped (2018+)
- Ultimately: Workplace changes – areas not using local registers anymore. Basis for Portal established.
- Profiling needs & methodology determined
- Medium Cases Unit established & adding value



What Does Success Look Like - continued

□ Project D - Re-engineering

- Examination of using more **tax data** in lieu of surveys completed
- Survey post-outs reduced / more use of modelling for some enterprises
- Burden reduction
- Examination of the value add of **editing** in enterprise statistics
- Recommendations implemented – less editing of data without compromising quality leading to:
 - Efficiency gains
 - Burden reduction on enterprises



Eyes Wide Open - Risks

- Dedicated Resources
- Business as usual
- Timing
- Hybrid Structure
- Key Staff



Thank You

Any Questions