Quality evaluation of Business Register with ASPIRE

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Christian Ekström
Statistics Sweden

ASPIRE

(A System for Product Improvement, Review and Evaluation)

The overall purpose

- ASPIRE is an evaluation approach that Statistics Sweden uses to quantitatively evaluate the accuracy of a selection of the agency's important statistical products.
- Statistics Sweden employs a team of external experts to ensure objective assessments.
- An important starting point of the evaluation is that the quality in the statistics are set in relation to the purpose of the statistics.
- The external experts also provide recommendations which is an important source of inspiration regarding continuous improvements.
- The overall results are reported annually to the Swedish government so that they can follow the development over time of the quality in Statistics Sweden's key statistical products.

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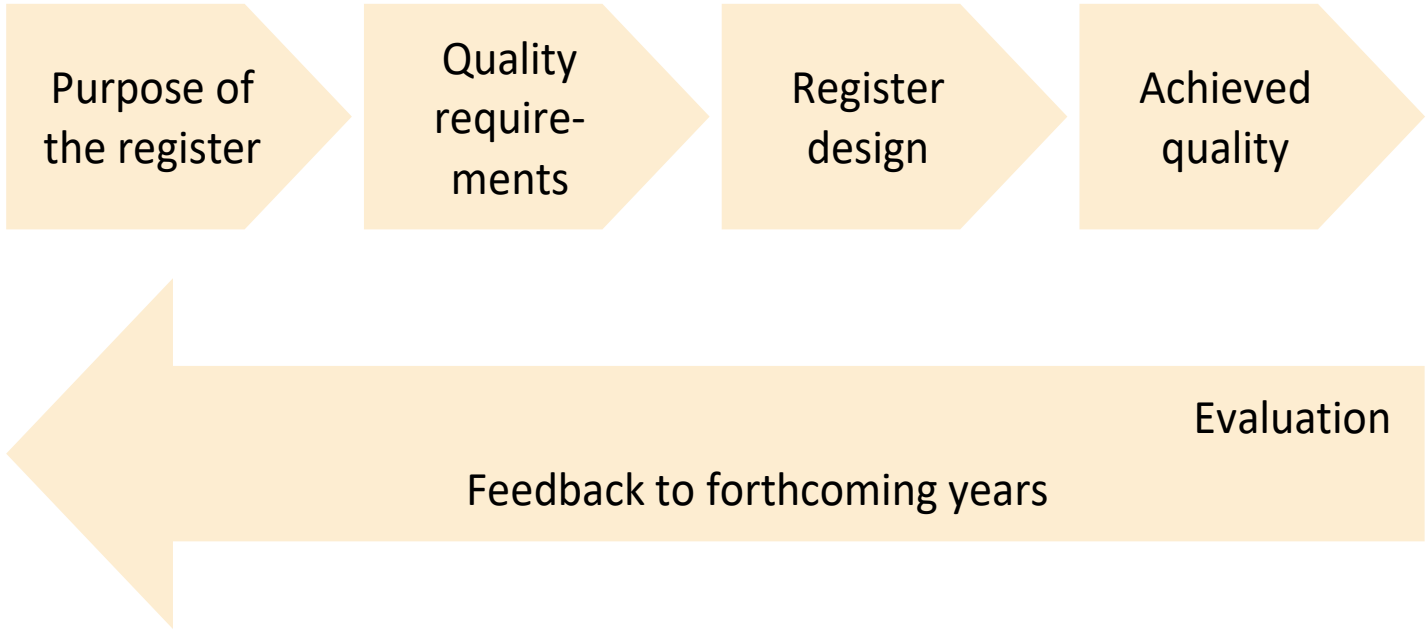
The ASPIRE process in short

- Expert team
- Product team

- Input – checklists and documentation
- Interviews – the teams meet up for discussion and analysis of the input
- Output – Report with overall and product specific recommendations

A cyclical procedure



Checklists

One set of templates for each of the subcomponents of accuracy

1. Overall Accuracy
2. Sources of uncertainty

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Sources of uncertainty for SBR

- Coverage
- Measurement
- Non-response
- Data processing
- Model assumptions

Checklists

Evaluation criteria for each set of checklists:

1. Knowledge of potential causes of uncertainty and their impacts
2. Communication with users and data suppliers
3. Available expertise
4. Compliance with standards and best practices
5. Plans for mitigation activities
6. Results of mitigation activities and other evaluation findings

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Interviews

1. The purpose of the statistics
2. Identifications of key uses/users and the quality requirements regarding Accuracy
3. Review of the results from the evaluation of the quality of official statistics
4. Discussion of each of the sources of uncertainty and their influence on Overall accuracy, including ratings
5. Discussion of preliminary statistics compared to final statistics (if applicable), including ratings
6. Discussion of Overall accuracy including ratings
7. Recommendations

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Results for SBR 2019

SBR ratings

Sub and sub-subcomponents of Accuracy	Average Score Current Round	Knowledge of the potential causes of uncertainty and their impacts	Communica-tion with users and data suppliers	Available Expertise	Compliance with standards & best practices	Plans for mitigation activities	Results of mitigation activities and other evaluation findings	Importance to Overall accuracy (single sources of uncertainty)
Overall Accuracy	55	○	○	○	○	○	○	
Sources of uncertainty:	58							
-Coverage	62	○	○	◡	○	◡	○	H
-Measurement	58	○	○	◡	○	○	◠	H
-Non-response	47	○	○	○	○	◠	○	L
-Processing	62	◡	◡	◡	○	◡	◠	H
-Model assumptions	52	○	○	◡	○	○	◠	M
Preliminary register compared with final register	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Ratings					Importance to Overall accuracy			
●	◠	○	◡	◎	Not applicable (N/A)	Low (L)	Medium (M)	High (H)
Poor	Fair	Good	Very good	Excellent	Weights			
1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-10	0	1	2	3

Results for SBR 2019

Recommendation 1

- Continue to maintain strong focus on successfully concluding the re-engineering project, and on supporting the profiling of the largest business units.
- Develop a plan and implementation strategy, including an evaluation strategy, for the automated profiling which covers the next largest units.

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Results for SBR 2019

Recommendation 2

Develop a true SBR by liaising closely with surveys on key requirements to ensure the quarterly frames as well as annual frames are usable and used. This would include both implementation of an activity status code, and a centralised approach to frame validation to reconcile differences between quarterly frames.

Results for SBR 2019

Recommendation 3

Review the design and size of the Register Unit's business units survey in the light of the potential for automating detection of likely new locations using employee address information.

Conclusion

- ASPIRE is an evaluation approach for evaluating accuracy
- The quality in the register is set in relation to the purpose of the register
- Highlights efforts that provide the highest value to the users of the SBR
- Helps to prioritize among several areas of improvement
- In line with Statistics Sweden's regular cyclical procedure for production of statistics and registers and the assessment of quality

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