

Discussion Topic 1. Increasing Role of Statistical Production Support

The standardisation of production processes is a long journey that requires substantial investments and buy-in across many areas in the organisations. This is a slow but foundational change that allows NSOs to avoid working in silos with overlaps and duplicates and hence greatly increase efficiency.

1. In the last ModernStats World Workshop (2020), it was noted that *“once organisations standardise processes, GAMS0 could provide help in corporate supporting roles. GAMS0 corporate activities such as quality management and metadata management can only effectively be done once processes are harmonised and standardised”*. **Is there any area of support in your organisations** (e.g., see List 1 below for GAMS0 Corporate Support activities) **that has grown more important or become more efficient as a result of process harmonisation? If so, in what way?**
2. One of the central classes in GSIM Business Group is “Statistical Program”. It refers to a set of activities to produce statistics on a given group of people or entities within the context of a specific subject field (e.g., Labour Force Survey, National Accounts). A closely related GSIM class is “Statistical Support” which refers to an activity that supports statistical production. The distinction between “Statistical Program” and “Statistical Support” caused a series of heated discussions in the GSIM revision task team. At the end, the team proposed that “Statistical Program” should correspond to GSBPM Phase 4-7 (collection to dissemination) while “Statistical Support” corresponds to the GAMS0 Corporate Support activities, GSBPM Phase 1-3 and overarching processes. **How do you think of this distinction, do you agree or disagree** (see Table 1 below for a full description of GSIM “Statistical Program” and “Statistical Support”)?

List 1: GAMS0 Corporate Support activities

1. **Manage Business Performance and Legislation**, which includes Manage business performance, Manage change and risk, Manage legislation and compliance
2. **Manage Statistical Methodology**, which includes Frames and samples, Editing and imputing, Weighting, Estimation, Time series and seasonal adjustment, Disclosure avoidance, Data linkage
3. **Manage Quality**, which includes Manage quality framework, Manage quality assurance tools, Manage quality documentation

4. **Manage Information and Knowledge**, which includes Manage documents and records, including archiving and destruction, Manage knowledge, Manage information standards and access rights, Manage metadata and data
 - **Manage Consumers**, which includes Manage communications and media relations, Manage stakeholder consultations, Manage cross-product user support
 - **Manage Data Suppliers**, which includes Manage data sharing agreements, Manage data transfer
 - **Manage Finances**, which includes Maintain accounts (including assets and liabilities), Manage procurement and contracts, Manage suppliers of equipment, office supplies and services
 - **Manage Human Resources**, which includes Manage employee performance, Manage and develop skills, Manage talent, Manage recruitment, Ensure succession planning
 - **Manage Information Technology (IT)**, which includes Manage IT assets and services, Manage IT security, Manage technological change
 - **Manage Buildings and Physical Space**, which includes Manage environmental, mechanical, and electrical needs, Manage arrangement of office space, Manage distribution of offices within space

Table 1: GSIM class “Statistical Program” and “Statistical Support”

GSIM class	Statistical Program
Definition	set of activities to produce statistics on a given <i>Universe</i> within the context of <i>Subject Fields</i>
Explanatory Text	<p>The <i>Statistical Program</i> provides the environmental context in which activities to produce statistics within a statistical organization are conducted. <i>Statistical Program</i> will usually correspond to an ongoing activity such as a survey or output series covered by GSBPM phase 4-7. Some examples of <i>Statistical Program</i> are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour Force Survey • Multipurpose Household Survey • National Accounts • Demography • Overseas Arrivals and Departures <p>Related to the <i>Statistical Program</i> object there are <i>Statistical Program Design</i> and <i>Statistical Program Cycle</i> objects that hold the detailed information about the design and conduct of the <i>Business Process</i>.</p> <p>In the case of the traditional approach, an organization has received a <i>Statistical Need</i> and produced a <i>Change Definition</i> and an approved <i>Business Case</i>. The <i>Business Case</i> will specify either a change to the design or methodology of an existing <i>Statistical Program</i>, which will result in a new <i>Statistical Program Design</i>; or a change to one or more existing <i>Statistical</i></p>

	<p><i>Programs</i> (for example, to add an additional objective to the <i>Statistical Program</i>); or result in a new <i>Statistical Program</i> being created.</p> <p>A <i>Statistical Program</i> could take as inputs other <i>Statistical Programs'</i> outputs, e.g. national accounts. These activities are all carried out to generate <i>Products</i>.</p> <p>This does not include statistical support functions such as metadata management, data management (and other overarching GSBPM processes) and design functions. These activities are conducted as part of <i>Statistical Support Programs</i>.</p>
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GSIM class	Statistical Support
Definition	activity that supports statistical production
Explanatory Text	This type of activity will include such functions as metadata management, data management, methodological research, and design functions. These programs correspond to the overarching processes in the GSBPM, and Corporate Support in GAMS0, as well as programs to create new or change existing Statistical Programs which are covered by GSBPM phase 1-3.