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Using standards to direct the flow of data: Modernizing production processes at Statistics Iceland

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Abstract

Statistics Iceland made significant changes in its organization in 2023 with a focus on functionality instead of subject matter divisions of the office. One of the reasons was to eliminate stovepipes in official statistical production with the aim of increasing re-use of data, better and more efficient use of resources, increase process automaticity and increase innovation within the office. One specific target was the production process of official statistics and the aim to harmonize it, make it futureproof and suitable for automatic processing. In order to do so Statistics Iceland has relied heavily on the GSBPM and GSIM, but also on the ISO 27001. This paper details how this has been organized and implemented, focusing on the practical sides of doing this for an entire (although small) statistical organization.