



IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS FINLAND

**PEER REVIEWERS' RECOMMENDATIONS AND
IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS OF THE NATIONAL
STATISTICAL SYSTEM OF FINLAND IN RESPONSE TO
THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

<p>1. Recommendation Statistics Finland should strengthen a proactive coordination of the Finnish statistical system by sharing good practices and providing methodological and other guidance, as well as tools, and by addressing Other National Authorities at the appropriate levels. (Improvement-related, ES CoP, indicators 1bis.1 and 1bis.2)</p>
<p>Current situation:</p> <p>The function of Statistics Finland is to strengthen the Finnish statistical system. The quality and publications of the Official Statistics of Finland (OSF) are guided by the recommendations of the Advisory Board of the Official Statistics of Finland. The most important of these recommendations are included in the OSF quality criteria. They are compatible with the European Statistics Code of Practice.</p> <p>Each set of OSF statistics includes a quality report that is maintained in the quality reporting system. The quality report provides a concise assessment of the quality, reliability and suitability of the statistics for different purposes. Quality reports compliant with Eurostat's Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS) standard were introduced in Statistics Finland in April 2022 for the publication of statistical data. During 2023, the recommendation on OSF quality descriptions will be updated to cover quality descriptions according to the SIMS model. The joint publication guidelines of the national statistical service have become outdated and are being updated. The working group carrying out the review includes representatives from various agencies.</p> <p>A common release calendar for the national statistical service has not yet been implemented (see Action 2).</p> <p>A preliminary report has been made with the Natural Resources Institute Finland about a possible joint use of the tabulation system and the related metadata systems used by Statistics Finland. However, a shared system is not yet in use. In addition, discussions have been held on the possibilities for a common SIMS quality reporting system.</p> <p>The stakeholder policies were prepared in 2021 and their implementation is underway. The stakeholder policies define the strategic and other important partners and describe the procedures of networking.</p>
<p>Improvement sub-action 1.1: align the coverage and content of the quality reports with SIMS and roll out the new format to other producers</p>
<p>Deadline: 2023</p>
<p>Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 1.1: Statistics Finland</p>
<p>Improvement sub-action 1.2: organize yearly, for all producers of official statistics, at least one seminar on the development of statistics production, sharing of good practices and promotion of new methods.</p>
<p>Deadline: 2023</p>
<p>Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 1.2: Statistics Finland</p>
<p>Improvement sub-action 1.3: update the publication guidelines (including obligations, statutes, guidelines, publication modes, metadata requirements, revisions, error correction procedure) to provide minimum standards for the publications of the OSF and roll them out to other producers</p>
<p>Deadline: 2023</p>

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 1.3: Statistics Finland
Improvement sub-action 1.4: identify and obtain financing possibilities to promote the joint use of Statistics Finland's tabulation and related metadata systems for roll out in the statistical service
Deadline: 2023
Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 1.4: Statistics Finland
Improvement sub-action 1.5: organize regular meetings with key partners and stakeholders on a strategic level (in accordance with Statistics Finland's stakeholder policy), focusing on issues of strategic importance for the coordination of the NSS
Deadline: annually, starting from 2022
Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 1.5: Statistics Finland

2. Recommendation
Statistics Finland should publish a common release calendar covering at least all European statistics. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, indicators 1bis.1, 6.5 and 13.4)
Current situation:
<p>Statistics Finland relaunched its web page for Statistical data on 5 April 2022, along with a new release calendar that can be found on a new page titled Future releases. That page contains information about the planned release dates for all of Statistics Finland's releases. The updated publication principles for statistics can be found on a separate web page.</p> <p>The updated release calendar (Future releases) currently does not contain releases from other Finnish producers of European statistics. However, as part of the website's relaunch on 5 April, a separate homepage was created for each of these statistics (e.g. Forestry as an investment), with a link to the release calendar for the specific statistics in question.</p> <p>All of these separate calendar links have also been compiled on a page describing the National Statistics Service.</p>
Improvement sub-action 2: to publish planned release dates for all European statistics accompanied by a description of the release type according to the specifications of the OSF
Deadline: 2025
Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 2: Statistics Finland and the producers of European statistics — Finnish Customs, the Natural Resources Institute Finland, the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, and the Finnish Immigration Service (Statistics Finland being responsible for the implementation, overall security, and the support of the required API, as well as the common release calendar page)

3. Recommendation

Statistics Finland should engage in a continuous dialogue with Other National Authorities on achieving a harmonised approach to metadata, including classifications. (Improvement-related, ES CoP, indicators 1bis.2, 7.2 and 15.5).

Current situation:

At the moment, the cooperation with other national authorities in metadata is sporadic and focuses on projects. There are no regular meetings or nominated representatives from different organizations. The need for cooperation sometimes comes unexpectedly. Without a cooperation procedure agreed in advance, the preparation for new national classifications — as an example — is short and, at worst, incomplete. Also, communication channels are missing.

Improvement sub-action 3.1: set up a national level cooperation group to support the development and use of classifications

Deadline: 2023

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 3.1: Statistics Finland

Improvement sub-action 3.2: design and make operational communication channels to support joint work and communication between Statistics Finland and other national statistical authorities

Deadline: 2023

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 3.2: Statistics Finland

Improvement sub-action 3.3: the national level classification cooperation group defines a rule of procedures, in which meeting intervals and topics to be discussed are agreed upon. The group operates according to the agreed procedure.

Deadline: 2023

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 3.3: Statistics Finland

4. Recommendation

The Finnish Immigration Service and the Institute for Health and Welfare should clearly delineate the statistics function within their organisations; the rules and organisational structure should be such that a clear distinction can be made between their role in statistics and the other roles they perform. (Improvement-related, ES CoP, indicator 1.3)

Current situation:

The Finnish Immigration Service: The rules of procedure of the Finnish Immigration Service (Migri) currently states that the statistics function (Statistics Services) is responsible for producing European Statistics according to the Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council on Community statistics on migration. Within the Statistics Services, these duties are shared among professionals. As Statistics Services has several duties concerning statistics, including reporting and analyzing quantitative data, the distinction should be clearer when one is performing in the role of a professional developing, producing and disseminating European statistics, and when performing other tasks.

The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare: In the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), the partly scattered statistics production and organization is based on the previous organizations' roles and jurisdictions. In recent years, a lot of work has been put into standardizing and coordinating the statistics production process throughout the organization, but there is still work to be done. The statistics production and research in the institute is vast and versatile and harmonizing the processes will take time and resources.

The THL will not pursue a delineation of the statistics function through organizational changes or by centralizing statistics production in one unit or department. The THL sees the benefits in keeping the statistical processes as a part of all data production functions throughout the organization, so that statistics production is a horizontal theme in the whole institute. The THL will continue to clearly separate political recommendations from statistical publications, as has been successfully done in the health and social services reform evaluation function in the THL.

As a response to the recommendation, the THL will continue to further develop and improve the horizontal statistical production process in the institute. A crucial part of the development will be to reinforce the engagement of the board of directors and to develop statistics production in cooperation with all of the institute's departments.

The first data production model in the THL was established in 2016 and updated in 2021. This updated version will now be implemented throughout the statistical processes and the whole institute to add an understanding of statistics production as a vital part of the institute's data production. The data production process will also be aligned with the institute's data management model. Resources are allocated for maintaining the data management in the information production process.

Improvement sub-action 4.1: include and publish, in the rules of procedure of the Finnish Immigration Service, a statement on the Statistical Services having a distinctive organisational role in developing, producing, and disseminating European statistics

Deadline: 2022

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 4.1: the statistics function in the Finnish Immigration Service

Improvement sub-action 4.2: identify the changes needed in order to implement the data production model in the statistics production of the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare

Deadline: Q2 2023

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 4.2: Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare

Improvement sub-action 4.3: planning and scheduling the changes, followed by a presentation to the management board of the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare concerning the changes to be implemented

Deadline: Q4 2023

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 4.3: Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare

Improvement sub-action 4.4: applying the new data production model to the statistics production of the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare

Deadline: 2024

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 4.4: Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare
Improvement sub-action 4.5: establish the position of head of statistics and their responsibilities, including a statistics development roadmap and its administration
Deadline: Q1 2023
Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 4.5: Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare
Improvement sub-action 4.6: improve the internal communication and dissemination processes, guidelines and instructions regarding statistics production and organize workshops concentrating on statistics production development
Deadline: Q2 2023
Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 4.6: Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare

5. Recommendation

Statistics Finland should take initiatives to reinforce its financial and human resources and to ensure their sustainability. Special attention should be paid to IT, human and financial resources, as these are central for innovation, efficiency, and modernisation. (Improvement-related, ES CoP, indicators 3.1 and 10.2)

Current situation:

Statistics Finland is an organisation under the Ministry of Finance (MoF). The MoF defines the financial procedure. Statistics Finland has made persistent efforts to reinforce its financial and hence human resources.

The proposal for the financial framework for the years t+2 – t+5 is drawn up in October of year t by Statistics Finland. The proposal includes a list of items, which need new financing. The negotiations between Statistics Finland and the Ministry of Finance are usually held in December. It is part of the government's budgetary process. The opinion of the MoF is usually known in February and the government's decision by September at the latest.

Budget proposals for the next year are drawn up in April. Budget proposals may include new propositions, but it is rather difficult to get new financing. A favourable opinion of the MoF is needed. The government's decision is usually known in September. The parliament decides on the financing well before the end of the year.

It is also possible to draw up proposals for amending the budget. The timetables are set by the MoF. In principle, it is possible to get new financing. Usually the need must be urgent, unforeseen, and essential.

Possible measures are 1) new financing and 2) funding cuts per year either in euros or as a percentage of the frame of the previous year. The preliminary information is available in December before the financial year and final information is available in January after the financial year.

Improvement sub-action 5.1 Statistics Finland negotiates with the MoF on annual budgets.

Deadline: annually starting from 2023
Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 5.1: Statistics Finland
<p>Current situation:</p> <p>Statistics Finland has started to seek other financing beyond the government budget or co-financed activities since 2021.</p> <p>The EU's Technical Support Instrument (TSI) was the first instrument. The application was made in 2021 and the final decision in 2022. The second application was made in 2022.</p>
<p>Improvement sub-action 5.2 Statistics Finland seeks other financing possibilities beyond the government budget.</p> <p>In 2023, a plan or guidelines for outside funding will be produced. It includes a review of possible sources of funding.</p> <p>A possible measure is the amount of outside funding per year.</p>
Deadline: annually starting from 2023
Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 5.2: Statistics Finland
<p>Current situation:</p> <p>In 2022, a strategic action plan was compiled for the first time. The purpose was to point out the most important activities that will be advanced during the next year. The action plan will be compiled yearly.</p> <p>A certain quantity of resources (2 mill. euro) is reserved for development projects from 2023 onwards.</p> <p>The system of planning each employee's working hours (person year planning) was introduced for the year 2021. The purpose is to even out the workload and make sure that there are enough resources for all the necessary activities.</p> <p>A budgeting system will be adopted in 2022/2023. The purpose is to improve the use of resources.</p>
<p>Improvement sub-action 5.3 review the internal resource allocation annually.</p> <p>Possible measures, evaluated annually, are 1) production costs per statistics, 2) cost of core activities of total costs and 3) staff survey.</p>
Deadline: annually starting from 2023
Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 5.3: Statistics Finland

6. Recommendation

Statistics Finland should systematically increase the exposure of its staff to training and scientific exchanges, going beyond the Nordic collaboration and including those offered by the European Statistical System. (Improvement-related, ES CoP, indicators 7.6 and 7.7)

<p>Current situation:</p> <p>The ways of developing competence have changed in recent years; on-the-job learning and shorter training sessions have increasingly replaced traditional classroom courses and teaching. In Statistics Finland, there are a few compulsory courses for staff per year: all of these are online courses and most of them are related to data security and data protection. The personnel have completed the required courses commendably, but the time spent on training is generally too limited.</p>
<p>Improvement sub-action 6.1: add compulsory courses to each personal development plan (practice continued), with more diverse course content</p>
<p>Deadline: 2023</p>
<p>Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 6.1: Statistics Finland</p>
<p>Improvement sub-action 6.2: agree at the organizational level on the recommended use of time for training and learning, raise the issue with each employee in the discussion on their development</p>
<p>Deadline: 2023</p>
<p>Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 6.2: Statistics Finland</p>
<p>Improvement sub-action 6.3: reform Statistics Finland's induction process, including group training sessions and meetings and e-learning</p>
<p>Deadline: Q4 2022</p>
<p>Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 6.3: Statistics Finland</p>
<p>Improvement sub-action 6.4: increase the use of internal expertise for training and knowledge sharing by providing more options, e.g. hybrid training</p>
<p>Deadline: Q4 2022</p>
<p>Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 6.4: Statistics Finland</p>
<p>Improvement sub-action 6.5: encourage and support staff to take part in ESTP courses (practice continued)</p>
<p>Deadline: 2023</p>
<p>Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 6.5: Statistics Finland</p>
<p>Improvement sub-action 6.6: encourage and support staff to take part in various collaborations with other statistical offices, taking resource limitations into account (e.g. working groups, study visits, consultation projects and international seminars)</p>
<p>Deadline: 2023</p>
<p>Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 6.6: Statistics Finland</p>

7. Recommendation

Statistics Finland and those authorities providing data to Statistics Finland should ensure that appropriate mechanisms are in place to ensure that Statistics Finland is involved at an early stage when administrative data systems are being developed or reviewed so that the needs of official statistics are taken into account. (Improvement-related, ES CoP, indicator 2.2)

Current situation:

Currently, Regulation 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European statistics (the EU's statistical act) grants access to administrative records. It also requires that national statistical institutes (NSIs) and the European Commission (Eurostat) are consulted on administrative registers built and maintained by other bodies and regarding the initial design, development, and decommissioning. An NSI must be invited to take part in order to promote the continued use of these registers for the production of European Statistics. It must participate in standardization activities related to administrative registers relevant to European statistics production.

In many cases, Statistics Finland only gets to participate in the work at the legislative stage when an opinion on the law is to be provided. In some cases, Statistics Finland has participated in an early planning stage.

Improvement sub-action 7.1: define and implement new guidelines for stakeholder work

Deadline: Q4 2022

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 7.1: Statistics Finland

Improvement sub-action 7.2: set up of and active participation in a new team for the cooperation group on the income register

Deadline: Q4 2024

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 7.2: Ministry of Finance and Statistics Finland

Improvement sub-action 7.3: take part in building a national digital ecosystem for business actors

Deadline: Q4 2024

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 7.3: Statistics Finland

8. Recommendation

The Statistics Function in the Finnish Immigration Service should be involved in the decision-making process that could induce changes in administrative procedures. (Improvement-related, ES CoP, indicator 2.2)

Current situation:

Changes in immigration law are typical reasons for changes in the administrative procedures of the Finnish Immigration Service. The Immigration Service is always closely involved in the law-making processes that concern immigration law. This means that it can affect the outcomes and also remains informed about the plans and situation of the law-making process.

The Statistics Function usually participates in the law-making process when statistics are needed for a current situation, which happens virtually every time the law is changed. In practice, this also means that the Statistics Function is informed about planned changes.

The Legal Service of the Finnish Immigration Service is mainly responsible for taking part in the law-making process and for keeping the rest of the office informed about it. There is, for example, a site on the intranet of the Immigration Service that has a list (with a short description) of all the law-making projects that are ongoing at any given moment.

Usually, lawmakers and the society as a whole are interested in statistics. When it comes to laws that are passed, they are viewed as a way to find out whether a change has been effective and has achieved what it was meant to achieve. This means that required changes in the administrative procedures and in the case-handling system of the Immigration Service are from the start planned in a way that enables the use of data for statistical purposes as much as possible.

Improvement sub-action 8: define procedures to ensure involvement of the Statistics Function in the decision-making process of the Finnish Immigration Service

Deadline: 2023

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 8: Statistics Function in the Finnish Immigration Service

9. Recommendation

Statistics Finland and the Finnish Government should ensure that appropriate legal and/or other mechanisms are in place to grant Statistics Finland the authority to use privately held data. (Improvement-related, ES CoP, indicator 2.4)

Current situation:

There are no specific provisions in national legislation that would grant Statistics Finland authority to use privately held data (PHD) for statistics. Instead, Statistics Finland has negotiated access to PHD in some specific cases, most notably regarding data for price statistics and some experimental statistics utilising edge computing on mobile network operators' data.

Currently, Statistics Finland is collecting data directly from enterprises or other authorities. The data collection environment is changing due to digitalization, and new potential data providers and registers are emerging. In our vision, more company data should be collected via business service providers (PHD). An obligation to provide data could also be regulated elsewhere beyond the Statistics Act.

Improvement sub-action 9.1 complete the revision of the statistical law, including the rights to access PHD

Deadline: starting from 2023

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 9.1: Statistics Finland

Improvement sub-action 9.2 participate in the development of the real-time-economy legislation

Deadline: starting from 2023

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 9.2: Statistics Finland

10. Recommendation

Statistics Finland, the Finnish Government and national authorities holding contact data should ensure that appropriate legal and/or other mechanisms are in place to grant Statistics Finland access to contact information obtained from other public authorities, including mobile telephone numbers, email addresses and fixed line numbers for data collection purposes, in order to increase response rates. (Improvement-related, ES CoP, indicator 2.2)

Current situation:

There is a marked lack of contact information concerning the respondents. Half of the people in a sample cannot be reached because their telephone numbers and email addresses are unknown. Private number service providers do not share information about secret telephone numbers and they do not have any information concerning prepaid subscriptions. There is no source for email addresses.

In interview surveys, telephone numbers can be found for 35% of the interviewees by an automatic search of the phone operators' databases. Statistics Finland interviewers have been able to find more numbers through a manual search of different sources. After such a manual search, about 53% of the telephone numbers of the respondents in a sample can be found. At the end of some panel surveys (like the LFS one), about 71% of the sample units have telephone numbers. In web and postal surveys, a reminder text message can be sent to only 35% of respondents.

Information on secret telephone numbers and prepaid subscriptions must be collected in another way because there is no public source for these numbers (it is a service based on phone operators' databases). The only source of this information is the information collected in connection with the use of public services.

Improvement sub-action 10.1 initiate and complete changes in legislation allowing the sharing of contact details with Statistics Finland

Deadline: Q4 2025

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 10.1: Statistics Finland and Ministry of Finance

Improvement sub-action 10.2 Statistics Finland promotes a common customer register for the public administration in which all contact information is stored in one place, for example in the population information system

Deadline: Q4 2027

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 10.2: Digital and Population Services Agency, Ministry of Finance and Statistics Finland

11. Recommendation

Statistics Finland should set up a more systematic process of stakeholder consultations during the preparation of the statistical programme. This would allow a broader societal dialogue on evolving user needs, bridging the current gap between the involvement of very few external stakeholders via the Advisory Board on Official Statistics and consultations of specialised users via working groups. (Improvement-related, ES CoP, indicators 11.1 and 11.2)

Current situation:

Since December 2020, the statistical programme has brought together the statistics of Statistics Finland and other producers of Finnish official statistics. The programme also presents the key development activities for statistics over the next few years, as well as the services provided.

Finland's statistical programme is aligned with European priorities and is used for the internal planning, monitoring, and development purposes of Statistics Finland. It is published on Statistics Finland's website yearly, along with the performance agreement and annual performance reports.

Improvement sub-action 11.1: define procedures to involve users/stakeholders in the design of the statistical programme

Deadline: Q4 2022

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 11.1: Statistics Finland

Improvement sub-action 11.2: evaluate and redesign the procedure for designing the statistical programme

Deadline: Q4 2023

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 11.2: Ministry of Finance and Statistics Finland

Improvement sub-action 11.3: organise seminars and discussions on the statistical programme

Deadline: Q4 2023

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 11.3: Statistics Finland

12. Recommendation

Statistics Finland should provide more guidance to various user profiles on the wealth of information available, in order to help them navigate through the database and make what is available more explicit. (Improvement-related, ES CoP, indicators 15.1 and 15.2)

Current situation:

Statistics Finland unveiled its revamped web page for statistical data on 5 April 2022, along with improvements to the main statistical database StatFin. Concurrently with the website's revamp, Statistics Finland made changes to both the principles and the method of publishing aggregated data, and it confirmed the statistical database StatFin as the primary release channel for new statistical data. The data is released as PxWeb-database files in three languages: Finnish, Swedish and English.

The revamped website has been designed for different user personas. For everyday users, the information in the databases is presented using different pre-made statistical graphs and tables categorized by topics and statistical programmes. Users can navigate the database in several ways. Direct links to different database tables can be found on the pages for topics, the statistical programme and statistical releases, and on a specific database page, as well as directly from each graph and table. For slightly more advanced users, the graphs and tables found on the website offer functionalities for browsing through different dimensions.

For advanced and API users, there is a streamlined view of the data available in the StatFin database based on a categorization by statistical programmes. Information about upcoming updates and changes to the database tables are provided in a more transparent way through the revamped release calendar. Separate review releases are also provided about known future or recently made changes in the database.

Improvement sub-action 12.1 revamp and publish Statistics Finland's full website and add more metadata to the website

Deadline: 2024

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 12.1: Statistics Finland

Improvement sub-action 12.2 add more user-friendly functionalities to the website

Deadline: 2024

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 12.2: Statistics Finland

13. Recommendation

Statistics Finland, in collaboration with relevant Other National Authorities, should aim at a more uniform access to microdata throughout the entire statistical system. At the same time, Statistics Finland should aim at accelerating access to microdata for research purposes and a more user-friendly cost policy. (Improvement-related, ES CoP, indicators 1bis.1 and 15.4)

Current situation:

Improvements in microdata access require strengthening the role of Statistics Finland's research services as part of the Finnish research infrastructure. Currently, Statistics Finland has no legal basis for research services, limiting the possibilities for further improvements. A majority of the services' costs to researchers are due to the provision of virtual computers by the Center for Scientific Computing. In fact, the service is subsidised heavily by Statistics Finland, and there is a lot of pressure to increase prices if no additional financing is provided.

Improvement sub-action 13.1: establishing a legal basis for research services

Deadline: 2023
Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 13.1: Finnish Parliament
Improvement sub-action 13.2: develop new, readymade datasets for research purposes
Deadline: 2025
Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 13.2: Statistics Finland, register authorities, other statistics producers
Improvement sub-action 13.3: implement a web-based data application process
Deadline: 2023
Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 13.3: Statistics Finland
Improvement sub-action 13.4: negotiations on financing of the remote access system as part of the Finnish research infrastructure will be pursued with the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Education and Culture, so as to significantly reduce the cost of research
Deadline: 2027
Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 13.4: Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education and Culture, Statistics Finland
Improvement sub-action 13.5: improve the metadata of the research datasets
Deadline: 2027
Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 13.5: Statistics Finland

14. Recommendation

The National Resources Institute, as an Other National Authority, should use its full ICT potential (through standardisation and automation) to deliver more user-friendly and modern services. It should also improve and extend the publicly available information on its website (including its revision policy and quality reports) and make it available in English. (Improvement-related, ES CoP, indicators 10.2, 15.2 and 15.7)

Current situation:

User-friendly and modern ICT services (Tipattu project)

The Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE) was established on 1 January 2015 as a result of the merger of four organisations. Already at the beginning of the first year of LUKE, the publication of statistics was harmonized. Nevertheless, there is still a wide variation in the ICT systems and several operators maintaining these systems.

At present, we have already reformed LUKE's ICT strategy. According to the current ICT strategy in LUKE, the ICT services for statistics will gradually be produced in-house, thus creating the need to evaluate and renew all statistical production systems based on their technology life cycles and cost effects. Development based on the new strategy was started in 2021 as LUKE reformed the data collection system for the statistics for milk and milk products as a pilot for a modern mobile infrastructure for delivering user-friendly and

modern services. Standard data models and data flows from the data collection system into statistical database structures have been planned, and the implementation is ongoing.

LUKE also started an internal project (Tipattu) to revamp the processes and teamwork of the Statistics Unit. The aim of the project is to create a roadmap for renewing the old IT systems, establish common good practises and create user instructions based on the GSBPM. The first statistical systems that are being revamped are:

- milk and milk product statistics (this includes the price statistics for milk, which are used as a data source for price indices for agricultural production)
- the structure of agricultural and horticultural enterprises
- recreational fishing
- hunting
- forest industries' wood consumption and wood in energy generation
- commercial felling
- yields and preliminary yields

Public information on websites

LUKE released a new website <https://www.luke.fi/en/statistics> at the end of March 2022. The content of the new website still needs to be completed. Almost all of the new quality reports from LUKE's statistics have been written in three languages, but these have not been published yet. LUKE follows the recommendations of the Official Statistics of Finland regarding a revision policy, but LUKE has not published this policy on its website.

Improvement sub-action 14.1: renewal of the sample survey on crop production, utilizing the new technical infrastructure and components

Deadline: Q1 2023

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 14.1: Natural Resources Institute Finland

Improvement sub-action 14.2: renewal of the GSBPM-based data architecture based on the roadmap, starting from a holistic plan of forest sector data flows and needs

Deadline: Q2 2024

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 14.2: Natural Resources Institute Finland

Improvement sub-action 14.3: renewal of all systems based on the roadmap

Deadline: 2026

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 14.3: Natural Resources Institute Finland

Improvement sub-action 14.4: supplement the content of LUKE's new website, including with a revision policy and quality reports in three languages.

Deadline: Q4 2022

Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 14.4: Natural Resources Institute Finland