



# **IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS**

## **POLAND**

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

**1. Recommendation**

Statistics Poland should establish a multi-annual strategic work plan to encompass directions, objectives and priorities in the longer term, as a framework for the implementation of the annual statistical surveys programme of official statistics. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 11.2)

**Current situation:**

While Statistics Poland has an annual statistical surveys programme, it does not have a multi-annual strategic plan, setting objectives and directions, defining priorities, outlining the guiding principles for the achievement of objectives, managing risks and effectively supporting the budget allocation in the longer term. Most of the tools and methods of strategic management, including strategic planning and task-oriented approach, were effectively introduced in Statistics Poland over the period of the last decade on a functional basis. Currently, the work plan of Statistics Poland for each subsequent year consists of the annual statistical survey programme of official statistics, plans for the implementation of the strategy approved by the President of Statistics Poland, and programmes, statistical compilation plan, publishing plan, methodological work plan, plans of international cooperation, ICT infrastructure management plan, information security policy implementation plan, statistical education plan, training plan, additional plans for the implementation of the strategy and programmes approved by the President.

Each November, Statistics Poland prepares the Activity Plan for the upcoming year. In March, Statistics Poland prepares a report on the implementation of tasks scheduled in the Activity plan from the previous year. These documents are then submitted to the Head of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister. Moreover, Statistics Poland submits yearly information on its work plans and reports to the Public Finance Committee of the Polish Sejm (lower chamber of the Parliament).

**Improvement action 1:** Develop and publish a multi-annual strategic plan of Statistics Poland

The long-term strategic plan will be developed by the working group appointed by the President of Statistics Poland. The group will focus on setting the key objectives and directions, and effectively allocating official statistics resources in the long-term.

The document will contain the main directions of development, will define the key areas of activity and provide an in-depth identification of the needs of the key stakeholders. It will also establish the long-term goals for Statistics Poland. The document will be prepared in accordance with applicable national and EU legislation. The final version of the document will be officially approved by the President of Statistics Poland and will be published on the website of Statistics Poland.

**Deadline:** Q4 2024

**Responsible institution for improvement action 1:** Statistics Poland

## **2. Recommendation**

Statistics Poland should establish formal cooperation agreements, extending Memoranda of Understanding to all providers of administrative data, to be able to exploit the full potential of the data and be informed of any changes. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, indicators 2.2, 8.6 and 10.3)

### **Current situation:**

Statistics Poland operates on the basis of legal regulations: the Act of 29 June 1995 on Official Statistics, annual regulations on Statistical survey programmes of official statistics, census acts and internal ordinances of the President of Statistics Poland.

The Act on Official Statistics obliges register owners providing administrative data to produce statistics, together with data sets and information explaining the information content of the data (metadata). The register owners fulfil this commitment. The Act on Official Statistics also obliges register and system owners to inform the President of Statistics Poland about the planned information scope of these systems and registers when they are created or modernised.

Statistics Poland also collects information on official registers and public administration information systems in the knowledge base on administrative registers (RSI), which is updated periodically by the register owners.

Moreover, the provisions of the Act of 29 June 1995 on Official Statistics guarantee that information on the detailed format of the transmitted data can be obtained. The Act also contains a provision on the ICT system operated by the President of Statistics Poland, which includes the electronic platform for the collection of statistical data enabling the transfer of data from the information systems of the public administration, official registers and the information systems of the National Bank of Poland (TransGUS platform - a secure data communication channel used to transfer data in digital format).

### **Improvement action:**

Statistics Poland has a divergent view on this recommendation and hence, does not propose an improvement action.

### 3. Recommendation

Statistics Poland should capitalise on the successful production of statistics based on innovative data sources and invest further in developing methods and infrastructure for the use of new data sources in more statistical domains. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicators 10.3 and 9.4)

#### **Current situation:**

Statistics Poland currently identifies new data sources and statistical domains of application to produce official statistics and develop the expertise in acquiring, storing, validating and managing data from new sources of innovation.

Cooperation with the scientific community constitutes an important factor in the development of the methodology. Increased connectivity, the digitalisation of processes and the use of new technologies create more opportunities for official statistics. Statistics Poland strives to become an innovation leader in more statistical domains.

Statistics Poland also conducts work related to the identification and exploration of new data sources. These are mainly administrative data. These activities are not limited to only identifying such a data source, but also include developing recommendations for the use of the new data source. In order to increase the use of administrative and non-administrative data in statistical surveys, a special IT system, Integrated Metadata System (IMS), was built. It is used to generate statistical variables based on administrative and non-administrative data. IMS was used for the first time during the 2021 Census.

Moreover, the Public Services Monitoring System (SMUP) was launched. The system is the result of cooperation between official statistics and local government organizations. It responds to the needs of local communities. As a result, every citizen has access to data on the quantity, quality, accessibility and efficiency of the provision of services which the public authority is responsible for. Statistics Poland ensures the maintenance and further development of the system. As part of the search for new sources and research techniques, Statistics Poland has started cooperation with scientific institutes in the field of using satellite remote sensing in statistical production.

Within the Generating Advanced Usage of Earth Observation for Smart Statistics (GAUSS) project, the cooperation with the Institute of Geodesy and Cartography was initiated. Together the solutions for obtaining data on the surface and quality of green areas are developed and implemented. European Space Agency (ESA) are used - in particular HR-VPP products. This is how the final provisions of the Warsaw Memorandum of October 2021 are implemented. Statistics Poland is also taking steps to acquire land cover data. After implementing the solutions final statistical data will be published in SMUP.

<p><b>Improvement sub-action 3.1:</b> Increase the scope of information in the Public Services Monitoring System by implementing new indicators, to support decision-making for the local government</p> <p>Indicators based on new data sources (i.e. administrative sources, Internet sources, remote sensing/EO data), will increase the volume of information in SMUP.</p> <p>Work will include the successive acquisition of indicators available in administrative sources (including local government units themselves) through cooperation with administrative units that have specific data, adapting the data and underlying systems to the requirements of public statistics.</p> <p>It will also include experimental work, such as validation of data and comparison with reference data (obtained so far within statistical surveys) to enable the publication of selected indicators in new cross-sections, in a shorter time, while reducing research costs.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2027</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 3.1:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 3.2:</b> Apply Earth Observation methods in statistical surveys</p> <p>Research and development work in the field of using remote sensing methods to obtain information on objects, phenomena and processes occurring on the Earth's surface (e.g. land cover, vegetation quality, air pollution). Use of remote sensing techniques - use of optical range (visible, thermal) and radar data - satellite imagery from the COPERNICUS Programme, cooperation with scientific community and the Polish Space Agency (POLSA). Conducting tests for selected areas assess the selected methodology. Verification of results by comparing the results of the analysis of the measurement polygons (remote sensing) with reference data, i.e. with orthophotos, GIS data and data obtained from statistical surveys (forms).</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 3.2.1:</b> Develop cooperation with the scientific community</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 3.2.1:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 3.2.2:</b> Formulate needs and looking for appropriate solutions</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 3.2.2:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 3.2.3:</b> Conduct tests for selected areas</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 3.2.3:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 3.2.4:</b> Verify data scope on the basis of the annual statistical survey programme of official statistics</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2026</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 3.2.4:</b> Statistics Poland</p>

<b>Improvement sub-action 3.2.5: Acquisition of data and dissemination</b>
<b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2026
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 3.2.5:</b> Statistics Poland
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 3.3: Increase the use of new data source in official statistics</b></p> <p>The recommendations of the ESSnet Web Intelligence Network in terms of the use of web data sources will be used to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- augment labour market statistics with experimental statistics on Online Job Advertisement (OJA);</li> <li>- augment enterprise statistics with experimental statistics on Online Based Enterprise Characteristics (OBEC);</li> <li>- develop a methodology on the acquisition and processing of web data on real estate offers, experimentally assess the potential of the use of the online data on real estate to complement official statistics on real estate market;</li> <li>- augment tourism statistics with web data and develop a set of spatial indices for tourism statistics will be developed.</li> </ul>
<b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2025
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 3.3:</b> Statistics Poland
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 3.4: Develop the Integrated Metadata System (IMS) to increase the use of data from administrative registers and other non-statistical data sources</b></p> <p>Statistics Poland will create an IMS system which, through the integration of data from many administrative registers and the use of appropriate algorithms for calculating variables, to generate statistical variables at the individual level that will be used to carry out statistical research. Variables will be grouped into domains and used to produce official statistics and statistical research frames. The action foresees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• developing internal cooperation,</li> <li>• conducting tests for selected areas,</li> <li>• verification of data scope,</li> <li>• acquisition of data and dissemination.</li> </ul> <p>The results will be verified by the number of variables calculated on the basis of administrative sources.</p>
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2027
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 3.4:</b> Statistics Poland

#### 4. Recommendation

The Ministry of Finance, while coordinating the work on the draft state budget, should ensure that the budgetary needs reported by Statistics Poland are met, in order to balance the current and forthcoming increases in statistical needs and new policy priorities, which will involve developing methodologies for using new data sources. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 3.1)

##### Current situation:

The peer review concluded that, despite efforts to create optimal conditions for maintaining a skilled workforce, Statistics Poland is facing a wage gap with other government institutions and the private sector, reducing its attractiveness as a workplace.

According to the "Report of the Head of the Civil Service on the state of the civil service and the implementation of the tasks of the service in 2021", the average remuneration of the civil service members in Statistics Poland was lower by 34% than the average remuneration in the central office with the highest remuneration.

In regional statistical offices, according to the data from the above report, the average monthly remuneration was lower by 42% than the average remuneration for all types of offices. It is worth noting that the remuneration taken into account in the 2021 report of Statistics Poland, also included remuneration for periodic tasks, such as conducting censuses, projects involving European Commission funds and other operational programmes, which in 2021 inflated the average remuneration presented in the report.

The average monthly remuneration in 2021 at Statistics Poland without the above mentioned additional funds was in fact even lower. The situation would affect Statistics Poland in next years and is even more challenging when comparing the remuneration in the office with the average salary in the national economy or monthly salary in the business sector.

Due to the planned increases in the minimum wage in Poland in 2023, 59% of employees at Statistics Poland headquarters and other units subordinated to the Statistics Poland President, as well as 71% of employees in regional statistical offices, faced remuneration below the minimum wage and due to the obligatory increase in minimum remuneration, will now earn the lowest legally-allowed salary in Poland.

Maintaining the current statistical production while pursuing new developments requires an investment in resources. This recommendation is addressed to the Ministry of Finance not in its capacity as an ONA, but as a coordinator of the works on the state budget.

##### Improvement action 4: Provision of needs of Statistics Poland

Taking into account the needs reported by the Statistics Poland when the Ministry of Finance distributes the expenditure limit. Annually, at the stage of preparing the draft budget act, Statistics Poland will apply to the Minister of Finance with a request to increase the budget in the scope of personal salaries in order to enable decent remuneration of employees and reduce the differences in salaries between Statistics Poland and central offices. The application will contain information comparing the current level of salaries with the data included in the "Report of the Head of the Civil Service on the state of the civil service and on the implementation of the tasks of the service". A meeting with the Ministry to discuss the budget request will be organised.

**Deadline:** Q4 2023 (annually afterwards)

**Responsible institution for improvement action 4:** Statistics Poland and Ministry of Finance



## 5. Recommendation

Statistics Poland should further increase the qualification level of its staff commensurate with new requirements and offer motivating careers, including adequate mobility, to improve staff skills. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicators 3.1 and 7.5)

### Current situation:

In May 2022, Statistics Poland had 3,917 staff members with higher education, representing 71% of staff. The number of employees has decreased since 2019 and several positions are vacant. It is of crucial importance for Statistics Poland to increase the number of its highly qualified personnel to be able to meet the new requirements in official statistics, and it is equally important to increase the skills of the current staff. The staff survey showed that 17% of staff considered the lack of career development prospects as the main disadvantage in working in Statistics Poland. During the interviews with junior staff, the peer review team was informed that, while it was possible to apply for a vacant position, mobility to gain experience in various positions was not really encouraged in the office, at least in the first years of a career.

### Improvement sub-action 5.1: Establish the Data Science Academy

#### Improvement sub-action 5.1.1: Implement individual development contracts

Establishing and implementing planned development activities based on the individual development contracts (IDC) prepared for programme participants.

**Deadline:** Q4 2023

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 5.1.1:** Statistics Poland

#### Improvement sub-action 5.1.2: Develop a Data Science Academy information platform

Setting up Data Science Academy information platform to build a community of employees working with non-statistical data sources.

**Deadline:** Q4 2023

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 5.1.2:** Statistics Poland

#### Improvement sub-action 5.1.3: Develop a financial incentive system

Creating a financial incentive system with benefits for programme participants.

**Deadline:** Q4 2023

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 5.1.3:** Statistics Poland

#### Improvement sub-action 5.1.4: Establish career paths based on individual development contracts

Developing and retaining employees with unique competencies by establishing career paths based on individual development contracts.

**Deadline:** Q4 2026

<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 5.1.4:</b> Statistics Poland
<b>Improvement sub-action 5.1.5:</b> Recruit additional Data Science Academy members Attracting people with additional competencies who can strengthen non-statistical production teams by establishing interdisciplinary teams to carry out tasks based on a list of tasks and innovative projects.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2026
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 5.1.5:</b> Statistics Poland
<b>Improvement sub-action 5.1.6:</b> Broaden the list of innovative tasks and projects Developing the list of innovative tasks and projects available to Academy members, which will facilitate internal mobility of employees through their participation in research/projects.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2026
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 5.1.6:</b> Statistics Poland
<b>Improvement sub-action 5.2:</b> Build cooperation network with career offices of universities Set up cooperation with career offices of universities in order to inform students/graduates (especially from the fields that are interesting from the point of view of the needs of statistics) about vacancies in Statistics Poland by publishing the recruitment offers directly on universities' sites.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 5.2:</b> Statistics Poland
<b>Improvement sub-action 5.3:</b> Adapt the training offer to the current needs of official statistics Expanding the range of training courses for employees and including training in experimental and innovative statistics in the Annual Training Plan, according to the needs of official statistics.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 5.3:</b> Statistics Poland
<b>Improvement sub-action 5.4:</b> Improve the process of informing employees about vacancies in Statistics Poland Improve the process of informing employees about vacancies in Statistics Poland to give them the possibility of taking part in internal recruitment for vacant positions which could facilitate internal mobility. Share a special, easy-to-find website tab on the Intranet. Information about the tab will be distributed to all employees. Newcomers will be informed about the tab during onboarding training.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 5.4:</b> Statistics Poland

## 6. Recommendation

Statistics Poland should further identify opportunities and implement improvements to increase the efficiency of its core and supporting processes (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicators 10.1 and 10.4)

### Current situation:

Statistics Poland monitors the use of resources by tools such as financial and accounting systems, performance-based budget reporting and analysis, internal and external audits on resources, personnel performance evaluations, inventory for IT assets and information security audits. Costs for standardised phases of statistical processes are calculated ex-ante as part of the statistical programming process, based on previously implemented ad hoc registration of working time. The efficiency of processes is to some extent also analysed during quality reviews and audits focusing on the quality and methodology of statistical production. Standardised and centralised solutions based on the Statistical Production Process Model (MPPS, the Polish version of the GSBPM) have been introduced to some extent, with a view to increasing efficiency and standardising production, methodologies and activities across processes. However, the full potential of resources is not systematically monitored and analysed from the perspective of efficiency and value-creation to customers. MPPS is used, but it is not yet spread across the whole organisation and all processes. The organisation of work, the roles of structural units and specialised teams have not been analysed from the perspective of MPPS. Statistics Poland has attempted to introduce lean management analyses and approaches at more detailed levels of production processes, but there have been no follow-up activities so far. For example, less use of physical materials such as paper for the production of statistics, but also for bureaucracy, would lead to lower expenses and free up resources for other necessary activities).

**Improvement sub-action 6.1:** Prepare and provide tools to increase the efficiency of core statistical processes

**Improvement sub-action 6.1.1:** Construct the Process Control Subsystem

Develop the Process Control Subsystem, prepare and carry out subsystem tests.

**Deadline:** Q4 2023

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 6.1.1:** Statistics Poland

**Improvement sub-action 6.1.2:** Construct the Schedules Subsystem

Develop the Schedules Subsystem, prepare and carry out subsystem tests.

**Deadline:** Q4 2023

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 6.1.2:** Statistics Poland

**Improvement sub-action 6.1.3:** Construct the Metadata Subsystem

Develop the Metadata Subsystem, prepare and carry out subsystem tests.

**Deadline:** Q4 2023

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 6.1.3:** Statistics Poland

<p><b>Improvement sub-action 6.1.4:</b> Pilot implementation of the Gateway of Statistics system Prepare the pilot concept and conduct the pilot.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2023</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 6.1.4:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 6.1.5:</b> Draw conclusions and recommendations to start implementation in the statistical production process of official statistics Develop conclusions and recommendations on the basis of the conducted pilot study and confirm that the Gates of Statistics system is ready for implementation.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 6.1.5:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 6.1.6:</b> Develop a concept for the implementation of the Gates of Statistics project for the production of statistics Develop a concept for implementing the Gates of Statistics system, prepare an implementation schedule and identify activity leaders for tasks according to MPPS phases and sub-processes.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2025</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 6.1.6:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 6.2:</b> Implement the MPPS in statistical processes to increase the efficiency of its core and supporting processes Implement a process control tool, a scheduling and monitoring tool to all statistical processes, and introduce metadata describing all data acquired and processed and the processes performed.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2027</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 6.2:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 6.3:</b> Identify and implement improvements increasing the efficiency of the supporting processes</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 6.3.1:</b> Automation of personnel processes Implement electronic confirmation by employees of the start and end of work, electronic and automatic processing of personnel applications (including applications for vacation leave), automatic process of preparing personnel documents regarding the employment (e.g. job description, training applications, etc.).</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 6.3.1:</b> Statistics Poland</p>

<p><b>Improvement sub-action 6.3.2:</b> Implement an electronic, simplified recruitment form</p> <p>An electronic, simplified recruitment form will be the first stage of verification of documents attached by candidates during the recruitment process.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 6.3.2:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 6.3.3:</b> Expand and optimize the HR and Payroll System</p> <p>Expand and optimize the HR and Payroll System in the official statistics service units expanding the e-learning platform, personnel management, registration and settlement of working time, providing employees of the official statistics service units with the possibility of permanent access to HR and payroll data and process applications in electronic form.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 6.3.3:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 6.3.4:</b> Implement a new Financial and Accounting System</p> <p>Implement the Integrated Financial and Accounting System in the official statistics service units.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2027</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 6.3.4:</b> Statistics Poland</p>

<p><b>7. Recommendation</b></p> <p>The relevant authorities should amend the Act on Official Statistics to assign Statistics Poland with the role of the national coordination body for European statistics within the meaning of Regulation 223/2009 on European statistics, as amended. (Compliance-relevant: ES CoP, Indicator 1bis.1)</p>
<p><b>Current situation:</b></p> <p>The coordination role of Statistics Poland is covered by specific provisions of the Act on Official Statistics. First of all, Statistics Poland is the central government administration body indicated as competent in statistical matters. It is therefore evident that its President is responsible for the coordination of national official statistics.</p> <p>Article 23.1 states that: “The central government administration body competent in statistical matters is the President of Statistics Poland performing the tasks assigned to this position with assistance from official statistics services”.</p> <p>Moreover, Article 25. 1. of the Act states that: The tasks of the President of Statistics Poland shall include: 1) recognising the demand for information and statistical analyses, coordination of works and preparation of a draft programme of statistical surveys of official statistics and presenting it to the Council. Points 13) and 14) of this article state that the President’s responsibilities also include: fulfilling obligations to submit statistical data adopted by the Republic of Poland to international organisations and cooperating with international and regional organisations specialised in the field of statistics as well as with authorities and offices of other countries.</p>

In addition, the scope of the provisions of the entire Act confirms the coordinating role of the President of Statistics Poland in the National Statistical System even though the President is not referred to specifically, including in the area of European statistics and other international statistical commitments, which is invoked in the Act several times.

**Improvement action:**

Statistics Poland has a divergent view on this recommendation and hence, does not propose any improvement action.

**8. Recommendation**

Statistics Poland should update the national quality guidelines and promote and monitor their use within the National Statistical System for the production of European statistics. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 1bis.2)

**Current situation:**

The quality policy, quality guidelines and standard tools for the quality assurance of statistical activities are presented in the publicly available *Vademecum of Quality in Official Statistic*. Statistics Poland follows the content of the Vademecum and the Other National Authorities (ONAs) producing European statistics are also recommended to do so. The Vademecum has been introduced to the ONAs at ad hoc meetings, but also during training on quality in official statistics.

Public policy and guidelines (the Vademecum) have not been updated since their development and adoption in 2012. Many chapters of the Vademecum are outdated, including parts that are directly related to the ES CoP. Additionally, monitoring of implementation and review of quality guidelines is done on an ad hoc basis and there is no system for that in the NSS.

**Improvement sub-action 8.1:** Conduct Training courses on quality frameworks for the Other National Authorities and other central public institutions

Conducting training courses on quality frameworks for the Other National Authorities and other central public institutions, including ministries. They will cover, inter alia, topics of quality reporting and quality reviews. Statistics Poland will share its experiences and best practices in this area and provide the ONAs with proper materials helpful in understanding the idea of standardised quality reports as well as concept, tools, and procedures of quality reviews. Moreover, procedure of reviewing methodology of surveys by the Methodological Commission and required methodological documentation will be presented.

**Deadline:** Q2 2023

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 8.1:** Statistics Poland

**Improvement sub-action 8.2:** Update the national quality guidelines

Analysis and updating the existing guidelines, taking into account the changes that have taken place in recent years.

**Deadline:** Q4 2024

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 8.2:** Statistics Poland

**Improvement sub-action 8.3:** Publish and promote the updated national quality guidelines

The updated national quality guidelines will be published and promoted on Statistics Poland Information Portal. ONAs will be duly informed.

**Deadline:** Q1 2025

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 8.3:** Statistics Poland

**Improvement sub-action 8.4:** Monitor implementation of the national quality guidelines

Define a set of rules under which monitoring of the national quality guidelines is conducted together with appropriate necessary instruments for its implementation. Implement the developed procedures for monitoring the use of the national quality guidelines in NSS.

**Deadline:** Q4 2026

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 8.4:** Statistics Poland

## 9. Recommendation

Statistics Poland should improve the coverage and frequency of its quality reviews on European statistics, to ensure quality and consistency throughout the production within the statistical surveys programme of official statistics. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 4.4)

### Current situation:

Statistics Poland has performed quality reviews of statistical processes on regular basis for over 10 years. Since the previous round of peer review, up to 10 quality reviews a year have been conducted. Still many surveys need to be reviewed.

**Improvement sub-action 9.1:** Develop a new form of conducting quality reviews

The procedure for conducting quality reviews will be modified in order to enable an increase in frequency of the reviews with available human resources.

**Deadline:** Q4 2025

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 9.1:** Statistics Poland

**Improvement sub-action 9.2:** Implement the new procedure for conducting quality reviews

Implement the new procedure for quality reviews for an increased number of surveys.

**Deadline:** Q4 2026

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 9.2:** Statistics Poland

## 10. Recommendation

The Other National Authorities reviewed (Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Ministry of Justice) should implement regular quality reviews for European statistics and involve representatives from Statistics Poland and other external experts, where appropriate. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 4.4)

### Current situation:

Statistics Poland practices regular quality reviews of statistics it produces according to the adopted procedures. The Other National Authorities participating in the peer review monitor the quality of the statistics they produce on an ad hoc basis, but they do not implement regular quality reviews, although they are invited to participate in Statistics Poland's quality reviews as data users.

**Improvement sub-action 10.1:** Broaden knowledge and skills of employees in the area of quality reviews

**Improvement sub-action 10.1.1:** Broaden knowledge and skills of employees in the area of quality reviews (Ministry of Finance)

Taking part in the training dedicated for the ONAs conducted by Statistics Poland.

**Deadline:** Q2 2023

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.1.1:** Ministry of Finance

**Improvement sub-action 10.1.2:** Broadening knowledge and skills of employees in the area of quality reviews (Ministry of Justice)

Taking part in the training dedicated for the ONAs conducted by Statistics Poland.

**Deadline:** Q2 2023

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.1.2:** Ministry of Justice

**Improvement sub-action 10.1.3:** Broaden knowledge and skills of employees in the area of quality reviews (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development)

Taking part in the training dedicated for the ONAs conducted by Statistics Poland.

**Deadline:** Q2 2023

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.1.3:** Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

**Improvement sub-action 10.2:** Develop the procedures/rules for conducting the quality reviews, including appointment of the quality team responsible for conducting the quality reviews in the Other National Authorities participating in the peer review



<p><b>Improvement sub-action 10.2.1:</b> Develop the procedures/rules for conducting the quality reviews, including appointment of the quality team responsible for conducting the quality reviews (Ministry of Finance)</p> <p>Develop procedures/rules for conducting quality reviews of European statistics produced by Ministry of Finance, including reviews of joint surveys. A plan of these quality reviews will be elaborated and adopted by Ministry of Finance. The quality team conducting quality reviews will include representatives of Ministry of Finance and where appropriate representatives of Statistics Poland.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.2.1:</b> Ministry of Finance</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 10.2.2:</b> Develop the procedures/rules for conducting the quality reviews, including appointment of the quality team responsible for conducting the quality reviews (Ministry of Justice)</p> <p>Develop procedures and rules for conducting quality reviews of statistical surveys, considering good practices and rules applied by Statistics Poland. A quality team will also be appointed to conduct quality reviews.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.2.2:</b> Ministry of Justice</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 10.2.3:</b> Develop the procedure rules for conducting the quality reviews, including appointment of the quality team responsible for conducting the quality reviews (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development) Develop the procedures/rules for conducting the quality reviews, including appointment of Ministry quality team responsible for coordination and management of quality reviews.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.2.3:</b> Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 10.3:</b> Conduct pilot quality reviews</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 10.3.1:</b> Conduct a pilot quality review (Ministry of Finance)</p> <p>Quality team to conduct the first (pilot) quality review of the European statistics produced by Ministry of Finance on the basis of the developed procedure. The quality review can involve representatives from Statistics Poland and/or other external experts and data users, where appropriate.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2025</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.3.1:</b> Ministry of Finance</p>

<p><b>Improvement sub-action 10.3.2:</b> Conduct a pilot quality review (Ministry of Justice)</p> <p>Conduct the first (pilot) quality review of the produced European statistics on the basis of the developed procedure. The quality review will involve representatives from Statistics Poland and/or other external experts and data users, where appropriate.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.3.2:</b> Ministry of Justice</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 10.3.3:</b> Conduct a pilot quality review (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development)</p> <p>Conduct the first (pilot) quality review of the produced European statistics on the basis of the developed procedure. The quality review will involve representatives from Statistics Poland and/or other external experts and data users, where appropriate.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2025</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.3.3:</b> Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 10.4:</b> Implement regular quality reviews</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 10.4.1:</b> Implement regular quality reviews (Ministry of Finance)</p> <p>Conduct the quality reviews of the European statistics produced by Ministry of Finance in accordance with the adopted procedures and the plan. The quality reviews can involve representatives from Statistics Poland and/or other external experts and data users, where appropriate.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2027</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.4.1:</b> Ministry of Finance</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 10.4.2:</b> Implement regular quality reviews (Ministry of Justice)</p> <p>Conducting the quality reviews of the European statistics produced in accordance with the adopted procedures and the plan. The quality reviews can involve representatives from Statistics Poland and/or other external experts and data users, where appropriate.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2026</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement a sub-action 10.4.2:</b> Ministry of Justice</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 10.4.3:</b> Implement regular quality reviews (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development)</p> <p>Conduct the quality reviews of the European statistics produced in accordance with the adopted procedures and the annual plan. The quality reviews can involve representatives from Statistics Poland and/or other external experts and data users, where appropriate.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2027</p>

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 10.4.3:** Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

### 11. Recommendation

Statistics Poland and the Other National Authorities should produce standardised, user-oriented quality reports on official statistics and make them publicly available for users. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 15.7)

#### Current situation:

Statistics Poland produces quality reports for its statistical processes and makes them publicly available. The quality reports required by Eurostat are routinely provided after the transmission of data to Eurostat. However, user-oriented information about the quality of processes and statistics is not systematically made publicly available by the Other National Authorities.

**Improvement sub-action 11.1:** Develop common principles on creating and publishing quality reports

Develop mutual frames on creating and publishing quality reports for external users in cooperation with the ONAs. The common structure of user-oriented quality reports on official statistics will be established and tested.

**Deadline:** Q4 2025

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 11.1:** Statistics Poland in cooperation with ONAs

**Improvement sub-action 11.2:** Implement and publish new standardised user-oriented quality reports

Prepare new standardised user-oriented quality reports, taking into consideration the outcome of the previously conducted tests and their publication. Action includes all ONAs making data produced for European statistics publicly available and will be coordinated by Statistics Poland.

**Deadline:** Q4 2027

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 11.2:** Statistics Poland in cooperation with ONAs

### 12. Recommendation

The Other National Authorities reviewed (Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Ministry of Justice) should present the methodology of their productions of European statistics for review by the Methodological Commission. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicators 7.2 and 7.7)

**Current situation:**

The Methodological Commission plays an important role in the quality management system of Statistics Poland by evaluating statistical methods and proposing new methodological solutions. However, the methodology of the statistical processes of the Other National Authorities reviewed is not submitted to the Methodological Commission for review.

**Improvement sub-action 12.1:** Prepare schedule of presenting the methodology of ONAs' (Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Ministry of Justice) productions of European statistics for review by the Methodological Commission.

**Improvement sub-action 12.1.1:** Prepare schedule of presenting the methodology of productions of European statistics for review by the Methodological Commission (Ministry of Finance)

In order to properly plan the process of reviewing the methodology of European statistics, a clear schedule will be established. It will contain specific survey titles and dates (year / quarters) of their methodology reviews and the scope of involvement of appropriate institutions (Ministry of Finance and Statistics Poland). Schedule of presenting the methodology for review will be prepared jointly by Statistics Poland and the Ministry of Finance.

**Deadline:** Q4 2023

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 12.1.1:** Ministry of Finance

**Improvement sub-action 12.1.2:** Prepare schedule of presenting the methodology of productions of European statistics for review by the Methodological Commission (Ministry of Justice)

In order to properly plan the process of reviewing the methodology of European statistics produced a clear schedule will be established. It will contain specific survey titles and dates (year / quarters) of their methodology reviews. Schedule of presenting the methodology for review will be prepared jointly by Statistics Poland and Ministry of Justice.

**Deadline:** Q4 2023

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 12.1.2:** Ministry of Justice

**Improvement sub-action 12.1.3:** Prepare schedule of presenting the methodology of productions of European statistics for review by the Methodological Commission (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development)

In order to properly plan the process of reviewing the methodology of European statistics produced a clear schedule will be established. It will contain specific survey titles and dates (year / quarters) of their methodology reviews.

**Deadline:** Q4 2024

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 12.1.3:** Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

**Improvement sub-action 12.2:** Present the first methodologies of productions of European statistics for review by the Methodological Commission

**Improvement sub-action 12.2.1:** Present the first methodology of production of European statistics for review by the Methodological Commission (Ministry of Finance)

Develop methodological documentation of the survey planned to be first submitted for review by the Methodological Commission. In case of common surveys (Ministry of Finance and Statistics Poland), the methodology will be presented by representatives of both institutions. After the presentation, the methodological documentation will be adjusted according to the Commission's suggestions and published on the website of Ministry of Finance and on the Information Portal of Statistics Poland.

**Deadline:** Q2 2025

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 12.2.1:** Ministry of Finance

**Improvement sub-action 12.2.2:** Present the first methodology of production of European statistics for review by the Methodological Commission (Ministry of Justice)

Develop methodological documentation of the survey planned to be firstly submitted for review by the Methodological Commission. After the presentation, the documents will be modified according to the Commission's suggestions. The documents will then be published on the website of Ministry of Justice and on the Information Portal of Statistics Poland.

**Deadline:** Q4 2024

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 12.2.2:** Ministry of Justice

**Improvement sub-action 12.2.3:** Present the first methodology of production of European statistics for review by the Methodological Commission (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development)

Develop methodological documentation of the survey planned to be first submitted for review by the Methodological Commission. After the presentation, the documents will be modified according to the Commission's suggestions. The documents will then be published on the dedicated subpage of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development website and on the Information Portal of Statistics Poland.

**Deadline:** Q4 2025

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 12.2.3:** Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

**Improvement sub-action 12.3:** Present the subsequent methodologies of productions of European statistics for review by the Methodological Commission

**Improvement sub-action 12.3.1:** Present the subsequent methodologies of productions of European statistics for review by the Methodological Commission (Ministry of Finance)

The methodological documentation of the subsequent productions of European statistics will be prepared and presented for review by the Methodological Commission according to the previously established schedule. In case of common surveys (Ministry of Finance and Statistics Poland), the methodology will be presented by representatives of both institutions. After the presentations, the documents will be adjusted according to the Commission's suggestions and published on the website of Ministry of Finance and on the Information Portal of Statistics Poland.

<b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2027
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 12.3.1:</b> Ministry of Finance
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 12.3.2:</b> Present the subsequent methodologies of productions of European statistics for review by the Methodological Commission (Ministry of Justice)</p> <p>The methodological documentation of the subsequent productions of European statistics will be prepared and presented for review by the Methodological Commission according to the previously established schedule. After the presentations, the documents will be modified according to the Commission's suggestions. The methodologies will then be published on the website of Ministry of Justice and on the Information Portal of Statistics Poland.</p>
<b>Deadline:</b> Q2 2025
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 12.3.2:</b> Ministry of Justice
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 12.3.3:</b> Present the subsequent methodologies of productions of European statistics for review by the Methodological Commission (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development)</p> <p>The methodological documentation of the subsequent productions of European statistics will be prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and then presented for review by the Methodological Commission according to the previously established schedule. After the presentations, the documents will be modified according to the Commission's suggestions. The methodologies will then be published on the dedicated subpage of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development website and on the Information Portal of Statistics Poland.</p>
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2027
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 12.3.3:</b> Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

### 13. Recommendation

Statistics Poland should regularly monitor the satisfaction of its users and strive to broaden its audience by engaging with new user groups. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicators 11.3 and 11.1)

#### Current situation:

Statistics Poland has a strong commitment to relevance, using different approaches to find out whether European statistics meet user needs. The main tool for users to express their needs for statistics is the annual statistical surveys programme for official statistics. The draft programme is prepared by Statistics Poland in close cooperation with the Statistical Council, including representatives of the main data users, some of whom are also producers of official statistics. Other tools designed to meet the needs of users include tracking traffic on Statistics Poland's Information Portal, online campaigns on the Information Portal and the Portal itself, as well as the organisation of workshops with data users focusing on the annual statistical surveys programme of official statistics.

<p><b>Improvement sub-action 13.1:</b> Analyse information needs based on written requests for data and Statistical Helpline and report on it</p> <p>Systematic analysis of users' written requests for statistical data, recorded in register inquires which will allow to identify information needs. Prepare quarterly reports based on it and provide them to the authors of the study in order to consider changes in statistical production adequate to the users expectations. Collect information from the authors regarding their activities that relate to the adaptation of users' needs. Launch a satisfaction survey for users who have used a written formula for submitting a data inquiry.</p> <p>Regularly obtain and review feedback from users as part of the information service within the Statistical Helpline (implementation through the involvement of consultants). Prepare a report on the assessment of satisfaction with the functioning of the Helpline and information provided.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2025</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 13.1:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 13.2:</b> Analyse Statistics Poland's Information Portal traffic</p> <p>Track traffic on Statistics Poland Information Portal and prepare quarterly reports based on it. Distribute this information among units responsible for conducting surveys, collect their feedback on possible improvements to meet users' needs and undertake appropriate promotional activities.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2025</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 13.2:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 13.3:</b> Implement a survey of user satisfaction in social media</p> <p>Carry out a satisfaction survey on Statistics Poland's accounts in social media. Systematically analyse questions and comments, provided by social media users, regarding the sharing of statistical data and include them in the quarterly reports.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2025</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 13.3:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 13.4:</b> Post a regular satisfaction survey on Statistics Poland Information Portal</p> <p>Post regular satisfaction surveys on the Statistics Poland Information Portal (e.g. when new products appear - publications, tables, indicators or after publishing survey results according to deadlines defined in the statistical surveys programme of official statistics.</p>
<p><b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2025</p>
<p><b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 13.4:</b> Statistics Poland</p>
<p><b>Improvement sub-action 13.5:</b> Communicate with data users as part of implementing the Statistical Education Plan</p> <p>Educate users on how to use the data. Regularly collect feedback from users who participate in events carried out as part of the Statistical Education Plan. Prepare a report containing users'</p>

opinions on the content of the events in which they participated and other initiatives organized by Statistics Poland.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2025
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 13.5:</b> Statistics Poland
<b>Improvement sub-action 13.6:</b> Conduct survey of user satisfaction Commission a survey of user satisfaction to external company.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2026
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 13.6:</b> Statistics Poland

<b>14. Recommendation</b>
Statistics Poland should coordinate with the Other National Authorities to enhance the visibility of all European statistics produced in the country. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicators 15.1 and 15.2)
<b>Current situation:</b> Statistics Poland only publishes some of the European statistics produced by the Other National Authorities on its Information Portal. To facilitate user access to European statistics, Statistics Poland should make all European statistics produced by the Other National Authorities accessible via its website.
<b>Improvement sub-action 14.1:</b> Review the way European statistics produced in the Polish national statistical system are published by ONAs  Meetings with the ONAs in order to take stock of the way European statistics produced in Poland are published, resulting in the updated information regarding availability of the European statistics produced by ONAs.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2024
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 14.1:</b> Statistics Poland
<b>Improvement sub-action 14.2:</b> Modify the Information Portal of Statistics Poland Develop and implement solutions in the area of presentation of European statistics on the Information Portal of Statistics Poland.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2025
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 14.2:</b> Statistics Poland



**Improvement sub-action 14.3:** Carry out information and promotional activities on the role of ONAs as producers of European statistics

Information and promotional activities to improve user awareness of European statistics produced by ONAs. The activities will consist in preparing series of information on selected European statistics produced by ONAs, which will be made available in social media of Statistics Poland. Published posts will have a link to the area of presentation of European statistics on the Information Portal of Statistics Poland.

**Deadline:** Q4 2026

**Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 14.3:** Statistics Poland

## 15. Recommendation

The Other National Authorities reviewed (Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Ministry of Justice) should improve their service to users by making the European statistics they produce available to a wider public on their websites under a clearly identifiable heading, including an English version. (Improvement-related: ES CoP, Indicator 15.1)

### Current situation:

While some of the participating Other National Authorities publish their statistics on their websites, others do not.

The Ministry of Finance does not have a unique dissemination policy for European statistics: foreign trade statistics are disseminated on the Statistics Poland Information Portal, while debt statistics and fiscal data for European Union budgetary surveillance are published on the Ministry's website, in Polish and English, under the heading "what we do".

The Ministry of Justice has developed a comprehensive portal for the dissemination of its statistics, including information on the methodology used. The website also contains national and international comparisons, templates of statistical forms, annual and long-term analyses. However, the information is only published in Polish.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development publishes organic farming data on its website as European statistics data. Statistics on milk and milk products are disseminated on the Information Portal of Statistics Poland. Statistics on fisheries and organic farming are available on Eurostat websites or databases.

For reasons of transparency, the Other National Authorities should publish the European statistics they produce on their websites, under a clearly identifiable heading.

**Improvement sub-action 15.1:** Modify the website to ensure that all European statistics are visible and clearly identifiable (Ministry of Finance)

A new subheading "the European statistics" (Polish and English versions), dedicated to the publication of the European statistics, will be added to the website (under the heading "what we do"). It will contain links to external trade statistics, debt statistics and fiscal data for fiscal surveillance.

**Deadline:** Q2 2023

<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 15.1:</b> Ministry of Finance
<b>Improvement sub-action 15.2:</b> Create an English version of the portal for the dissemination of statistics (Ministry of Justice)
<b>Improvement sub-action 15.2.1:</b> Create an English version of the portal for the dissemination of statistics (Ministry of Justice) Translation of 25% of data files posted on the website
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2025
<b>Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 15.2.1:</b> Ministry of Justice
<b>Improvement sub-action 15.2.2:</b> Create an English version of the portal for the dissemination of statistics (Ministry of Justice) Translation of 50% of data files posted on the website
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2026
<b>Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 15.2.2:</b> Ministry of Justice
<b>Improvement sub-action 15.2.3:</b> Create an English version of the portal for the dissemination of statistics (Ministry of Justice) Translation of 100% of data files posted on the website
<b>Deadline:</b> Q4 2027
<b>Responsible institution for the improvement sub-action 15.2.3:</b> Ministry of Justice
<b>Improvement sub-action 15.3:</b> Modify the website to ensure that all European statistics are visible and clearly identifiable (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development) Creation of a new subpage on the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development website, dedicated to the publication of the European statistics. All European statistics produced by the Ministry will be available on its website under a clearly identifiable heading. The page will also have the English version.
<b>Deadline:</b> Q1 2027
<b>Responsible institution for improvement sub-action 15.3:</b> Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development