

Methodology

Three elements were taken into account while drafting the new guidelines:

1: Making a clear difference between Design and Implementation

While implementation is a continuous activity (5 to 10 years) over time following the design of the first strategy, the design of the strategy itself (more or less 12 months) occurs at a specific moment within the NSDS cycle. However these two processes are not independent since the implementation of the NSDS for year N overlaps with the preparation of the next strategy in year N+1. It was important to cover these two processes separately in the guidelines.

2: Distinguishing Essential steps from Sequenced steps

(a) NSDS design phase includes both sequenced and essential steps

(b) NSDS implementation is also concerned with the same essential steps

The NSDS design includes two types of processes (i) those which are carried out at a specific moment in time (sequenced steps) (ii) those which are to be considered as essential steps during the overall design process. By essential steps we understand horizontal activities such as: overall management - overall advocacy tasks - continuous political commitment or the overall process of monitoring-reviewing-evaluating. During the design phase, **7 sequenced steps** and **5 essential steps** are proposed (the 5 essential steps remaining valid for the implementation phase).

The seven specific sequenced steps proposed for the design phase:

1. Acknowledging, recognizing (by government, by highest authority in statistics) [Correspondance with 2004 Guidelines: Chapters 2.1 5.1]

2. Understanding the NSDS process and the context for developing it [Correspondance with 2004 Guidelines: chapters 2.3, 3.2, 4, 10]

3. Preparing (the launching the process) [Correspondance with 2004 Guidelines: chapters 5.4, 5.2, 5.3, 5.5]

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4. **Assessing** (the existing NSS) [Correspondance with 2004 Guidelines: chapter 6]
5. **Envisioning** (the future) [Correspondance with 2004 Guidelines: chapter 7.1]
6. **Identifying strategic goals** [Correspondance with 2004 Guidelines: chapters 7.2, 7.3]
7. **Developing action plans** [Correspondance with 2004 Guidelines: chapter 8.1]

The five essential steps proposed (concerning both design and implementation):

- A. **Managing** [Correspondance with 2004 Guidelines: chapters 5.1, 9.1]
- B. **Committing** [Correspondance with 2004 Guidelines: chapter 5.1]
- C. **Budgeting-Financing** [Correspondance with 2004 Guidelines: chapter 8.2]
- D. **Advocating**
- E. **Monitoring, evaluating, reporting** [Correspondance with 2004 Guidelines: chapter 9.3]

The specific phase of implementation

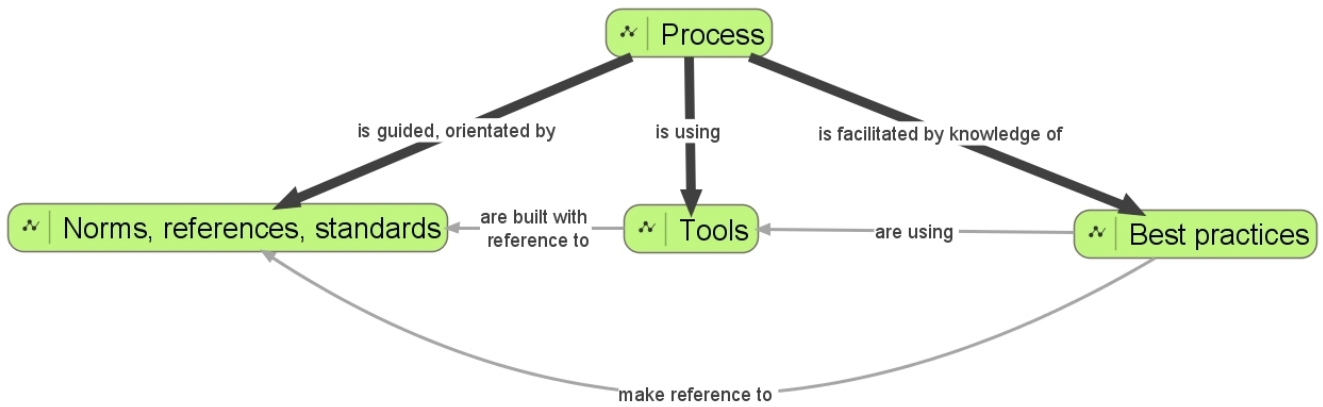
Implementing [correspondance with 2004 Guidelines: Chapter 9.1,9.2]

3: Linking systematically each process with existing norms, tools and good practices

For each of the described sequenced or essential steps, **systematic references** (when it is relevant) may be made to existing **i) national/international standards or norms, ii) specific tools** and **iii) good practices in strategic planning in statistics.**

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Process: a series of interlinked steps covering the whole process of NSDS (from the initial idea to its full implementation).

Norms, references, standards: process will be oriented and guided by existing norms, references and standards (UN statistical standards, IMF or MfDR recommendations for example).

Tools: process will be facilitated by the use of specific tools (DQAFs, NADA, CRESS or advocacy booklet for example).

Good practices: process will be illustrated by existing good practices which have been gathered over the last years (ex: a roadmap, a costed action plan, an NSDS advocacy strategy).

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