

Quality of official statistics

Quality

- Fitness for use/purpose
- ISO 9000: *the degree to which a set of inherent characteristics fulfils requirements*
- Multidimensional; *dimensions are overlapping and inter-related*

A proper framework to assure quality of official statistics

- By a national agency for a national agency
- Fit to the NSS's stage of development
- Supported by the resources
- Fit to the institutional environment
- Address country priorities from a quality perspective

A template for generic National Quality Assurance Framework (g-NQAF)

- Report of Stat Can to the UNSC-2010
 - CoP
 - DQAF of IMF
 - QAF of Statistics Canada
- UNSC-2010; established EG on NQAF
- EG work; website, glossary, NQAF template, guidelines
- UNSC-2012; endorsed NQAF template and guidelines

Characteristics

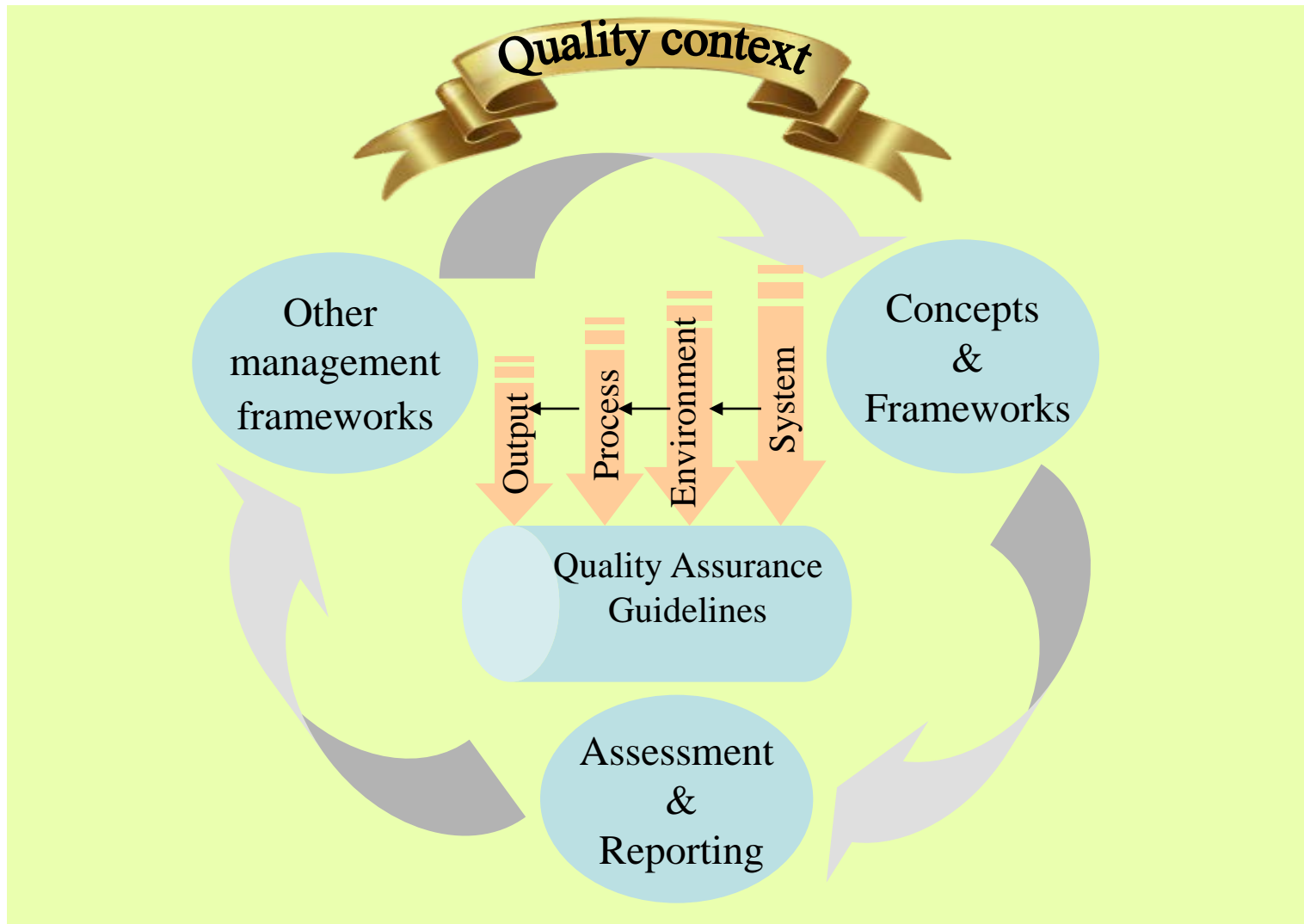
- Align with existing frameworks (not re-creating the wheel)
- Sufficiently flexible, not one-size-fits-all
- Voluntary, not prescriptive
- Provide general structure
- Not exhaustive/uniformly related to all NSSs
- Straining point and guide
- Modifiable

A generic National Quality Assurance Framework



- Country circumstances
- Priorities
- Benefits and challenges
- Organization of the work
- Sustained support/commitment
- Quality culture
- Integration

A generic National Quality Assurance Framework



3. Quality assurance guidelines

3a. Managing the statistical system

[NQAF 1] Coordinating the national statistical system

[NQAF 2] Managing relationships with data users and data providers

[NQAF 3] Managing statistical standards

3b. Managing the institutional environment

[NQAF 4] Assuring professional independence

[NQAF 5] Assuring impartiality and objectivity

[NQAF 6] Assuring transparency

[NQAF 7] Assuring statistical confidentiality and security

[NQAF 8] Assuring the quality commitment

[NQAF 9] Assuring adequacy of resources

3c. Managing statistical processes

[NQAF 10] Assuring methodological soundness

[NQAF 11] Assuring cost-effectiveness

[NQAF 12] Assuring soundness of implementation

[NQAF 13] Managing the respondent burden

3d. Managing statistical outputs

[NQAF14] Assuring relevance

[NQAF15] Assuring accuracy and reliability

[NQAF16] Assuring timeliness and punctuality

[NQAF17] Assuring accessibility and clarity

[NQAF18] Assuring coherence and comparability

[NQAF19] Managing metadata