



Handbook of Statistical Organization

UNDA10 - Workshop for ESCWA

*Sound Institutional, environment, cooperation, dialogue and partnerships
for the production and utilization of SDG Indicators*

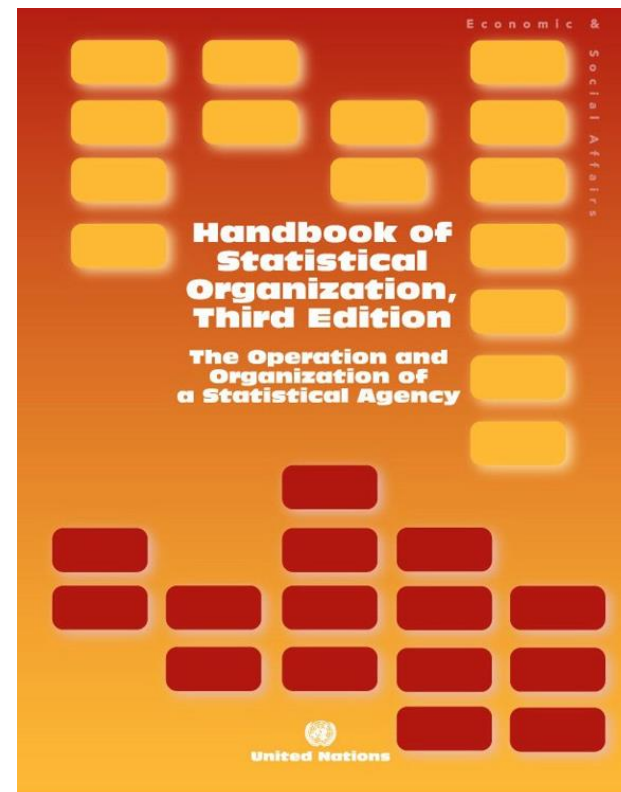
Linda Hooper, UN Statistics Division

6-8 February 2018, Tunis, Tunisia



What is the handbook of Statistical Organization?

- The primary objective:
“to guide chief statisticians and senior managers of statistical organizations in developing and maintaining statistical capacity that is fit for purpose”
- First published in 1952 and the most recent (third) edition dates from 2003





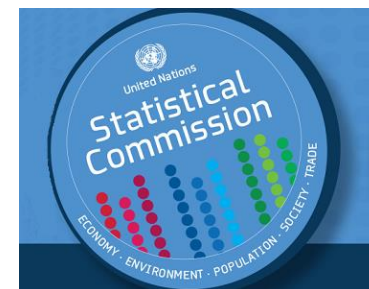
Why a revision?

- The **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, and related regional and national development policies, involve *new data needs and challenges*
- The **Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data** (CT-GAP) and the **Transformative Agenda for Official Statistics** stress the need for statistical organisations to adapt and develop



The mandate

- UN Statistical Commission (48th Session) requested a revision of the current Handbook
- New version must take into account the strategic development areas proposed in the CT-GAP and outcomes of the transformative agenda
- Grasp the potential of innovative technologies in a rapidly changing data environment ...
- While reinforce leadership, coordination, communication, and dialogue through institutional and organizational reforms





The revision process

- Development of a commented outline for the next (fourth) edition of the Handbook by a Handbook Revision Team
- The outline includes recommendations on which chapters of the revised version should be given priority
- The outline and recommendations to be brought to the UNSC for discussion in **March 2018** (E/CN.3/2018/5: [Arabic](#) [English](#) [French](#))
- Next steps : drafting of the revised version during **2018-2019** using the commented outline and development priorities as its starting point





Consultations and survey for the commented outline

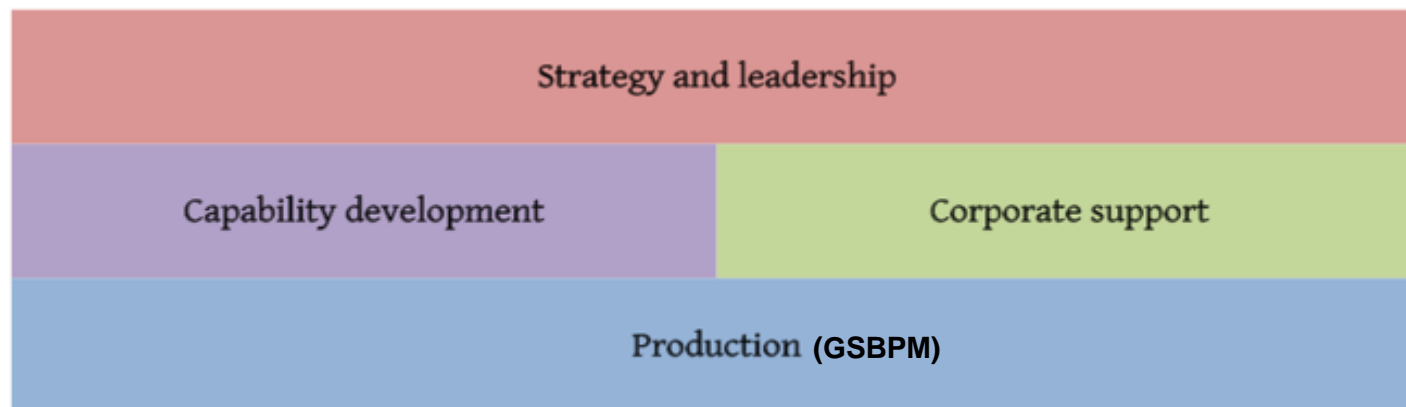
- Consultation rounds conducted in the framework of the DA10 Statistics and Data programme
- An online survey of chief statisticians on the use of the present Handbook and priorities for the updated version was carried out:
- A large majority of respondents mentioned as priorities:
 - Capacity building, training and resource mobilisation
 - Quality framework and management
 - Business architecture for an integrated statistical production system
 - Technological developments concerning data collection, data handling and data dissemination; including for non-traditional data sources
 - Strategic leadership, coordination, partnership and communication





Proposed structure of the updated Handbook

- The proposed structure of the updated Handbook will mirror the Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organisations (GAMSO)
- GAMSO describes and defines the activities that take place within a statistical organization
- GAMSO is an extension of the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) adding activities needed to support statistical production





Proposed chapters of the updated Handbook

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|--|--|
| I. Introduction | XI. Common statistical infrastructure |
| II. Overview | XII. Human resources management and development |
| III. Basis of official statistics | XIII. Data, information and knowledge management |
| IV. National statistical system | XIV. Information technology management |
| V. National statistical office | XV. Management of finance, buildings and physical space |
| VI. Users and their needs | XVI. International activities and collaboration |
| VII. Quality management | XVII. Annexes |
| VIII. Data sources, collection and processing | |
| IX. Analysis and analytical frameworks | |
| X. Dissemination and user communication | |



Accessibility – usability - ease of update

- Conceived as a living document on the Web
- Interactive Wiki-style platform (virtual Forum)
 - Including links to relevant material and country examples
- All parts not released at the same time and updated according to priorities
- Hardcopy of Chapter II (overview) for a larger audience and in all UN languages
- On line Handbook first available in English and, depending on resources, translated in other UN languages
- Handbook revised every second year, links and country examples more regularly





Governance, consultation, and coordination

- **UNSD secretariat:**
 - Consultation and coordination with the UN Statistical Commission, HLG-PCCB, regional commissions and other relevant bodies
- **Drafting team:**
 - Standing drafting team: 3 consultants and UNSD Inter-regional Adviser
 - Complemented with experts/resource persons mobilized to draft chapters that require specific experience and knowledge
- **Advisory Group:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 x UN Regional Commission• 1x Development Bank• 1-2 x country/UN region	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 x International Organization• 1 x PARIS21• 1 x Training Institute
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For discussion:

- Based on the proposed structure of the updated Handbook and the outcome of this workshop, what are the chapters of the Handbook that should get highest priority for the ESCWA region?
- Is something missing?
- What could be the mechanisms in the region to ensure regular consultation of ESCWA, national statistical systems and other stakeholders?
- Is one of the ESCWA countries willing to be member of the Advisory Group?

