

The High-Level Group for Strategic Developments in Business Architecture in Statistics (HLG-BAS)

has identified the Generic Statistical Information Model (GSIM) as a key standard, in partnership with the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM), to drive the modernization of official statistics.

Official statisticians follow a set of processes, such as those described in the GSBPM, to produce official statistics. **GSIM defines and describes the information** (data, metadata, rules, parameters etc.) that flows between the steps in these processes.

GSIM's common terminology **improves communication** about the production of statistics, within and between organizations. It makes it easier and faster to collaborate and exchange tools and ideas.



WHAT IS GSIM

GSIM provides a **common language** to describe information that supports the whole statistical production process, from the identification of user needs through to the dissemination of statistical products.

GSIM is a strategic approach designed to bring together statisticians, methodologists and IT specialists to modernize and streamline the production of official statistics. GSIM is aligned with relevant data management and exchange standards, such as DDI and SDMX, but it is not directly tied to them, or to any specific technology.

GSIM is a reference framework of internationally agreed definitions, attributes and relationships that describe the pieces of information (called “information objects” in GSIM) that are used in the production of official statistics.

GSIM INFORMATION OBJECTS

The information objects are grouped into four broad categories:

ACTIVITY group is used to capture the designs and plans of statistical, acquisition and dissemination programs, and the information requests and environmental changes that impact on these designs and plans.

PRODUCTION group is used to catalogue each step in the statistical process, to describe the input and output of these steps and to construct statistical methodologies.

CONCEPTS group is used to define the meaning of data so as to provide understanding of what the data are measuring and how well they are being measured.

INFORMATION group is used to structure data throughout the statistical process, so that data can be uniquely and unambiguously identified.

WHY USE GSIM

GSIM provides a set of standardized information objects, which are the inputs and outputs in the design and production of statistics. By defining objects common to all statistical production, regardless of subject matter, GSIM enables statistical organizations to rethink how their business could be more efficiently organized.

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Improve

communication between different disciplines involved in statistical production, within and between statistical organizations, and between users and producers of official statistics

Enable

greater automation of the statistical production process, thus increasing efficiency and reducing costs.

Build

staff capability by using GSIM as a teaching aid that provides a simple, easy to understand view of complex information, with clear definitions.

Provide

a basis for flexibility and innovation, including support for the easy deployment of new statistical products and the adoption of new types of statistical data sources.



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Generic Statistical Information Model