Identify Stakeholders

Let us forget nobody!

Below is a non-exhaustive list of possible stakeholders for an SDMX implementation; depending on the level of complexity of the SDMX implementation, this list can be shortened:

- **Senior management**: Experience has shown that it is essential that senior management drives SDMX.
- **Subject-matter specialists**: They are the ones who know best the data and metadata to be exchanged and will usually be highly involved in a technical group to design and validate the SDMX exchange structures.
- **Experts in SDMX standards and technical implementation**: These colleagues will advise on the best solutions for your specific implementation. They will usually be involved in the technical group to check that the structures conform to SDMX standards and guidelines, and evaluate against implementation solutions.
- **Experts in code lists, classifications and methodology**: These tools are central to any SDMX implementation and their importance should not be underestimated. They may be involved in the technical group or consulted on a regular basis.
- **Coordination/quality unit**: In some organisations such units could take the responsibility for coordinating the SDMX project.
- **Data dissemination unit**: The needs for data exchange are not necessarily the needs of the colleagues involved in data dissemination; it is essential that they are involved from the start in order e.g. to avoid having to develop mappings between code lists.
- **IT specialists**: They are the ones who know best how the information is organised and thus best placed to advise on migrating from one system to another from the IT point of view.

This phase is complete when the list of stakeholders is documented for setting-up the next phase: Kick-off meeting where many of the identified stakeholders will be present. The full list of stakeholders should be presented and discussed.