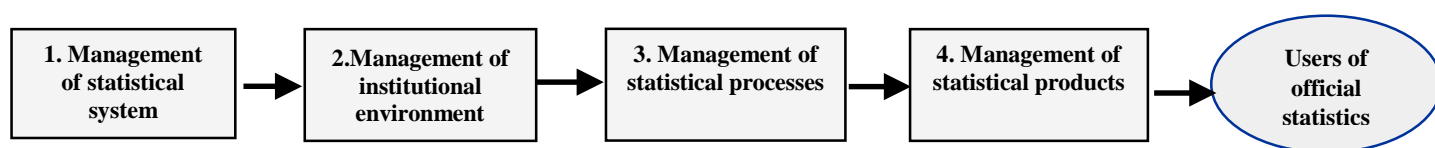


## **Quality assurance policy for official statistics**

In accordance with the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Official Statistics", the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic (hereinafter – the National Statistical Committee) ensures the production of official statistics in accordance with the UN Fundamental Principles in the Field of Official Statistics and takes into account internationally agreed statistical standards and recommendations (Articles 1 and 28).

According to the UN Fundamental Principles in the Field of Official Statistics, the UN Guidelines on National Basic Principles for Quality Assurance of Official Statistics have been adopted. These guidelines contain recommendations for the development and implementation of a national framework for quality assurance of official statistics and fostering trust in it. To achieve this, the national basic principles for ensuring the quality of official statistics are established for the entire national statistical system (hereinafter referred to as the NSS), thereby structurally covering interconnected main areas such as the management of the statistical system, the institutional environment, processes, and products.

The following simplified diagram explains how these main areas logically follow and relate to each other.



According to Article 4 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On Official Statistics," the users of official statistics encompass a wide range of stakeholders, including the general public, mass media, enterprises and organizations, regardless of their ownership structure, government bodies, and local self-governing bodies, as well as researchers, students, international organizations, and organizations from other countries that receive or have access to official statistics.

The National Statistical Committee, as a coordinating body, ensures the adherence to the following obligations across the entire national statistical system.

## **Statistical System Management**

- ✓ 1. *Coordination of the national statistical system* - Coordinating the work of all NSS participants is crucial for enhancing and maintaining the quality of official statistics.
- ✓ 2. *Management of interactions with respondents, suppliers, and data users* – Data for statistical purposes can be collected from various sources, including statistical surveys and administrative reporting, to efficiently meet the information needs of users.
- ✓ 3. *Management of statistical standards* – To ensure consistency and effectiveness in statistical systems at all levels, standards are utilized. These standards comprise a comprehensive set of statistical concepts, definitions, classifications, models, methods, and procedures. Standards promote a unified approach to solving statistical tasks within a single process or across multiple processes occurring at different times and locations.

## **Management of the Institutional Environment**

- ✓ 4. *Ensuring professional independence* – Producers of official statistics make their decisions on the development, production and dissemination of statistics independently and without any influence and interference from political or other external sources. Such professional independence and freedom from inappropriate influence ensures the credibility of official statistics.
- ✓ 5. *Ensuring impartiality and objectivity* – Official statistics production is based on principles of scientific independence, professionalism, impartiality, and objectivity, demonstrating equal treatment of all users.
- ✓ 6. *Ensuring transparency* - Policies and management methods used by producers of official statistics are documented and provided to respondents and users in an accessible manner.
- ✓ 7. *Ensuring the confidentiality of primary sources of statistical information and data security* - Producers of official statistics guarantee strict confidentiality of individual data collected or received, related to individuals or legal entities, and ensure that such data is used exclusively for statistical purposes.
- ✓ 8. *Ensuring a focus on quality* - Producers of official statistics are dedicated to ensuring quality and conducting regular assessments of strengths and weaknesses to continuously enhance the quality of processes and statistical products.
- ✓ 9. *Providing necessary resources* - Producers of official statistics have adequate resources to meet the needs of official statistics.

## **Management of Statistical Processes**

- ✓ 10. *Ensuring an effective methodology* - Producers of official statistics use an efficient methodology, relying on internationally agreed standards, guidelines, and best practices.
- ✓ 11. *Ensuring cost-effectiveness* - Resources are utilized efficiently.

- ✓ *12. Ensuring the use of correct statistical procedures* - The quality of statistical data is rooted in well-founded statistical procedures, which are applied from data collection to data verification.
- ✓ *13. Managing the burden on respondents* – To ensure data quality, producers of official statistics maintain a balance between the corresponding costs and the burden on respondents.

### **Management of Statistical Products**

- ✓ *14. Ensuring relevance* - Official statistics meet user needs.
- ✓ *15. Ensuring accuracy and reliability* - Official statistics accurately and reliably reflect reality. Statistical information accuracy refers to how well it describes the processes it measures, including the extent to which calculated indicators match actual values.
- ✓ *16. Ensuring timeliness and punctuality* - Official statistics are distributed promptly and without delays.
- ✓ *17. Ensuring accessibility and clarity* - Official statistics are presented in a clear and understandable manner. Methods and procedures are transparently conveyed to users to ensure accurate data interpretation.
- ✓ *18. Ensuring consistency and comparability* - Official statistics maintain consistency and comparability at the international level, over time, and across regions and countries.
- ✓ *19. Metadata management* - Producers of official statistics document sources and methods in a standardized manner in the production process, along with the final sets of statistical data. Users are informed about all sources and methods of statistical production, as well as the quality of official statistical information through metadata utilization.