



EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON
QUALITY IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS
2024 ESTORIL - PORTUGAL

Peer reviews – impact of their recommendations and first results

Vidar Lund

National coordinator for the third round of ESS peer review, Statistics Norway



eurostat 

The conference is partly
financed by the European Union



EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON
QUALITY IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS
2024 ESTORIL - PORTUGAL



INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ESTATÍSTICA
STATISTICS PORTUGAL

eurostat 

The conference is partly
financed by the European Union

The ESS peer review in 2014 had significant impact on the Norwegian Statistical System





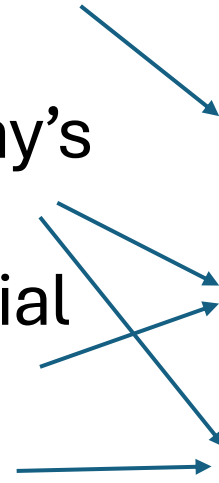
2014

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Clarify the role of the Board of Statistics Norway
- Strengthen Statistics Norway's national coordination role
- Better define the term "official statistics"
- Provide a mandate for the Statistics Council

RESULTS

- New Statistics Act adopted in 2019, establishing:
 - The Council for Statistics Norway
 - The National Programme for Official Statistics
 - The Committee for Official Statistics





**September
2020**
Start of peer
review
planning

March 2021
Start of SAQ
preparations

August 2021
Deadline for
SAQ and core
documents

**November
2021**
Peer review
visit

January 2022
Checking of
draft peer
review report

March 2022
Start
developing
improvement
actions based
on the draft
report

June 2022
Peer review
report
published by
Eurostat and
Statistics
Norway

**September
2022**
Proposal for
improvement
actions
submitted to
Eurostat

**December
2022**
Submission of
revised
proposal for
improvement
actions

January 2023
Feedback on
revised
improvement
actions from
Eurostat

April 2023
Plan for
improvement
actions
published by
Eurostat and
Statistics
Norway

2020 2021

2022

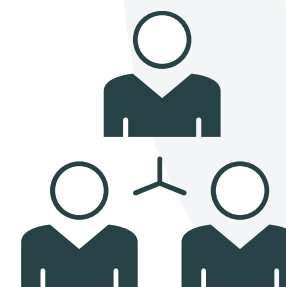
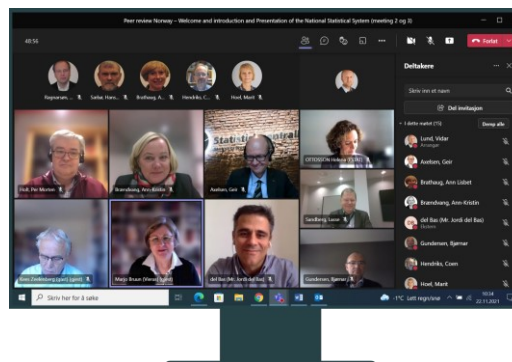
2023



Peer review
coordination team
established



Writing, editing and
translating SAQ and
core documents



Decentralised processes for defining
improvement actions in coordination with:

- responsible units in Statistics Norway
- ONAs
- the Eurostat Peer Review team



Innovative practices highlighted by the expert team

- The system for quality management
- Cooperation and quality agreements with owners of administrative registers
- Legal basis for access to administrative and privately held data
- Research and development into possible uses of new data sources



2021

RECOMMENDATIONS

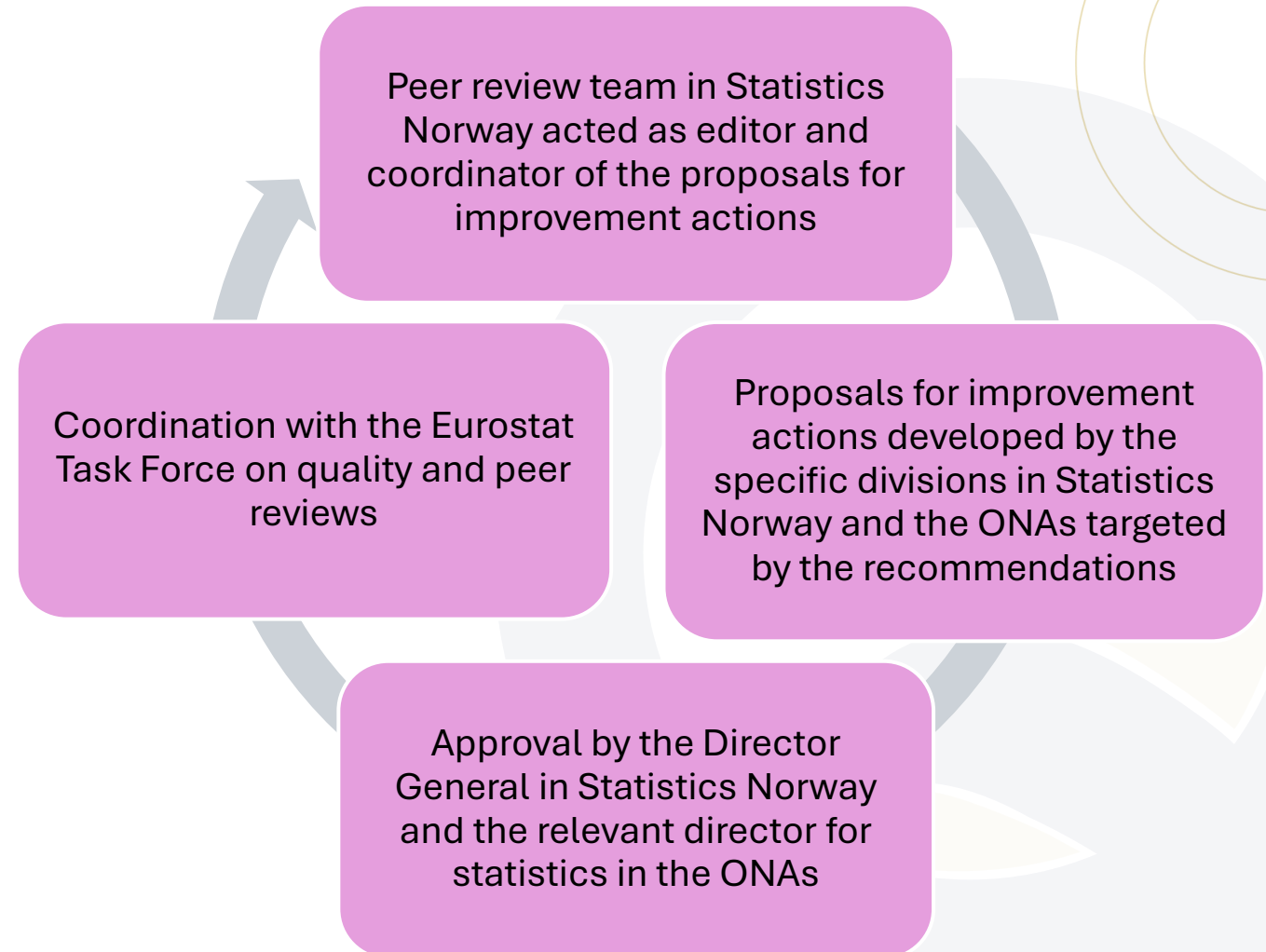
- Better planning of ongoing developments and initiatives
- Monitoring the quality of the entire Norwegian Statistical System
- Consider the possibilities for publishing more detailed statistics
- Strengthening staff competence
- The ONAs should improve the transparency and visibility of their role as producers of official statistics

ACTIONS

- Roadmap for development activities
- Annual quality evaluations of all national producers of official statistics
- Advisory committee for disclosure control and statistical confidentiality
- Networks for training and support for Python and R in statistics departments
- The ONAs have improved information and documentation of official statistics on their internal and external websites



Cycle of decentralised development of improvement actions





Criteria used by Statistics Norway for developing improvement actions

- They should be SMART
 - Specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound
- They should be useful
 - For further development of Statistics Norway, the ONAs and the National Statistical System
- They should be integrated with existing plans and strategies
 - Avoiding parallel reporting and procedures



Key success factors

- Early planning and preparation
- Inclusive approach
- Engaging with the expert team
- Engaging with stakeholders
- Decentralised development of improvement actions



General impact of the 2021 ESS peer review in Norway

“An effective catalyst
for implementing
improvement ideas
already being
discussed at various
levels in the NSI and
ONAs”



EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON
QUALITY IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS
2024 ESTORIL - PORTUGAL

Thank you for your attention

Contact: vidar.lund@ssb.no



INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ESTATÍSTICA
STATISTICS PORTUGAL

eurostat 

The conference is partly
financed by the European Union