The Integrated Business Statistics Program at Statistics Canada

Presentation to the UNCEEA

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Outline

Harmonizing economic statistics that feed the System of National Accounts, Statistics Canada’s experience:

- Corporate business architecture project
- Early integration efforts
  - Project to Improve Provincial Economic Statistics (PIPES)
  - Unified Enterprise Survey Program (UESP)
- Integrated Business Statistics Program (IBSP)
- Facilitating further integration
  - Organizational alignment
  - Integrating environment surveys into IBSP
Corporate Business Architecture Project (CBA)

- **CBA Project**
  - In 2008/09, Statistics Canada embarks on a large transformational project to renew its business and IT infrastructure

- **Objective**
  - Generate efficiencies to be used for investment in priority projects

- **Outcomes**
  - Consolidation of IT function
  - Organizational alignment with Generic Statistical Business Model (IT, Collection, Methodology, Analysis, Dissemination)
  - Several transformational projects to generate efficiencies
Early Integration Efforts...History

Prior to mid 1990’s, the business statistics program is characterized by:

- Multiple Frames
- Inconsistent Methodology
- Limited Use of Admin. Data
- Program Specific Classifications
- Different Concepts
- Numerous Systems, Processes
Early Integration Efforts

**PIPPES**

**Fiscal Arrangements**
- Mid 1990’s: SNA data to be used in Fiscal Arrangements between Federal and Provincial Governments
- Allocate Harmonized Sales Tax revenue
- Determine revenue generating equalization payments

**Quality Improvements**
- Requirement for:
  - Comparable quality of statistics by province
  - Expanded coverage of the economy...services

**Establish PIPES**
- Project to Improve Provincial Economic Statistics
- Unified Enterprise Survey Program
- Expand GDP program to cover provinces (Provincial IO tables)
Early Integration Efforts
UESP

Characteristics of the UESP:

- Extensive Use of Admin. Data
- Comparable Quality across Provinces and Industries
- Expanded Collection (#units)
- Common Frame
- Some Harmonization of Survey Content
- Some common Processes and Classifications

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IBSP
Current Drivers

Requirement for:
Operational efficiency
Reduced response burden
Improved quality and coherence
Modern and robust systems

UESP

IBSP

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Scope of Project

- Multi-year project, to develop new processing infrastructure and integrate existing surveys into the this infrastructure
- Suite of approximately 150 existing business surveys covering manufacturing, services, retail, agriculture, capital expenditure, energy and R&D; ad-hoc surveys as well
- Will eventually encompass most business surveys conducted at Statistics Canada
To successfully achieve integration across many programs and processes requires:

- Continuous support from Senior leaders
- Very strong governance over life of project
- Extensive collaboration across the organization
- Ability to negotiate and adapt: generic solutions have limitations

IBSP
Generic Statistical Business Model

IBSP
Horizontal integration

Mapping of Tax and Survey Variables

Common Frame

Common Classifications

Common Concepts

Transportation

Agriculture

Services

Dist. Trades

Manufacturing

R & D

Capital Exp.

Energy

Environment

BOP

Other

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IBSP
Vertical integration

Update directly on frame

Frame
Sampling
Collection
Edit & Imputation
Estimation
Analysis
Confidentiality
Dissemination

Survey specific indicators (commodity/activity)
Common Editing Strategy
Target commodities with 2 phase sampling
Harmonize output

Quality indicators

Coordination

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IBSP Outcomes

- Coherence
  - Output from different programs integrated into the System of National Accounts
  - Output from different programs comparable by users
  - Eliminates potential overlap in coverage and helps identify coverage gaps

- Cost Effectiveness
  - Reduction in the number of systems and processes

- Reduced Response Burden
  - Focus on administrative data, coordinated sampling, electronic collection
Facilitating further integration
Organizational alignment
Facilitating Further Integration
Surveys that feed Canada’s SEEA Accounts

- Physical Flow Accounts:
  - Water use surveys for most major industrial sectors, agriculture, residences served by municipalities.
  - Energy surveys, Report on Energy and Supply and Demand
  - Transportation surveys
  - Solid waste survey (no account yet, but plan to develop pilot accounts within the next two years)
Facilitating Further Integration
Integrating environmental surveys into IBSP

- All environment surveys use Statistics Canada’s Business Register and adhere to NAICS/NAPCS.
- Administrative data is used to generate statistics for household energy use – linked to the Household and Environment survey.
- Currently developing a transition plan to move to electronic questionnaires and a suitable approach to integration in IBSP
Conclusion

- CBA not just a project but new philosophy...a new way of doing business
- IBSP is the single largest project for the economic statistics program with many links to other projects...good progress mid way through the transition, many positive outcomes including savings
- Key ingredients to success:
  - Commitment, planning, oversight
Contacts

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