

<Peer Review of National Statistical Systems: Perspectives from Colombia and the LAC Region>

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Abstract:

< The unfolding of the data revolution as well as the emergence of urgent data needs within the pandemic have raised the importance of ensuring the production of quality official statistics to enhance evidence-based decision-making processes. This juncture has highlighted the importance of consolidating the role of NSO's as the Data Stewards of the National Statistical System.

The decentralized nature of Colombia's NSS required its National Statistical Office (DANE) to strengthen the governance mechanisms to enhance the statistical capacities of different stakeholders. This objective is achieved through the elaboration of a set of tools and metrics such as the implementation and monitoring of the National Statistical Plan, the elaboration and follow up of quality evaluations (PECE), and the design of training plans for members of the NSS.

Moreover, within the Statistical Conference of the Americas, some progress has been made regarding the creation of regional peer review mechanisms. Particularly, it is worth highlighting the assessment of compliance with the Regional Code of Good Statistical Practices in 2015, which led to the compilation of 33 good practices on the matter, as well as the outcomes of SCA's Executive Committee 20th Meeting (April 2021) in which the importance of developing peer review mechanisms for the implementation of quality assurance of administrative records and other information sources and strengthening the institutional scaffolding of the NSS's was highlighted.

The main objective of this contribution is to share DANE's experiences and insights in the design, implementation, and monitoring of peer review mechanisms with producers and providers of the NSS, focusing on cases such as the systemic review of the tourism sector and the peer review of key administrative records of the NSS; as well as the recent developments and future steps within the regional statistical community embodied in ECLAC's Statistical Conference of the Americas>

Keywords:

<Quality Assurance>; <ECLAC>; < National Statistical System>; <Colombia>; <Peer-Review>