

PEER REVIEW 2013-2015. LESSONS LEARNED, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO THE INE AND THE SPANISH STATISTICAL SYSTEM

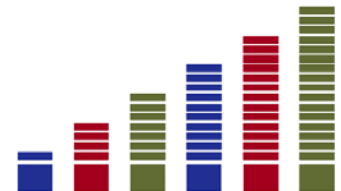
6. Peer Review. Learning from
countries experiences

Agustín Cañada

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LESSONS LEARNED, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO THE INE

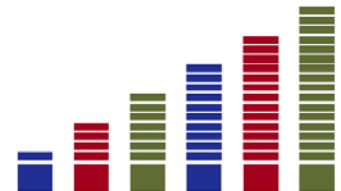
1. Second Round Peer Review 2013 -2015: main features of the Peer Review process in Spain
2. Outcomes: Recommendations & Improvement Actions.
3. Implications and impacts on the INE's Activity.
4. Lessons learned for the future round of the Peer Review: Challenges and new tools for enhancing quality in statistics.



1. Peer Review 2013 -2015: main features of the process in Spain

The Peer Review process in Europe:

- ✓ *When?* 2013 - 2015
- ✓ *What for?* 2 objectives: Strengthening the ESS capacity to produce high Q European statistics; enhancing stakeholders' trust in European statistics
- ✓ *Who?* NSI + ONA
- ✓ *How?* Evaluating accomplishment of NSS to the 15 principles (CoP) + NSI' coordinating role + Integration within the ESS
- ✓ *Which methods?:* audit – like approach
 - Self-assessment questionnaires
 - Outsourced process: independent peer reviewers
 - 5-day Peer Review visit



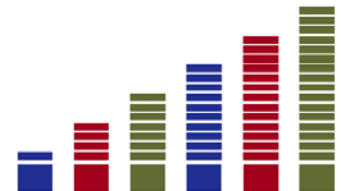
1. Peer Review 2013 -2015: main features of the process in Spain

The PR process in Europe:

- ✓ *When?* 2013 - 2015
- ✓ *How?* 15 principles (CoP) + coordination + cooperation
- ✓ *Who?* NSI + ONA
- ✓ *Method?:* audit – like
 - SAQ + coordin. + coop.
 - Outsourced process.
 - 5-day PR visit
 - Issue-based approach

The previous PR process:

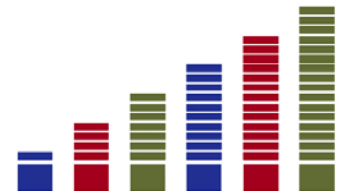
- ✓ *When?* 2007
- ✓ *How?* CoP principles 1-6 and 15
- ✓ *Who?* NSI
- ✓ *Method?:* "Internal"
 - (simplified) SAQ
 - NSI reviewers.
 - 3-day PR visit
 - CoP Principles



1. Peer Review 2013 -2015: main features of the process in Spain

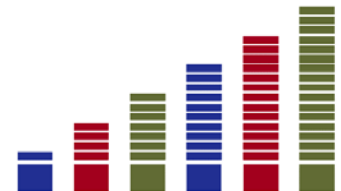
The Peer Review process in Spain:

- ✓ *When?* 2013 -2015 ([December 2012; Task Force Peer Review](#))
- ✓ *Who?* NSI + ONAs: [a group of selected: 3 \(of 14\) ONAs](#)
- ✓ *How?* October 2013: An internal Coordinating Group was set up for monitoring the process all the way through.
 - December 2013 – May 2014: Filling the questionnaires and collecting core and supporting documents (85)
 - PR visit: (17-21 Nov 2014): 20 meetings; 50 INE' participants; + other 20 institutions (University, Users, Media, etc).
- ✓ November 2014 – April 2015: PR report; Recommendations and Improvement actions.



LESSONS LEARNED, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO THE INE

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2. Outcomes: Recommendations, Imp. Ac. & impacts on INE

13 recommendations (+ 1 [3] recommendation for the ONAs)

a) Process efficiency (5):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intensify the use of administrative (& tax) registers for statistical purposes. - Statistical process standardization:
b) Quality (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involve external experts in regular reviewing
c) Satisfy users' needs (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remote access to micro data for researchers. - Explanations when divergences from the release calendar come along.
d) Micro data security (1).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Apply standard tools for anonymization of micro data files and access to databases
e) Other institutional issues (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Human resources: lift the temporary freeze on recruitment - A system of regular staff appraisal and interviews - Recommendations on professional independence and its implications at national level



2. Outcomes: Recommendations, Imp. Ac. & impacts on INE

13 recommendations → *Corresponding improvement actions*

a) Process efficiency (5):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Initiatives and proposals of agreement with owners of Registers.</i> - <i>Adapting & extending GSBPM to all the operations</i>
b) Quality (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Plan for auditing, including external experts in reviews</i> - <i>More involvement of High Council of statistics</i>
c) Satisfy users' needs (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Publishing explanations when divergences from the release calendar come along.</i>
d) Micro data security (1).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Application of specific software</i>
e) Other institutional issues (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>A master plan for human resources and staff recruitment</i> - <i>Performance Evaluation system</i>



2. Outcomes: Recommendations, Imp. Ac. & impacts on INE

13 recommendations → Corresponding improvement actions

a) Process efficiency (5):	Initiatives and proposals of agreement with owners of
b) Quality	ns
c) Satisfy needs (3)	reviews
d) Micro security (the
e) Other institution (3)	
	- Performance Evaluation system

About recommendations:

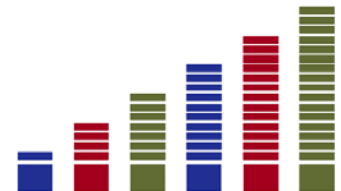
Some of them can be entirely undertaken by the INE... Nevertheless...

Some others are beyond the INE's responsibilities (mainly those concerning legal changes).



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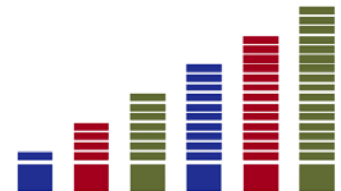
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3. Implications and impacts on the INE's activity

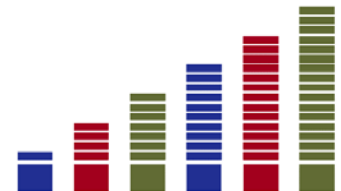
- ✓ Peer Review has had a great impact on INE's activity
- ✓ In the medium/ long term: Such recommendations and improvement actions have been included within the strategies of the National Statistical Plan (2017-2020)
- ✓ They have been designed according to the EU Vision 2020

- ✓ *Additionally, they have also had significant impacts even during the PR process itself...*



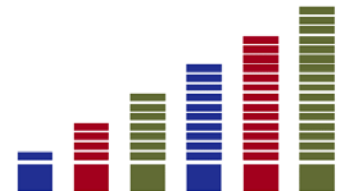
3. Implications and impacts on the INE's activity

- ✓ We have taken the PR as an opportunity to reinforce the INE Q management system:
 - Extending ESMS metadata and Q reports to all statistics
 - Improving the role of the Quality Committee
 - Systematizing User Satisfaction Survey (from USS 2013)
 - New Q guidelines: including new Revision Policy; Confidentiality P., Dissemination P.
 - Quality Web Page: accessible from INE home page (<http://www.ine.es>)
 - Adapting GSBPM to all INE statistics



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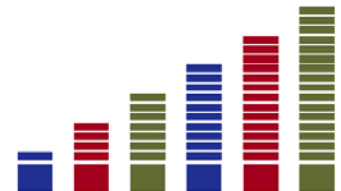
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4. Lessons learned for the future round of the Peer Review

Main advantages:

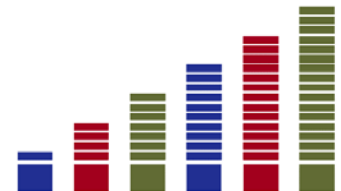
- ✓ Peer Reviews are a good opportunity to provide a significant impulse to NSI Q management systems.
- ✓ They help to improve methods and practices. To increase awareness about the Q objectives
- ✓ They are an opportunity to share experiences from other countries as well as for benchmarking
- ✓ The PR process provides evidence-based information in the form of documents.



4. Lessons learned for the future round of the Peer Review

Main drawbacks:

- ✓ The process has been time - and resource-consuming, Self-Ass. Q.: Too long, repetitive... (+the other quest.: cooperation + coordination)
- ✓ Innovative practices: Lack of harmonization of the concept which often depends on specific circumstances of every MS...
- ✓ And on the opinion & area of knowledge of the reviewers ...
- ✓ Some recommendations are out of the possibilities of the INE's initiative (legislative)
- ✓ ONAs were not well covered in the process



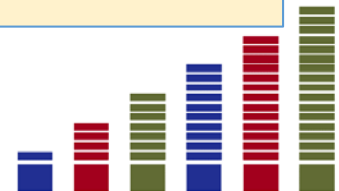
4. Lessons learned for the future round of the Peer Review

Main drawbacks: →

- ✓ Time/ resource-consuming
SAQ Too long, repetitive...
- ✓ Innovative practices: Lack of harmonization
- ✓ Opinion & knowledge of the reviewers
- ✓ Some recommendations out of the possibilities of the INE
- ✓ ONA was not well covered in the process

Some suggestions:

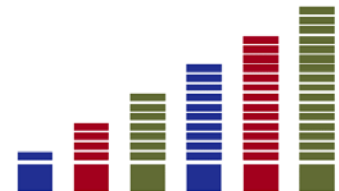
- ✓ A revision of the process: simplifying SAQ
- ✓ Improving the concept of “innovative practices”.
- ✓ Re-think the background of the reviewers
- ✓ Realistic, more specific recommendations
- ✓ And a specific treatment for ONA



4. Lessons learned for the future round of the Peer Review

Final comments: (What for?)

- ✓ The first "internal" objective ("Strengthen Q European statistics") was successfully met.
- ✓ More efforts are needed in the second "external" objective ("To enhance trust in statistics"). It is mainly an issue of communication: how to get the message across to the rest of the society (outside our "Statistics world") on PR's aims and results.
- ✓ Towards a more homogenous Q management system in the EU: CoP & QAF is our core system, but a more complete system is needed (Vision 2020 Qual Initiative, the SIMS...)



PEER REVIEW 2013-2015 IN SPAIN

Many thanks!

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