THE PEER REVIEW AS A MAIN DRIVER FOR STATISTICS AUSTRIA's STRATEGY 2020
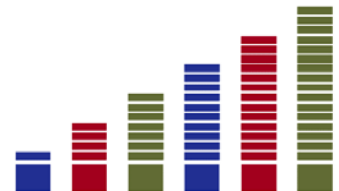
Session 33 01.06.2106

33 - SPECIAL SESSION: Peer Reviews: A Tool to Enhance Trust in European Statistics?

Thomas Burg – Statistics Austria

Outline

1. Peer Review at Statistics Austria
2. Recommendations and Improvement Actions
3. Improvement Actions and Strategy 2020
4. Development process of the Strategy 2020
5. Possible Consequences for ESS Quality framework

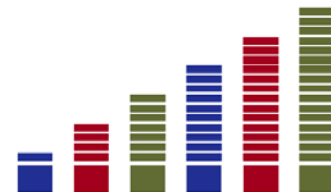# Peer Review at Statistics Austria

Peer Review in Austria: 13th to 17th October 2014

Basis: Full Self Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) completed by Statistics Austria

Two ONAs (out of 6 or (7)) were invited to participate
- Austrian Environmental Agency
- Energy Control

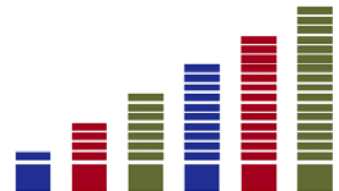ONAs completed Light Self Assessment Questionnaire (LSAQ)

Recommendations and Improvement Actions

<u>28 Recommendations</u> assigned to certain areas addressing several principles of the CoP ; diverging view for 3 recommendations
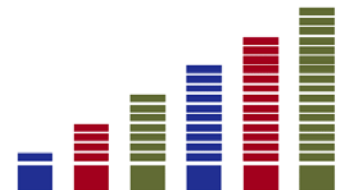
<u>18 Improvement Actions:</u>
Sometimes combining recommendations to one IA.
Sometimes two actions for one recommendation

Recommendations and Improvement Actions –
Characterization of recommendations

- ➢ Recommendations are sometimes related to authorities outside
- ➢ Recommendations covering situations already tackled by the NSI

|	Internal responsibility	Depending on other authorities	Diverging view	Total
Already connected to an action	8	7	1	16
New issue	5	5	2	12
Total	13	12	3	28

Improvement Actions – Strategy 2020

Statistics Austria is obliged to develop a strategic concept covering a 5-year period

2015 was the year for developing the Strategy 2020. The agreement on the Improvement Actions out of the Peer Review for Austria was taken in the beginning of 2015.

=> The Improvement actions have to be an input source for the Strategy 2020
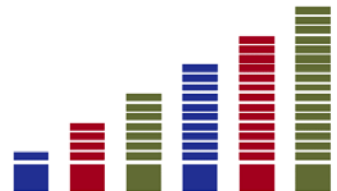
Improvement Actions – Strategy 2020

Several input sources for the Strategy 2020
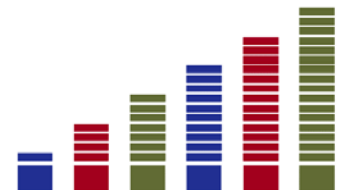
Improvement Actions – Strategy 2020

Actions of the Strategy 2020:

95 Actions to realize a vision where Statistics Austria tends to be in the year 2020 covering the following pillars

➢ Modern, efficient and integrated data production
➢ Transforming data to information
➢ Social relevance by covering new topics and permanent development
➢ Cooperation and interaction on national and international level
➢ Attractive employer, cost efficient leadership
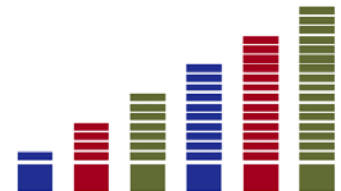
Transforming Improvement Actions into Strategic Actions

Improvement Actions have to follow the SMART approach approach (**S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**ealistic, and **Ti**me scaled)

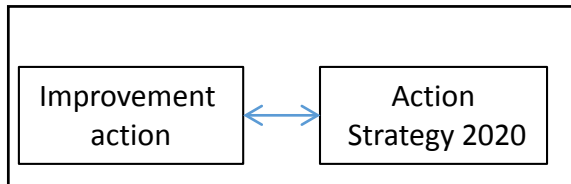The same criterion holds for actions within a strategic concepts

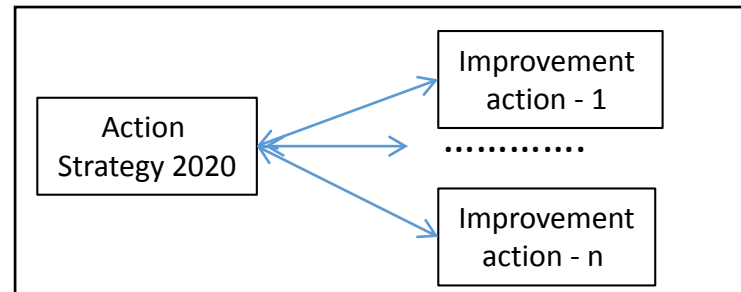How to fit in the improvement actions into the strategic concepts?
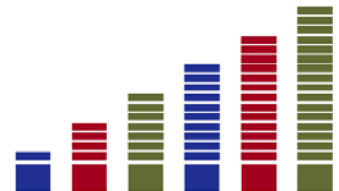
Improvement Actions – Strategy 2020

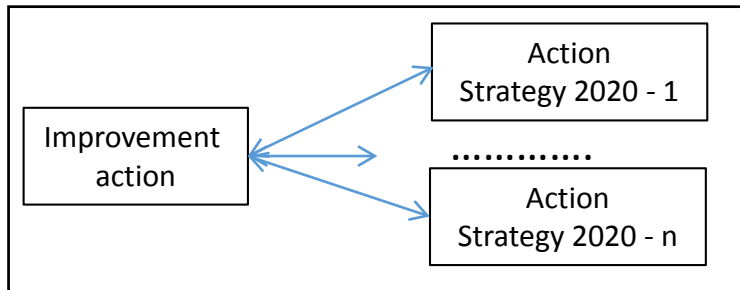Scenarios of fitting in the Improvement Actions into the Strategy 2020:
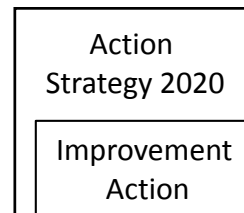
Scenario 1

| Improvement action | ⟷ | Action Strategy 2020 |

Scenario 2

Action Strategy 2020 ⟷ Improvement action - 1
....
Improvement action - n

Scenario 3

Improvement action ⟷ Action Strategy 2020 - 1
....
Action Strategy 2020 - n
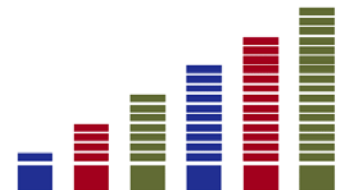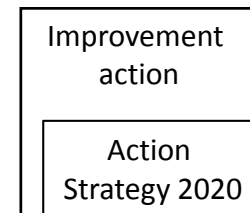
Scenario 4

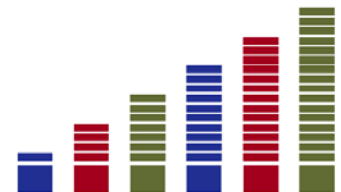Action Strategy 2020
Improvement Action

Scenario 5

Improvement action
Action Strategy 2020

Summary of fitting in:

29 of the 95 strategic actions are directly triggered or at least impacted by the Improvement Actions of the => 29,5%.

Given the seven input sources for the Strategy some can see that the Improvement Actions paly an over average role.

Fitting in process   very successful for Improvement Actions not related to authorities outside
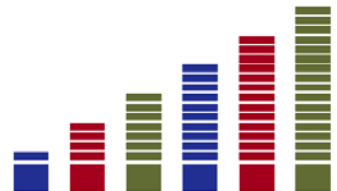
Examples:

Coordination: Several recommendations 1 global action

Data Collection: One recommendation linked to several strategic actions

Data Processing: Data Warehouse as one key action

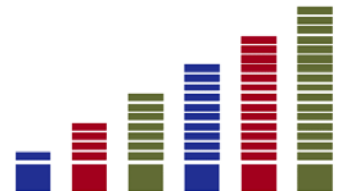Dissemination: Metadata, visualization, New topics

Lesson learnt from the Peer Review:

"Old" Strategy 2015 (developed during 2010): Working groups and then discussion and approvement by the senior management.

Peer Review 2014:

Involvement of various instances when compiling the SAQ

Integration of Junior Staff into the Peer review exercise

=> Consequences for the development process
of the Strategy 2020

The process :

More input channels:
- Working groups (like for the 2015 edition)
- Project leaders
- **Junior Statisticians**
- Works Council and Non-Discrimination Group

Two day closed meeting where besides senior management and working group leaders as well two persons of the Junior Statisticians (elected by the group) took part.
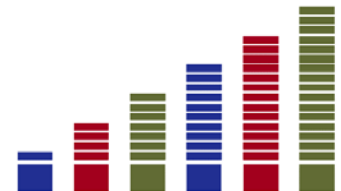
Conclusion:

The Peer Review triggered the change of the format for compiling the Strategy 2020 in order to have a broader basis of input.
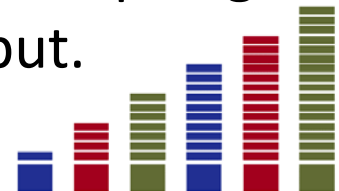
Consequences for ESS Quality Framework

➢ The development of strategic concepts can be seen as an opportunity for checking if the Improvement Actions are really SMART.

➢ A (very informal) coherence analysis shows that the aspect of innovation might not have been covered to the full extent.

➢ A principle on Coordination (cooperation) could be a candidate for being integrated into the CoP.

➢ Is it possible to have a kind of harmonized process for developing strategic concepts within the ESS and could this be an information source for good practices.

Thank you for your attention