Current status of data provision to international Organization, usage monitoring and improvement management plan in Korea

Youn Young Park
Statistics Korea, Daejeon, Korea – younyoungp@korea.kr

Byeong Hyeon Kim/Sungkyu Choi
Statistics Korea, Daejeon, Korea – isd@korea.kr

As countries enter into international organizations such as the UN, the OECD, the IMF etc, member countries are obligated to provide national data and monitor usage management of national data in a proper way. The purpose of this paper is to find the problems and suggest improvement plans for compiling the results of data provision and monitoring "Korea numeric data" in international organization's DB, publication, research paper etc. According to the data provision results, 15 statistical agencies in Korea, such as the Statistics Korea, the Ministry of Science, ICT and future planning were providing 69 sets of statistics to 12 international organizations. The OECD was the main client for 39 sets of statistics, whereas 10 statistical agencies provided 30 sets of statistics to non-OECD organizations. Due to the difference of production standards and classification, some items had not been submitted.

Usage monitoring of submitted data was uniquely implemented in Statistics Korea as a pilot scheme. Statistics Korea checked recent statistics which were submitted to international organizations and monitored whether "numeric data" had been used in the correct way or not. The purpose was to prevent national image being falsely represented in the international community as a result of incorrect data usage. Monitoring had been implemented in 3 types of table forms such as data usage manner, recent numeric data's usage review and international comparison of production standards. For data usage manner, we screened international organizations, usage classification, web-site, re-processing, publication time and submitted data. As for recent numeric data usage reviews, we checked between KOSIS data and international organization's data whether it was consistent or not. Lastly, we reviewed whether our production standard was consistent with international recommendations or other countries in survey scope, items, survey periods etc.

In the process of data provision and monitoring, we discovered some issues in this system. On the data provision side, we figured out some problems such as data provision's legal basis absence, formation of work blind area, no standardization documentation for data provision management and no evaluation equipment for work improvement. On the data usage monitoring side, we observed that there was no manual or training for dispatched officials who are working for international organizations. Also, we found that currently there was no automatic searching tool which would efficiently support the monitoring of Korea's numeric data in the international society.

From 2015, Statistics Korea is going to implement an improvement plan which was drawn from the data provision and monitoring management process. On the data provision side, we are going to create ordinance related data provision issues in the Statistics Law, clarify the international organizations which are liable for data provision, equip the process procedure for non-publishing data, standardize the format for data entry and exit management, accelerate the service degree of KODAPS, which is supporting system for data provision to international organizations, and introduce evaluation systems for data provision work. By doing so, we plan to seek a substantial governance system in data provision to international organizations. Also, on the side of data usage monitoring, we plan to develop training manuals for dispatched officials working for international organizations, educate them and monitor numeric data which is being used by international organizations on a regular scheme and develop an automated searching and monitoring tool system. The ultimate goal is to raise the trust of numeric data in the international society as well as upgrade the global image of Korea.

Keywords: International Organization; Data Provision; Usage Monitoring; global image.