Improvement of Business Architecture model at the HCSO – Experiences of the Hungarian Central Statistical Office

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Abstract

The Hungarian Central Statistical Office (HCSO) has a mid-term strategy for improvement of its Business Architecture and a long-term strategy for introducing Enterprise Architecture in line with international standards. The driving force behind using solutions compliant with international standards concerning statistical system is to support the efficient cooperation between NSIs. HCSO already has a Business Architecture due to the long history of its metainformation system. The history of the metainformation system of the HCSO goes back to late 1970s. Since there were not any international standards at this time such as Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX), Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM), Generic Statistical Information Model (GSIM) etc, therefore the HCSO established its own Business Architecture model (and its elements such as: business process model, information model etc.) supported by its metainformation system. The philosophy of this Business Architecture model is cross-cutting, which means that the elements of the Business Architecture cover all the subject-matter domains and their data and metadata flows in an integrated way. During the last years several new and integrated IT tools were introduced for the different process phases like Generalized Data Processing System or Centralized Data Transmission System for Administrative Data. The supporting IT applications for statistical business process are also cross cutting, which means that these applications support all of the subject-matter domains. In the framework of the mid-term project the HCSO worked out its new business process model (ESTFM) based on GSBPM. Currently the recommended methods used for statistical business process are reviewed or established according to this model. The supporting IT applications have been established according to the HCSO’s own business process model; hence these applications are mapped to the ESTFM. The HCSO also would like to introduce a GSIM-compliant (Generic architecture Statistical Information Model) solution to its business process model since it is also a crucial element for the whole business process model. The paper summarises the main drivers and elements of the Business Architecture strategy and the results of the latest IT application developments within the Hungarian Central Statistical Office.

Keywords: business architecture, modernisation, standardisation.