

Balancing sound methodology and IT flexibility in statistical production

Allyson J Seyb

Statistics New Zealand, Christchurch, New Zealand allyson.seyb@stats.govt.nz

Statistics NZ aims to produce statistics that are fit for purpose, and it aims to do this in an efficient and sustainable way. The organisation also wants to be adaptive, however, balancing sound methodological solutions and agility is challenging. Statistics NZ has taken advantage of well-developed IT environments and clear strategic directions in terms of statistical architecture to develop and implement production systems that support the organisation's goals. Production systems are composed of standard methods, tools and processes. Outputs that use similar production methods are processed on common platforms. The platforms also offer analysts the opportunity to create new production systems without the help of IT teams. The new platforms have encouraged standardisation and provide methods and tools that can be used to process and analyse data collected from traditional sample surveys or from an administrative source. The focus when processing large volumes of data is on error reduction and automation of standard methods for each of the process steps in the business process model. Centralised governance systems and a constructive culture of innovation make these changes possible.

Key Words: statistical architecture, enterprise architecture, governance, culture