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*A Centralized Statistical Information System
in the Decentralized Statistics System*

Abstract

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Within the decentralized statistics system in Japan, it is usually the case that the systems for statistical work are developed and managed by the respective ministries. However, with the pressure of effective investment and efficient operation of information technology, ministries were requested to draw up the "Optimization Plan of Business Processes and Systems" for the relevant sectors in order to limit costs, and to simplify and rationalize official work, based on the concept of Enterprise Architecture.

As one of the action plans of this optimization plan, the "Optimization Plan of Business Processes and Systems of Official Statistics" was decided by the government in 2006.

In response to this optimization plan on official statistics, the Statistics Bureau has realized a centralized statistical information system, with good cooperation of all other ministries. It is the Inter-Ministry Information System for Official Statistics (IMISOS), which is a unified system of official statistics of all the ministries, as a vehicle to implement the optimization plan. The IMISOS launched in April 2008 and has been managed by the National Statistics Center.

The Portal Site of Official Statistics (e-Stat), as one of the core services by the IMISOS, makes it possible for public users to obtain their desired statistical information on one website, without regard to which ministry is responsible for the information.

This presentation document describes main functions of the e-Stat, and concludes with some keys to our success of developing the centralized statistical information system in the decentralized statistics system from our experience.