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Role of Business Registers

Improvement of Dutch Statistical Business Register

Abstract

SN faced major challenges in the last years. Business Register Regulation (FRIBS), new technical developments, new business architecture and a major redesign of our primary. Some challenges demanded major redesigns of our SBR. Another challenge was the need for stabilization of our SBR to ensure implementing future improvements. These urgent developments hampered SN in improving at the same time the SBR in order to meet new business needs.

Our internal, national and international stakeholders needed and partly prescribed more information on globalisation, regionalisation and a better description of statistical units outside the SBS domain. SN has coordination problems between national statistics within SN (e.g. between employment statistics and SBS) and between SN and the Dutch Central Bank (DCB). The coordination problems were the result that the SBR was not the backbone for all national (financial) statistics made by SN and DCB. Reason for this is a long time problem in creating statistical units for all users (NA, SBS and DCB). Due to large dependencies, an ambitious project was set up in order to investigate, coordinate and reduce these problems. The project started in 2015 and ends Q1 2017.

The paper will describe the content, the special organisation and the way forward for the implementation phase of the project.

The project addresses the following business needs:

- Better coordination by
 - o reducing the statistical unit problem by achieving one common register serving NA, SBS, government statistics and financial statistics
 - o introduction of the institutional sector code on the enterprise and creating enterprises which relate to the institutional sector and the NACE they are active in
- improving the coverage of enterprises (not covered by our main administrative register)
- an improved description of our statistical units

For this project a special organisation was needed. Beside the project team and steering group a Research Control Board (RCB) was set up which was populated by specialist stakeholders of the SBR.

It also included a member of the DCB. The RCB was responsible for guidance to the project team, help defining the business needs and assuring they were achieved. Project results were first presented to the RCB where it was discussed from different perspectives and acknowledging in early stages certain challenges in the problems or in the proposed solutions. Due to the presence of the RCB the project team was able to assess possible solutions presented in different scenarios with attention for the positive or negative effects for different users.

Currently we are in the implementation phase which is organised according to SCRUM¹. The SCRUM method focusses on customer collaboration, adapting to change, working product (business value). A product owner is, together with the development team, responsible for achieving the most important business needs. A comprehensive set of items is listed which the team will take on board each development iteration. During the implementation phase the project team works closely together with the customers and is flexible to adapt to change.

¹ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scrum_\(software_development\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scrum_(software_development))