



## NEWSLETTER

# GENERIC STATISTICAL BUSINESS PROCESS MODEL (GSBPM) VERSION 5.2

## 01 >>> INTRODUCTION

The Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) describes and defines a set of activities involved in the business processes needed to produce official statistics. It provides a standard framework and harmonised terminology to help statistical organisations to modernise their statistical production processes, as well as to share methods and components. The GSBPM can also be used for integrating data and metadata standards, as a template for process documentation, for harmonising statistical computing infrastructures, and to provide a framework for process quality assessment and improvement.

## 02 >>> CHRONOLOGY

First developed by the Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Group on Statistical Metadata (METIS)

Apr.  
2009

GSBPM Version  
5.0 was  
released

June  
2017

Broad review of GSBPM to improve consistency with new HLG-MOS models, the GSIM and the GAMSO

June  
2019

GSBPM Version  
5.2 was  
released

2008

GSBPM  
Version 4.0 was  
released

Dec.  
2013

Endorsed by  
the Conference  
of European  
Statisticians

2017 - 2018

GSBPM  
Version 5.1 was  
released

May 2025

## 03 >>> UNDERSTANDING THE GSBPM

- A statistical business process involves a collection of related and structured activities and tasks to convert inputs into outputs. The output of the process may be a mixed set of physical or digital products presenting data and metadata in different ways (e.g. publications, maps, electronic services). Organisations (or groups of organisations) perform statistical business processes to create official statistics to satisfy the needs of the users.
- The GSBPM is not a rigid framework in which all steps must be followed in a strict order, instead it identifies the possible activities that may be performed as steps in a statistical business process and the inter-dependencies between them.
- GSBPM is inherently non-sequential, allowing flexibility in revisiting phases or sub-processes as needed. While the model is often presented sequentially for clarity, in practice, activities may occur in parallel, repeat in loops, or be omitted depending on specific requirements or circumstances.
- GSBPM aims to be sufficiently generic to be widely applicable and to encourage a standard view of the statistical business process, without becoming either too restrictive or too abstract and theoretical.

Source:  
Generic Statistical Business Process Model GSBPM, Version 5.2, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) (2025)



## A. Different structural levels

## i. Overarching Processes:

Renamed as “**Overarching Activities**” to enhance alignment with Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organisations (GAMSO).

## ii. Phases and sub-processes:

No phases or sub-processes were added or removed; however **some sub-processes were renamed** to make their meaning and purpose clearer.

## B. Modernised terminology, especially in reference to particular technologies

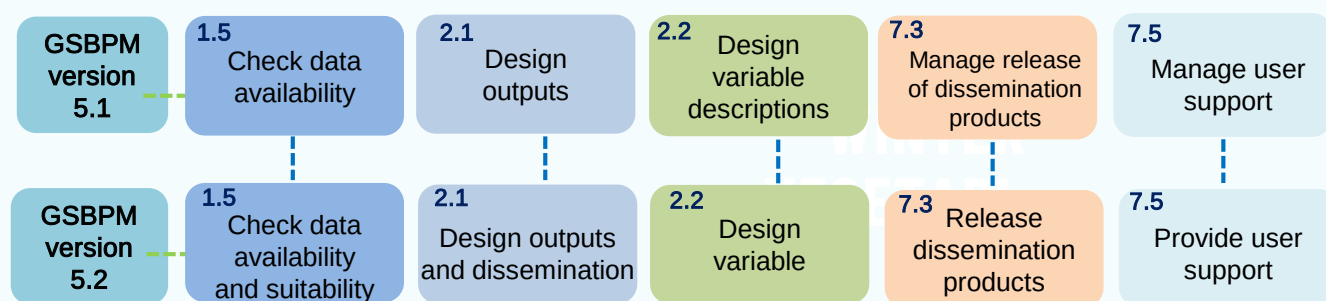
## C. Improved or reworked descriptions or explanations

- i. Extra explanation of the approach toward respondents and users.
- ii. Greater emphasis for administrative and other non-survey sources of data.
- iii. The non-sequential nature of the GSBPM has been emphasised by adding an illustration of iteration between sub-processes.
- iv. Extra descriptions for the Overarching Activities of Process Data Management, Knowledge Management, Data Supplier Management.
- v. The role of unit types in distinguishing between concepts from variables.
- vi. Distinction between data and products.
- vii. Better signposting to distinguish different parts of the GSBPM and how they relate.

## D. Topics reflected or emphasised due to feedback received

- i. Extra mentions of machine learning/artificial intelligence.
- ii. Several further references to geospatial considerations.
- iii. Factors that could be considered within a business case.
- iv. Development approaches that iterate between the Design and Build phases and the importance of considering security in those phases.
- v. Design of fieldwork operations.
- vi. Multi-mode collection.
- vii. Pseudo-anonymisation.
- viii. Microdata as a possible the output in itself.
- ix. Cataloguing, tagging and discoverability of statistical outputs.

Figure 1 : Main Changes to the GSBPM Structural Levels Between Versions 5.1 and 5.2



The GSBPM recognises several activities with a strong statistical component that apply throughout the eight phases, called “**Overarching Activities**” in the model. These overarching activities are:

1. **Quality Management** - This overarching activity includes quality assessment and control mechanisms. It recognises the importance of evaluation and feedback throughout the statistical business process;
2. **Metadata Management** - This includes process-independent considerations such as metadata custodianship and ownership, quality, archiving rules, preservation, retention and disposal;
3. **Data Management** - This includes process-independent considerations such as general data security, custodianship, and ownership, data quality, archiving rules, preservation, retention and disposal;
4. **Process Data Management** - This includes activities of registering, systematising and using data about the implementation of the statistical business process;
5. **Knowledge Management** - An ongoing activity that mainly involves maintaining the documentation of recurring statistical business processes, ensuring that they are repeatable;
6. **Data Supplier Management** - This includes cross-process burden management, as well as topics such as profiling and management of contact information (and thus has particularly close links with statistical business processes that maintain registers).

Source:

Generic Statistical Business Process Model GSBPM, Version 5.2, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) (2025)



## Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) Version 5.2

## Overarching Activities

SPECIFY NEEDS	DESIGN	BUILD	COLLECT	PROCESS	ANALYSE	DISSEMINATE	EVALUATE
1.1	2.1	3.1	4.1	5.1	6.1	7.1	8.1
Identify needs	Design outputs <b>and dissemination</b>	Reuse or build collection instruments	Create frame and select sample	Integrate data	Prepare draft outputs	Update output systems	Gather evaluation inputs
1.2	2.2	3.2	4.2	5.2	6.2	7.2	8.2
Consult and confirm needs	<b>Design variable</b>	Reuse or build processing and analysis components	Set up collection	Classify and code	Validate outputs	Produce dissemination products	Conduct evaluation
1.3	2.3	3.3	4.3	5.3	6.3	7.3	8.3
Establish output objectives	Design collection	Reuse or build dissemination components	Run collection	Review and validate	Interpret and explain outputs	<b>Release dissemination products</b>	Agree an action plan
1.4	2.4	3.4	4.4	5.4	6.4	7.4	
Identify concepts	Design frame and sample	Configure workflows	Finalise collection	Edit and impute	Apply disclosure control	Promote dissemination products	
1.5	2.5	3.5		5.5	6.5	7.5	
Check data availability <b>and suitability</b>	Design processing and analysis	Test production systems		Derive new variables and units	Finalise outputs	<b>Provide</b> user support	
1.6	2.6	3.6		5.6			
Prepare and submit business case	Design production systems and workflow	Test statistical business process		Calculate weights			
		3.7		5.7			
		Finalise production systems		Calculate aggregates			
				5.8			
				Finalise data files			

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