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## **IPS Abstract**

How can peer reviews give impetus to increasing the quality, innovative capacity and maturity of a statistical system? The experience of the Netherla

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## **Brief Description**

The paper looks back on three rounds of peer review of the Netherlands' statistical system.

The undeniable conclusion is that the process of the peer review created enabling conditions and drivers for a continuous dialogue within the NSI and with stakeholders aiming at and leading to an increase of the quality, innovative capacity and maturity of the statistical system. Effective communication inside the organisation, but also towards the stakeholders (e.g.

government, ministries and other main users, the media, academia and other producers) about the different stages of the process, appeared to be essential for raising awareness and obtaining commitment.

The resulting preparedness to be actively involved in the process by providing information and evidence to the peer review team created a basis for a dialogue and synergies.

Once the peer review report and recommendations are published, a SMART plan for the improvement actions must be drawn up and annual monitoring of the progress will take place.

In addition, this phase is an important impetus towards reaching a higher level of maturity and compliance with the principles of the Code of Practice

During the whole process you are forced to hold a mirror up to yourself and it encourages discussion - especially with external stakeholders - on how we can act together in further improving the quality and innovative capacity of the statistical system.