# The Generic Statistical Information Model (GSIM) and the Sistema Unitario dei Metadati (SUM): state of application of the standard

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#### **SUMMARY**

- Generic Statistical Information Model (GSIM) and Istat metadata system (SUM)
- The Istat metadata system SUM
  - -- Population, variable and other concepts
  - -- Classification
  - -- Data content
  - -- Data structures
- Functionalities, developments and benefits
  - Search functionalities
  - Implementation of GSIM
  - Benefits and more



#### GSIM and Istat metadata system (SUM)

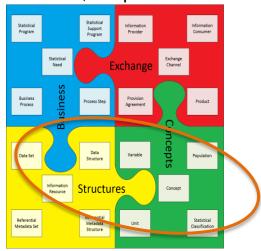
GSIM describes the "interfaces" in terms of subprocesses input and output, leaving to GSBPM the description of the subprocesses



- 1.In order to trace the data production process, Istat metadata system considered GSIM as a primary source of information.
- 2.Our current objective is to develop the part of Istat metadata system (SUM) related to data (structural metadata).

3. Hence, attention has been given mostly to a portion of GSIM, the part related to the

"structure" and "concepts"

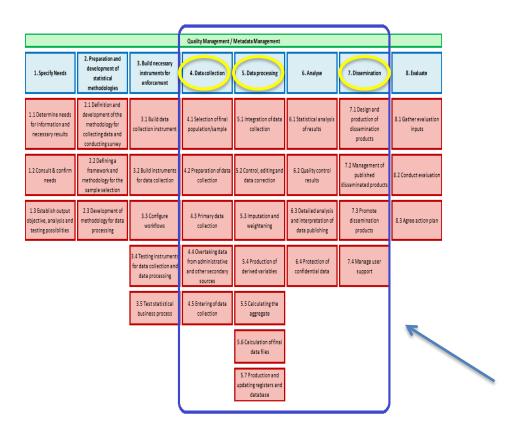


4. Istat metadata system SUM is coherent with GSIM for definitions and nomenclatures



#### The Istat metadata system SUM

□ The Istat metadata system (SUM) is a centralized system which contains structural metadata. SUM aims to describe data and data connections able to trace the data production process from data collection (raw data) up to data dissemination.





# The system should aim at easing:

Harmonization: our Institute should speak using the same terms according to a common language structure, independently on the theme

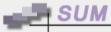
Reuse: new processes should draw terms among those already existing

Search functionalities: in order to foster harmonization and reuse, there should be adequate search functionalities

Traceability: every step of the data production process is operationally defined so to allow reconstruction of the same data from another party (transparency)



#### The Istat metadata system SUM



| SISTEMA UNITARIO METADATI

ID Operatore: casagran Profile: Supervisore Version 2.5 - 25 Febbraio 2016

#### Rilascio in via sperimentale del Sistema Unitario dei Metadati



NEWS II Sistema Unitario dei Metadati, nella sua componente relativa ai metadati strutturali, viene rilasciato in via sperimentale nella intranet di Istituto con un primo pacchetto di funzionalità, e a un livello di popolamento parziale (copertura al 100% dei metadati relativi alla fase di diffusione tramite I.Stat, inizio del popolamento dei metadati relativi alle fasi di acquisizione dati e validazione). Durante il primo semestre 2016 il sistema verrà arricchito di nuove funzionalità e ulteriormente popolato. Chiunque riscontri errori nei contenuti del sistema o voglia proporre funzionalità specifiche non ancora presenti nel sistema e utili per le attività di Istituto, può contattare il gruppo SUM all'indirizzo email; sum@istat.it.

#### Descrizione del sistema

La strategia di modernizzazione e di industrializzazione dei processi statistici dell'Istituto, nota con il nome di Stat2015, ha tra i suoi pilastri la gestione unitaria dei metadati statistici attraverso il Sistema Unitario di Metadati - SUM.

- Il progetto complessivo, da realizzare per step successivi entro il 2015, si basa su di una visione unitaria ed integrata di tutte le tipologie di metadati:
- . Strutturali: metadati che definiscono il significato di ogni dato statistico prodotto dall'Istat. Nel SUM è quindi possibile ritrovare le unità di riferimento dei (micro o macro) dati, i nomi delle variabili statistiche o di altri concetti, le classificazioni statistiche e altre tipologie di liste, gli indicatori statistici prodotti, oltre alla descrizione completa dei contenuti dei dataset di micro e macro dati.
- Referenziali: metadati che definiscono il contenuto e la qualità dei dati statistici prodotti dall'Istat. Questa parte del sistema contiene le metainformazioni relative ai processi produttivi statistici (rilevazioni, elaborazioni e sistemi informativi) e ai processi secondari (moduli ad hoc, ampliamenti del campione, indagini pilota e indagini di controllo della qualità o sperimentazioni) condotti dall'Istat, (vedi SIDI-SIOUAL)

#### Navigazione del sistema

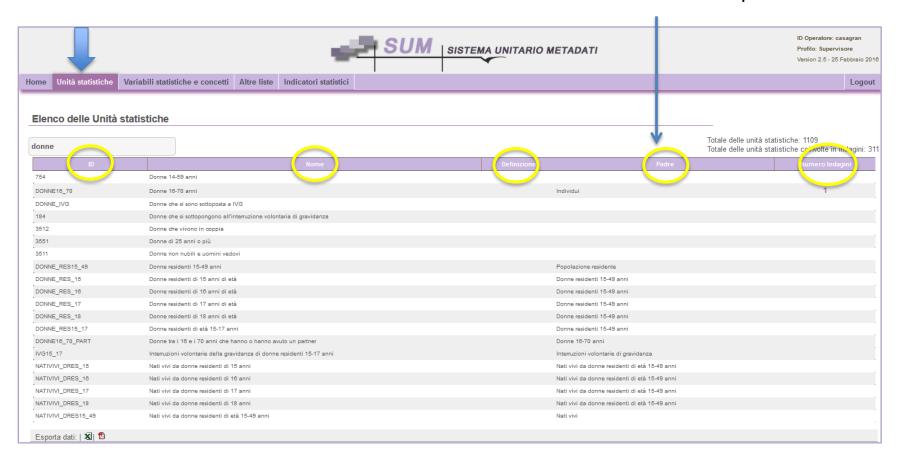
- » [SUM-MS] Metadati strutturali: variabili, classificazioni, strutture dati
  - » Tesauri iste [Backend]
  - » Tesauri e liste : liste di variabili, collettivi statistici, concetti temporali
  - » Classificazioni
  - » Strutture dei dati
  - » Tracciabilità dei metadati [Backend]
  - » SDMX Registry
- » Logout



#### The Istat metadata system SUM: population, variable and other concepts

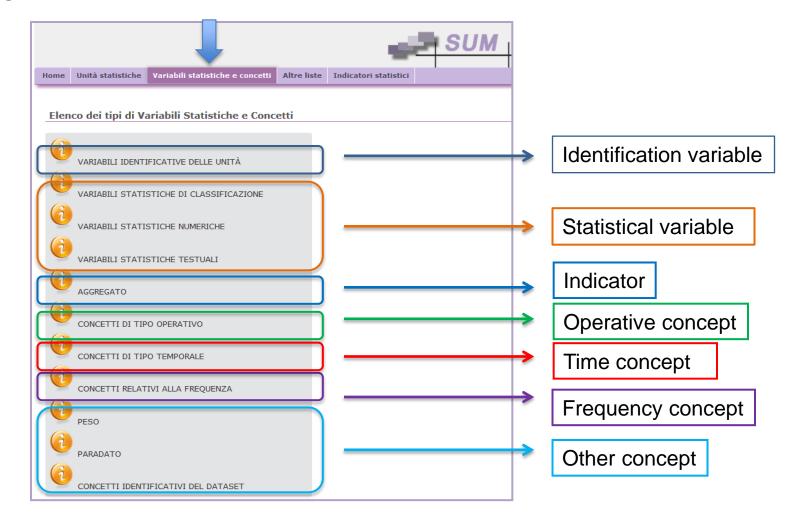
## Population

#### Hierarchical relationship





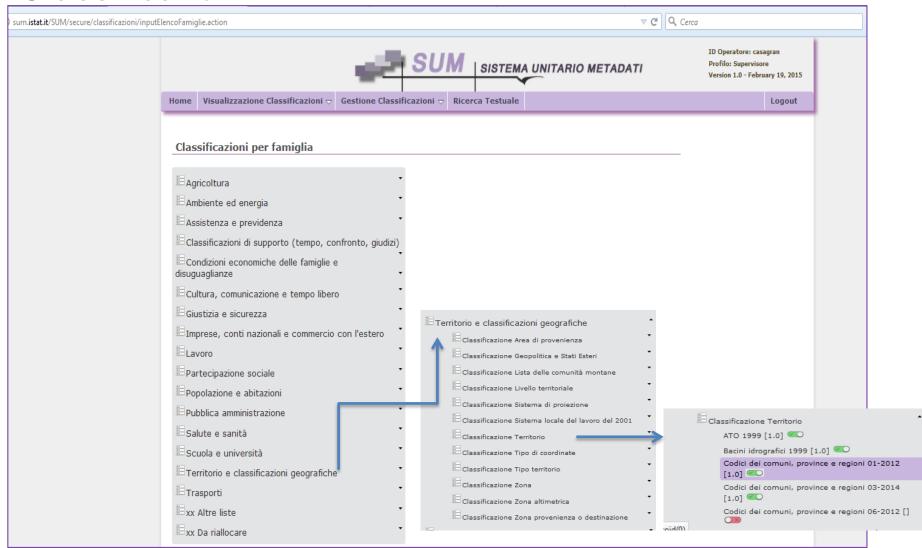
#### Variable





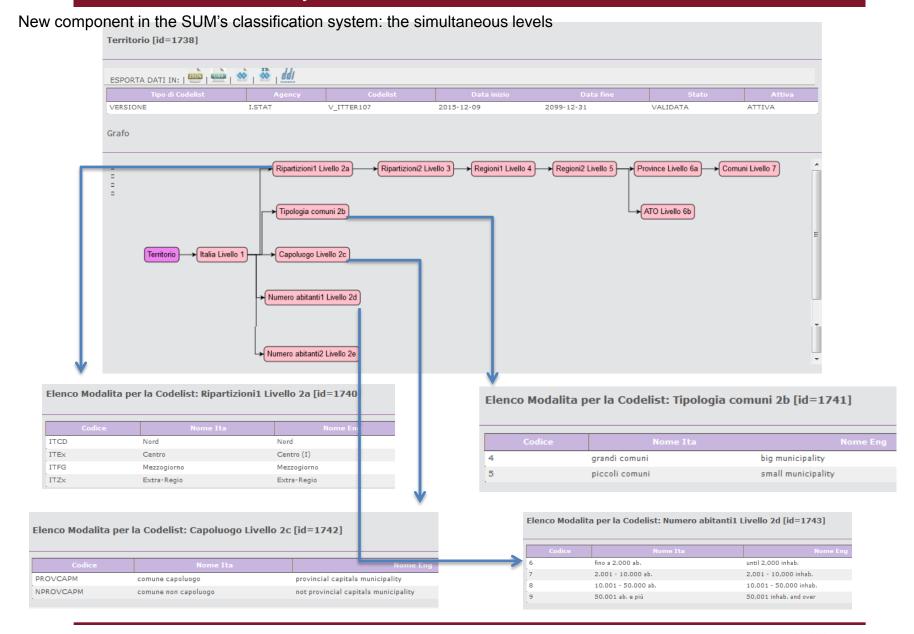
#### The Istat metadata system SUM: classification

## Classification





#### The Istat metadata system SUM: classification



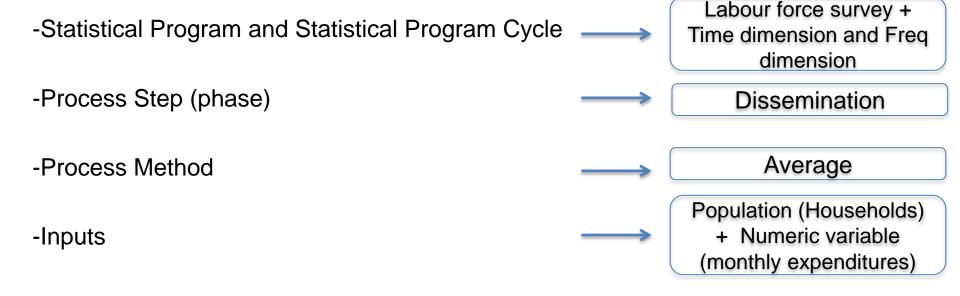


#### Data content

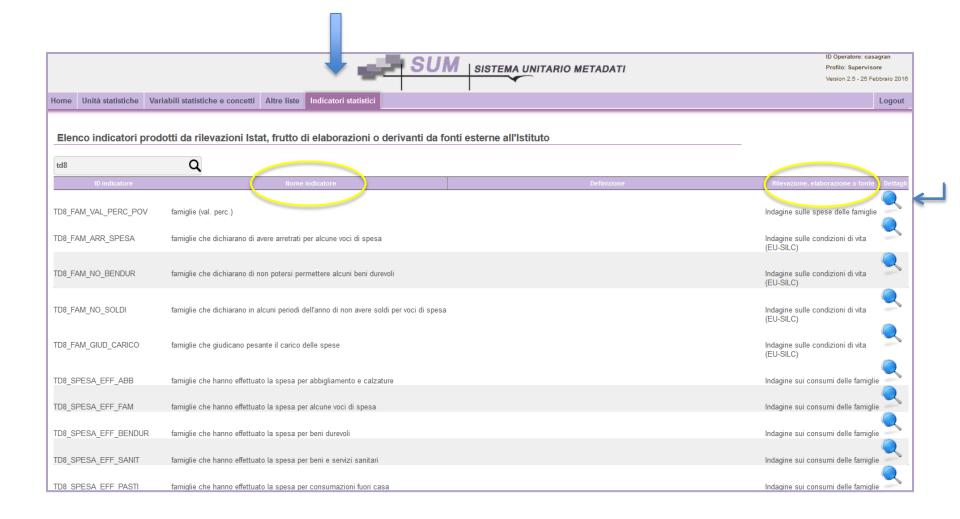
In SUM, we introduced the "data content" concept. It is defined according to the GSIM (specification) lines 47-50: Each **data** is a result of a Process step through the application of a Process method on the necessary Inputs. Hence it is modelled by specifying:

Example:

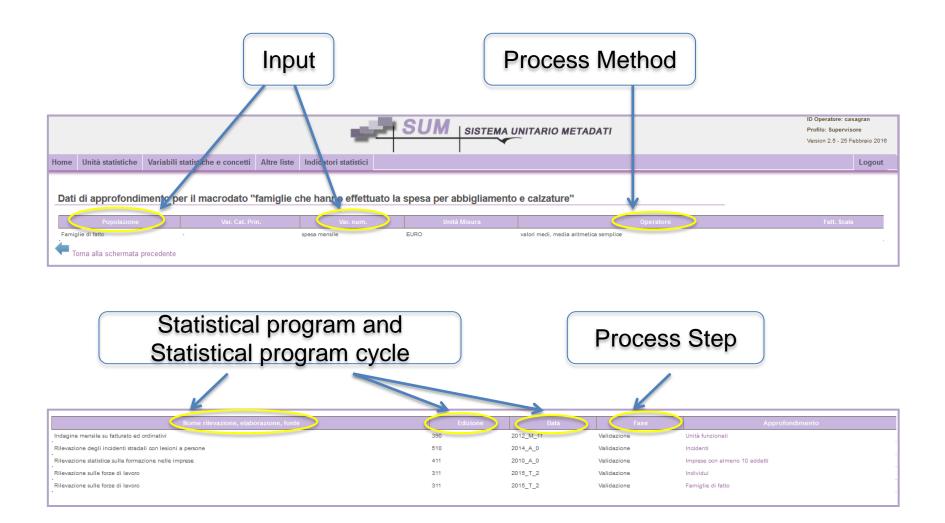
Monthly average
household expenditures













#### Data Content feeds the GSIM concept Measure in a Data Structure.

Object	Group	Definition	Explanatory Text
Measure	Structures	The role given to a Represented Variable	A Measure Component is a sub-type of Data Structure
Component		in the context of a Data Structure to hold	Component. For example age and height of a person in
		the observed/derived values for a	a Unit Data Set or number of citizens and number of
		particular <i>Unit</i> in an organized collection	households in a country in a Data Set for multiple
		of data.	countries (Dimensional Data Set).

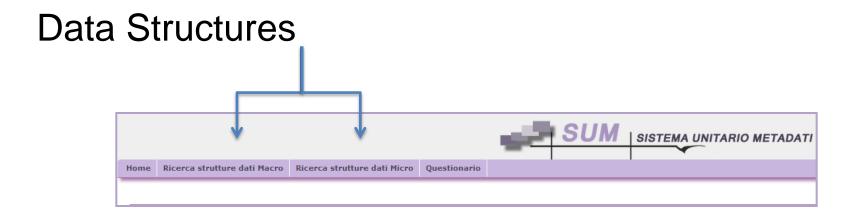
- □ SUM maintains a special code list "Data Content" where each item contains all the previous details.
- In this way a user can find the meaning of the data in a hypercube in a unique place.
- ☐ Furthermore a data producer has a form to complete for describing any new data content (*data content structure*).
- Any data producer should describe the "Data Content" according to the same "structure".

Statistical Program						
Indicator	Population	Variable	Operator	Conditioning variable	Unit measure	Scale factor

☐ If the "Data Content" is not well defined, the meaning of data is not easy to understand and massive use of mappers should be foreseen for data and metadata exchange.



#### The Istat metadata system SUM: data structures



Dimensional Data Structures (macro)

Unit Data Structure (micro)

GSIM states that "A Data Structure describes the structure of a Data Set by means of Data Structure Components (Identifier Components, Measure Components and Attribute Components)."



#### Functionalities, developments and benefits: data structures

## Dimensional Data Structures (macro)

<ul><li>□ Statistical program</li><li>□ Reference time</li><li>□ Phase</li></ul>	Metadata that identify a data set
<ul> <li>□ Data content</li> <li>□ Categorical variables</li> <li>□ Time dimensions</li> <li>□ Other dimensions</li> <li>□ Attributes (unit measure, unit multiplier, obs. status,)</li> </ul>	Metadata that specify the meaning of each datum
☐ Data input☐ Method of transformation☐	Metadata on the relationship between datasets



#### Functionalities, developments and benefits: data structures

#### Unit Data Structure (micro)

<ul> <li>Statistical program</li> <li>Reference time</li> <li>Phase</li> <li>Reference population</li> </ul>	Metadata that identify a data set
<ul> <li>□ Unit identifier</li> <li>□ Numerical/quantitative variables</li> <li>□ Categorical variables</li> <li>□ Textual variables</li> <li>□ Macrodata requested at the microdata level</li> <li>□ Attributes (maximum number of answers, rules, structural zeros,)</li> <li>□ Paradata</li> </ul>	Metadata that specify the meaning of each datum
<ul> <li>Relationship between the investigated populations</li> <li>Data input</li> <li>Method of transformation</li> </ul>	Metadata on the relationship between datasets



#### Functionalities, developments and benefits: search functionalities

#### Search functionalities

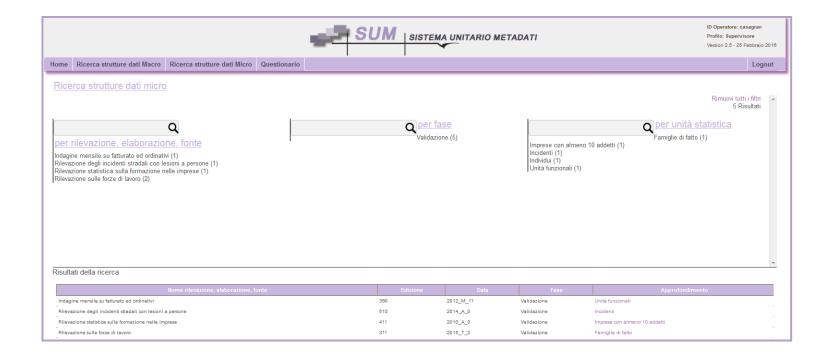
#### Dimensional Data Structures (macro)





#### Functionalities, developments and benefits: search functionalities

#### Unit Data Structure (micro)





#### Functionalities, developments and benefits: implementation of GSIM

## Comparisons and implementation of Gsim

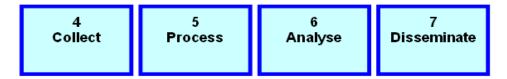
GSIM concept	SUM presence	
Population	Yes	
Unit type	Not yet	
Conceptual variable	Not yet	
Represented variable	Yes	
Instance variable	No	
Classification	Yes (slight different definition)	
Code list	Yes	
Category set	Not yet	
Data set	Yes (fixing roles for dimensions)	
	Furthermore: Data content (for macro data structures)	



#### Functionalities, developments and benefits: benefits

#### Benefits and more

☐ The use of GSIM concepts helps in harmonizing the description of a dataset between each phases.



## **Output = transformation (input)**

- Among the concepts already available in GSIM, an additional concept (the "Data Content") could be useful in order to feed in a standard and complete way a Measure of a Data Structure (of macrodata).
- ☐ This is what we have done in Istat. The corporate DWH (I.Stat) has more than 3300 "data contents". In SUM it is possible to search data through different facets:
  - ✓ Statistical program
  - ✓ Reference population of the data
  - ✓ Numerical variables used for the production of a data content
  - ✓ Categories of a categorical variable used in data structures



# Thanks for your attention



