STATEC

Enhancing Data Dissemination through improved SDMX Modeling at STATEC

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Rome
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Agenda

1 Background and motivation

2 Organisation and collaboration

3 SDMX data modelling

4 Lessons learned and next steps

1

Background and motivation

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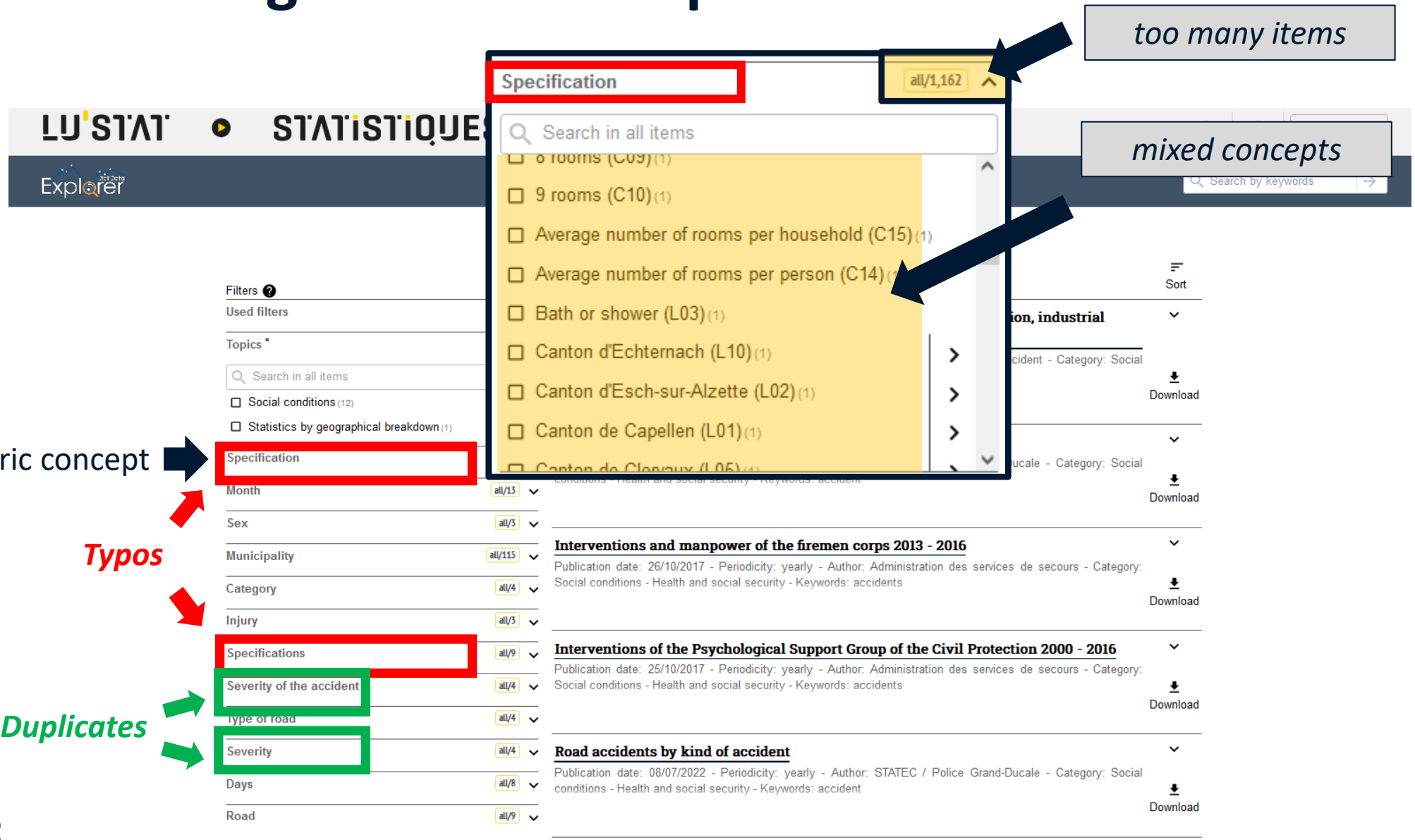
Background and motivation

- *Statec migrated to .STAT suite for data dissemination in March 2022*
- *Migration was needed because the previous tool became depreciated*
- *Urgency to migrate more than 650 tables in a short time*
- *Focus more on migration deadline than on modelling*
- *Bad modelling = bad user experience*

Bad modelling = bad user experience



2

Organisation and collaboration

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Organisation and collaboration

How to introduce SDMX good modelling practices in a small organisation ?

- *STATEC is a small structure (250 staff size)*
- *Business is already busy with daily tasks*
- *SDMX modelling has a certain entry cost*
- *Misunderstanding of the data modelling practice*
- *Is it really needed at STATEC ?*

Organisation and collaboration

Approach ***1/2***

- *Setting up a horizontal team composed of :*
  - *an external SDMX expert*
  - *a dissemination manager,*
  - *under the supervision of a methodology expert*
  - *a chief information Officer*

- *Project management including regular reporting to higher management*

Organisation and collaboration

Approach ***2/2***

- *New approach with the business (production units)*
- *IT support : .STAT maintenance*
- *Technical assistance provided by OECD: regular workshops / ticketing tool*

Organisation and collaboration

I. Initialisation

GitLab

.STAT ACADEMY

eurostat

OECD

II. Modeling

GitLab

SDMX Matrix Generator

OECD

III. Validation

GitLab

.Stat Suite

IV. Publication

.Stat Suite

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3

SDMX data modelling

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SDMX data modeling

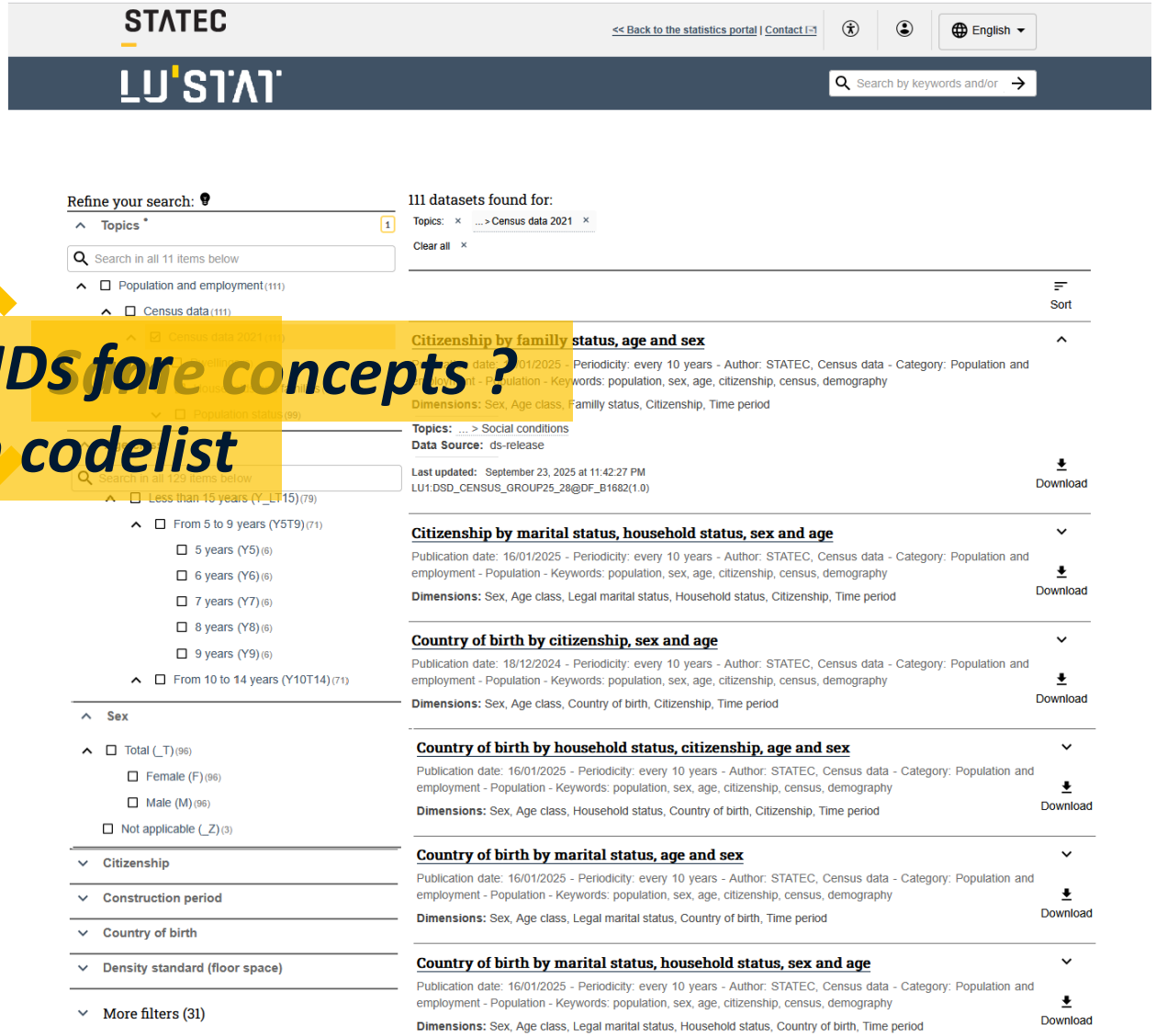
Example : Census data 2021

- *Input from business, shaped from EU Census requirement*
- *111 dataflows / 10 DSDs / content constraints*
- *+/- 40 concepts (incl. commons) / +/- 30 CLs (re-used and new)*

SDMX data modeling

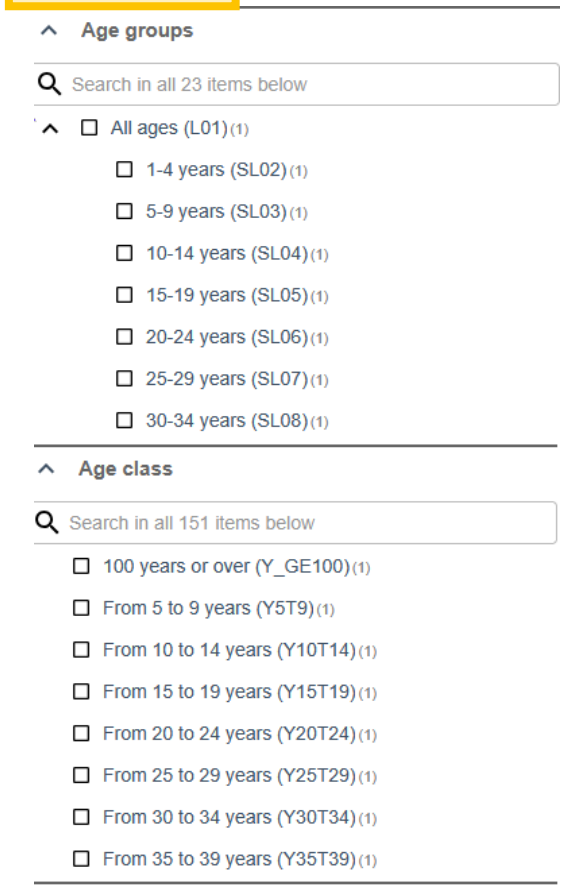
before

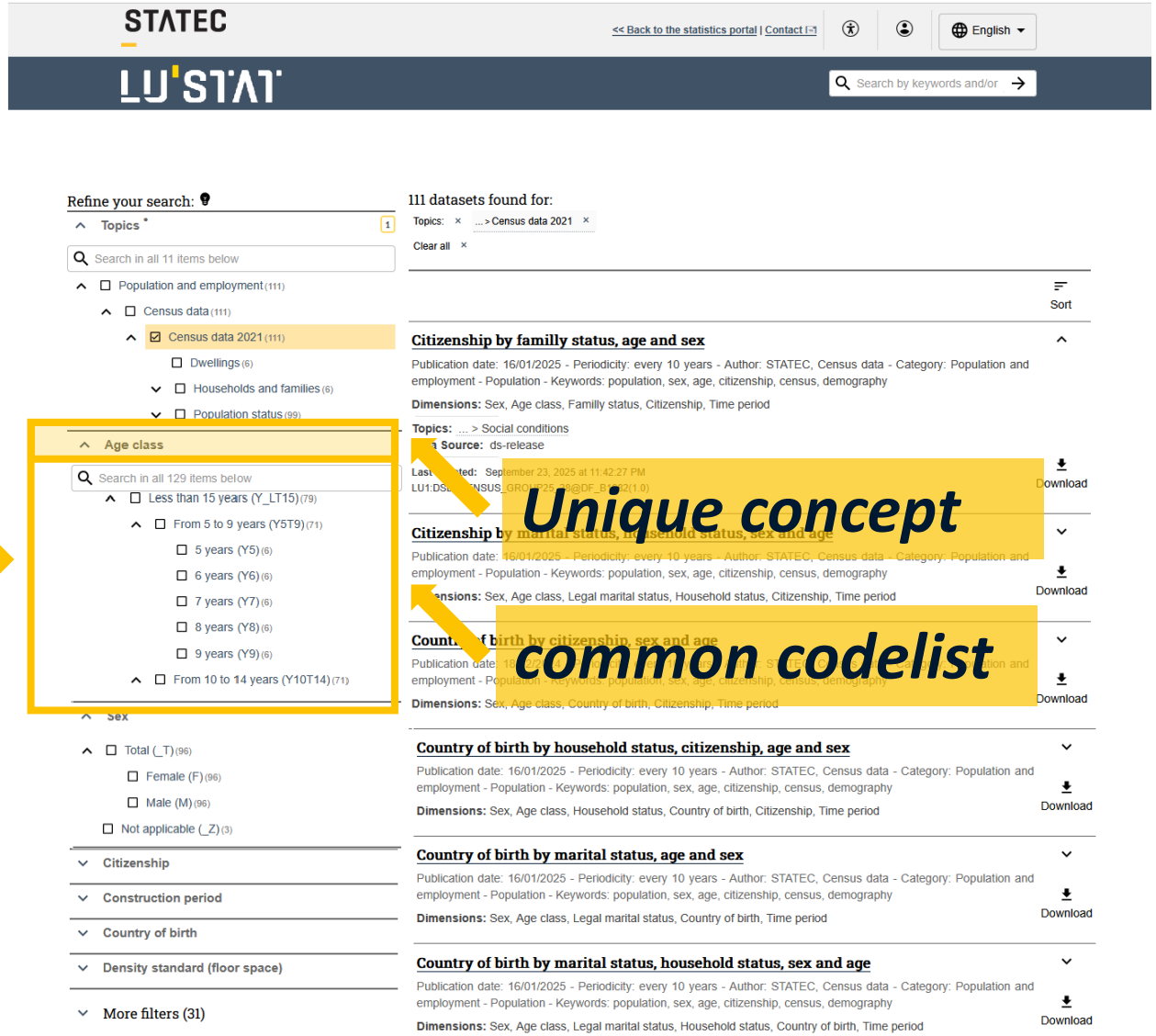
Custom IDs for concepts ?
common codelist



SDMX data modeling

After





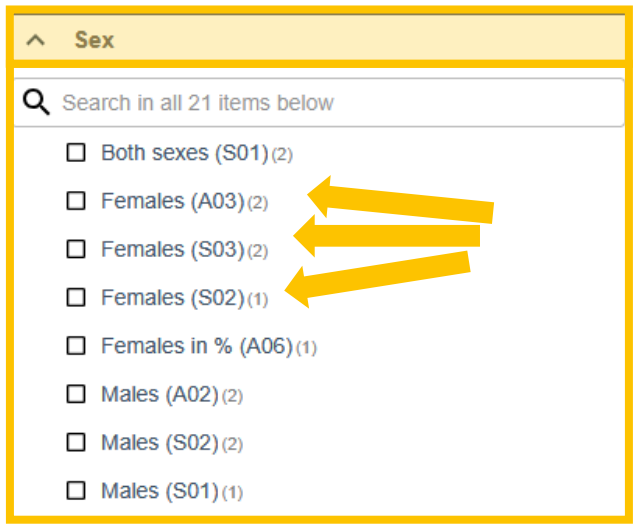
Unique concept

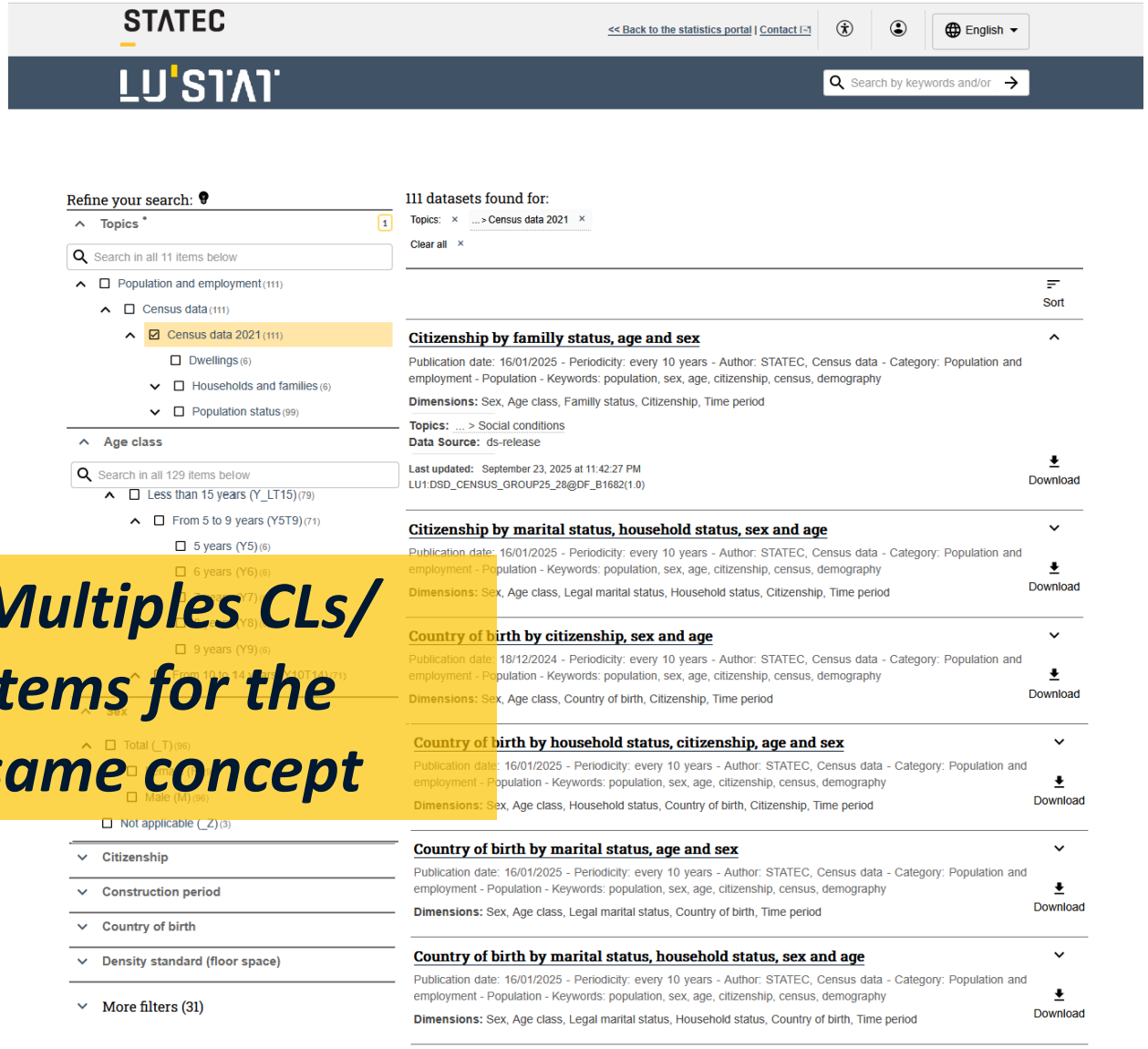
common codelist

SDMX data modeling

Same for SEX

before



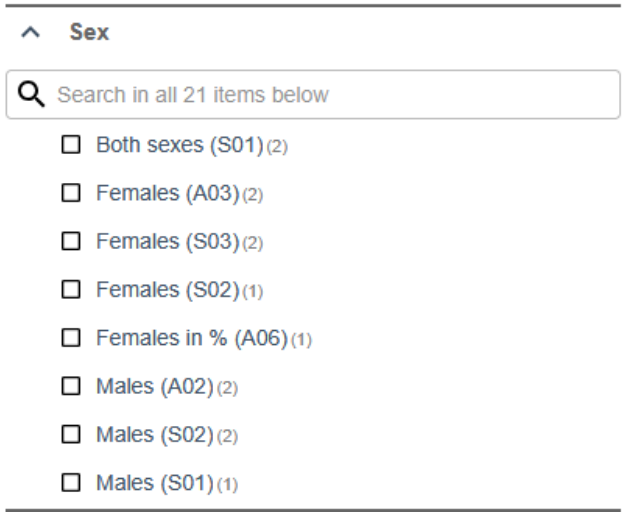


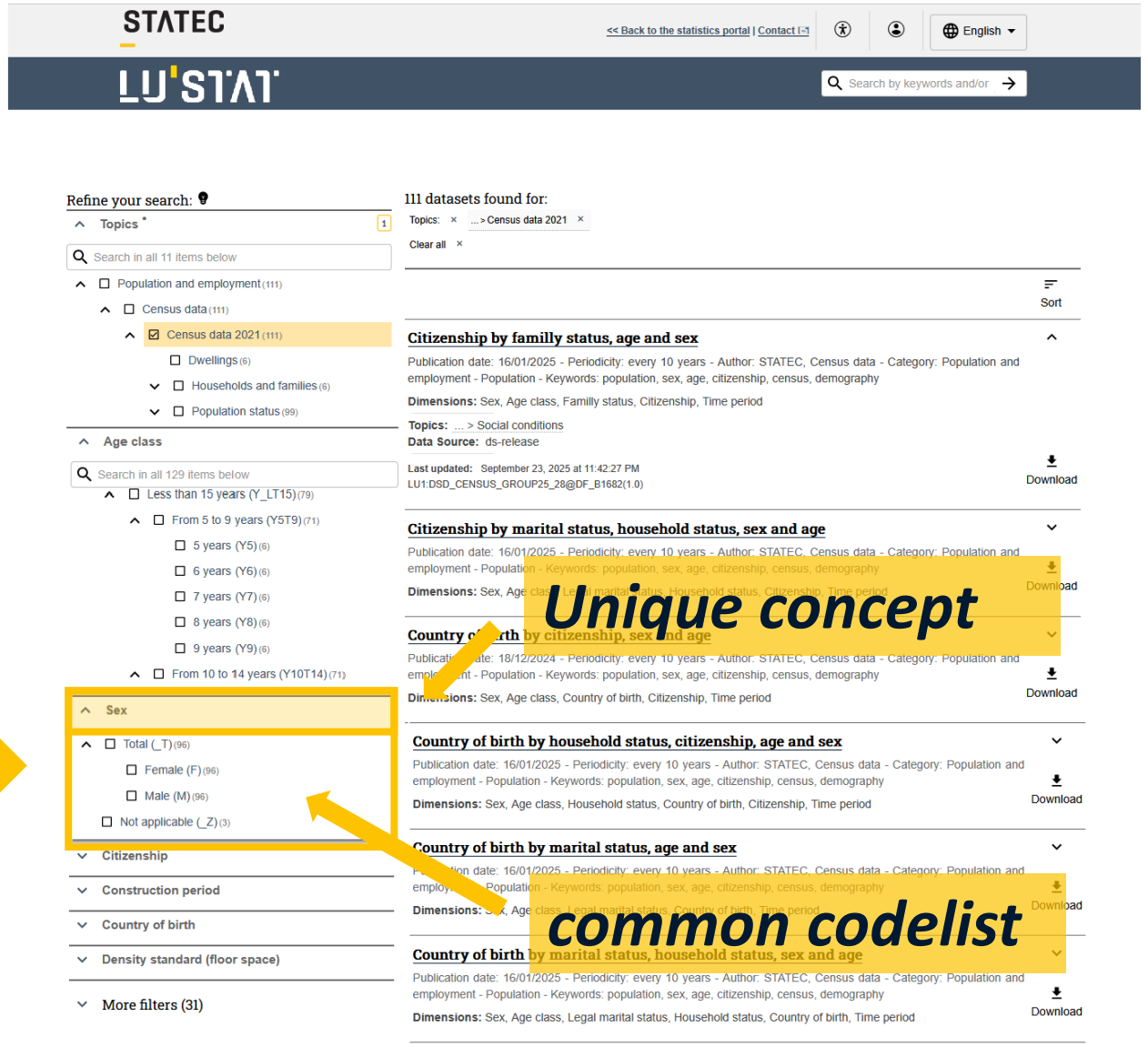
Multiples CLs/ items for the same concept

SDMX data modeling

Same for SEX

After





Unique concept

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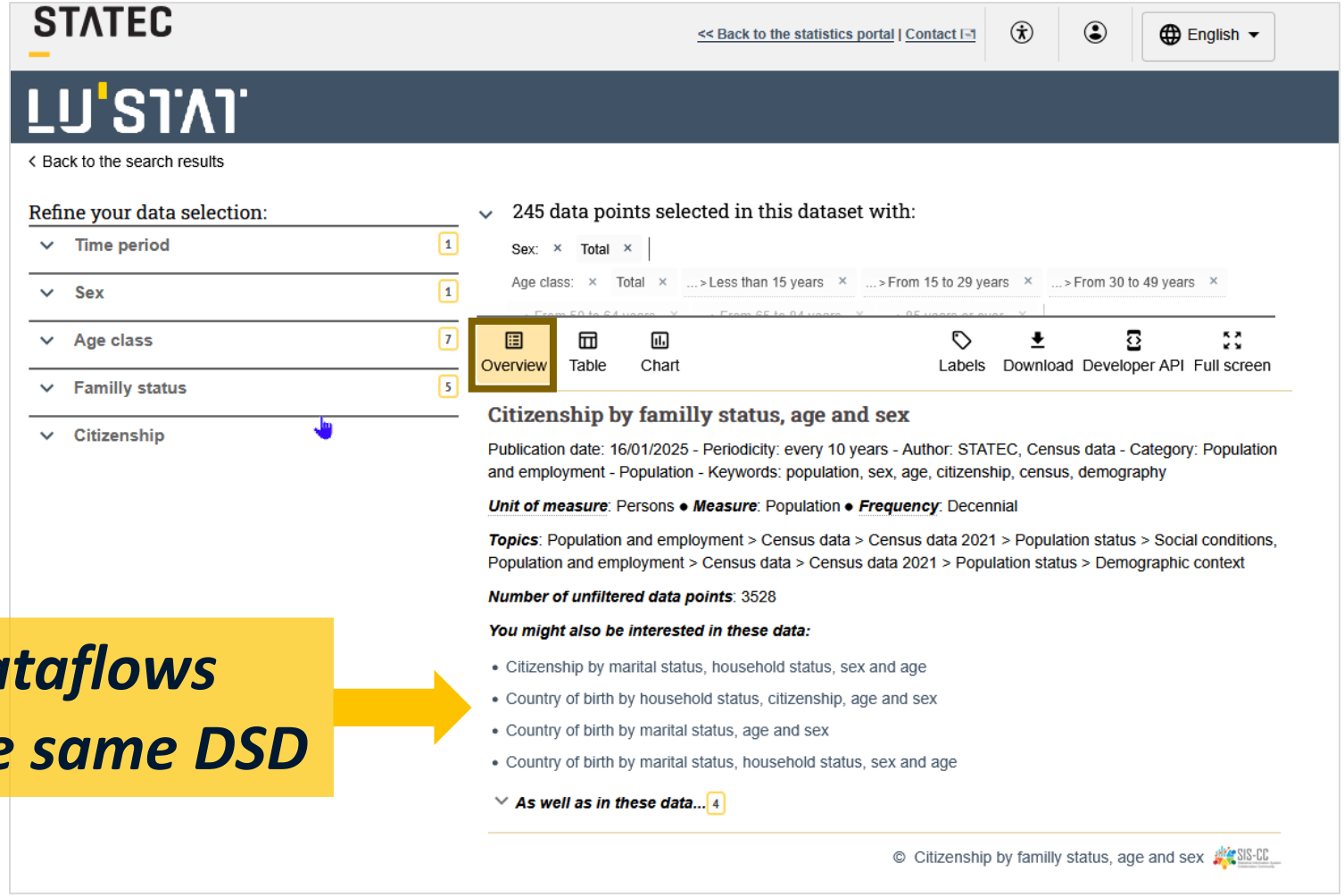
SDMX data modeling



List of dataflows using the same DSD

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Lessons learned and next steps

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Lessons learned

- *Lack of experience with modelling*
- *Need for technical assistance and sharing of knowledge*
- *Challenge to manage cross-domain artefacts (Code Lists, concepts)*
- *Need for internal guidelines for designing and maintaining artefacts*
- *Business better understands added value of modelling*
- *Importance of IT / OECD support to solve technical issues*
- *Long-term effort to improve modelling of all data flows*
- *Need to adapt to future developments of the .STAT suite*
- *Centralised vs decentralised organisation of the modelling*

Next steps

- *Finalise current modelling project (around 50% completion rate)*
- *Bring SDMX modelling practices to the other national authorities that disseminate statistical data in our database*
- *Integrate SDMX into STATEC's new data strategy under development*
- *Explore and implement more advanced AI-driven search capabilities based on SDMX*

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Thank you!

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