

Questionnaire on availability of internationally comparable data at municipal level in your country

General information about the survey

This survey is carried out within the Cost Action IS1207 “Local Public Sector Reforms: An International Comparison”. The aim is to investigate whether it is possible to set up a European Municipal Data Archive and to find out how comprehensive and reliable it could be. The survey consists of three parts; one on general information about access to municipal level data, one on data on local administrative and political reforms and one on specific variables. Please complete the boxes with text or figures.

Members of the management group are asked to complete the questionnaire for their countries. The findings will be published in a report where answers on individual countries may be reported. Hence, it is important that the answers are accurate. Please consult colleagues or experts if required.

Completed questionnaires should be sent to anders.lidstrom@umu.se not later than **Friday the 19th of February**.

Preliminary results will be presented at the Cost Management Committee meeting in Berne 30-31 March. The final findings will subsequently be summarized in a report.

For any questions – please send an e-mail to anders.lidstrom@umu.se

Basic information

Name of the country:

Name of the municipal level:

Number of municipalities 2011:

Has the number of municipalities changed from 2001 to 2011? In what way?

The survey has been completed by:

Part I: General question about access to municipal level data

Instructions: Please describe in the box below in general terms the extent to which data at municipal level (about all or practically all municipalities) is publicly accessible in your country and the major sources for this data. The focus is primarily on register based data that has been collected by statistical offices or professional organizations. If survey data is used, all or practically all municipalities need to be represented.

Data must be *comparable between countries* and should concern *political and administrative conditions, socio-economic conditions and the population and its composition in the municipality*. It should concern conditions in 2011 (or a year close to it)

If data is available at specific web-sites, please provide the reference. Please also state in what language(s) the data is available.

When describing the situation, please take into account the following considerations:

- In countries that have statistical offices at sub-national level (such as länder, cantons, regions), please indicate the extent to which data is available at these levels and at the national level.
- Is data generally accessible for all municipalities or for only a part of them, such as municipalities in specific regions and/or for municipalities above a certain population size?
- Apart from data for 2011, is data also available for 2001?
- Please also specify if data is available free of charge or if it needs to be purchased.
- Please comment on the overall reliability of the data

All additional information that makes it possible to assess the accessibility of data is welcome

Description:

Instructions to parts II and III

When completing the questions under parts II and III, please give your replies in the relevant boxes, using the following codes:

In the box for **Comprehensiveness**, please indicate with a code for each variable whether it is

1. Available for all municipalities in the whole country
2. Available only for municipalities over a certain population size
3. Available only for municipalities in parts of the country
4. Both (2) and (3)
5. Not available at all

In the box for **Accessibility**, please indicate with a code for each variable whether it is

1. Immediately accessible without any processing
2. Accessible, but requires recoding/processing
3. Not accessible at all

In the Box for **Reliability**, please indicate with a code for each variable whether you assess data to be

1. Highly reliable, i.e. fully or with only minor flaws reflecting the real situation
2. Fairly reliable, i.e. despite major flaws still fairly accurately reflecting the real situation
3. Not reliable and therefore not recommended for use

In the box for **Costs**, please indicate with a code for each variable whether it is

1. Free of charge
2. Not free of charge

In the Box for **Type of data**, please indicate with a code for each variable whether it is

1. Register based data
2. Survey data, with replies from municipal representatives
3. Other survey data

Please add **your comments** at the end of each part.

Part II: Questions about whether there is nationally collected data on local administrative and political reforms at municipal level

Instructions: In this section, we are asking for information about *whether there exist any recent national collections of data on local administrative and political reforms at municipal level in your country*. Examples may be register based data, survey data collected by national statistical offices or surveys carried out by researchers. The distinction between types of reforms correspond to the one used by the Cost Action on local public sector reform. Please reply by providing the relevant codes for each type of reform in the boxes and (if relevant) by adding comments in the box at the bottom of the page. Please also indicate the year(s) for which the data is relevant.

Type of reform	Comprehensiveness	Reliability	Costs	Type of data	Year(s)
External (post) NPM-reforms					
Internal (post) NPM-reforms					
Territorial/functioning rescaling					
Democratic renewal					

Comments to part II:

Part III: Questions about specific variables on conditions in municipalities

Instructions: In this section, we are asking for information about *whether data is available for specific variables that concern municipalities*. Please reply by giving the relevant codes in the boxes for each variable and (if relevant) by adding comments at the end of the survey. All variables should concern data for 2011 (or a year close to 2011):

1. Political variables

Variable	Comprehensiveness	Accessibility	Reliability	Costs	Type of data
The size of the municipal council (number of elected members)					
The share of female members of the municipal council					
The share of seats for the different political parties (and non-party representatives) in the municipal council					
The party affiliation of the mayor (if no mayoral position, the chair of the executive committee)					
The gender of the mayor (of no mayoral position, the chair of the executive committee)					
Electoral turnout in the last municipal council elections					
Number of referendums in the municipality					

2. Functions, finance and revenue

Variable	Comprehensiveness	Accessibility	Reliability	Costs	Type of data
Cost/citizen for educational services					
Cost/citizen for social assistance					
Cost/citizen for housing					
Share of revenue from own taxes					
Share of revenue from shared taxes					
Share of revenue from general grants from central government					
Share of revenue from specific grants from central government					
Share of revenue from the EU					

3. Demographical and geographical data

Variable	Comprehensiveness	Accessibility	Reliability	Costs	Type of data
Population size of the municipality					
Population development during the last ten years					
Population density: number of citizens per square kilometer					
Share of population in age 0-14					
Share of population in age 65 and higher					
Share of non-nationals ¹					
Type/location of the municipality: - A big city - The suburbs or outskirts of a big city - Mainly a town - Mainly a small village or the rural countryside					

4. The resources of the local population

Variable	Comprehensiveness	Accessibility	Reliability	Costs	Type of data
Share of citizens age 15-64 with higher education (tertiary education)					
Unemployment rate ²					
Youth unemployment rate ³					

¹ Non-nationals: Share of the citizens who are not having the citizenship of the country where they reside.

² The unemployment rate shows unemployed persons as a percentage of the economically active population aged 15-74.

³ The youth unemployment rate relates to persons aged 15-24.

Comments to part III:

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