

Using ESMS for describing metadata of administrative registers

Kaja Sõstra, PhD
Statistics Estonia

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Outline

- Reason for the describing metadata
- Initiation of special project
- Examples of metadata instructions
- Metadata information system
- Next steps

Official statistics act

§ 29. Use of administrative records and databases

(1) Upon the production of official statistics, a producer of official statistics shall primarily use data collected in administrative records and databases, /.../, if such data allow the production of official statistics complying with the quality criteria of official statistics.

§ 50. Transition to register-based population and housing census

(2) Statistics Estonia shall assess, on the basis of the results of the Population and Housing Census 2011, the quality of the basic data of the administrative records and databases and, if necessary, make proposals to the chief processor of a database for improving the quality of the data.

Project

- Aim: Develop and implement framework for describing metadata and quality information of administrative registers used by Statistics Estonia
- Project team:
 - Specialist of administrative data
 - Specialists of register based census
 - Quality manager
 - Metadata specialist
- Time: September 2014 – April 2015
- Result: Handbook for describing metadata, descriptions of two administrative registers

ESMS standard

- ESMS (Euro-SDMX Metadata Structure) metadata are based on the SDMX Cross-Domain Concepts.
- These concepts describe statistical processing, the presentation and quality of statistical information.
- The ESMS reference metadata are aimed at describing the statistics released by the European Statistical System.
- Structure consists of 21 high-level concepts, with a limited number of sub-items.

Working arrangement

- The project team met regularly and looked through all ESMS concepts
- The following decisions were made for every concept or sub-concept:
 - If concept is applicable for administrative data
 - If yes, the content of concept was specified for administrative data
 - If the concept should be described by Statistics Estonia or by owner of administrative data or both
- Between meetings the handbook was amended and descriptions of two databases were prepared and commented

Distribution of metadata concepts (1)

Concept	SE	Register
1. Contact	X	X
2. Metadata update	X	
3. Statistical presentation	X	X
4. Unit of measure	X	
5. Reference period	X	
6. Legal acts and other agreements	X	X
7. Confidentiality	X	
8. Release policy	X	
9. Frequency of dissemination	X	
10. Dissemination format	X	X
11. Accessibility of documentation	X	X

Distribution of metadata concepts (2)

Concept	SE	Register
12. Quality management		X
13. Relevance	X	
14. Accuracy and reliability	X	X
15. Timeliness and punctuality	X	
16. Comparability	X	X
17. Coherence	X	X
18. Cost and burden	X	X
19. Data revision		X
20. Statistical processing		X
21. Comments	X	X

Examples of instructions (1)

■ 6. Other agreements

- **Statistical activities**: Other formal or informal agreements that assign responsibility as well as the authority to an agency for the collection, processing, and dissemination of statistics.
- **Administrative databases**: The agreement between the owner of administrative data and Statistics Estonia.

Examples of instructions (2)

■ 15.1 Timeliness

- **Statistical activities**: Provide, for annual or more frequent releases, the average production time for each release of data and the reasons for possible long production times and efforts to improve the situation described.
- **Administrative databases**: Time lag between reference period and the time when register data is available for Statistics Estonia

Examples of instructions (3)

■ 19.2 Data revision – practice

- **Statistical activities**: Report the schedule for the revisions. Describe the main reasons for revisions and their nature (new source data available, new methods, etc.). Make a qualitative assessment on the average size of revisions and their direction based on historical data.
- **Administrative databases**: Describe how and for which period the data providers can change or/and edit the data.

iMeta – metadata information system

Properties | Classifications | Report Forms

Activity instance properties in: English

Group: Generic

Property	Language	Value	Actions
Abbreviation			Show Edit Delete
Year			Edit Delete
Statistical			Edit Delete
Periodicity			Edit
Cost			Show Edit Delete
Objective	en	To make preparations for the register...	Show Edit Delete
Content	en	-	Show Edit Delete
Occurrence	en	2016, 2017, 2018, 2019	Show Edit Delete
ContactOrganization	en	Statistics Estonia	Show Edit Delete

Property value [X]

Object: Register-based population and housing census

Property: Objective

Value:

To make preparations for the register-based population and housing census. To make sure that the composition and quality of the main registers are suitable and allow the omission of the interview census. To ensure that Statistics Estonia is prepared for the register-based census.

Example – ESMS of population census

4. Unit of measure

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number (thousand), percentage

5. Reference period

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31 December 2011

6. Legal acts and other agreements

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Official Statistics Act

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1201/2009 of 30 November 2009 implementing Regulation (EC) No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on population and housing censuses as regards the technical specifications of the topics and of their breakdowns
 Regulation (EC) No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 on population and housing censuses

OTHER AGREEMENTS

Not available.

7. Confidentiality

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7.1. Confidentiality - policy

The dissemination of data collected for the purpose of producing official statistics is guided by the requirements provided for in § 34 and § 35 of the Official Statistics Act.

7.2. Confidentiality - data treatment

The treatment of confidential data is regulated by the Procedure for Protection of Data Collected and Processed by Statistics Estonia:

<http://www.stat.ee/dokumendid/19410>.

Preliminary results (March 2015)

- Handbook of describing metadata of statistical activities is amended with special instruction for describing administrative data
- Preparation of two ESMS descriptions by SE
 - Address Data System
 - Declaration of Income and Social Tax

Next steps

- Sending results to owners of administrative data for commenting and completing descriptions
 - Estonian Land Board
 - Estonian Tax and Customs Board
- Amending handbook according to comments
- Present the results for approval to the council of register-based census

- Time-table for describing administrative databases
- Entering completed descriptions to metadata system and publishing on the website



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