

1 – Semantic expertise

From LUZ 2001 to LUZ 2004: spatial and temporal variability

2001: Functional Administrative

NAME	Clear functional definition	Probable functionnal definition*	Administrative definition, except for Capital city	Administrative definition
Belgium				
France				
Sweden				
Finland				
Germany				
Ireland				
Luxemburg				
Netherlands				
United Kingdom				
Austria				
Denmark				
Greece				
Italy				
Portugal				
Spain				

NAME	Clear functional definition	Probable functionnal definition*	Administrative definition, except for Capital city	Administrative definition
Belgium				
Croatia				
France				
Netherlands				
Portugal				
Spain				
Sweden				
Finland				
Germany				
Norway				
United Kingdom				
Austria				
Cyprus				
Denmark				
Slovakia				
Slovenia				

Type of definition

Change between two dates

^{*:} The methodology used to build LUZ is described very shortly in National Final Reports, Methodological Handbooks or other official sources and need to be clarified by furthered research

2 – The UMZ database as a benchmark for databases comparison

- Basically, interesting properties:
 - -quite automatic construction process
 - →objective and reproducible
 - -relatively clear specifications
 - → traceable
 - -same statistical and geometrical sources over all Europe
 - → internationally coherent, completeness
 - → geometrically compatible
- □ Not so used until now, need to be enriched by other attributes :
 - → no name : how to give a name to each object?
 - → in which country? In which region?
 - → updating population (last version of grid pop.)
 - → giving a geometrical center (centroïd)

2 – The UMZ database as a benchmark for databases comparison

Giving a name to UMZ: Attributing the LAU name (one or several) corresponding to the core of the agglomeration В C LAU **UMZ** Pop. density disaggregated with Corine land cover 2000, C version 4.1 (last version) LAU

- 1 clear morphological core within one LAU (>50% pop UMZ)→ 1 name
- 2 -otherwise → 2 or more names (pop LAU ∩ UMZ >50% pop main LAU ∩ UMZ)



3 – Cross expertise for data base comparisons (comparison protocol)

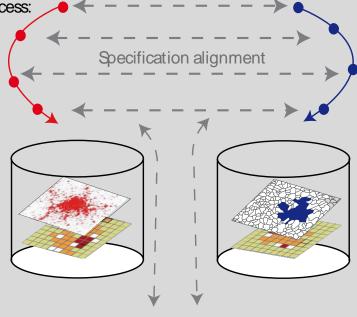
Step 1: Extracting the rules used to build urban objects: spatial relations, thresholds...

Step 2: Aligning specifications

Step 3: Qualitative evaluation of the quantitative differences between data bases

Specifications of the construction process:

- spatial and temporal resolution
- constraints
- definition of the core class and parameters of the resolution
- aggregation methods



First Results:

MUAs and UMZs Comparison and identification

of the different sources of differences:

- at macro level
- term to term

Qualitative and quantitative evaluation



Challenge 7: Extra-ESPON data exchange

Objectives:

- Exchange of data <u>and</u> expertise with main data providers
- Identify long-run synergies
- Promotion of ESPON DB

Situation:

- Ongoing contacts with Eurostat (update NUTS2&3) and EEA (grids)

Strategy:

- Set up of regular meetings, strategic and technical, with institutions and CU
- -1 DB team <-> 1 external institution

Coord: University of Luxembourg







7.1. Activities and progresses



European Environment Agency



DRGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT





Others (local): National Statistics Offices, Regional observatories, etc...

Developing 2-way FLOWS of

DATA NUTS WUTS GRIDS

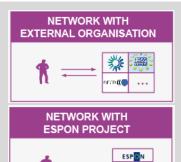
EXPERTISE & KNOWLEDGE

Spatial Data

Analysis, Integration, Management (meta's) Publication (web) ESPON DB2013

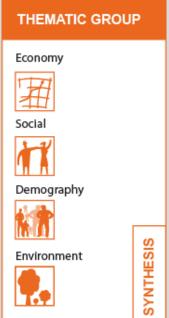


7.1. Activities and progresses



Networking activities

Follow-up on EUROSTAT-ESPON Action Plan Information exchange with Commission Services Wider networking (e.g. ESPON workshop on 6 May, Brussels)



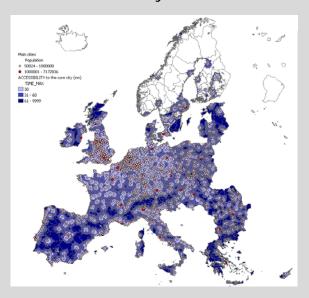
Thematic access to the ESPON Database

The capacities of using a thesaurus for information retrieval Literature review of standardised relationships for thesauri Examples of online thesauri developed by international organisations The added-value of the experience acquired by the ESPON 2006 database Explore qualitative text analysis tools for thematic structuring

7.2. Networking activities: External data flow

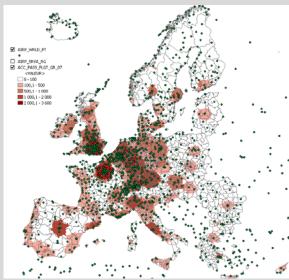
DG REGIO: Geodatabases describing various topics

Accessibility to cities



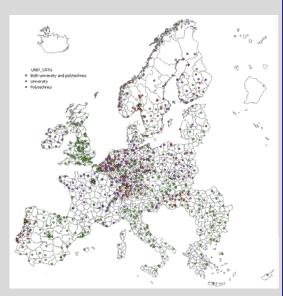
This polygon feature class represents accessibility zones to cities having more than 50 000 inhabitants. Accessibility zones have been divided into four time breaks: 0-30 min, 30-45 min, 45-60 min and more than 60 min.

Accessibility to pessenger flights



This raster gives the cumulated daily number of passenger flights available within 90 minutes of travel by road for each square kilometer cell in Europe in 2007.

Location and characteristics of universities

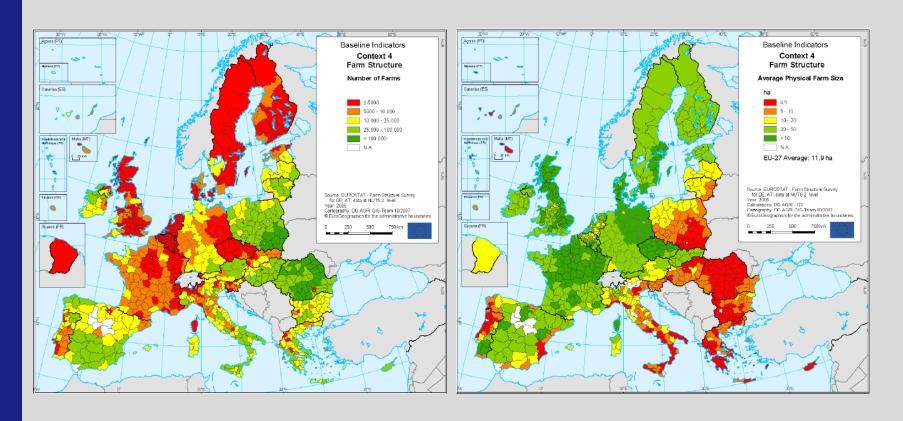


Point locations of universities in the EU (number of students by location), Based on the point layer from the Study on Mountain Areas in Europa (2004) (DG REGIO / Nordregio)



7.2. Networking activities: External data flow

DG AGRI: Lot of data at NUTS2 and NUTS3 level, in particular concerning agriculture settlements and employment

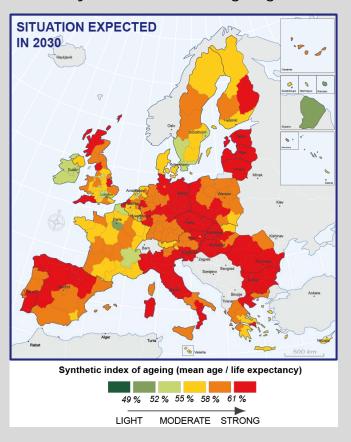




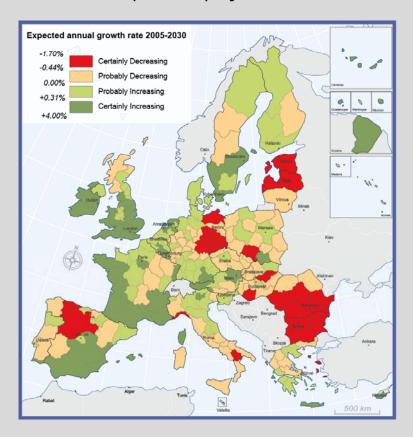
7.2. Networking activities: External data flow

European Parliament: Results of studies

Synthetic index of ageing



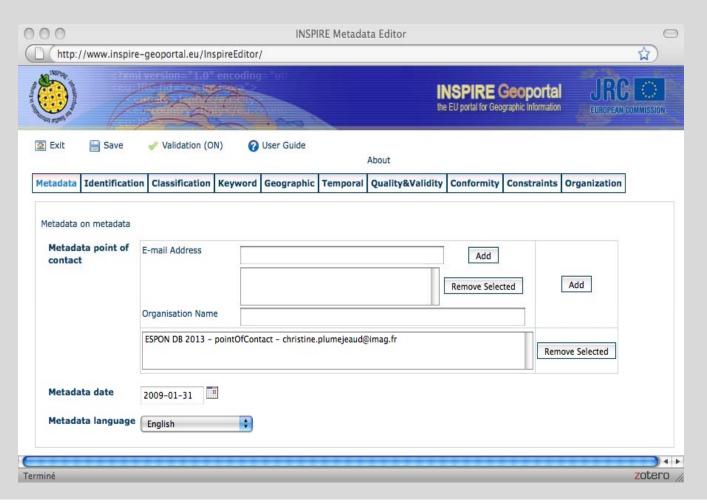
Population projections





7.2. Networking activities: External information flow

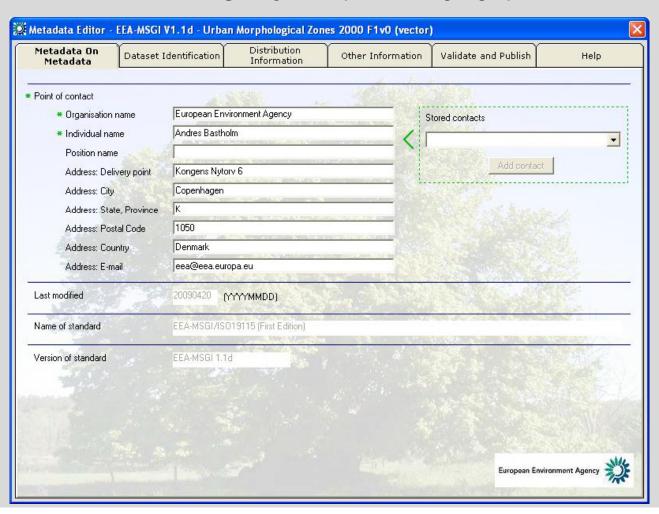
JRC: Inspire metadata profile – ISO19115 Norm





7.2. Networking activities: External information flow

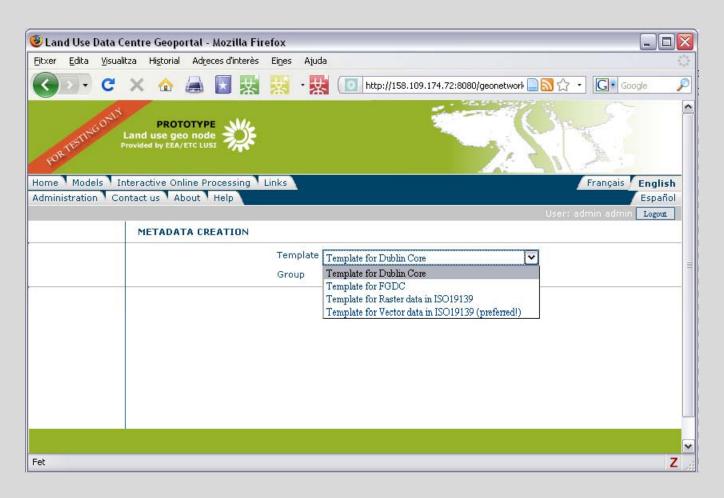
European Environmental Agency: EEA profile for geographical data





7.2. Networking activities: External information flow

Geonetwork: An open source solution for metadata





7.3. Toward an ESPON Thesaurus?

Some considerations in the creation of an ESPON thesaurus:

- Preserve a **neutral-technical** approach
- Explore quantitative text analysis tools for defining appropriate vocabulary and support an efficient indexing
- Improve the ability in defining standards and further advance on the harmonisation and coherence of concepts
- Ensure the overall meaning of terms for information retrieval by final users

Next steps towards the thematic structuring of the ESPON Database:

- Deepen the literature review on controlled vocabulary (i.e. thesauri) developed by other international organisations (e.g. OECD, ILO, UNESCO)
- Perform qualitative and quantitative text analysis on various scientific reports (ESPON, DGs, CoR, EESC, European Parliament)
- Determine links between different terms, namely by word co-occurence analysis and types of relationships
- Link those terms with data for information retrieval (indicators, typologies) and structure the ESPON DB 2013



8.3 Toward an ESPON Theasaurus?

01 Spatial Typologies

02 Population

021 Population structure

022 Population movement

03 Employment and Labour Market

031 Employment and sector structure

032 Structure of persons employed

033 Unemployment

04 Wealth and Production

042 Income and consumption

06 Transport

061 Transport infrastructure

062 Passengers and goods transport

066 Accessibility

067 Impacts of transport policies

07 Research and Development

071 Invention and innovation

072 Facilities and employment

073 Finance and expenditures

09 Communication Technology

091 Infrastructure

10 Household-Oriented Infrastructure

102 Education

11 Land use

111 Natural resources

112 Land use

12 Environment

124 Natural hazards

13 Agriculture

131 Land use

132 Farmer structure

133 Employment

134 Livestock

135 Production

14 Social Situation

141 *Poverty* 17 Tourism

171 Arrival and stays

18 Public Sector

183 Regional policy

19 Other Data

191 *Area*

Source: ESPON Project 3.4.1

7.3 Toward and ESPON Thesaurus?

archipelago borders centre-periphery connections cooperation cities countries

database demographic development eastern

economic enlargement Europe evidence flows

functional labour integration Mediterranean metropolitan

migration monitoring neighbourhood

networks political population relations regional regions strategy

southern spatial territorial trade visions western world

Table 1 – Most commonly used words in the 'Europe in the World' report.

Note: Ranking frequency is defined by letter size.



Challenge 8: Intra-ESPON data exchange

Objectives:

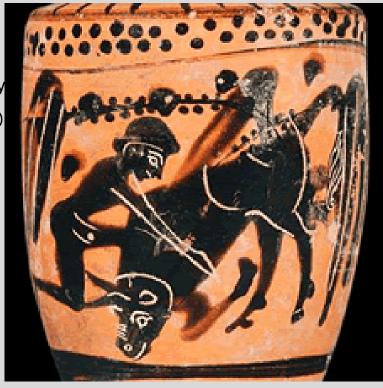
- 1) **Provide** an efficient interface between ESPON projects (Priority 1 and Priority 2) and statistical or cartographic institutions (Eurostat, EEA, Eurogeographics...)
- 2) **Stimulate** the launching of future ESPON Projects by incorporating indicators from neighbouring countries (Balkans, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Maghreb, Turkey...) or
- elaborating long term (1960-1980-2000)series for a selected number of indicators
- 3) Ensuring the quality of the data flow with ESPON

Situation:

- 1) Regular contacts with some TPG's are effective
- 3) A metadata model ISO 19115 compliant has been established. This template will allow to integrate in a short term indicators from ESPON TPG's into the database

Next steps:

- 2) Technical report on data availability in neighbouring countries (in relation with challenge 10)
- 3) Creation of a metadata editor into the ESPON DB





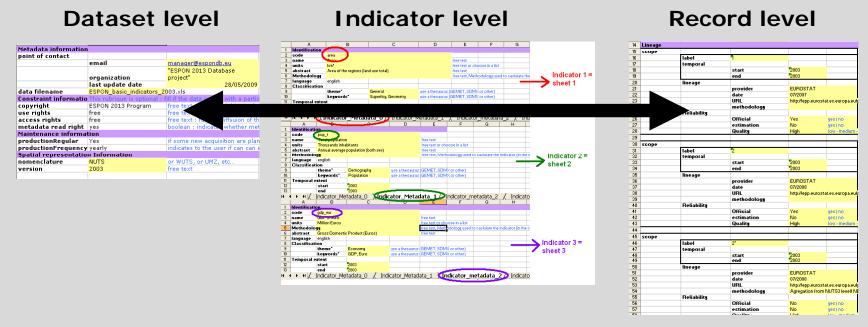


Coord: RIATE & LIG



8.1 The metadata model

An operational short-term solution: Excel implementation



- Based on the INSPIRE initiative
- Following the ISO and SDMX standards
- This solution allows a three tiers characterisation: the whole dataset level, the variable level and the record level



8.2 Networking with TPG's

ESPON 2013 DATABASE - Metadata Guide-lines for territorial units



ESPON 2013 DATABASE

GUIDE-LINES FOR METADATA ADDAPTED TO TERRITORIAL UNITS WITHIN ESPON 2013 PROJECTS.

Provisional document

ESPON 2013 DATABASE - Metadata Guide-lines for territorial unit

The metadata challenge

Scarcity of data documentation within the previous ESPON program has been seen as an important impediment to the building and use of the ESPON database. Difficulties stemmed from uncertainties about legal constraints, sources, units, state.

In the ESPON D atabase 2013 project, the ESPON database will be further enriched and expanded in the time, spatial and thematic dimensions (see the First Interim Report of ESPON Database project). Information about the data made available is thus even more crucial. Building a rich database would be useless without a strong effort to to describe precisely the data that have been gathered and integrated within the database. This information about data is known as metadata. Creating and organising metadata is therefore an additional, important, and transversal challenge for the ESPON community.

To be useful for ESPON projects and other end-users, data should always be accompanied by metadata, including information about their quality, their sources, and their lineage. It is also particularly important that metadata are created in a manner that is consistent with international standards (INSPIRE, SDMX) so as to ensure the use of the database in the longer-run and to insure compatibility with other national and international database initiatives.

The **short-term strategy** is aimed at proposing an metadata solution for ongoing ESPON projects (Priority 1 and 2) when exchanging data with the ESPON Database. This provisional solution is needed as long as our project is developping the tools that are necessary in order to ease the edition of good metadata. Defining a complete and non-redundant metadata model is a research in itself and should be made carefully because it conditions future data quality and access. The short-term metadata solution is based on a simple spreadsheet format, implementing the ESPON database metadata model, which is to accompany data provided to the database by the different projects. The spreadsheet has the same conceptual structure as the one of the mid term solution. This metadata profile is adapted for statistical data gathered on geographical objects defined by territorial footprints (like NUTS territorial units or cities). Of course, the conceptual model dsefined at this stage is likely to evolve and be extended if the need to accommodate different types of geographical objects or indicators requires it.

The **mid-term solution** will be based on a **web-editor** and linked to the Database import pool. We have explored a few metadata editors in order to find out the most suitable one for the ESPON community (Inspire Metadata Editor, CatMEdit, Geonetwork,...). We found that a web metadata editor (rather than a desktop one) should be preferred in the longer-run because it requires no install (and updates) from the users but also because it can more easily provide help to the users when filling in the different necessary fields.

The aim of this paper is to show what is the conceptual statistical metadata model that has been defined by the ESPON Database 2013 project and, with the help of some concrete examples (datasets with various indicators, datasets dealing with time-series, contingency tables like the age pyramid), to illustrate how to iproduce data and metadata compliant with the ESPON Database project.

It is important to say that the metadata model presented by the ESPON Database project is aimed at having some statistical information as detailed as possible (importance of the lineage of the information), while other information (that can be extracted from the data themselves, like completeness, spatial extent, etc.) are left



Challenge 9: Data model and integration

Objectives: To build an operarional software architecture that ensures the importation, the integration and the exportation of sets of indicators (data)

Situation:

Strategy:

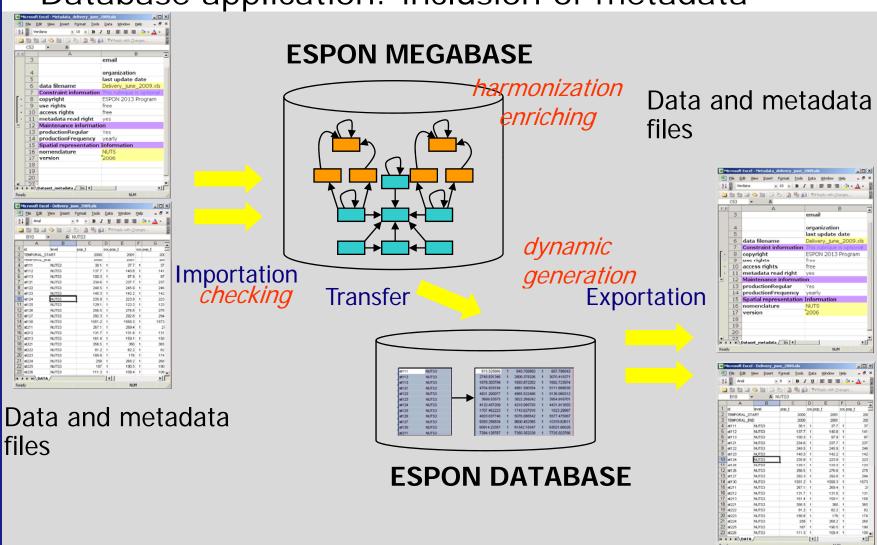
Coord: LIG







Operational implementation of the ESPON 2013 Database application: inclusion of metadata





Statistical metadata profile for ESPON 2013 Database

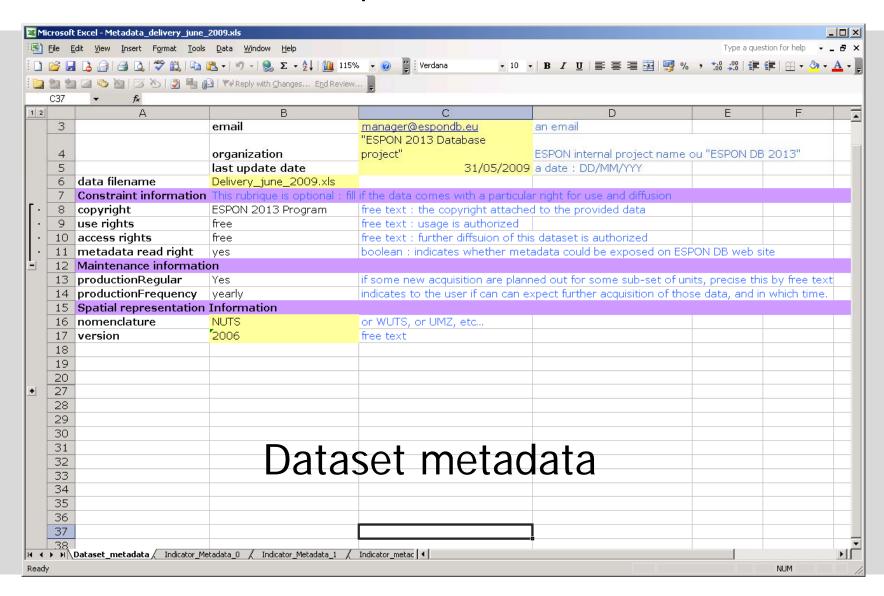
Existing metadata standards (INSPIRE, ISO 19115) are not precise enough for use with statistical data: without good metadata, data devaluate on the long term.

What's new?

- A complete and non-redundant profile for statistical metadata
 - Complete: allow traceability of source and quality for long term storage
 - Non-redundant: any metadata that can be automatically derived is not required from the projects
 - May seem cumbersome to fill, but it's at least equally benefic for data searching (in catalogues) and for understanding data
- •This profile is in the form of an excel file and has been distributed to ESPON projects accompanied by a set of explanatory guidelines and examples
- •A first prototype of metadata Web editor based on the Geonetwork Metadata Editor
 - More user friendly, universally accessible via a Web browser

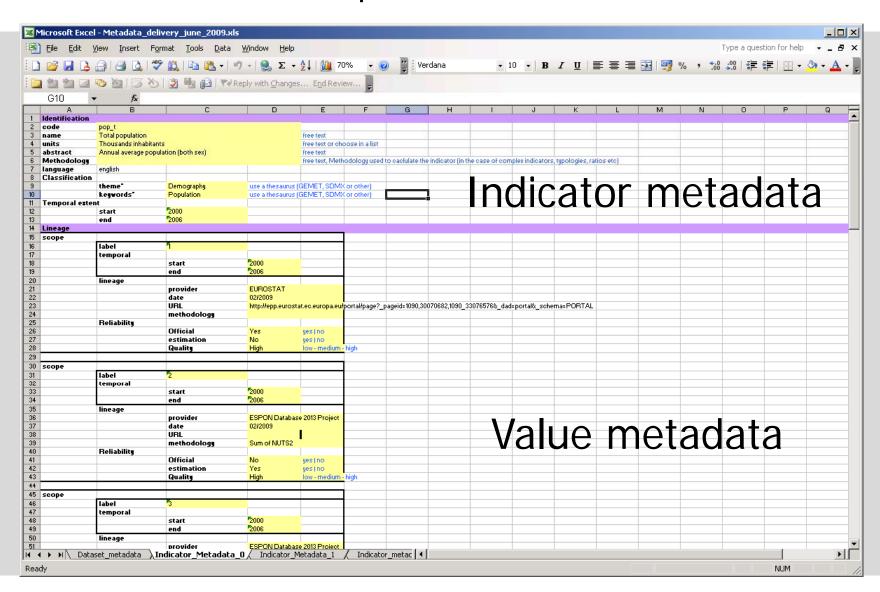


Excel metadata template





Excel metadata template



Extension of the ESPON databases schemas

The ESPON databases:

- « ESPON MEGABASE »: a complex structure for internal use, for long term storage of data, but also for data harmonization, metadata enriching
- «ESPON DATABASE »: It is a simpler structure for projects and external users, meant as a repository for harmonized data exported from the megabase; it is easier to use

What's new?

- Extension of the ESPON DATABASE in order to hold enriched metadata exported from the ESPON MEGABASE
- Extension of the ESPON MEGABASE in order to include :
 - Ontological information (general metadata e.g. measure unit for an indicator)
 - Detailed metadata information (specific metadata e.g. the contact for the person filling the metadata)



Why all this for? Improve the export tools!

Metadata creation requires considerable effort to be created and maintained... Yes

BUT... **Data are much more usable** (they can be searched in data catalogues and can be understood easier)

Present situation: simple queries

- The ESPON Database Web application now integrates metadata support
 - Can be queried by selecting some relevant parameters
 - The result is exported as a standard Excel file

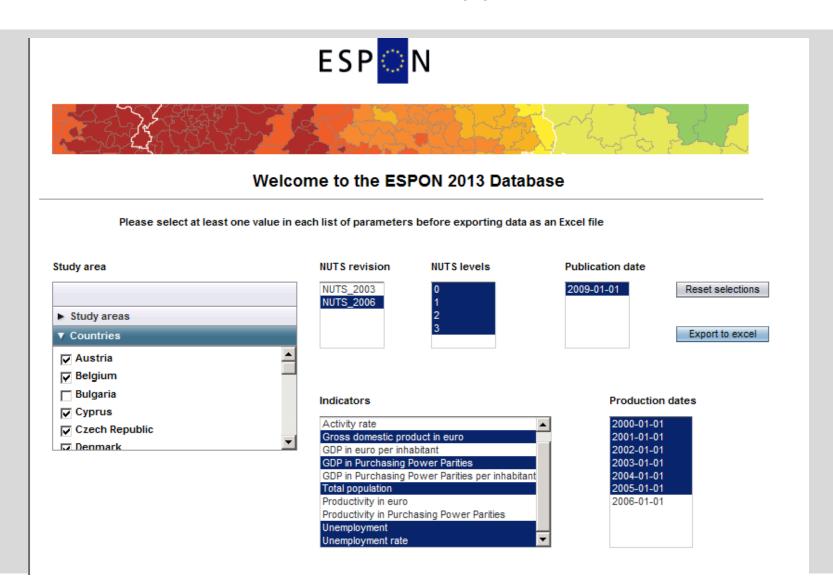
Future (expected) situation: complex queries

- Giving users the possibilty to browse, search and query all metadata in order to find the most useful data for their purpose
- Formulating (with the help of a wizard) a query like:

« Show me all available data on demography of the ESPON space between 1991-1995 in NUTS 2010 nomenclature. I'm interested only in data for NUTS3 units, with a least 90% territorial coverage, sorted by completeness. Prioritize official information »

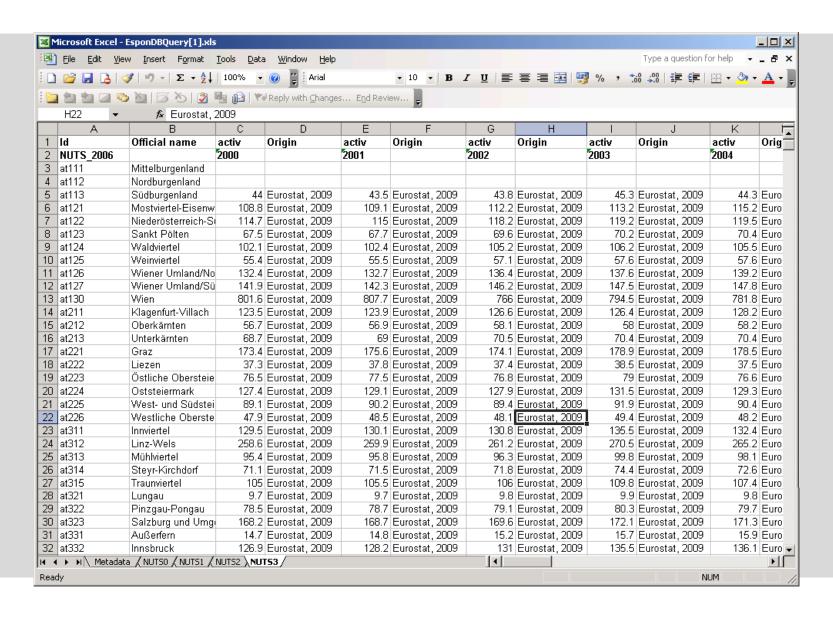


The ESPON Database Web Application



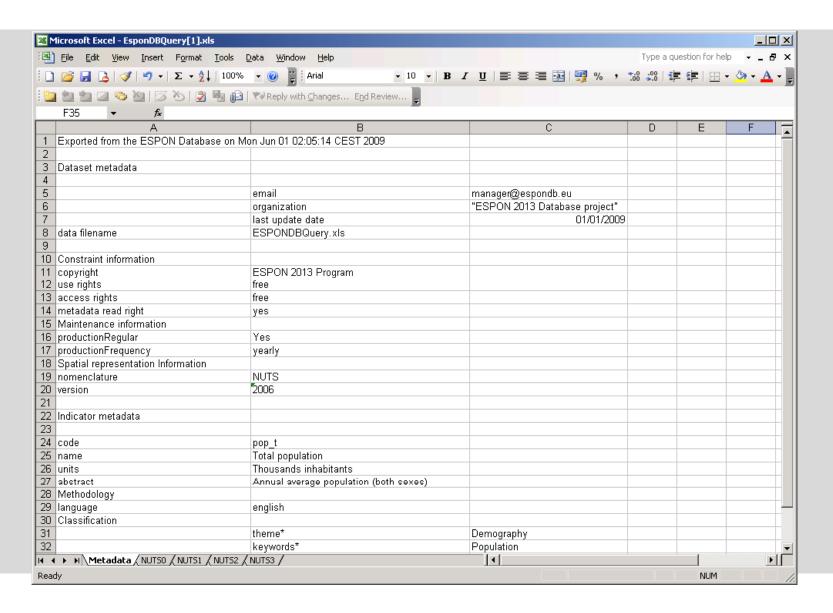


Data sheet





Metadata sheet





Challenge 10: Spatial analysis for quality control

Objectives: Develop spatial analysis and datamining methods in order to identify exceptional values.

Situation: Different methods exist to find outliers

Strategy: 3 dimensions to explore:

- 1) Attribute-space
- 2) Geographical-space
- 3) Temporal-space

Coord: NCG & LIG









An index for the measure of discontinuities in time series

Extraction of suspect data in the dataset of population 2000-2006

NUTS2	NAME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
bg31	Severozapaden	1074.2	1032.1	1016	999.5	982.9	966.3	950.8
bg32	Severen tsentralen	1043.9	991.4	980.7	971.8	962.9	954.1	945.3
bg34	Yugoiztochen	1206.5	1166	1158.8	1150.8	1143.3	1137.3	1132.3
bg41	Yugozapaden	2142.9	2097	2103.1	2107.1	2112.4	2116.8	2117.8
bg42	Yuzhen tsentralen	1680.7	1605.1	1595	1585.3	1575.8	1566.1	1557.6
ch01	Région lémanique	1295.3	1310.3	1325.5	1339.6	1339.6	1369.5	1383.1
ch04	Zürich	1201.2	1218.3	1235.6	1245.6	1245.6	1267.2	1278.3
ch06	Zentralschweiz	676.7	684.4	692.2	696.7	696.7	706.1	711.2
ch07	Ticino	310.2	311.7	313.2	316.3	316.3	321.1	323.6
cz01	Praha	1183.9	1164.7	1158.8	1163.8	1168.1	1176.1	1184.9
dee0	Sachsen-Anhalt	2633	2598.4	2564.8	2535.9	2508.7	2482.1	2427.1
fr83	Corse	264	266.9	269.9	272.9	275.7	278	296.3
fr91	Guadeloupe (FR)	427.1	430.8	434.5	438.2	442	445.5	438
fr93	Guyane (FR)	166.5	173.9	181.7	189.9	196	200	209.7
is00	Iceland	281	285	288	290	292	296.7	303.8
li00	Liechtenstein	33	33	34	34	34	34.8	35
nl23	Flevoland	323.1	335.3	346.7	355.8	362.9	368.3	372.5
nl31	Utrecht	1112.9	1123.7	1146.1	1157.2	1166.8	1175.7	1185.3
ro11	Nord-Vest	2847.2	2839.1	2756.5	2746.8	2743	2735.9	2729.2
ro12	Centru	2643.3	2640.2	2549.8	2545.9	2538.5	2533.9	2529.3
ro21	Nord-Est	3825.7	3835.5	3745.1	3744.6	3739.2	3735.2	3731.4
ro22	Sud-Est	2935.6	2935.2	2867.7	2859.2	2852.5	2846.8	2839
ro31	Sud - Muntenia	3469.3	3462.6	3376.1	3359.4	3344.2	3329.8	3313.1
ro32	Bucuresti - Ilfov	2279.3	2268.9	2211	2208.2	2209	2212.7	2223.9
ro41	Sud-Vest Oltenia	2401.5	2397.2	2342.2	2330.5	2319.5	2307.9	2293.8
ro42	Vest	2041.2	2032.2	1954.8	1947.3	1939.1	1932.1	1927.9
sk01	Bratislavský kraj	617.2	599.1	599	599.8	600.5	602.4	605.2
uki1	Inner London	2722.4	2853.9	2886.9	2908	2921.7	2942.1	2972.6
uki2	Outer London	4382	4459.3	4476.3	4486	4493.9	4511.3	4536.8



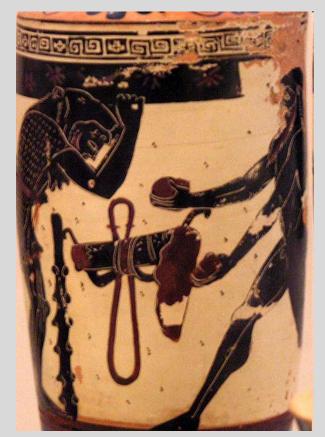
Challenge 11: Enlargement to neighbourhood

Objectives: To collect data at regional and local level for neighbouring countries of ESPON territories

Strategy:

- 1) Evaluation of the situation of data availability in EU candidate countries
- 2) Establishment of contacts with CC statistical offices

Coord: RIATE & NTUA

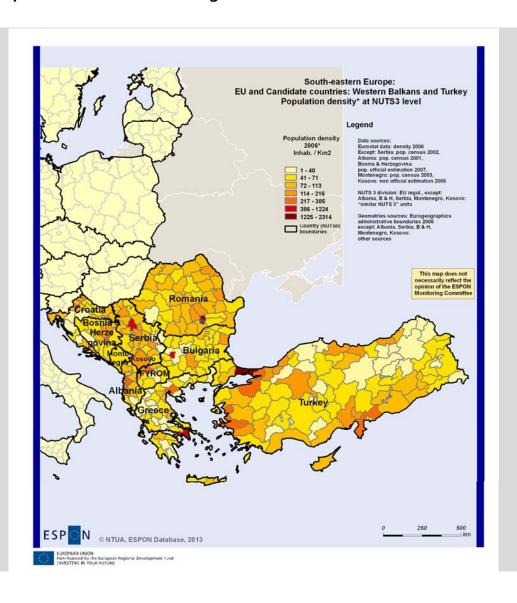








Regional population density in South-Eastern Europe, 2006





Challenge 12: Individual data and surveys

Objectives: Examine how to integrate individual data based on census or surveys in the ESPON DB

Situation: In Nordic countries, register data of the population has been made available for research purpose

Strategy:

- 1) Availability and usefulness of survey data
- 2) MAUP
- 3) Comparison Sweden-Europe wide data
- 4) Integration of survey data in the ESPON DB

Coord: RIATE & UMEA









Population change, 1990-2005

