CLRKEN: Results of the Questionnaire on Open Data in Land Administration in Europe

PCC Conference, Zagreb, Croatia
16/17 June 2020
Daniel Steudler, Chair CLRKEN
**Open Data in Europe**

**Questionnaire**

**Preparation**
- based on topic of conference: "Economic Impact of Cadastre for the Society"
- aim was to get a first overview with some basic indicators and to gain knowledge

**Structure**
1. Participating Countries
2. Key Indicators
   2.1 Open Data status
   2.2 Infrastructure for data sharing
   2.3 Open Data benefits and implications
   2.4 Lessons learned
3. Remarks or suggestions

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**Importance of Land Administration Data in Strengthening Competitiveness and Economic Development**

Questionnaire for the PCC Conference jointly organized with support from CLREN of EuroGeographics in June 2020 in Zagreb.

In preparation for the PCC Conference in Zagreb in June 2020, we are looking for input from all member countries in PCC and EuroGeographics. The topic of the conference will be about the importance of land administration data in strengthening competitiveness and economic developments.

Within this questionnaire, we aim to get an overview of what role Open Data play in the member countries in the field of Land Administration; what the benefits are, and what lessons have been learned. This is in connection to the recent Directive (EU) 2019/1024 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June, 2019 on open data and the re-use of public sector information¹ and the ongoing preparation of the impact assessment study on the list of High Value Datasets (HVDs). This study is mandated in a study (Impact assessment of public sector data) to identify the HVDs that should be included in the list of HVDs², to analyze the possible impacts of making the HVDs available for re-use free of charge, and to quantify the socio-economic benefits. More information can be found on the PCC/EuroGeographics web page on the member section.

We plan to summarize all the replies to the questionnaire and produce a report to be publicly available. We kindly ask you to fill out the questionnaire for your country. If the data are not applicable or available for the whole country, it is also possible to fill out the questionnaire for a second level unit, e.g. a city. If you do not feel to be the right person to do so, we would be grateful when you can pass the questionnaire on to another suitable expert in the cadastral field.

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¹ Directive (EU) 2019/1024: "Open data as a concept is generally understood to describe data in an open format that can be freely used, re-used and shared by anyone for any purpose. Open data policies play an important role in promoting social engagement, and to further and promote the development of new services based on cross-maps in combine and make use of such information."

² Using the Impact Assessment Methodology for the HVDs. The European Commission, 2020. The impact assessment study on the list of High Value Datasets (HVDs). Note that these documents can be accessed only in the restricted Members area. Please, login first before you can use these links.
Q1) Participation

- response from 21 countries
Q2&3) "High Value Datasets"

Q2) Are you familiar with the process of preparation of the above mentioned «Impact assessment study on the list of High Value Datasets»?

Q3) Is your institution actively involved in its preparation?
Q4) Licence policy used

- National rules
- Creative Commons (CC)
- Other
- Don't know or no feedback

Map showing the distribution of different licence policies across European countries.
# Q5) CC license types in use

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<th>Cadastral parcel data</th>
<th>Land registry data</th>
<th>Address data</th>
<th>Admin. boundaries</th>
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Q6&7) Use of national open data licence rules

Q6) Main reasons for use of national rules:
   • free access to all HVD, contribution to sustainable development of economy
   • long tradition of open data
   • to encourage the reuse of spatial data
   • basically no difference to Creative Commons rules

Q7) Use of national rules since:
   • 2004 / 2015-2020
Q8) Arguments in favour of open data

- PSI Directive
- lobbying by EU
- INSPIRE Directive
- increasing use of spatial data, increasing competitiveness
- political choice
- better profit for economy and society through open data
- data have been paid by citizens already
- data quality improves with higher use
- cadastral data is better accepted when available as basic data topic
- quality proof governmental data are only used when free of charge
- open data is considered to be easiest, fastest and cheapest way to increase transparency, accountability and to unlock economic potential
- promoting business and innovation

Promoters:
- Ministries for digital development
- Land boards and NMCAs
**Q9) 5-star deployment scheme for open data**

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### Q10) and Q11) Sharing of Open Data

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<th>Q10) Distribution of Open Data</th>
<th>physical media</th>
<th>network services</th>
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<th>Q11) Portals in use</th>
<th>NSDI portal</th>
<th>own portal</th>
<th>Open Data portal</th>
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Q12&13) Demand for data and investments

Q12) Demand for data
• 18 out of 20 countries mentioned an increased demand for data when opened
• the increase was from modest to vast to 50-fold

Q13) Investment in infrastructure
• sufficient infrastructure: 6 countries
• additional investment: 13 countries
• Investments for:
  • limiting the access, protecting the own infrastructure
  • developing user-friendly solutions
  • developing self service delivery system
Q14) Benefits

Studies
• 10 countries indicate that studies have been carried out

Benefits in general
• economic benefits
• study for Spain estimates annual savings of EUR 157 million
• stimulus for innovation and economy
• benefit for society as a whole
• use of data increased substantially

Benefits for institutions
• better management of geodata
• improved service for clients
• better transparency of data, less corruption
• increased user feedback leads to more effective quality control
• more wide-spread use of open data in all institutions
• better visibility of institution
• time reduction for coordination and decision-making
Q15) Drawbacks for society and for institutions

**Drawbacks for society**
- uncertainties regarding authenticity and reliability of data
- discomfort because of assumed abuse of personal data
- implementation of new technologies
- need to re-financing with higher taxes
- misuse of open data (illegitimate restauration of boundary markers)
- appropriate literacy and IT knowledge are required to use open data

**Drawbacks for institutions**
- identity loss for data collection and maintaining institutions and in consequence loss of political relevance
- significant investment needed
- additional resources required
- less sustainable funding, i.e. more dependency on government budget
- decrease of income
Q16) Budgetary implications and compensations

**Budgetary implications**
- more spending for additional products
- loss of income
- Gov. budget needs to be increased
- higher budget for additional HR and system implementation and maintenance

**Compensations**
- subject to be approved by Parliament
- own sources
- no compensation
- no compensation, institution is 100% state funded
Q17) Lessons learned

- when data are made open, there is the danger of other professional re-users to establish their own copies of the same data with all negative implications
- reduction of revenues for the institutions
- budgetary compensation cannot be expected
- new technologies, handling of big data
- budgetary negotiations need to start as early as possible
- investment also required for customer support and ease of use
Q18) Remarks and suggestions

- Open Data are not free of cost. Somebody or any institution has to pay for it. In order to keep existing data collection, maintenance and provision by public institutions alive in a sustainable manner, those who are propagating Open Data should honestly also communicate to the policy- and decision-makers that Open Data needs additional public financial resources.

- Countries with a federal structure are facing the issue that each sub-unit can and does make its own decisions regarding opening up of data and licensing conditions.
  - Germany: 6 out of 16 Bundesländer have free and open data rules
  - Switzerland: 14 out of 26 Cantons have free and open data rules for cadastral data