Revised CES Recommendations proposed by Task Force 12 on dissemination of disaggregated census data

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Outline

1. TF-12 scope and work plan
2. Exchange of dissemination experiences
3. Questionnaire review
    - General dissemination, metadata and archiving
    - Statistical disclosure control
    - Geographical dissemination
4. Conclusion & next steps

TF-12 scope and revised CESR sections

- TF-12 scope
  - dissemination formats, products and schedules (←→ TF-13)
  - dissemination quality (←→ TF-02)
  - confidentiality/disclosure control implications
  - dissemination of georeferenced outputs (←→ TF-11)
  - documentation, metadata, archiving
- revised CESR sections
  - ‘Confidentiality and security’, paragraphs 140-148 in Chapter I (Methodology);
  - ‘Dissemination, documentation, metadata and archiving’, paragraphs 292-318 in Chapter III (Field and other operational activities)

Key changes – *dissemination technology/tools*

- survey findings:
  - digital online formats are now by far the most popular dissemination methods
  - interactive online tools (e.g. table builders, GIS mapping tools) relatively new among the most popular formats
  - user-friendly and accessible data visualisation functions considered a key element by many countries
  - key area where UNECE countries keep innovating

➔ CESR text revised in several places to make this general trend more visible and highlight benefits (user satisfaction, more efficient dissemination)

Key changes – *new developments in SDC*

- survey findings:
  - ➢ many UNECE countries have implemented significant updates to their SDC systems
  - ➢ due to more efficient noise-based methods available that allow e.g. to avoid cell suppression but also addressing new risks
  - ➢ additional risks relevant for several countries:
    - interactive dissemination tools interacting directly with the microdata
    - geographic differencing risks (related to introducing grids)

➔ CESR text revised in several places + some new paragraphs to cover these new developments and highlight the links between modern dissemination technology and new disclosure risks.

Key changes – *functional output geographies*

- survey findings:
  - Collecting precise coordinates on the population and on buildings becoming a standard
  - various benefits for dissemination, e.g. free/custom choice of geographic output units
  - grids have become a key geographical output level
  - Users benefit e.g. through highly flexible interactive mapping tools

➔ CESR text revised in several places to cover these recent developments and highlight benefits (comparability across countries, user satisfaction)

Overview of chapter

- effort by several TFs to rearrange Chapter III into a more coherent structure
- as part of that, TF-12 proposes to merge the above-mentioned Sections into a new dedicated Chapter:

  '**Dissemination and related topics: security, documentation, metadata and archiving**'

- benefits:
  - confidentiality and security become more visible
  - security and archiving aspects of access to closed census records are bundled

Overview of chapter – *contd.*

- Confidentiality and security
  - confidentiality principles – physical and logical security of personal data processed
  - statistical disclosure control – incl. links between new dissemination tools and new risks
- Dissemination
  - types of dissemination products (e.g. static reports, interactive tools, on-demand, …)
  - cost effectiveness and efficiency gains through new technologies (e.g. interactive tools)
  - easy and free access, modern dissemination channels (e.g. APIs, social media)
  - links between technological advancements and more powerful tools (e.g. GIS)
- Archiving and access to close records
  - responsibility to preserve, access modalities, include metadata and operational info

Conclusion & next steps

- TF-12 analysed the 2023 UNECE survey results
- proposed various CESR revisions and new paragraphs to emerging topics
- ready to address comments and feedback from census week and upcoming further consultations

Thank you

European Commission