

Mapping European Competitiveness (MAPCOMPETE)

EC FP7 SSH-2012.6.2-1 “Mapping data opportunities for economic and social research and policy”

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Objectives

- 1) Provide a comprehensive overview of the datasets which are either used to construct already existent competitiveness indicators or could represent the source to build new indicators;
- 2) Assess the extent to which some country- and year-specific competitiveness-related indicators can be systematically derived from data contained within available datasets across the EU and over time;
- 3) Analyse the matchability of datasets on different topical, technical and regional levels, both within as well as across countries;
- 4) Design better competitiveness indicators in order to establish a bridge between its macro and micro dimensions and hence, to develop new/refined indicators of competitiveness at different levels of aggregation;
- 5) Identify steps to enhance the quality and availability of existing data as well as suggest methods and sources for new data collections.

Workpackages

- 1) Mapping existing datasets;
- 2) Consistency of datasets for competitiveness indicators;
- 3) Matchability of different datasets;
- 4) Better competitiveness indicators;
- 5) Enhancing data quality, availability, and collection methods.

Complementarities with CompNet

- 1) Collecting data and information not already collected or devised by CompNet. In particular MapCompete is trying to tap directly the National Statistical Offices on a number of indicators;
- 2) Using the information collected by CompNet to integrate the info collected from NSOs;
- 3) Sharing the research efforts undertaken within Mapcompetete towards the achievement of CompNet-related goals;
- 4) Carrying out analytical work and research on indicators through independent research, that will anyhow produce outcome of interest for CompNet and that will integrate its research network;
- 5) Mapcompetete is a support action, which aims at bringing up future research topics and finding out where future research lines are.

Participants

Centre for Economic and Regional Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (CERS-HAS)	Hungary
Bruegel	Belgium
Centro Studi Luca d'Agliano (LdA)	Italy
Institute for Applied Economics (IAW)	Germany
Paris School of Economics (PSE)	France
Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques (Sciences Po)	France

Supporting Institutions

National Bank of Belgium	Belgium
Banque de France	France
Banco de España	Spain
Deutsche Bundesbank	Germany
Banca d'Italia	Italy
Magyar Nemzeti Bank	Hungary

Where we are now?

- Report on indicators of competitiveness;
- Mapping exercise as it defines and chooses the indicators to be mapped;
- Databank:
 - Discussed content and setup of database;
 - Database for EU28 will be put online on the MAPCOMPETE website when ready;
 - Mapping of macro indicators (also at regional and sectoral level) is well under way and the mapping for many indicators has already been completed.

What we have learned already?

- Contacts with National Statistical Offices, Eurostat and further data providers (e.g. Employment Agency, Private Data Providers) as well as researchers using the respective micro-level datasets across European countries are being established;
- Data providers and researchers from Bulgaria, Sweden, Ireland, Finland, and Germany were present at the Tübingen workshop and, together with the project team, discussed the following topics:
 - Measuring competitiveness;
 - Micro-level data on competitiveness in Europe – taking inventory;
 - Matching of micro-level data within and across countries: general aspects and examples from Europe.

Major comments

- Obtaining information about relevant data could probably be easier achieved by contacting relevant researchers working with the respective data;
- European Commission should be briefed on the complicated and different procedures for data access in the respective statistical offices;
- Unpleasant information that the approaches in Europe indeed are that different across countries (fees for data access, sometimes access only for nationals, different reporting thresholds, etc.);
- Distributed Microdata Research as a method for working with data from different sources (ESSLait)