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**Finland  
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**Session 4 - Concepts and Methods for Information and Data Sharing**

## **Data sharing and dissemination from Finnish Business Register**

### **1. Abstract**

Finland has always been considered as liberal country in respect of sharing the unit level data from business register. Clear legislative position and guidelines for data sharing outside of statistical purposes makes it possible for provide certain BR data concerning individual enterprises and other statistical unit for different users, most commonly to private businesses and other administrative bodies. Alongside with large scale mass data dissemination to be further disseminated via enterprise portals and other web-based services, business register will also provide more sophisticated “services”, such as tailor-made statistics combined to unit level data and for example matching and updating customer registers against the BR variables and populations.

Most important data providers are also heavy-users of BR data and close co-operation with them is beneficial for all players. Still, limitations of the available information is the same for everyone. Chargeable information services from BR bring good sum of money to Statistics Finland's budget every year but also the view that data dissemination will produce extra value for whole society is important. In future there will be more restrictions and more problems in dissemination of unit level data. For example new BR regulation covering data sharing with EuroGroups Register will bring new restrictions to data use and in some cases also prevent dissemination completely. Common tendency to restrict available personal information in afraid of misuse or frauds have some impact especially in smaller businesses where the difference between business and private life may be extremely thin. Coping with the restrictions and requirements of administration, enterprises and data providers is one of the BR challenges in coming years.