

Strengthening analytical frameworks and data on subnational government finance and public employment



2022-2024

REGO
MUNI **FI**
SUB-EMP ■



Background on the project

In 2018-2019, the OECD and the European Commission initiated a partnership to support data collection and the elaboration of new indicators to better assess decentralisation and subnational public finance in 24 OECD and EU countries. This work resulted in:

- The creation of the **Regional Government Finance and Investment Database (REGOFI)**, which provides unique data on expenditure, revenue, debt transactions and socio-economic indicators for the regional governments in OECD and EU countries from 2010 to 2016.
- **Two datasets on municipal fiscal data:** (i) aggregated fiscal data at municipal level for 32 countries and (ii) a disaggregated dataset for 5 pilot countries for 2011-2017. Five single indicators and three composite indicators at municipal level were created to enable analysis of decentralisation across the 32 countries.

In 2021-2024, the objective is to enhance this database by expanding its data collection to the individual regional and local government levels, as well as to launching a new database dedicated to subnational public employment. To accomplish this, the OECD will send data queries to national statistical institutes of selected countries. OECD will also organise workshops focused on subnational government finance, with the aim to reinforce the commitment of all stakeholders towards providing reliable, updated data on subnational government finance. The workshops will also enable discussions between the EC, OECD and national statistical institutes on the main trends and challenges surrounding regional government finance and investment. One workshop will be organised for each year of the project.



This 30-month project will encompass 3 streams of work:



Stream 1: Updating the database on regional government finance, and expanding it at the disaggregated level with individual regional governments;

Stream 2: Developing the municipal finance database, enhancing disaggregated data on individual municipalities;



Stream 3: Developing a methodology for piloting a database subnational public employment, with a focus on gender



Stream 1

Updating and Developing The Regional Government Finance and Investment Database (REGOFI)

This stream of the work is divided into two parts:

- Developing an aggregated database on regional government finance and investment;
- Developing a disaggregated database that gathers financial and investment data of individual regional governments.

Part 1: the OECD will update the information for the 24 countries from 2010 until the latest years available, subject to data availability.

Part 2: the OECD will develop a database gathering disaggregated data on regional government finance on 494 individual regional governments in OECD and EU countries, subject to data availability. The data will be collected for the latest years available. Based on the feasibility study conducted in May 2019, the OECD identified a preliminary list of 21 countries with available disaggregated data.



Stream 1 Tasks:



1. Update the sources of information at national level;
2. Collection of data for individual regional governments;
3. Data entry, verification, codification for exporting them to OECD.stats;
4. Preparing and publishing a synthesis report.





Stream 2

The Municipal Finance Database and Municipal Fiscal Indicators (MUNIFI)

This stream is divided in two parts:

- Developing the aggregated database on municipal government finance and investment for the countries included in the database.
- Developing the disaggregated database on financial and investment data of individual municipal governments in the countries included in the database.

Part 1: the OECD will develop a new aggregated database with the last years available, subject to data availability. The aim is that the aggregated database covers 42 countries.

Part 2: the OECD will develop the disaggregated database for the 20 countries included in the database. The disaggregated database includes information on municipal expenditure, revenue and demographics, and it enables richer comparisons at municipal level.



Stream 2 Tasks :

1. Identifying information sources for disaggregated data;
2. Refining the indicators of the aggregated database;
3. Data collection for aggregated and disaggregated municipal databases;
4. Organising meetings with statistical institutes and project partners;
5. Preparing the data (codification) for OECD.stats and defining the structure of the database;
6. Preparing and publishing the database and the synthesis report.



Stream 3

Building a Pilot Database on Subnational Public Employment

In 2021/22, the OECD and the EC will develop a methodology for building a pilot statistical database on public employment at the subnational level in OECD and EU countries.

The objective of this project is to have a better understanding of the situation of subnational public employment, notably with regard to the gender dimension, as well as to assess the level of human capacity in regions and municipalities across OECD and EU countries.

In connection with the two previous strands of work, this will also enable to overview the linkages between the share and characteristics of subnational public employment and the level of fiscal decentralisation of subnational governments in OECD and EU countries. A comprehensive assessment of subnational public employment can also help national and subnational governments to get a clearer picture of the needs and gaps of territorial entities.



Stream 3 Tasks :

1. Definition of the scope of the study – towards a taxonomy of subnational public employment
2. Identification of information sources at the international, national, regional and local level
3. Building the database





Project Timeline January 2022 – March 2024

January – May 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refining the indicators of REGOFI and MUNIFI Creating the data query modules (Excel templates)
June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sending the data query modules (deadline for responses September)
September - December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st Workshop Analytical work; developing the database structure
January - May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analytical work Uploading data to the online database (OECD.Stat)
March – June 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafting the two synthesis reports
July - October 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback for the reports (OECD, EC, National institutes) Revision of reports 2nd workshop
November - December 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updating the databases (for 2021, and potentially for 2022)
January - February 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report is in the CFE publication process
March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch conference organised jointly with the EC



Questions?

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