

# AGENDA

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

**First series of workshops**

**13 and 14 December 2022**

**12:00-14:30 (CET)**

 **Virtual meetings**

The events were held in English.

# Agenda

## Using municipal and regional fiscal data to analyse decentralisation and multilevel governance

13 December 2022

### What is the issue?

There are still many gaps in local finance data, especially concerning disaggregated data of individual municipalities or regions. While these data exist at the national level in each country, there is currently no platform to compare and analyse municipal and regional finance between countries, and sometimes even between levels of government within the same country. Yet these data are necessary and valuable information for truly assessing the capacities and decision-making power of municipalities and regions, and for evaluating the levels of disparity and distribution of subnational government expenditure and revenue.

To fill-in these gaps, the OECD and EU have begun collaboration on the project, “Strengthening analytical frameworks and data on subnational government finance and public employment”. The aim is to create unique databases with aggregated and disaggregated data on public finance, at regional and municipal levels (REGOFI and MUNIFI).

12:00-12:15	15 min	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Dorothee Allain-Dupré</b>, Head of Division, Regional Development and Multi-level Governance, Center for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE), OECD</li><li>• <b>Lewis Dijkstra</b>, Head of the Economic Analysis Sector, DG REGIO, European Commission</li></ul>
12:15-13:00		<b>Session 1 – REGOFI and MUNIFI databases</b>
		<b>Moderator: Isabelle Chatry</b> , Head of Unit, Decentralisation, Subnational Finance and Infrastructure (DEFI), Regional Development and Multi-level Governance Division, CFE, OECD
	25 min	<b>Project presentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Antti Moisio</b>, Economist, DEFI, Regional Development and Multi-level Governance Division, CFE, OECD</li><li>• <b>Charlotte Lafitte</b>, Policy Analyst, DEFI, Regional Development and Multi-level Governance Division, CFE, OECD</li><li>• <b>Brendan Irish</b>, Consultant, DEFI, Regional Development and Multi-level Governance Division, CFE, OECD</li><li>• <b>Margaux Vincent</b>, Policy Analyst, DEFI, Regional Development and Multi-level Governance Division, CFE, OECD</li></ul>
	10 min	<b>Comments on the project’s objectives from National Statistical Institutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Stephen Owens</b>, Public Sector Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau</li></ul>

	10 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Magnus Jeppesen</b>, Head of Section, Statistics Denmark</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A session</b></p>
<b>13:00-14:00      Session 2 – Cross-country fiscal databases: research and policy perspectives</b>		
		<p><b>Moderator: Antti Moisio</b>, Economist, DEFI, Regional Development and Multi-level Governance Division, CFE, OECD</p>
	15 min	<p><b>Using cross-country data in research: the Regional Authority Index</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Arjan Schakel</b>, Research Professor, University of Bergen, Norway</li> </ul>
	15 min	<p><b>Impacts of fiscal decentralisation: utilising international data from subnational governments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Maarten Allers</b>, Professor of Economics of Sub-National government, University of Groningen, Netherlands</li> </ul>
	15 min	<p><b>Utilising international databases in policy design</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Niels Jørgen Mau Pedersen</b>, Project Director, The Danish Center of Social Science Research (VIVE)</li> </ul>
	15 min	<b>Q&amp;A session</b>
<b>14:00-14:10</b>	10 min	<p><b>Wrap-up and conclusion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Carlo Gianelle</b>, Senior Researcher, DG Regio, European Commission</li> <li>• <b>Isabelle Chatry</b>, Head of Unit, DEFI, Regional Development and Multi-level Governance Division, CFE, OECD</li> </ul>

# Agenda

## Towards a Database on Subnational Public Employment

14 December 2022

### Background

In 2018-2019, the OECD and the European Commission (EC) 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. The work resulted in the creation of the Regional Government Finance and Investment Database (REGOFI) and two datasets on municipal fiscal data.

In 2021–2024, the OECD and the EC continue partnering to expand the data collection to the individual regional and local government levels on subnational finance and investment and **develop, for the first time, a pilot database on subnational public employment (SNPE) with a gender perspective**. This pilot database will serve as a basis to assess the level of human capacity in regions and municipalities across OECD and EU countries. In relation with the databases on regional and municipal fiscal data, the SNPE may 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. This database may also potentially serve as a tool to support policymaking in EU and OECD countries by allowing a comprehensive picture of the needs and gaps on human capacities of territorial entities.

#### 12:00-12:15 Welcome and Opening Remarks

- **Dorothee Allain-Dupré**, Head of Division, Regional Development and Multi-level Governance, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD
- **Lewis Dijkstra**, Head of the Economic Analysis Sector, DG REGIO, European Commission

#### 12:15-13:15 Public employment at the regional and local levels: data gaps, research challenges and policy perspectives

**Moderator: Isidora Zapata**, Policy Analyst, Decentralisation, Subnational finance and Infrastructure, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD

##### Speakers

- **David Kapya**, Technical Officer, International Labour Organization (ILO), Sectoral Policies Department. **Marie-Claire Sodergren**, ILO Department of Statistics
- **Natalia Nolan**, Policy Analyst, Public Management and Budgeting Division, Public Governance Directorate, OECD
- **Daria Cibrario**, Local and Regional Government Officer, Public Services International
- **Edgardo Bilsky**, Director of Research, United Cities and Local Governments UCLG

##### Questions for discussion

- What data exists and what are the **main data gaps** for subnational public employment?

- Why is it **important to collect public employment data** at the subnational level? What would be the expected benefits for countries? How can this be helpful to conduct effective multi-level governance reforms?
- What are the **main difficulties and practical challenges** regarding public employment data collection at the subnational level? Are the challenges different between unitary countries and federal countries?
- What are the **key dimensions/variables that should be considered** for an international pilot database on public employment at the subnational level?
- What are the **policy perspectives** regarding the existence of a database on subnational public employment? For subnational governments? For national governments? For international organisations?

#### 13:15-14:15 Towards a pilot database on subnational public employment

**Moderator: Antti Moisio**, Senior Policy Analyst, Decentralisation, Subnational finance and infrastructure, Centre for Entrepreneurship SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD

#### Learning from OECD countries experience: gathering and using subnational public employment data

- **Edgar Vielma**, General Director of Sociodemographic Statistics, Mexican National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI). **Oscar Jaimes Bello**, General Director of Government Statistics Public Safety and Justice, Mexican National Institute of Statistics
- **Anik Lacroix**, Assistant Director, Municipal Data Strategy, Public Sector Statistics Division, Statistics Canada. **Dana Wojtas**, Labour Division, Statistics Canada
- **Benjamin Davies**, Public Sector Employment Results Manager, Office for National Statistics, United Kingdom

#### Overall OECD/EU project description and method

- **Isidora Zapata**, Policy Analyst, Decentralisation, Subnational finance and infrastructure, Centre for Entrepreneurship SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD
- **Matthieu Berrone**, Consultant for the Centre for Entrepreneurship SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD

#### Feedback and comments from countries

- For your country, is there data readily available in “aggregated” and “disaggregated” forms?
- What difficulties do you envisage when completing the data query?
- What suggestions do you have to improve the taxonomy and data collection process?
- Is there other data that you suggest to include in the database?

#### Q&A session

#### 14:15-14:30 Wrap-up and conclusion

- **Carlo Gianelle**, Senior Researcher, DG Regio, European Commission
- **Isabelle Chatry**, Head of Unit, Decentralisation, Subnational finance and infrastructure, Centre for Entrepreneurship SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD