



Workshop
**"Measuring and Comparing the Quality of Life
within Europe"**

24 & 25 January 2013

Committee of Regions
JDE Building

101, rue Bélliard
B-1040 Bruxelles

Timing	Action	Speakers
Day 1	Thursday 24 January 2013	
11:00-12:30	<p>Welcome & Opening Official introduction from ESAC, Eurostat and CoR</p> <p>Keynote setting the scene for the themes of the workshop</p>	<p>a. Denise Lievesley, Chair of ESAC, Kings College, London, United Kingdom</p> <p>b. Walter Radermacher, Director General, European Commission, Eurostat</p> <p>c. Gerhard Stahl, Secretary General, Committee of the Regions</p> <p>Tarja Halonen, former President of Finland</p>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 14:45	<p>Policy dimension: use and purpose of data, inequalities, importance of regional data Chair: Ineke Stoop, ESAC member, The Netherlands Institute for Social research / SCP, The Netherlands</p> <p>Introduction</p> <p>Measuring quality of life (QoL) is not new, several initiatives been launched in the past – often in the research field - and many of these initiatives are still on-going. The publication of the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Report (SSFR) in September 2009 has triggered various national initiatives. At the level of the EU, the Commission's GDP and beyond communication in August 2009 has brought QoL measurement at the forefront in the EU.</p> <p>Within the European Statistical System (ESS) work has started on complementing existing statistics with QoL indicators, some of which tie in directly with the EU's growth strategy (Europe2020).</p>	<p>Eduardo. Barredo-Capelot, Director, European Commission, Eurostat</p> <p>European Parliament tbc</p> <p>Agnès Hubert, Adviser, European Commission, Bureau of Policy Advisors</p>
14:45 -15:30	<p>Common introduction to the parallel sessions Chair: Ineke Stoop, ESAC member, The Netherlands Institute for Social research / SCP, The Netherlands</p> <p>Overall approach to identifying a set of QoL indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Is this approach meaningful for society in general and for various interest groups (social partners, researchers, media, NGOs etc.) in particular? <p>Main breakdowns: focus on regions and sub-populations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What are the main breakdowns to be considered from a geographical perspective and/or with respect to specific population groups and why? <p>Purpose of QoL indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – For what other purposes could the European statistics on QoL be used for? What are the potential challenges with regard to making the data accessible? And how can the widest possible use of this data be ensured? 	<p>Rapporteur: Irena Kotowska, ESAC member, Professor, Warsaw School of Economics, Poland</p> <p>Jean-Louis Mercy, Head of Unit, European Commission, Eurostat</p> <p>Lewis Dijkstra, Deputy Head of Unit, European Commission, DG REGIO</p> <p>Robert Bijl, The Netherlands Institute for Social research / SCP, The Netherlands</p>
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break	

16:00 – 17:45	Discussion in three groups on all the topics from the three introductory papers			Rapporteur: Janine Leschke, ESAC member, Department of Business and Politics at Copenhagen Business School, Denmark
	Group A Chair Ineke Stoop, ESAC member, The Netherlands Institute for Social research / SCP, The Netherlands	Group B Chair: Marleen De Smedt, Adviser, European Commission, Eurostat	Group C Chair: Michael Smyth, ESAC member, University of Ulster, Ireland	
Day 2	Friday 25 January 2013			
9:00 – 9:30	Summary of Day 1			Rapporteurs
9:30 – 10:30	<p>Data collection, methodology, analysis and measurement / Use and communication - Chair: Mariana Kotzeva, Hors Classe Adviser, European Commission, Eurostat</p> <p>For the measurement of QoL at European level, a number of data sources are already available, although not all sources respond to the quality requirements established in the ESS. In addition, measuring QoL requires special considerations from a methodological perspective, in particular on surveys methodology, and extra efforts are needed to have effective cross-country comparability.</p> <p>Good communication of QoL data is essential to get the correct messages across. Existing technology and new dissemination methods might make the data more easily accessible to users.</p>			<p>Filomena Maggino, University of Firenze, Italy</p> <p>Marco Babic, Bloomberg, Switzerland</p>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break			
11:00 – 12:45	<p>Data collection, methodology, analysis and measurement - Chair: Jean-Louis Mercy, Head of Unit, European Commission, Eurostat</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What (available) sources could be used as official statistics? – What are the (dis)advantages of QoL surveys? – What are the essential requirements for assuring cross-country comparability of QoL surveys? – Are there new and innovative ways of survey data collection? 	<p>Use and communication - Chair: Mariana Kotzeva, Hors Classe Adviser, European Commission, Eurostat</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – At what level of detail should data be made available and to whom? – What is the best format to communicate national data (going beyond 'league tables')? 	<p>Rapporteurs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Anuška. Ferligoj, ESAC member, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia for Theme 2, b. Ladislav Kabat, ESAC member, Bratislava Law School, Slovakia for Theme 3 <p>Theme 2: Heinz-Herbert Noll, Director of Social Indicators Research Centre, GESIS, Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Germany</p> <p>Theme 3: Niels Ploug, Director social statistics, Statistics Denmark</p>	
12:45 – 14:00	Lunch			
14:00 – 14:30	Summary of Day Morning Day 2			Rapporteurs
14:30 – 15:30	Wrap up & next steps > recommendations			Chair: Ineke Stoop and Marleen De Smedt

