Regional Workshop on the Integration of Big Data and Geospatial Information for the Compilation of SDG Indicators in Arab Countries 13-15 Oct 2020

Administrative data for the SDG – case of Statistics Denmark

Niels Ploug



Administrative data

- Data collected by public authorities for administrative purposes;
- Have another legal basis that gathering statistics;
- Examples: tax registers, population registers, health registers;
- Main purpose is to support administrative processes;
- Statistics based on administrative data is really a byproduct of having established them for administrative purposes.



Advantages of basing statistics on administrative data

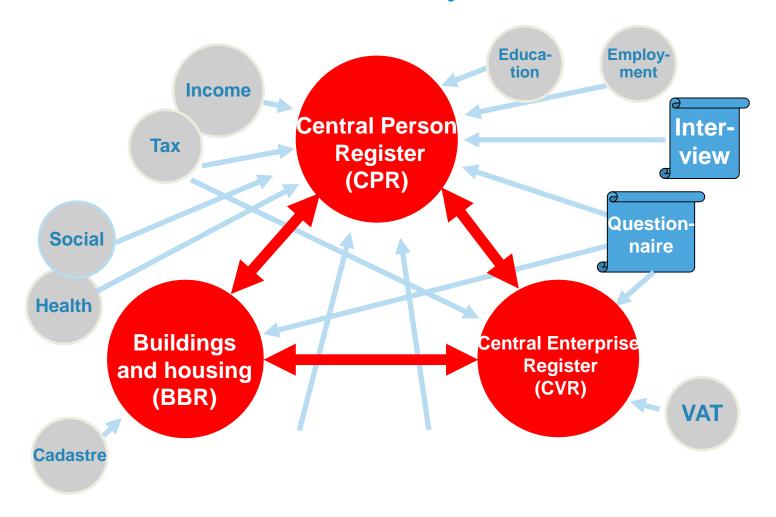
- The benefits of administrative registers are vast registers are mainly used by the administrative systems but also a huge asset for statistics
 - National ownership of the process
 - Statistical needs were never a driving force behind administrative registers in Denmark

Low costs

- Census in China 10 million census workers
- Census in USA 0.5 million census workers
- Census in Denmark 2 census workers (and can be conducted on a daily basis)
- Wide coverage and continuity
 - Continuity, coherence and comparability of statistics visible results
 - The much sought ambition of disaggregation by age, gender, income, geography etc. – also in relation to the SDGs.



The statistical information system in Denmark









Administrative data for the SDG

- Administrative data is an essential component of statistics produced by Statistics Denmark, including SDGs
- Where possible, administrative registers/statistical registers are linked together in order to produce an SDG-indicator.
- Administrative data is also used as nominators or denominators in SDG-indicators.
- Indicators covering topics such as population, education, health, private sector are fully or to some extent based on administrative data.

