Helsinki Region InfoShare – open access to statistics

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Session: Dissemination

Asta Manninen and Leila Lankinen,
City of Helsinki Urban Facts
www.hel.fi/tietokeskus
The Helsinki Region (14 municipalities) – population growth 1.2 % p.a. during the last 20 years

Key figures

Population,
present and by 2020
1.3 million; 1.5 million

Jobs
730,000

HEIs and students
13; 90,000
Helsinki Region information today

• A wealth of information
• Distributed data sources
• Compatible and incompatible information
• Too few joint-use arrangements
• More information could be freely available, and more readily available to the community, researchers and business
The future calls for new solutions

Creating and adopting a new model of access and connection to information on the Helsinki Region:

Helsinki Region Infoshare,

an initiative by the Mayors meeting of the four core municipalities of the Helsinki Region, i.e. Helsinki, Espoo, Kauniainen and Vantaa
Helsinki Region Infoshare supports the vision of the Helsinki Region

“The Helsinki Region is a dynamic world-class centre for business and innovation. Its high-quality services, arts and science, creativity and adaptability promote the prosperity of its citizens and bring benefits to all of Finland. The Helsinki Region is being developed as a unified region close to nature where it is good to live, learn, work and do business.”
Helsinki Region Infoshare: a large-scale development project

• **The goal** is to implement a web service allowing users to search, access and re-use significant amounts of open public data free of charge.

• **Sharing of public data** between as many users as possible, and for free, will benefit citizens, service developers and businesses alike.
Helsinki Region Infoshare: a large-scale development project

Outputs:

• A beta version of the web service will be launched at the beginning of 2011.

• Next, the service will be further developed applying a user-centric approach. The target is to have significant amounts of the data on the Helsinki Region, its municipalities and various sub-units accessible by 2012.

• **Time frame**: April 2010 – end of 2012
Production, maintenance, provision according to agreed rules and legal framework

- Definition of HRI data criteria, information policy/strategy, principles, ..., licensing
- Mode of working, - responsibilities and obligations

- Maintenance of web service
- Updating of data catalogs and links; adding new data sources
- Distributing data catalogs
- Collecting users feedback and expectations
- Development work

- Employees of the municipalities in the Helsinki Region
- State government
- Enterprises
- Research and Education
- Citizens
Helsinki Region Infoshare - connecting you to freely available information

Facilitates

• a new environment for co-operation
• a new and rich environment for research and education, development and innovation

Brings

• the power of information directly to local and state government, to communities, to businesses, to the public
Helsinki Region Infoshare - connecting you to freely available information

**Supports**

- harmonisation of data

**Improves**

- operation efficiencies on all levels
Helsinki Region information - themes and topics

• Population, demographic issues
• Housing, urban structure, traffic and transportation
• Economy, industries, jobs, employment
• Education, culture
• Various comparative statistics on cities and regions
Helsinki Region Infoshare: benefits for all involved

Makes existing data sources and information
• more visible,
• better known,
• widely accessible, and
• coming into wide use

By utilising original data sets and sources high standards on quality and efficiency are met.
Helsinki Region Infoshare: has raised a lot of interest

• Already by now, **Helsinki Region Infoshare** has got new partners, such as SITRA, the Finnish Innovation Fund.

• An interest is shared by various ministries, e.g. Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, and Ministry of Finance.

• New partners wanting to provide their own data for joint use are welcome to join the project.
Helsinki Region Infoshare: has raised a lot of interest

• As Helsinki Region Infoshare will create new opportunities for research and will contribute to the birth of new businesses, it has raised a lot of interest also among creative entrepreneurs and companies.

• The layout and key features of Helsinki Region Infoshare appeals to young people.

• The model of Helsinki Region Infoshare allows for extended and flexible applications.
Helsinki Region Infoshare: contributes to the WDC12 – Open Helsinki

• The theme of the year is *Open Helsinki – Embedding Design in Life*. The idea is to have a wide perspective on design.

• The core idea of this approach is to enhance usability and thus actively involve users in the planning process and implementation.

• The outcome will be created and implemented phase by phase in an open user-centred environment.
Helsinki Region Infos hare:
for more information

• City of Helsinki Urban Facts,
  www.hel.fi/tietokeskus

• Forum Virium Helsinki
  www.forumvirium.fi

Ville Meloni, ville.meloni(at)forumvirium.fi