

Historical data bases for the High Value Dataset implementation

This factsheet describes the policy for the principles to be used for the implementation of the High Value Dataset List.

Datasets within the scope of application

The [Annex to the Implementing Regulation establishing a list of specific high-quality datasets and the arrangements for the publication and re-use of such data \(hvdl\)](#) contains different historical requirements depending on the hvdl theme.

Hvdl theme Earth observation and environment includes “The most recent datasets **and historical versions** of datasets available in machine-readable format at all generalisation levels available up to the scale of 1 in 5 000 and covering the whole Member State combined.”

For the hvdl-theme meteorological data, the climate data contains validated observations ‘All digitised historical data’.

The hvdl statistical theme is based on “the time series shall start no later than the date of application of the relevant legal act set out in the table”.

The question is: Does any change to the content of the data of the data set provide a historical dataset?

The Situation

For datasets with measurement sequences, the data of that year can be seen as historical data after the end of one year. In the case of data where the situation changes at a given time, the question is whether each change produces a historical dataset or that a change date is given with each change and then stored per year. It also builds a history.

The Commission’s response

The above question was submitted to the Commission by e-mail. In their response (d. 8 November 2022), they indicate that the approach to historical data is likely to vary by sector. The approach may also differ between Member States within one sector as the purpose of the

Implementing Regulation is not to disrupt the way in which relevant public authorities manage their data. Several fora of relevant sectoral experts are a good starting point to insist on a more harmonised approach in the given sectors.

Advice

The hvdl statistical theme shall be based on the requirements set out in the relevant legislation and a start date for time series at the latest by the date on which it applies. Advice is to follow these requirements, and if machine readable data that goes further back are also available.

No legal frameworks have been provided for the validated climate observations from the hvdl theme Meteorological data and the hvdl theme Earth observation and the environment. Given that the management of the data by public authorities is different and does not need to be adapted, the data can be unlocked in the same way as in the Member State where it is recommended that the issue of environment and earth observation be agreed at EU level in order to facilitate re-use.