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European Neighbouring cities

Anne Bretagnolle, Marianne Guérois, Hélène Mathian, Antonin Pavard

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European Neighbouring cities

CONTENT

- **Stakes:** There is no harmonized definition of cities freely available in the European Neighbouring countries. This report collects the different national definitions and expertises the availability of urban delineations and data.
- **Methodology:** The documentation and data were collected in the 17 national census boards and completed by databases built by researchers. A common "syntax" has been used for categorizing the available information (administrative divisions, urban definition, data availability, references).
- **Results:** A typology of the definitions has been constructed (tables and map), the urban population level has been mapped. Each country is described by a single sheet following the general syntax.

31 pages



ESPON M4D -
MULTI DIMENSIONAL DATABASE DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT



LIST OF AUTHORS

Anne Bretagnolle, University Paris 1, UMR 8504 Géographie-Cités

Marianne Guérois, University Paris 7, UMR 8504 Géographie-Cités

Hélène Mathian, C.N.R.S., UMR 8504 Géographie-Cités

Antonin Pavard, C.N.R.S., UMR 8504 Géographie-Cités

Contact

anne.bretagnolle@parisgeo.cnrs.fr

UMR 8504 Géographie-Cités

Tel. (+ 33) 1 40 46 40 00

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Introduction

The objective of this technical report is to lead a systematic collect of two kinds of information. The first one concerns the different types of definitions, documentation, and urban indicators officially available in the neighbourhood countries. It aims at expertising this information in order to question its ability to be integrated in the future in the ESPON Data Base. The second type of information concerns the urban data bases that have been built by researchers or other institutions, in order to complete the data officially available.

The list of the countries under the study are presented in Table 1. These countries have been selected by ESPON M4D.

Table 1: List of the neighbouring countries under study

Region	Country
Maghreb	Algeria
	Libya
	Morocco
	Tunisia
Middle East	Armenia
	Azerbaijan
	Egypt
	Georgia
	Iraq
	Israel
	Jordan
	Lebanon
	Palestine
	Syria
Eastern countries	Belarus
	Russia
	Ukraine

1 Delineation of the city according to national definitions (“Bottom-up” approach)

For each country, we have first worked on official urban data, by querying information on the website of the Census Boards, as well as by collecting official documents on Internet and by completing them, if necessary, by sending questions to the Census Board contact point. The results are very unequal from one country to another, as presented in Table 2. For 12 countries amongst 17 we succeeded in finding a national official definition of urban objects.

Table 2: Information collected in national Census Boards (type of urban definition)

Region	Country	Existence of an official national definition
Maghreb	Algeria	- Multi-criteria approach (ONS 1998)
	Libya	NA
	Morocco	- Multi-criteria approach (since 1982)
	Tunisia	- Administrative approach (ONS 2004)
Middle East	Armenia	- Administrative approach
	Azerbaijan	- Administrative approach
	Egypt	- Administrative approach
	Georgia	- Multi-criteria approach
	Iraq	NA
	Israel	- Statistical approach (ONS 2004)
	Jordan	- Statistical approach (Department of Statistics 2004)
	Lebanon	NA
	Palestine	- Multi-criteria approach (Central Bureau of Statistics 2007)
Syria	NA	
Eastern countries	Belarus	- Administrative approach (government decree)
	Russia	- Administrative approach
	Ukraine	- Administrative approach (government decree)

All these definitions are described with more details in Annex 1, at the end of this technical report.

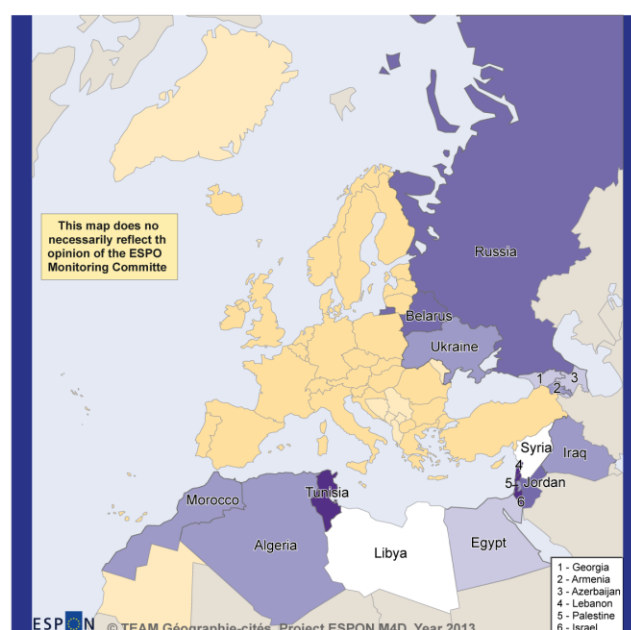
Table 3: Information collected in national Census Boards (selected urban indicators)

Country	Total pop.	Urban pop.	% Urban pop.	Census Date	Total pop. (2000)	Urban pop. Menapolis (2000)	% Urb. pop. Menapolis
Algeria	34 591 000	21 523 427	62,2	2008	NA	NA	NA
Armenia	3 061 000	2 062 300	67,4	2005	NA	NA	NA
Azerbaijan	8 398 250	4 390 900	52,3	2004	NA	NA	NA
Belarus	9 763 000	6 970 780	71,4	2004	NA	NA	NA
Egypt	72 798 031	31 370 925	43,1	2006	63 305 000	48 905 613	77,3
Georgia	4 321 500	2 257 500	52,2	2005	NA	NA	NA
Iraq	31 664 466	21 844 413	69,0	2009	NA	NA	NA
Israel	7 552 000	6 922 100	91,7	2009	NA	NA	NA
Jordan	5 350 000	4 207 411	78,6	2004	4 857 000	3 622 781	74,6
Lebanon	3 753 785	3 247 024	86,5	2004	3 562 000	2 959 378	83,1
Libya	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Morocco	29 891 708	16 463 634	55,1	2004	28 466 000	14 818 311	52,1
Palestine	2 948 125	1 820 986	61,8	2007	NA	NA	NA
Russia	143 500 000	104 700 000	73,0	2005	NA	NA	NA
Syria	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tunisia	9 932 400	8 858 717	89,2	2004	9 552 500	5 348 718	56,0
Ukraine	47 622 436	32 146 465	67,5	2004	NA	NA	NA

Sources : National Office Center for each country; e-geopolis (Menapolis).

Figure 1: National city definitions in the European Neighbourhood

Figure 2: Urban population levels in the European Neighbourhood (based on national city definitions)



Regional level: NUTS 0
Source: ESPON DB, year 2013
Origin of data: ESPON M4D, year 2013
© EuroGeographics Association for administrative boundaries

Approaches:
■ Administrative approach
■ Statistical approach
■ Multi-criteria approach
 No information

Urban population (%):
 40
 55
 70
 85
 100
 No data

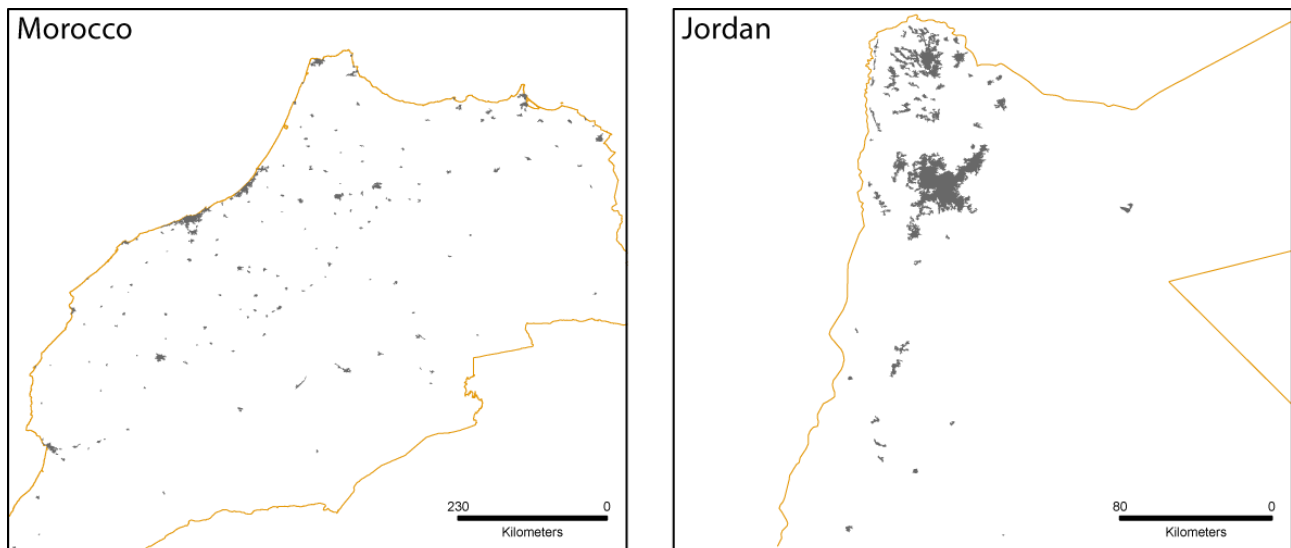
Countries of ESPON space
 Other neighbourhood countries (out our study area)
 Out of ESPON space

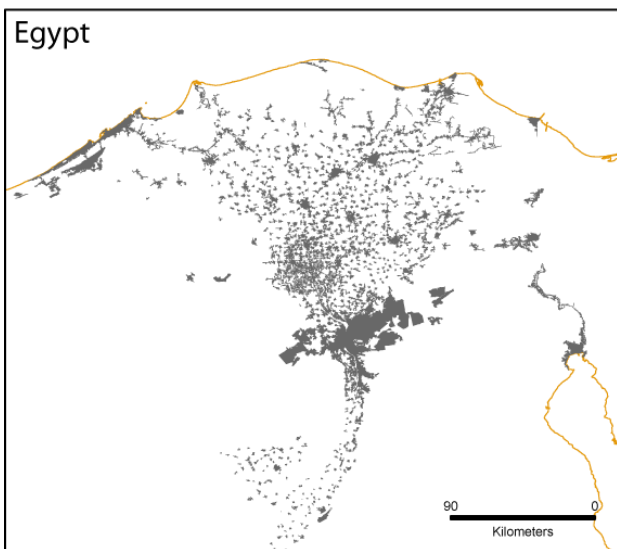
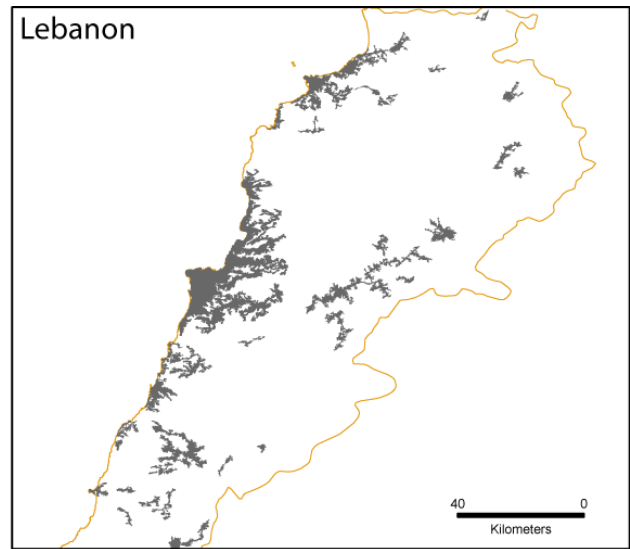
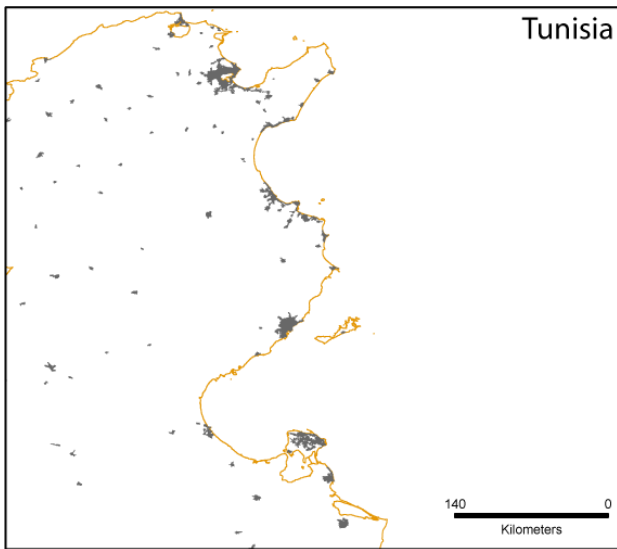
2 Delineation of the city according to the same definition (“Top-down” approach)

In a second step, we have collected urban databases built by researchers or other institutions at a macro-regional scale. For 5 of the 17 countries, we have used the morpho-statistical definition proposed by the team e-geopolis (François Moriconi-Ebrard and its collaborators). This definition combines different criteria (Figure 1):

- **Morphological criteria:** starting from satellite images and aggregating the patches distant by less than 200 meters;
- **Administrative criteria:** aggregation of administrative units that intersect the morphological urban area when more than 50% of their population is laying on the morphological area;
- **Demographic criteria:** only the collection of administrative areas that concentrate more than 10 000 inhabitants are retained.

Figure 3: The urban areas of Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Morocco, and Tunisia according to Menapolis definition





Regional level: NUTS 0
 Source: E-Geopolis
 Origin of data: E-Geopolis, Menapolis, 2012
 GADM, version 1.0 for administrative boundaries

Géographie-Cités, 2013

All these countries are integrated in the Menapolis project. Eastern countries depend on the Euroapolis project, for which geometrical data are not available on the e-geopolis website. For the Menapolis project, the geometric data can be displayed with Google Map and Google Earth and downloaded in KML or KMZ compressed format.

In future, the same data should be made available for other countries from the site e-geopolis at the following address:

- <http://www.e-geopolis.eu/spip.php?article269&lang=en>

The data available in the Menapolis project are presented in Table 3.

Table 4: The morpho-statistic definition of cities proposed by the project e-geopolis.

Pays	Geographical data	Number of cities
Morocco	Point data and area data	662
Tunisia	Point data and area data	89
Egypt	Point data and area data	1094
Jordan	Point data and area data	62
Lebanon	Point data and area data	35

Several attributes are available for these five countries of the Menapolis database. These attributes refer mainly to the urban population: Population for urban centers and agglomerations for the years 1960 to 2010. They are available at the following address:

- http://e-geopolis.eu/menapolis/MENA_ListAgglos_site.htm

It is also possible to request some data for the years 2020 and 2030 (See Table 4).

Table 5: Exemple of data available for each country of the Menapolis database.

ID	Name	Pop_2010	Pop_2020	Pop_2030	X	Y
TUN40101	Tunis	1832809	2552388	2846615	10,175	36,826
TUN41201	Sousse	475612	570932	803907	10,6347	35,8371
TUN41501	Sfax	525301	604479	663293	10,72	34,75
TUN40501	Nabeul	201404	237550	265544	10,73	36,46
TUN41325	Moknine	172592	198747	250830	10,96	35,65
TUN41901	Gabes	167403	189916	206103	10,1	33,9
TUN40701	Bizerte	162861	183874	198785	9,87	37,29
TUN42005	Ben Guerdane	86554	140460	188577	11,22	33,14
(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)

3 Comparison between “Bottom-up” and “Top-down” approaches

As a result of the two previous approaches (official national definitions and researchers definitions), Table 5 gives the state of the definitions and of data collection for the 17 countries.

Table 6: Official and morpho-statistic definitions of cities in neighboured countries

Region	Country	Official national definition	Morpho-statistic definition (e-geopolis) → 2010 for Menapolis
Maghreb	Algeria	- Multi-criteria approach (579 urban areas in 1998)	
	Libya	NA	
	Morocco	- Multi-criteria approach 243?	- 662 units
	Tunisia	- Administrative approach (264 urban communities in 2009)	- 89 units
	Armenia	- Administrative approach (49 Kaghakner → Urban communities in 2007)	
	Azerbaijan	- Administrative approach	
	Egypt	- Administrative approach	- 1094 units
	Georgia	- Multi-criteria approach	
Middle East	Iraq	NA	
	Israel	Two approaches : - Statistical approach ; - Multicriteria approach (2 Metropolitan areas in 2000).	
	Jordan	- Statistical approach (108 Urban localities in 2004)	- 62 units
	Lebanon	NA	- 35 units
	Palestine	- Multi-criteria approach (112 Urban localities in 2007)	
	Syria	NA	
Eastern countries	Belarus	- Administrative approach	
	Russia	- Administrative approach	
	Ukraine	- Administrative approach	

Annexe 1 – Urban definitions by country

This annex contains detailed information regarding the urban definitions of each country studied.

Model of the Country-Sheet

NAME OF THE COUNTRY
Administrative division
List and definition of administrative units
Urban definition
Definition of urban units
Data available
Which data are available, and in what form?
References
Documentation used for building the sheet (National Reports and other sources)

ALGERIA

Administrative division

There are three administrative levels:

- "**Province (wilaya)**" is the first administrative level of the country (48 units since 1984);
-
- "**Daïra**" is the second administrative level of the country (548 units);
- "**Commune (Baladiyahs)**" is the third administrative level of the country (1541 units since 1984).

Urban definition

An agglomeration is defined as a set of urban areas laying less than 200m apart. There were 4057 agglomerations in 1998 and 4563 agglomeration in 2008.

An agglomeration can be urban or rural. Two different definitions exist to classify urban and rural agglomeration. A legal definition and a statistical one:

- **Legal definition:** A settlement is considered as urban if there is an agglomerated population of at least 5,000 inhabitants. Four different urban clusters existed ("Agglomération urbaine":at least 5,000 inhabitants, "Petite ville":from 20,000 to 50,000 inhabitants, "Ville moyenne":from 50,000 to 100,000 inhabitants, "Grand ville":at least 100,000 inhabitants, "Métropole":at least 300,000 inhabitants).
- **Statistical definition:** A settlement is considered as urban if five criteria are satisfied:
 - At least 5,000 inhabitants;
 - Less than 25% of the labor force exercises an agricultural activity;
 - A connection to three types of network: AEP, electricity, and sanitation;
 - The presence of three services among the list:
 - Hospital / clinic
 - High school / middle school
 - Cultural facilities
 - Sport or recreational infrastructure
 - Administrative facilities
 - A minimal annual growth rate of population between 1987 and 1998.

579 urban units are identified in 1998,851 in 2008 among them 751 intercommunal at the same date. Each urban unit is classified in four clusters (see "Armature urbaine 2008").

Data available

- Excel table for the 751 intercommunal urban agglomerations;
- Shapefile with the centroids of agglomerations (the delineations are not currently available)

References

- Journal officiel algérien n°_67-06 du 18 janvier 1967, ordonnance n° 67-24 du 18 janvier 1967, portant code communal; p 82 et suivantes.
- Journal officiel algérien n°_69-44 du 23 mai 1969, ordonnance n° 69-38 du 23 mai 1969, portant code de la wilaya; p 463 et suivantes.
- Journal officiel algérien n°_84-06 du 7 février 1984, loi n° 84-09 du 4 février 1984, relative à l'organisation territoriale du pays, p. 101. et suivantes.
- Collections Statistiques N° 163/2011 (Armature Urbaine - 2008 -), http://www.ons.dz/IMG/pdf/armature_urbaine_2008.pdf
- <http://www.interieur.gov.dz/Dynamics/frmItem.aspx?html=3&s=25>

LIBYA

Administrative division

There are two administrative levels:

- "**Quartiers (Shabiyat)**" is the second administrative level of the country. In the 1990s these replaced the older baladiyat system (32 units in 2001, and 22 units since 2007).
- "**Congrès populaires (mu'tamar sha'bi asāsi)**" is the smallest administrative level of the country (22 units since 2007).

Urban definition

- No information

Data available

- No information

References

- No information

MOROCCO

Administrative division

There are three main administrative levels:

- « **Régions** »: 16 "Régions" Divided in 17 "Wilayas" ;
- « **Provinces (Rural unit) / Préfécures (Urban unit)** »: Each "Province" and "Préfécure" is divided in "Cercles". Each "Cercle" is divided in "Pachaliks" (for Urban units) or in "Caïdats" (for Rural units);
- « **Communes** »: There are **Urban communities** (urban geographical areas grouped) or **Rural communities** (with groups of inhabitants far away from each other).

Urban definition

Two approaches:

- Administrative approach: the "Communes urbaines" are defined by decree ("décret n°2-92-651 du 17 août 1992") (391 units in 2004);
- Statistical approach: An urban center must meet at least four of the seven conditions:
 - Have an electricity network;
 - Have a network of drinking water;
 - Have sewerage network (sewage evacuation);
 - Have a hospital or clinic;
 - Have a high school;
 - Have a court;
 - Have a proportion of the non-agricultural workforce of over 50%.**And** this center has to contain a population of at least 1,500 inhabitants.

Data available

- Excel table for the 243 "legal" urban communities;
- Shapefile with the delineation of the 243 "legal" urban communities.

References

- Benabbou, 2012. "Politique de la ville : Définition de la ville". In "Concertation et co-construction pour une mise en œuvre durable". A note on urban definition in Morocco for the « Ministère de l'Habitat, de l'Urbanisme et de la Politique de la ville ». 3 p.

<http://www.mhu.gov.ma/Documents/Politique%20de%20la%20ville/M%20BENABBOU%20D%C3%A9finition%20de%20la%20ville%20au%20Maroc.pdf>

TUNISIA

Administrative division

There are three administrative levels:

- « **Gouvernorat** »: This is the largest administrative division; it was fixed by the decree of 21 June 1956 and amended by the Act of 17 March 1969 (24 units in 2009);
- « **Délégation** »: This is the main territorial division of the governorate (264 units in 2009);
- « **Secteur** »: This is the smallest administrative division that is cut nationwide. This area may be urban or rural (2073 units in 2009).

Urban definition

- « **Municipalité** » or « **commune urbaine** » all municipalities recognized as such by a decree from the Interior Ministry and which are thus subject to the Municipal law. (262 units in 2004);

Data available

- Excel table for the 262 "Municipalités";

References

- Masri Mohammed (2008), « Dynamiques spatiales et aménagements des milieux urbain/rural en Tunisie », Colloque ASRDLF, En Ligne.

ARMENIA

Administrative division

There are two administrative levels:

- « **Province (Marzer)** »: This is the largest administrative division; There are ten units plus Yerevan;
- « **Communities** » or « **hamaynks** »: "A community represents the democratic basis of the State system. It is a commonwealth of residents and represents an administrative and territorial subdivision within defined boundaries where local self-government is implemented by virtue of elected bodies. A community is a legal entity, specifics of which are defined by this law. A community disposes its property independently, it has its budget as well as a seal bearing the coat-of-arms of the Republic of Armenia or the community and its name." (915 units in 2007)

Urban definition

- « **Kaghakner** »: Communities "are classified as either towns (*kaghakner*, singular *kaghak*) or villages (*gyugher*, singular *gyugh*). As of 2007, Armenia includes 915 communities, of which 49 are considered urban and 866 are considered rural. The capital, Yerevan, also has the status of a community." (49 units)

Data available

- Excel table for the 49 urban communities;

References

- The Government of the Republic of Armenia ; Official Webstie : http://web.archive.org/web/20080420205327/http://www.gov.am/enversion/regional_7/regional.htm
- Parliament of Armenia ; The law of the Republic of Armenia – On local self-government : <http://www.parliament.am/legislation.php?sel=show&ID=1305&lang=eng>

AZERBAIJAN

Administrative division

There are two administrative levels:

First administrative level:

- « **Autonomous republic (muxtar respublika)** »: There is one autonomous republic. This is divided in 7 districts and 1 district of city (Nakchivan).
- « **Districts (Rayon)** »: There are 59 districts;
- « **Districts of cities (şəhər)** »: There are 11 cities;

Second administrative level:

- « **Municipalities** »: This administrative level was created in 1999. There are 2757 municipalities;

Urban definition

- « **Towns and settlements** »: are referent to urban places (There are 77 cities and 257 settlements);
- « **Rural localities** »: other places of residence. There are 1719 rural divisions.

Data available

- No information

References

- The State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan:
<http://www.stat.gov.az/source/demography/ap/indexen.php>

EGYPT

Administrative division

There are four administrative levels:

- « **Gouvernorat (Muhafazah)** »: this is the largest administrative division; There are 28 units at this level;
- « **Regions (Markazes)** »: There are 232 units at this level;
- « **City** »: There are 217 units at this level;
- « **District** »: is the smallest local unit in urban communities. Each district differ from one governorate to another in terms of size, population and political and economic circumstances;
- « **Village** »: is the smallest local unit in rural communities. Villages differ from each other in terms of the legal status. The chiefs of villages are appointed by the respective governors. There are 4617 villages;

Urban definition

- « **Urban areas** »:
 - o Urban governorates: Cairo, PortSaid, Suez and, Alexandria;
 - o Agglomerations that have been declared "cities" (217 units) and have a city council;
 - o The capitals of rural districts (marakaz) and capitals of rural governorates.

Data available

- No information

References

- Egypt State Information Service:
<http://www.sis.gov.eg/en/story.aspx?sid=6>
- Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics:
<http://www.capmas.gov.eg/?lang=2>

GEORGIA

Administrative division

There are two administrative levels:

- « **Region (Mkhare)** »: In the first administrative level, there are 9 regions, plus 1 city (Tbilisi) and 2 autonomous republics (Abkhazia and South Osselia). Regions were established by Presidential decrees from 1994 to 1996
- « **District (Raioni)** »: In the second administrative level there are 69 districts.

Urban definition

- « **Small town (Daba)** »: According to the presidential decree № 321 - 14 may 1999, a Daba is a settlement with at least 3,000 inhabitants and established social and technical infrastructure. Furthermore, it should not possess large agricultural lands. The status of a Daba can also be granted to a settlement with less than 3,000 inhabitants, provided it functions as an administrative center of the district (municipality) or has a prospect of further economic and population growth in the nearest future.

There are 50 Daba in 2011.

Data available

- No information

References

- National Parliamentary Library of Georgia. Article on "Small City": <http://www.nplg.gov.ge/gwdict/index.php?a=term&d=6&t=15584>

IRAQ

Administrative division

There are two administrative levels:

- « **Gouvernorat (Muhafazah)** »: this is the largest administrative division; There are 18 units at this level;
- « **District (Qadaa)** »: There are 111 districts;

Urban definition

- No information

Data available

- No information

References

- Central organization for Statistics: <http://cosit.gov.iq/english/index.php>

ISRAEL

Administrative division

- « **District (Mahoz) and sub-district (Nafa)** »: were defined according to the official administrative division of the state, which includes 6 districts and 15 sub-districts. In 1972, Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Area were added, in order to characterize the Jewish localities in those areas.
- « **Natural region** »: "Each natural region is part of one sub-district or, in some cases, identical to a whole sub-district or district. Natural regions are continuous areas, as homogeneous as possible in their physical structure, climate and soil, as well as in the demographic, economic and cultural characteristics of their population. Before the 1995 Census, the natural region system was updated and the number of regions rose from 45 to 50.
- « **Locality** »: is an inhabited place that meets the following criteria:
 1. It is usually inhabited by 40 or more adult residents (until the 1961 Census - 10 residents and until 1997 - 20 permanent residents or more);
 2. It has self-administration;
 3. It is not officially included in another locality.
 4. Its establishment was approved by the planning institutions.

Urban definition

Two definitions:

- « **Urban localities** »: include all localities with 2,000 or more inhabitants and are classified by size. 233 localities in 2009.
- « **Metropolitan area** »: for two areas (Tel Aviv area, and the Haifa area): A large number of local authorities (municipalities and local authorities), as well as regional councils and rural localities that are adjacent to one another and constitute one functional entity that integrates economic, social, and cultural relations within the boundaries of the metropolitan area.
 - **Core**: The territory of the primary city serving as the focus of activity for the population of the metropolitan area.
 - **Inner Ring**: The area containing the localities surrounding the core.
 - **Middle ring**: The area containing the localities surrounding the Inner Ring (in the Tel Aviv and Be'er Sheva metropolitan areas).
 - **Outer Ring**: The area containing the localities surrounding the Middle Ring.
 - **Sections** (Northern, Eastern, Southern); subdivisions of the metropolitan rings.

Data available

- Xls file for Metropolitan areas

References

- Office national de statistique israélien, documentation recensement 2004 : http://www1.cbs.gov.il/shnaton55/st_eng02.pdf

JORDAN

Administrative division

There are six administrative levels:

- « **Governorates (Muhafazat)** »: The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is divided into 12 governorates.
- « **Districts (Nahia)** »: The governorates are divided into major administrative units called districts, for statistical purposes, the governorate consists of one district or more. If there is one district in the governorate, then the district is the governorate, but this administrative division is practically unused, because it aims at making the serial of hierarchal division the same between governorates starting from governorate and ending in locality because the locality must have a unique number. This number must not be similar to any other locality number for distinction purposes. The number of districts in Jordan is 51.
- « **Sub-districts** »: District consists of statistical administrative units called Sub-district. District may be has one or more than one sub-district, if there is one sub-district in the district, then the sub-district is the district, the number of sub-districts is 89.
- « **Locality** »: It is the place of abode in permanent or mobile housing units for individuals or groups. Locality may be a center for practicing one economic activity or more, localities differ with regard to size of population and have discrete names. The boundaries of each locality were clearly delineated and each locality may consist of one block or more.
- « **Block** »: It is a group of buildings forming a locality or part of it, with clear man-made boundaries such as paved or unpaved streets, lanes, passages, electricity posts, telephone posts, railways,...etc, or natural boundaries as mountains, rivers, and valleys and are easily identified on ground.
- « **Building** »: It is a permanent or temporary structure established on land or on water, made from any construction material, consisting of one floor or more with a ceiling, used either for human residence, practicing work, worship, recreation. It may have one entrance or more, which leads from a public or private road to all parts of the building or to some parts of it. Subsidiaries of the building such as the garage, water cycle, store, grocery...etc, are considered as parts of the main building. Abandoned structures, sunshades at bus stops, bridges, and electricity huts are not classified as buildings.

Urban definition

- « **Urban and Rural** »: For the purposes of the Population and Housing Census 2004, each locality with 5000 or more population, as revealed by the 1994 Population and Housing Census was considered "Urban"; the remaining localities were considered "Rural". (There are 108 urban localities in 2004).

Data available
- Excel table for the 108 urban localities;
References
- Census 2004, methodological index: http://www.dos.gov.jo/dos_home_e/main/census2004/index2004_e.pdf

LEBANON

Administrative division

In 2004, the administrative division was:

- « **Districts (Muhafazat)** »: There are 8 districts.
- « **Subdistricts (Caza)** »: There are 27 units.
- « **Localities** »: There are 1550 municipalities. This administrative division contains "Municipalities" and "Villages"
- « **Municipalities** »: There are 1108 municipalities.
- « **Villages** »: There are 442 villages.

the statistics territories were:

- « **Sub division of Caza** »: There are 99 units.

Urban definition

- No official urban definition

Data available

- No information

References

- Central Administration of Statistics (CAS), 1997.
- IFPO / CNRS, 2007 : « Atlas du Liban : Territoires et Sociétés ».
- Bakhos Walid, 2005 : « Le rôle de la puissance publique dans la production des espaces urbains au Liban », *M@ppemonde*, n°80-4, 15 p. (<http://mappemonde.mgm.fr/num8/articles/art05403.html>)

PALESTINE

Administrative division

There are three administrative levels:

- « **Two regions** »:
 1. **West Bank** is divided into 11 Governorates.
 2. **Gaza Strip** is divided into 5 Governorates
- « **Governorates** »: There are 16 Governorates.
- « **Localities** »: A permanently inhabited place, which has an independent municipal administration or a permanently inhabited, separated place not included within the formal boundaries of another locality.

Urban definition

- « **Locality Type** »: Localities have been divided into three types: **Urban, Rural, Camps**
- « **Urban** »: Any locality whose population amounts to 10,000 persons or more. This applies to all governorates/districts centers regardless of their size. Besides, it refers to all localities whose populations vary from 4,000 to 9,999 persons provided they have, at least, four of the following elements:
 - public electricity network ;
 - public water network ;
 - post office ;
 - health center with a full – time physician ;
 - a school offering a general secondary education certificate.

There are 112 urban localities in 2007.

Data available

- Excel table for the 112 urban localities;

References

- Palestinian National Authority - Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics - Population, Housing and Establishment Census 2007 : *Main Indicators by Locality Type (January 2009)*

SYRIA

Administrative division

There are four administrative levels:

- « **Governorates (Muhafazat)** »: There are 14 governorates.
- « **Districts (Manatiq)** »: There are 64 districts.
- « **Sub-districts (Nawahi)** »: There are 275 sub-districts.
- « **Villages** »: It is the smallest administrative level. There are 6432 units at this level.

Urban definition

- No information

Data available

- No information

References

- No information

BELARUS

Administrative division

According to the law of the Republic of Belarus (n°154-3) of the 5 May 1998:

- « **Voblasts (Regions)** »: There are 6 Voblasts + One special Municipality: Minsk;
- « **Raions (Districts)** »: There are 118 Raions;
- « **Cities (town of oblast subordination)** »: There are 15 cities, with a population of 50 000 and more. These are large administrative, economic and cultural centers. These have a good development of the production and the social infrastructures;
- « **Gorad (town of raion subordination)** »: There are 98 towns, with a population of 6 000 and more. These have industrial companies, social and cultural establishments, and good prospects for development and population growth.

Urban definition

According to the law of the Republic of Belarus (n°154-3) of the 5 May 1998, there are three categories of urban-type settlements:

- « **Urban settlements** » (гарадскія пасёлкі): with population over 2,000, industrial enterprises and developed residential infrastructure. There are 87 units in 2008;
- « **Resort settlements** » (курортныя пасёлкі, resort towns): with population of at least 2,000, sanatoriums, resorts or other health recuperation establishments, and developed residential infrastructure. There is one unit in 2008;
- « **Worker settlements** » (рабочыя пасёлкі): with population of at least 500, servicing industrial enterprises, construction sites, railroad stations, electric stations, or other industrial objects. There are 6 units in 2008.

There are 94 units in 2008.

Data available

- No information

References

- law of the Republic of Belarus (n°154-3) of the 5 May 1998:
<http://www.levonevski.net/pravo/razdel2/num6/2d686.html>

RUSSIE

Administrative division

There are three administrative levels :

- « **The federated states** »: with four different administrative statutes. 21 republics, 9 krais, 4 autonomous districts, 1 autonomous oblast, 2 federal cities and 46 oblasts (from most to least autonomous).
- « **Raions (Districts)** »: There are 1865 Raions in 2010;
- « **Municipalities** »;

Urban definition

There are Local units with city status (gorod) to three levels of government:

- « **Urban Federated States** »: Moscow and St. Petersburg.
- « **Urban districts** »: 650 cities have the status of a district.
- « **Urban municipalities** »: 448 units.

In addition, the 1286 "urban-type localities" can be considered (Poselki gorodskogo tipa or TMP) in 2010.

Total in 2010: 1100 cities and 1286 " urban-type localities ".

Data available

- No information

References

- Census 2002 : <http://www.perepis2002.ru/index.html?id=11>, and census 2010 : <http://www.perepis-2010.ru/>

UKRAINE

Administrative division

There are three administrative levels:

- « **Oblast (Region)** »: There are 24 oblast + One autonomous republic (Crimea) and two cities with special status (Kiev and Sevastopol);
- « **Raions (Districts)** »: There are 490 Raions;
- « **Councils** »: They include Cities, Towns and Villages;

Urban definition

There are two types of settlements: Rural or urban.

For urban there are two major status:

- « **Cities** »: There are 457 Cities.
- « **Urban settlements (= Towns in English language)** »: There are 886 urban settlements.

Data available

- No information

References

- Law of Ukraine (n°1654-10) revised the 20 June 2012:
<http://zakon4.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1654-10>
- Law of Ukraine (1580-15) revised the 10 June 2012:
<http://zakon4.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1580-15>

Annexe 2 – Details of exchanges with national statistical offices

First contact: Request for information to national statistical offices (NSA) about to the urban definitions.

Reply: Answers of national statistical offices.

Second contact: Request additional information on definitions and data provided or found;

Country	First contact	Reply	Second contact	Second reply
Algeria	13/12/2012	22/01/2013	22/01/2013	27/01/2013
Armenia	03/12/2012	No reply		
Azerbaijan	10/12/2012	No reply		
Belarus	29/01/2013	07/02/2013		
Egypt	20/05/2013			
Georgia	21/01/2013	No reply		
Iraq	No contact information			
Israel	03/12/2012	No reply		
Jordan *	03/12/2012	06/12/2012		
Lebanon *	22/01/2013	No reply		
Libya	No NSA			
Morocco	29/01/2013	08/02/2013		
Palestine	10/12/2012	12/12/2012		
Russia				
Syria *	22/01/2013	No reply		
Tunisia	No additional information needed			
Ukraine	22/01/2013	25/01/2013		

* For these countries we have contacted too the "Institut français du Proche-Orient" (Ifpo).