Methodology of Territorial Code System

Settlement identification number

A settlement identification number is an individual identification number with no content used to identify a settlement, which is unchanged from the creation until the cessation of a settlement and cannot be used to identify another settlement even after the cessation of the settlement. A settlement identification number consists of 5 digits, 4 of which identify a settlement and 1 is a CDV number used for automatic computerised control.

From 1st January 1981 it is the integrate settlement identification number that identifies Hungarian settlements and the districts of Budapest in case of all data collected and stored by settlements by the Hungarian Central Statistical Office. In order to take account of certain events not related to settlements but being the subject of statistical surveys we created fictitious territorial units, namely Budapest data not divisible into districts, county data not divisible into settlements, national data not divisible into territorial units and data of activities outside Hungary. In place of their grouping criteria number 9 is given except for the county code.

The identification number identifies a settlement unambiguously, independent from the changes of grouping criteria.

Updating of identification (ID) number:

− If one or more settlements are annexed to a town, then the ID numbers of the settlements ceased due to the merger are annulled. The town with increased area is identified by the original ID number of the town.

− If two or more settlements are merged, with the name of the new settlement being identical to one of the former settlements' names, then the ID number of the surviving place name identifies the new settlement. The ID numbers of the rest of the former settlements are annulled.

− If two or more settlements are merged, with the new settlement renamed (e.g.: Gyoma + Endrőd = Gyomaendrőd), the new settlement is given a new ID number. The original ID numbers of the merged settlements are annulled.

If part of a settlement is reorganised to become an individual settlement, the new settlement is given a new ID number. The settlement from which the new settlement split keeps its ID number.

− If a settlement splits up and several individual settlements are organised of it, then several cases are possible:
= if one of the new settlements is called as was the settlement splitting up, then it keeps the ID number of the settlement splitting up,
= if settlements merged earlier split up, and if any of these settlements lies on the same area as before the merger, furthermore, if its new name is identical to that existing before the merger, then it is given back its original ID number,
= in any other cases new settlements are given new ID numbers, and the ID number of the settlement splitting up is annulled,
= if a settlement is ceased (whatever the reason is), its settlement ID number is removed from the current file and is not used for the identification of other settlements any more.

Use of ID number:

The code of any grouping criterion can be automatically joined to a settlement ID number, thus the desired grouping can be done. Therefore a source document should not include grouping criteria. Out of grouping criteria those generally used are included in the database of the territorial code system.

The use of a territorial code and a settlement ID number within is prescribed by Statement No. 9002/1990 (SK 3.) of the HCSO.

Territorial index number

A territorial index number is made up of the next four parts:

- a county code,

- a capital's district code,

- a settlement's legal status code and

- a county seat code.

County code

A county code - first two digits of a territorial index number - identifies Budapest and the counties. The county code is the fourth component of an integrate statistical code (9001/2002 (SK 13.)).

Capital's district code

A capital's district code - third and fourth digits of a territorial index number - is used to identify the districts of the capital.

Settlement's legal status code

A settlement's legal status code - fifth digit of a territorial index number - expresses the position of a settlement in the territorial administrative system.

County seat code

A county seat code - sixth digit of a territorial index number - identifies county seats.

Settlement's legal status '2005 code

A settlement's legal status '2005 code is a two-position system consisting of a settlement's legal status code and an additional code identifying large communities.

The title of 'large community' can be used by the bodies of representatives of communities that were large community councils when Act LXV of 1990 on Local Governments came into force or those communities in the area of which at least five thousand inhabitants live.

District code

A district is an administrative territorial unit in Hungary, making part of a county, established by splitting that, and comprising a particular group of settlements. From 1 January 2013 there are 6–18 districts in each county, totalling 175. The establishment of districts and the amendment of the related legislation, as well as the reform of the local administrative system is laid down in Act XCIII of 2012, in effect from 7 July 2012. The tasks, competence rules and specialised administrative organs of district offices, their professional control, furthermore, the seat and competence area of district offices are laid down in Government Decree No. 218/2012 (13 August). The government decree provides for the establishment of 197 districts in total, out of which 23 districts are in the capital (in a territorial breakdown corresponding to city districts).

Statistical large region code

level 1 was established in Hungary according to the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS).

Region code

Decision No. 35/1998 (20th March) of the Parliament on the national regional development concept defined the system of planning-statistical regions in Hungary. The system was modified by the Regulation No 2013/2015. (XII.29.) of the Government. The region code is expressed by a two-position code.

Joint council office code

According to Section 85 of Act CLXXXIX of 2011 on the local governments, "(1) the villages within a district whose administrative areas are separated by the administrative area of not more than one settlement and the population of each village is no more than two thousand, can create a joint council office. A settlement with a population over two thousand can be a member of a joint council office too. (2) The total number of inhabitants living in the settlements of a joint council office is at least two thousand, or the number of settlements belonging to a joint council office is at least seven."

The council of the local government establishes a mayor's office or a joint council office in order to operate the local government, prepare decisions and execute the tasks which are in the scope of mayor's and notary's duties. Moreover the office contributes to the coordination among the local governments and between the local governments and state organisations.

Joining or separating from a joint council office is possible only once during a governmental period, within 60 days after the general local governmental elections.

Data on joint council offices are produced partly by using the data based on the reports of county government offices and registered in the Local Governmental Methodology Department of the State Secretariat for Local Governance of Ministry of Interior and partly by using the yearly reports sent to the HCSO by the local governments.

The maintenance of joint council offices is expressed by a six-position code

Agglomeration code

An agglomeration code provides information on agglomerations having already been established, on agglomerating areas being at some stage of agglomeration and on less tightly interwoven groups of settlements in the area of the country. From 1st August 2003 there are 21 settlement groups of large towns. The settlements of the Budapest agglomeration are listed in Act LXIV of 2005.Position 1 of the four-position code expresses the type of an agglomeration, positions 2 and 3 identify the agglomeration, and position 4 singles out within a given agglomeration:

– the centre of the agglomeration
– the co-centres of the agglomeration
– other settlements in the agglomeration.

Agricultural landscape district code

Agricultural landscape districts are demarcated by nature, especially by the productivity of land. In this respect they are relatively homogeneous, coherent territorial units. The system of agricultural landscape districts covers the whole territory of Hungary, i.e. every settlement is part of a landscape district.

The system created has three levels. The lowest level consists of micro-districts, which are territorial units established within a county. Boundaries of these districts never cross county boundaries, not even if they split up an area homogeneous in respect of the nature of the soil. The division into meso-districts leaves county boundaries out of consideration. At this level the characteristics of the soil are taken into account first of all, and areas homogeneous from this point of view are considered as landscape districts. A meso-district either coincides with a micro-district or consists of parts, i.e. micro- districts, with one in each of two or more neighbouring counties. The highest level is made up of macro-districts, which are large territorial units of the country, usually consisting of more than one meso-district. Their area may spread over more than one county. There are 9 macro-districts, 36 meso-districts and 82 micro-districts in the area of Hungary.

The classification of settlements by agricultural landscape districts is expressed by a three-position code.

Position 1 is the code of a macro-district (numbers 1-9).

Position 2 is the number of a meso-district within a macro-district.

Position 3 is the number of a micro-district within a county.

Grape-bearing area code

The classification of settlements by grape-bearing areas is expressed by a one-position code. The delimitation is based on Regulation (EEC) No 357/79 of the COUNCIL.

Wine region code

We developed a code of wine regions in accordance with Decree No. 127/2009 (29th September) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on the supply of vine and wine data, the schedule for issuing certificates of origin, and the production, marketing and labelling of wine products. In accordance with Act XVIII of 2004 a wine region is a production site having similar characteristics of the climate, the topography and the soil, vineyards of specific varieties and cultivation methods, and typical grape- and wine-producing traditions across the administrative area of more than one settlement, and which produces specific wines. A settlement can be classified into a wine region if its area registered in the cadastre of vineyards reaches 7% of the utilised agricultural area of the settlement, or - based on consideration by the Minister - is a settlement or a part thereof, where there is a tax warehouse traditionally engaged in wine processing.

The classification of settlements by wine regions is expressed by a two-position code.

Tourism region code

A one-position code of nine tourism regions and their areas of competence delimited based on the annex of Decree No. 28/1998 (13th May) of the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism on the functions of regional tourism committees and their work organisations, and based on Act CXII of 2000 on the adoption of the land use plan of the outstanding resort area of Lake Balaton and on the establishment of the land use planning regulation on Lake Balaton.

World heritage site code

A world heritage site code contains sites approved by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee.

National park code

The classification of settlements is based on Decisions No. 1850/1972, 1800/1974 and 18/1976 of the National Office for Nature Conservation (OtvH), Decree No. 7/1984 (29th December) of the National Office of Environmental Protection and Nature Conservation (OKTH), Decrees No. 2/1991 (9th February), 7/1996 (17th April), 3/1997 (8th January), 31/1997 (23rd September) and 34/1997 (20th November) of the Ministry of Environment and Regional Development (KTM), and Decree No. 4/2002 (27th February) of the Ministry of Environment (KöM).

Code of possible seats of rural tourism

The classification of possible seats of rural tourism is expressed by a one-position code.

NUTS code

To ensure the provision of data to international partners a code corresponding to the NUTS (Nomenclature des Unités territoriales Statistiques) system of Eurostat is also included in a territorial code.

The basic administrative territorial statistical nomenclature is based on the territorial division of the state, provided for by the constitution. It corresponds to the NUTS system of the EU as follows:

NUTS level 1 in Hungary, which is valid from 1st May 2004, was defined by the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS). The NUTS level 2 territorial division, i.e. the territorial breakdown of Hungary by planning and statistical regions, passed by Parliament, too, is in force in the country from 20th March 1998. This was modified by the Regulation No 2013/2015. (XII.29.) of the Government. Counties and the capital correspond to NUTS level 3. LAU level 1 (of districts) was delimited in accordance with Act CVII of 2007. LAU level 2 corresponds to settlements. A NUTS code within a territorial code is a seven-position code, identifying settlements down to the level of districts.

Tourism area code

The classification of tourism areas is expressed by a four-position code