Date last modification documentation sheet: 16-04-2012

Compared to previous version documentation sheet (31-08-2011) the following issues were adapted:
- New section on relevant policy areas added to the documentation sheet

Compared to previous version documentation sheet (21-06-2010) the following issues were adapted:
- EUROPOP 2008 is replaced with EUROPOP 2010

ECHIM Indicator name	**A) Demographic and socio-economic factors** 5. Population projections
Relevant policy areas	- Sustainable health care systems - Healthy ageing, ageing population - (Planning of) health care resources
Definition	Population projections are what-if scenarios that aim to provide information about the likely future size and structure of the population based on assumptions for fertility, mortality and migration. Population projections expressed in absolute numbers.
Calculation	The EUROPOP2010 "convergence scenario" is used. This is based on the population on 1st January 2010, and the assumptions have been developed in a conceptual framework where the socio-economic and cultural differences between EU Member States would fade away in the long run. This assumption implies a convergence of the most important demographic values. For example, in the (hypothetical) convergence year 2150, fertility is assumed to converge to levels achieved by MSs that are considered to be forerunners in the demographic transition. Life expectancy increases are assumed to be greater for countries at lower levels of life expectancy and smaller for those at higher levels. Migration is assumed to converge to zero net migration in 2150. These assumptions can be summarised by means of indicators such as total fertility rate, life expectancy at birth and net international migration for the target year 2060.
Relevant dimensions and subgroups	- Calendar year (from 2010 up to and including 2060) - Country - Region (according to ISARE recommendations) - Sex - Age group (0-24, 25-64, 65+)
Preferred data types and source	Preferred data type: basic demographic data (as input for the projection models) Preferred data source: Eurostat (EUROPOP2010)
Data availability	Eurostat calculates projections for all EU Member States and EFTA countries. Population projection data from Eurostat are available by single age and sex from 2010 (start population) up to and including 2060. For 2008 until 2031Eurostat also calculates regional population projections at NUTS level 2 (i.e. not fully in accordance with ISARE recommendations).
Data periodicity	Population projections are produced by Eurostat every 3-4 years. There is no official release calendar.
Rationale	Basic demographic data by itself: population projections are predictive measures which implicate that if the hypothetical projection calculation premises are correct, what projected population size and age structure would result in any future year. The current scenario is primarily used in the context of the European Commission's analysis of the impact of ageing populations on public spending.
Remarks	- Eurostat projections may differ from national estimates due to different assumptions of fertility, mortality and migration. Eurostat projections are recommended because Eurostat uses the same harmonized calculation methods for all countries.
References	- Eurostat metadata, EUROPOP2010 - Convergence scenario, national level: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/EN/proj_10c_esms.htm - Eurostat (Population and social conditions). Ageing characterises the demographic perspectives of the European societies. Statistics in focus72/2008: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-SF-08-072/EN/KS-SF-08-072-EN.PDF - Eurostat metadata, EUROPOP2008 - Convergence scenario, regional level:

	http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/EN/proj_r08c_esms.htm - Health Indicators in the European Regions (ISARE) project: http://www.isare.org - Eurostat database, population projections, convergence year 2150 - 1 January population by sex and single year of age: http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=proj_10c2150p&lang=en
Work to do	-