



Changes from EBM v2019 to EBM 2020

File name	EBM_2020_Changes		
Version	Author	Date	Comments
v1.0	Jörgen Spradau / BKG	09.01.2020	

Contents

1	Introduction	2
2	General changes in the EBM database.....	2
2.1	Data model	2
2.2	Coverage extension	2
2.3	International boundaries	2
2.4	LAU/NUTS matching	2
3	Changes in national contributions	3
3.1	Unchanged countries	3
3.2	Countries with minor changes	3
3.3	Countries with major changes	4

1 Introduction

EBM 2020 is a complete new update of the EuroBoundaryMap product, based on the new NUTS2016 regulation. The basis for the update was the previous release EBM 2019, which was released officially by EuroGeographics in January 2019.

This document summarises all changes made from EBM 2019 to EBM 2020. Please refer also to the national metadata for additional information concerning changes in national data contributions.

2 General changes in the EBM database

2.1 Data model

The EBM data model has been kept stable. Regarding the issues between different country codes, EBM include an additional table with country code matching. This table holds the relation between the country codes of ISO, EU and EuroGeographics.

A table from Open Regional Gazetteer was added in EBM 2020, which provides additional data for the exonyms, endonyms and other variant names.

Please refer to the document: [EBM 2020 Specification.pdf](#) for more details.

2.2 Coverage extension

EBM 2020 covers all EU28, all EFTA and some of current candidate countries. EBM contains also placeholders for all missing countries.

In EBM 2020 it was not possible to clarify the integration into the full Europe seamless database for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

2.3 International boundaries

The international boundaries have been kept stable with minor changes concerning vertices. They are identical with the previous version and also with EuroRegionalMap.

EBM contains also areas which are claimed by neighbouring countries, where it is necessary to display the polygons as in dispute areas. In all cases, it is not possible to solve or avoid in dispute areas in the EBM full Europe dataset. This applies for the following countries:

- Germany – The Netherlands: There is one unsolved issue on the seaward boundary between both countries. The German legal position is that the German territory includes the whole estuary of river Ems/Eems, and that the international border is situated at the western shoreline of this estuary. This is in conflict with the Dutch legal position, which defines the border in the middle of the estuary. This status quo will stay unsolved.
- Croatia – Slovenia: In the north-eastern edge of the Adriatic Sea the territorial waters claimed by both countries overlap. There are also a number of in dispute areas along the land boundary. This is a major political issue which will not be solved in near future.
- Croatia – Serbia: The border between both countries is not fixed, especially along river Danube. An agreement will not be in place in the near future.
- France – Italy: There are four small in dispute areas on glaciers.

2.4 LAU/NUTS matching

EBM 2020 contains the matching with the NUTS regulations No 2016/2066 (NUTS 2016).

For few countries specific solutions for the LAU/NUTS matching have been discussed with Eurostat. This concerns especially Great Britain (Scotland) and Greece.

Please refer to the document: [EBM 2020 LAU-NUTS-Matching.pdf](#) for more details.

3 Changes in national contributions

3.1 Unchanged countries

For the following countries there were no changes from EBM 2019 to EBM 2020:

- Albania
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Estonia
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Kosovo
- Latvia
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Poland
- Serbia
- Slovakia

For the following countries there were improvement in data quality from EBM 2019 to EBM 2020:

- Belgium
- Czech Republic
- Greece
- Finland
- Moldova
- North Macedonia
- Northern Ireland
- Slovenia
- Sweden
- Portugal

For the following countries it was not possible to get an update for EBM 2020. Nevertheless, these national datasets are most probably also valid for EBM 2020:

- Ukraine

3.2 Countries with minor changes

The following national contributions contain only a small number of changes:

- Austria
- Denmark
- Iceland
- Italy
- The Netherlands
- Norway
- Romania
- Switzerland

The changes are listed in detail in the separate table [EBM 2020 ChangesDetails.xls](#).

3.3 Countries with major changes

The following national contributions contain a major number of changes:

- France
- Germany
- Great Britain
- Lithuania
- Spain

The changes are listed in detail in the separate table [EBM 2020 ChangesDetails.xls](#).