**LLAKES Systems of Lifelong Learning Dataset**

Explanatory note

Project 1.1. “Equality and Inequality in LLL”

Project 1.2. “Analysis of Macro-Social Data on Educational Inequality, Income Inequality, Social Cohesion and Competitiveness”

The LLAKES Systems of Lifelong Learning Dataset has been compiled for projects 1.1. and 1.2 of LLAKES Phase I (2008-2012). Included are time series data on (1) inputs, structural properties and outputs of lifelong learning (LLL) systems, (2) socio-economic performance, and (3) skills, attitudes and identities for all OECD countries. The data on LLL systems and socio-economic indicators are from administrative sources. The data on skills, attitudes and identities are drawn from major surveys and represent national means and distributions.

Although the data included in the LLAKES systems dataset can easily be retrieved from their original sources, the advantage of this dataset is that it combines the data from all these sources and provides time series data for a considerable period of time (1960 up to the present). This facilitates researchers aiming to make comparisons across time and assess links between LLL system properties and their social outcomes at the macro-level for all OECD countries. In other words, the longitudinal and comprehensive character of the dataset should be quite attractive for researchers interested in investigating relations between macro-level phenomena both diachronically and synchronically.

The variable list presents the variable names, the variable meanings and the original data sources. A variable name in the list labelled as “….[year]” represents several variables in the database. The number of variables it represents depends on the number of years for which data is available. The database is in SPSS format and should be understood as work in progress. We will continuously update it with data from new sources as soon as this data becomes available. We are particularly keen to integrate aggregate data from PIAAC (Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies), which has become available in Autumn 2013, and the World Values Survey, which will be made available on the 1st of April 2014.