Sustainability Plan for EpiData.

Since the initiation in 1999 wide acceptance of EpiData has emerged. Many publications in public health and research are made with use of EpiData Software (http://www.epidata.dk/links.htm)

The next step is to ensure viability.

- Ensure the sustainability of EpiData. The EpiData Association is small and has no sustained funding.
- Implement additional functionality. Examples of key requests are:
 - Focused data entry with structure protection and transmitting data to a central office.
 - Compliance with regulatory guidelines for audit trail and privacy;
 - Additional analysis functions, enhanced surveillance reports and Kaplan-Meier plots
 - Possibilities for multi-user data entry without change of basic data file format.
- Translation of analysis module and related documentation.
- Rewrite the software for release as open-source and multiple operating systems, including the revision of documentation, and structuring of the conversion.

The estimated cost for the next five years is in the order of a total of €200000 Euro.

Assistance in acquiring this sum is needed to maintain EpiData as freeware. Contact EpiData Association at info@epidata.dk

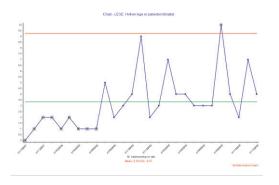
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e-mail: info@enidata.dk

EpiData Software

Freeware





EpiData Software

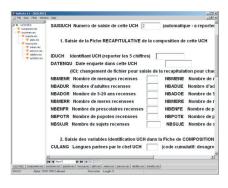
Status and history: Why EpiData development?

The core foundation of EpiData remains the QES-CHK-REC data format of Epi Info v6, which has been successfully used for routine surveillance, outbreak investigation and research over the past 15 years. The motiviation for initiation of EpiData development was the desire to maintain and extend this with enhanced tools for documentation of data for use in the Windows environment. Another important issue was to create "driverless" applications resulting in programmes which can run without installation by simple copying, e.g. run from a USB stick. Distribution size is small (1-2Mb).

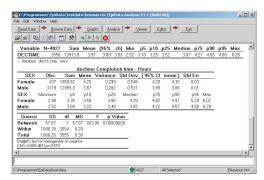
The EpiData Association releasing EpiData was initiated from Denmark and has since 1999 evolved with supportive efforts from an international group of people designated as "FOED"-Friends of EpiData. (Http://www.epidata.dk/credit.htm)

More than 200.000 downloaded copies of software from over 100 countries document popularity.

The basic financial principle is: Attract funding for development and release as freeware. Several NGO's and governmental institutions have provided funding, see (Http://www.epidata.dk/funding.htm).







EpiData Entry is used for simple or programmed data entry and data documentation. Entry handles simple forms or related systems Optimised documentation and error detection features. **E.g.** double entry verification, list of ID numbers in several files, codebook overview of data, date added to backup and encryption procedures.

EpiData Analysis performs basic statistical analysis, graphs, and comprehensive data management. **E.g.** descriptive statistics, SPC Charts, Recoding data, label values and variables. Defining missing values.

Support. Follow user group questions and discussions on: EpiData List (http://lists.umanitoba.ca/mailman/listinfo/epidata-list). Documentation, introduction notes, example files and extensive help files document the usage. Courses are offered by independent providers in various parts of the world, see http://www.epidata.dk/links.htm

License

Organisations outside low-income countries using EpiData Software for courses or routine field work are expected to assist with donations/funding or support for further development and maintenance of the software. Support can be any added-value activities, e.g. testing, specification, submission of examples, following and answering questions on the EpiDatalist or translations.