

**Hack for Sweden**

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1. In May 2013, the first version of Statistics Sweden's API was released. The API (Application Programming Interface) can be used to build apps for smartphones or new web services with information from our Statistical Database free of charge. The purpose is to improve conditions for the reuse of public information for both commercial and non-profit purposes.
2. To inspire others to use our API and to put public open data on the agenda, Statistics Sweden arranged a hackathon together with 12 other government agencies in March 2014 - a competition to which programmers and developers are invited to create new services and applications based on public open data. The event is during a weekend with a jury awarding prizes to the best service or app developed.
3. 21 teams with a total of 75 participating students, journalists, programmers and developers competed. After 24 hours, the teams presented new ready-to-use applications or prototypes for mobile platforms. Prizes in several categories such as "Hack for Sweden Award", "Best visualisation" and "Best public utility" were awarded.
4. The event was so successful, both in terms of cooperation between the agencies, feedback from the participants and media coverage, that the project group decided to run another hackathon March 14-15, 2015. This year the event expanded to include 20 government agencies and even more open data. Almost 90 participants in 30 teams took part.
5. To publicize Hack for Sweden, an event site was created as well as accounts on Twitter and Facebook to reach target audiences and enrol competing teams at low cost. We also sent press releases and contacted journalists. The spots were filled up in less than two weeks, and several teams were put on a waiting list.
6. Since our premises could host a maximum of 90 participants, it was important to us to communicate from the event to reach those who were not able to get a spot, and to keep the climate of the event open. Therefore we transmitted live films on Hack for Sweden's YouTube channel, and updated Hack for Sweden's social media channels live throughout the event-weekend.
7. Statistics Sweden's participation in Hack for Sweden created new opportunities to engage citizens, foster collaboration, and expand innovative uses of our statistics. 20 out of 27 contributions to Hack for Sweden 2015 were built on data from Statistics Sweden. Here are some examples of apps and services created with our open data during Hack for Sweden 2015:
  - "Fråga Sverige" (Ask Sweden), a web service generating statistics on regional level just by typing the name of a Swedish county or municipality.

- "Hemul", an application for Sweden's most popular online site for private property adding information about the area, its people, weather conditions and so on.
  - "Soltimmar" (Sun-hours), a map showing how many hours of sun a specific geographical point gets at what time, to be used in urban planning.
  - "Jag kan påverka" (I can influence) is an application that shows how individuals by changing their everyday life can help improve the environment.
  - "Instajob" is an application helping students find extra work close to where they live.
  - "Jämtland" (Equal-land) is a web service visualizing how far Sweden is from gender-equality in different aspects of society.
  - "Wind power" is a web service summing data from different sources to map the potential for windmills in different parts of Sweden depending on climate, landscape etc.
8. Apart from all the apps and services created with the help of our open data, Hack for Sweden gave Statistics Sweden a chance to meet a young target audience that we otherwise have a hard time reaching. We got the opportunity to offer our services and help them to use our data. With the help of the applications and services they created, we also hope to reach a wider audience with the message that official statistics are a valuable source of data. This is especially important to us since few people in the age of 15-20 know about Statistics Sweden and we have problems collecting data from younger individuals.
  9. Hack for Sweden presents an opportunity for the participating agencies to communicate statistics to new audiences and to show openness and transparency. For example, we posted the apps and services built on our open data in our social media-channels (Twitter and Facebook), and articles covering the event on our website.
  10. Hack for Sweden was well received by the media and was covered in newspapers, magazines, radio and TV. Statistics Sweden's participation in Hack for Sweden also led to that we were covered in media under headlines such as "Greater democracy with web-services for public utility".
  11. 21 out of 23 participants gave a rating of 4 or 5 on a scale of 1-5 when asked how they liked the event. Especially, the availability of the staff from each government agency, the food and the well organised event was appreciated.
  12. The project group is meeting in April to decide about the future of Hack for Sweden, but according to the evaluation, all of the participating agencies wants to plan for the return of Hack for Sweden in 2016.