In 1997 the national design methods for axially loaded piles have been reported within the ERTC3-work and presented at the international seminar in Brussels. A synthesizing overview of the various design methods has been reported at the European Conference in Prague (De Cock, F. e.a., 2003).

Since then, have there been any relevant modifications or developments in the national design methods:

- New or renewed national relevant documents:

- Concerning the procedure or analysis of the static pile load test and its implementation in the pile design:

- Concerning pile calculation methods on the basis of soil ground test results:

- Concerning the design of pile resistance from dynamic pile load tests, pile driving formulae or wave equation analysis:
Eurocode 7 (EN1997-1) has been published in 2004. About its national status an
implementation:

- What is at this moment the National status of EN1997-1 ? Or its provided status in due
time ?
- Is there any National annex already published, or under elaboration ? When do you expect
its publication, if not yet ? (Please transmit copy of the latest document version available)
- Which design approach (1, 2 and 3) has been or will be choosen (see informative annex B
of EN1977-1), in particular for pile design ?
- Please provide for a comprehensive schema or flow-chart, demonstrating the various steps
in the verification of the pile resistance, e.g. from soil tests to design resistance, using (yes
or no) a calculation model, empirical pile factors (as mostly defined from pile load tests),
model factor, correlation factors, partial safety factors, …
- What does the calculation model - explicitely of implicitly combined with the empirical
file factors - aim to assess from the ground test : the “mean” value of the pile resistance
for this ground test, a “lower” bound (e.g. 95%), …. ?
- Are there any National modifications to the various factors, as specified in EN1997-1 :
  * Partial factors on actions (see Table A.3)
  * Partial factors for soil parameters (see Table A.4)
  * Partial resistance factors for pile foundations (see Tables A.6, A.7 and A.8)
  * The correlation factors for pile foundations (see Tables A.9, A.10 and A.11)
  * The adaptation factor of 1,1 for “stiff” structures, as specified in §7.6.2.3 (7)
- Is there any explicite “model” factor included in the design steps ?

Eurocode 7 gives in 7.6.4 specifications concerning the assessment of vertical settlements in
the pile design. In practice, the deformation of a pile foundation is neglected in the pile
design.

- Is the stiffness and/or displacement of the pile foundation considered in the National
design rules or national relevant documents ?
- Does the “daily” design of pile foundations include an estimation of the pile deformation :
on a regular basis (= almost always included) ? only in rare cases (which cases) ? …
- According to your personel judgement : in which circumstances should the pile
deformation also be assessed ?