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ACRONYM: Data without Boundaries

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Second Regional Workshop

WORK PACKAGE 6

Enlarging Cooperation: Conferences & Training Sessions

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OVERALL DESCRIPTION

An essential goal of the Data without Boundaries (DwB) project is to promote cooperation, and foster relationships between the ESS (the European Statistical System, including National Statistical Institutes and related agencies in member states) and CESSDA (the Council of European Social Science Data Archives) in order to build an efficient data infrastructure for social sciences in the ERA. To achieve this, DwB deems essential to support cooperation between National Statistical Institutes and data archives at national level as a necessary step to build cooperation at European level. However at the moment, European countries differ widely in this respect: while cooperation is strong and well-established in some, it is looser or sometimes embryonic in others, and some countries do not yet have an archive. DwB is best positioned to facilitate transfer of knowledge across countries, showcasing national examples that demonstrate the usefulness of archives, the benefits of collaboration, and the lessons learned from past experiences. As part of this effort, two Regional Workshops have been planned within the project lifespan.

The second regional workshop (RW2) on "Microdata Access in European Countries: Cooperation between National Statistical Institutes and Social Data Archives" was hosted by the National Centre for Social Research (EKKE), Athens, Greece, on Thursday, 16th and Friday, 17th October 2014. It was aimed at representatives of National Statistical Institutes (NSIs), social science data archives (DAs) and the wider research community, to discuss current arrangements and conditions for researchers' access to data, existing activities and initiatives, best practices, and potential opportunities for enhanced cooperation potentially benefiting all stakeholders. A key goal was to promote cooperation and sharing-out of the (increasingly high) administrative and financial burden (for e.g. metadata production, anonymisation, accreditation, dissemination and providing support to researchers in general).

Preparation for the workshop started with a two-day meeting in London in February 2014, among DwB partners involved in Task 6.1. While initial plans were to focus only on Southern European countries, it was decided on that occasion to extend the invitation to countries located anywhere in Europe, in which there are no DwB partners. This was meant to maximize outreach and potential impact of the workshop, leveraging the role of DwB as a catalyst of enhanced cooperation efforts throughout Europe. In continuity with a policy already adopted for the First Regional Workshop (RW1) held in Ljubljana in 2013, it was also decided to invite a limited number of additional countries to the extent that they could provide inspiring examples of durable and successful cooperation. As a result of these decisions, the countries invited were: Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain (Southern European countries); Austria, Belgium, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg (countries with no DwB partners); Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland (examples).

During the summer 2014, the WP6 team conducted two studies to gather information that would provide useful background for RW2. The first one was an evaluation of the outcomes of RW1. It was distributed to all participants (mainly representatives of NSIs and DAs from Eastern and Central European countries), and a very high response rate enabled to draw a detailed picture of the perceived effects of the workshop. Globally, it suggested that participants saw it as very beneficial and perceived a significant improvement in the relationships between NSI and the research community (or a DA where it exists) in their country, as a result of the workshop.

The second study aimed to map the state of cooperation in the countries invited to RW2. Almost all the institutions that accepted the invitation to participate completed the questionnaire. It is expected that these same institutions will be surveyed again later in order to follow up the development of cooperation in these countries, through a questionnaire similar to the one already distributed to RW1 participants.

The workshop gathered 40 representatives of NSIs, DAs, Ministries of Research and research and higher education institutions of the targeted countries. Interestingly enough, the number of existing data archives for social sciences in this region is rather low; among the DAs that do exist, not all are currently CESSDA AS members, though some are in the process of negotiating membership and others were members in the past, and are still considered as important partners by CESSDA AS. It is for this reason that the invitation was extended to some representatives of universities and research institutions (Belgium for example) and other types of institutions (e.g. Ministry for Science, Research & Economy in the Austrian case).

The DwB PI together with the President of ELSTAT, the NSI of the host country, Greece, and the President of EKKE, the main social science research institution in Greece and a former CESSDA member, opened the workshop with a welcome address. The two host country institutions were instrumental in ensuring the success of the event. In particular, ELSTAT representatives chaired one session (session 2 on Day 1) as well as the final round table, and gave a presentation about research data access in Greece (session 2); while EKKE handled the whole local organisation and provided a very strong support in drafting the programme of the event and in facilitating some of the invited countries' involvement.

Over the two days, presentations focused on access to microdata for research and cooperation between statisticians and the research community, through a mix of general overviews on Europe (and the target region) and country-based case studies. With these contents, the DwB WP6 team intended to raise participants' awareness about these needs and related issues in the broader European context. For that purpose, RW2 also included a working group session on the opportunities for enhanced collaboration benefitting from the recent potential boost of H2020.

In particular, two talks presented the results of the above-mentioned questionnaires, circulated prior to the event amongst participants to RW1 and RW2. An overview of microdata access for research and cooperation in Europe, with focus on the countries in scope, used the responses to the questionnaire for RW2 participants and was presented on Day 1, Session 2. The results of the questionnaire sent to RW1 participants were presented also on Day 1, in Session 3 (see presentation [here](#)). The outcomes are considered to be of high interest insofar as they demonstrate the huge relevance of such events, which provide a good platform for discussion allowing building mutual trust while benefitting from others' experience and best practices. Such workshops should therefore be maintained beyond DwB insofar as they are unanimously seen as major facilitators for collaboration links to develop.

List of Targeted Countries

Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg (invited but not represented), Malta, Netherlands (The), Portugal, Spain, Switzerland.

CONTENT OF WORKSHOP

I. OVERALL PROGRAMME

DAY 1 (Thursday 16 Oct. 2014)

09:30 - 10:15

Welcome

N. Demertzis (President of EKKE)

A. Georgiou (President of ELSTAT)

R. Silberman (CNRS, DwB Principal Investigator)

10:15 - 11:00

Session 1 – Introduction and Background

Chair: *T. Smrekar (SORS)*

- The DwB project and the Regional Workshops. *R. Silberman (CNRS, DwB Principal Investigator)*
- Facilitating research data access through cooperation between National Statistical Institutes and Data Archives in Europe. *R. Silberman (CNRS, DwB Principal Investigator) & P. Tubaro (CNRS)*

11:30 - 13:00

Session 2 – Examples of Activities in The Region

Chair: *I. Moschakis (ELSTAT)*

- Research data access at ELSTAT in Greece. *N. Tsiligkaki (ELSTAT)*
- Giving research access to official microdata through the facilities of a National Statistical Institute: INE in Portugal. *A. Dulce Pinto & J. Pinto Martins (INE)*.
- The activities of GESIS and its Microdata Lab in Germany. *F. Weiss (GESIS)*.

14:30 - 16:00

Session 3 – Examples of Cooperation, in The Region and Beyond

Chair: *M. Brandt (DESTATIS)*

- First regional workshop, Slovenia 2013: Overview of the workshop and its impact. *T. Smrekar (SORS)*.
- Collaboration between Statistical Institute and Data Archive to disseminate anonymised data files in Ireland. *B. Ring (CSO) & J. Howard, (ISSDA)*.
- A comprehensive service structure to support access to official statistics with the help of a data archive: COMPASS at FORS (Switzerland). *A. Perret (FORS)*.

16:30 - 17:30

Session 4 – How To Cooperate

Facilitators: *P. Jackson (CESSDA); M. Isnard (INSEE) and P. Tubaro (CNRS-RQ)*

Group-work session.

DAY 2 (Friday 17 Oct. 2014)

09:00 - 10:30

Session 5 – Opportunities and Challenges in The Region

Chair: P. Jackson (CESSDA)

- Research data access in a complex statistical system, Italy. *U. Trivellato (University di Padova and FBK-IRVAPP).*
- Access to ISTAT official microdata: current challenges and future plans. *M. Cammarota (ISTAT).*
- Access to official microdata in the decentralised statistical system of Spain. *A. Lopez Cabanas (CIS), O. Martinez de la Torre (CIS) & A. Galvez Moraveda (INE).*

11:00 - 12:45

Session 6 – Recent Changes and Work in Progress

Chair: M. Isnard (INSEE)

- Creating a new CESSDA data archive: APIS/ICS in Portugal. *C. Oliveira & P. Moura-Ferreira (APIS-ICS).*
- Access to microdata from public funding for research in Belgium: a brief overview. *P. Deboosere (Vrije Universiteit Brussel).*
- CBS and DANS: a long-standing cooperation to serve research. *P. Doorn (DANS) & R. Dood (CBS).*
- New solutions for transnational access to secure use files. *D. Schiller (IAB, Germany) & R. Welpton (Secure Lab, UKDA).*

14:15 - 15:45

Session 7 – Round table

Chair: A. Xenaki (ELSTAT)

Recent developments and future perspectives for CESSDA and European Statistical System: towards more cooperation.

Panelists: *M. Brandt (DESTATIS); P. Doorn (DANS); A. Dulce Pinto (INE); M. Isnard (INSEE); P. Jackson (CESSDA); R. Silberman (CNRS).*

II. WORKING GROUPS

The 2nd Regional Workshop was the opportunity to have a working group session to discuss possible forms of cooperation between the stakeholder communities, on October 16 (session 4, 16:30 - 17:30).

The text below gives an overview of the way this session was organised and handled.

Purpose

To explore collaboration issues in research access to official data.

Actors

Eurostat, NSI, National Ministry, National Data Archive, CESSDA, and Principal Investigators.

The Game

A resource and activity model is presented, describing the current distribution of money and human resources in a medium sized European country. It is completely made up, of course.

In your 3 groups, consider the model presented and prepare a budget for 2015. Your aim is to prepare and present the 2015 budget, explaining the changes and describing the benefits. In each group, allocate a person to each role so each person explains the change and benefit from their perspective. How would cash and human resource move around the partners? What could be done differently with the money?

Your presentation will be recorded so you can use it many times for each of the key decision-makers (i.e. Ministers, Commission, etc). The purpose is to release the H2020 boost potential.

The total time available is 40 minutes. Take 30 minutes to change the model, and 10 minutes to prepare each group member's statement. You have just 5 minutes for the whole group to present its conclusions to the audience, i.e. not more than 1 minute for each group member.

The Current 2014 Model

Where actors are transnational (e.g. Eurostat) the finances and human resources are presented pro-rata; i.e. the amount presented is broken down by expenditure in the country.

In 2014, 100 national research projects were supported in this country, as follows:

- 50 projects used NSI data access facilities;
- 25 used Eurostat datasets direct from Luxembourg;
- 25 used national datasets through the data archive.

As far as budget is concerned:

- All budgets were balanced and all resources were used;
- It is expected that 150 project applications will have to be supported in 2015, due to strong take-up of H2020 grants;
- The total cash and human resource available to support the projects cannot be increased other than where a H2020 boost potential is indicated;
- Human resource can be converted to cash resource, and vice versa, at an exchange rate of 1 person year (FTE) = EUR 20,000.

The budget model 2014 is as follows:

Actors	2014 Activities in support of this country's research projects	Cash spent nationally, 2014	Human Resources used nationally, 2014	Potential 2015 H2020 Boost
Eurostat	i) European level research accreditation ii) Data preparation (Ratio: 50/50)	EUR 5,000	0.50 FTE	None
National Ministry	Project grants to Principal Investigators	EUR 300,000	1.50 FTE	EUR 60,000
NSI	i) National level research accreditation ii) Data preparation iii) Data access facility (Ratio: 25/25/50)	EUR 100,000	4.00 FTE	None
National Data Archive	i) Data preparation ii) Data access facility (Ratio: 50/50)	EUR 40,000	3.00 FTE	EUR 30,000
CESSDA	i) H2020 bid coordination ii) Collaboration activities (Ratio: 50/50)	EUR 5,000	0.00 FTE	EUR 10,000
Principal Investigators	i) Fees paid out of project grants for use of NSI data access facility ii) Accreditation time	EUR 50,000	1.00 FTE	None
TOTAL:		EUR 500,000	10.00 FTE	EUR 100,000
Per project:		EUR 5,000	0.10 FTE	-

Taking both the above budget model 2014 and the amount of the potential 2015 H2020 boost into consideration, please discuss together and fill out the table below for the budget model 2015 (you may add notes for each actor in the second table below):

Actors	2015 Activities in support of this country's research projects	Cash budget for 2015	Human Resources for 2015
Eurostat			
National Ministry			
NSI			
National Data Archive			
CESSDA			
Principal Investigators			
New Actor?			
TOTAL:			
<i>Per project:</i>			

Actors	Notes
Eurostat	
National Ministry	
NSI	
National Data Archive	
CESSDA	
Principal Investigators	
New Actor?	

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The table below lists the names, home institution and position of the 2nd Regional Workshop participants, sorted out per country and type of institution.

Country	Type of Institution	LAST NAME	First Name	Institution Name	Position Held
Austria	Federal Ministry / Potential Data Archive	REITER-PAZMANDY	Matthias	BMFWF	Scientific Expert
	NSI	MEINDL	Bernhard	Statistics Austria	Expert at the Methods Unit
Belgium	University	DEBOOSERE	Patrick	VUB	Professor
Cyprus	NSI	KYPRIDAKIS	Isidoros	CYSTAT	Statistics Officer A'
	NSI	THEODOULOU	George	CYSTAT	Statistics Officer
France	Data Archive	DRIAT	Anne	CNRS-RQ	Assistant Manager
	Data Archive	LIBES	Tanguy	CNRS-RQ	Project Manager
	Data Archive	SILBERMAN	Roxane	CNRS-RQ	Director of Reseau Quetelet
	Data Archive	TUBARO	Paola	CNRS-RQ	Associate Researcher
	NSI	ISNARD	Michel	INSEE	Head of Legal Affairs
Germany	Data Archive	WEISS	Felix	GESIS	Team Leader German Microdata Lab
	NSA	SCHILLER	David	IAB	Senior Researcher
	NSI	BRANDT	Maurice	Destatis	Researcher
Greece	Data Archive	DEMERTZIS	Nicolas	EKKE	President
	Data Archive	KAPELLA	Antoinetta	EKKE	Researcher
	Data Archive	VEZYRGIANNI	Katerina	EKKE	Researcher
	NSI	GEORGIOU	Andreas	ELSTAT	President
	NSI	MOSCHAKIS	Ioannis	ELSTAT	Head of Organization, Methodology & International Relation
	NSI	TSILIGKAKI	Nektaria	ELSTAT	Head of International Relations Section
	NSI	XENAKI	Athanasia	ELSTAT	Head of General Directorate of Administration and Organisation

Country	Type of Institution	LAST NAME	First Name	Institution Name	Position Held
Iceland	NSI	ARNKELSDOTTIR	Hrafnhildur	Statistics Iceland	Director Social Statistics
Ireland	Data Archive	HOWARD	John	ISSDA	Professor of Computing and Informatics
	NSI	RING	Brian	CSO	Statistician
Italy	NSI	CAMMARROTA	Mara	ISTAT	Senior Researcher
	University / Potential Data Archive	SCHIZZEROTTO	Antonio	University of Trento	Professor of Sociology
	University / Potential Data Archive	SCISCI	Domingo	University of Milano-Bicocca	Post Doctoral Fellowship
	University / Potential Data Archive	TRIVELLATO	Ugo	University of Padova	Professor
Malta	NSI	ZAMMIT	Silvan	NSO	Manager, Methodology & Research Unit
N/A	Data Archive Network	JACKSON	Paul	CESSDA	Managing Director
Netherlands (The)	Data Archive	DOORN	Peter	DANS	Director
	NSI	DOOD	Ruben	CBS	Head of Statistical Services and Information
Portugal	NSI	PINTO	Ana	Statistics Portugal	Legal Adviser (senior)
	NSI	PINTO MARTINS	Jose	Statistics Portugal	Head of unit
	University / Potential Data Archive	ESCARIA	Vitor	ISEG Lisboa	Assistant Professor
	University / Potential Data Archive	FERREIRA	Pedro	ICS	Research Fellow
Slovenia	NSI	SMREKAR	Tomaz	SORS	Head of Dissemination
Spain	Data Archive	LOPEZ-CABANAS	Ana Raquel	CIS	Data Bank Technician
	Data Archive	MARTINEZ DE LA TORRE	Oscar	CIS	CIO & Data Bank Director
	NSI	GALVEZ MORALEDA	Jose Adolfo	INE	Director of Statistical Dissemination
Switzerland	Data Archive	PERRET	Andreas	FORS	Head of COMPASS

DISSEMINATION & EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

Upon participants and speakers' agreement, the slideshows which have been presented during the Regional Workshop have been made publicly available on the DwB website at http://dwbproject.org/events/regional_workshop2.html.

In addition, in order to foster networking activities between the involved countries and national institutions, a mailing list has been prepared and will be circulated amongst the participants, upon their formal approval.

