

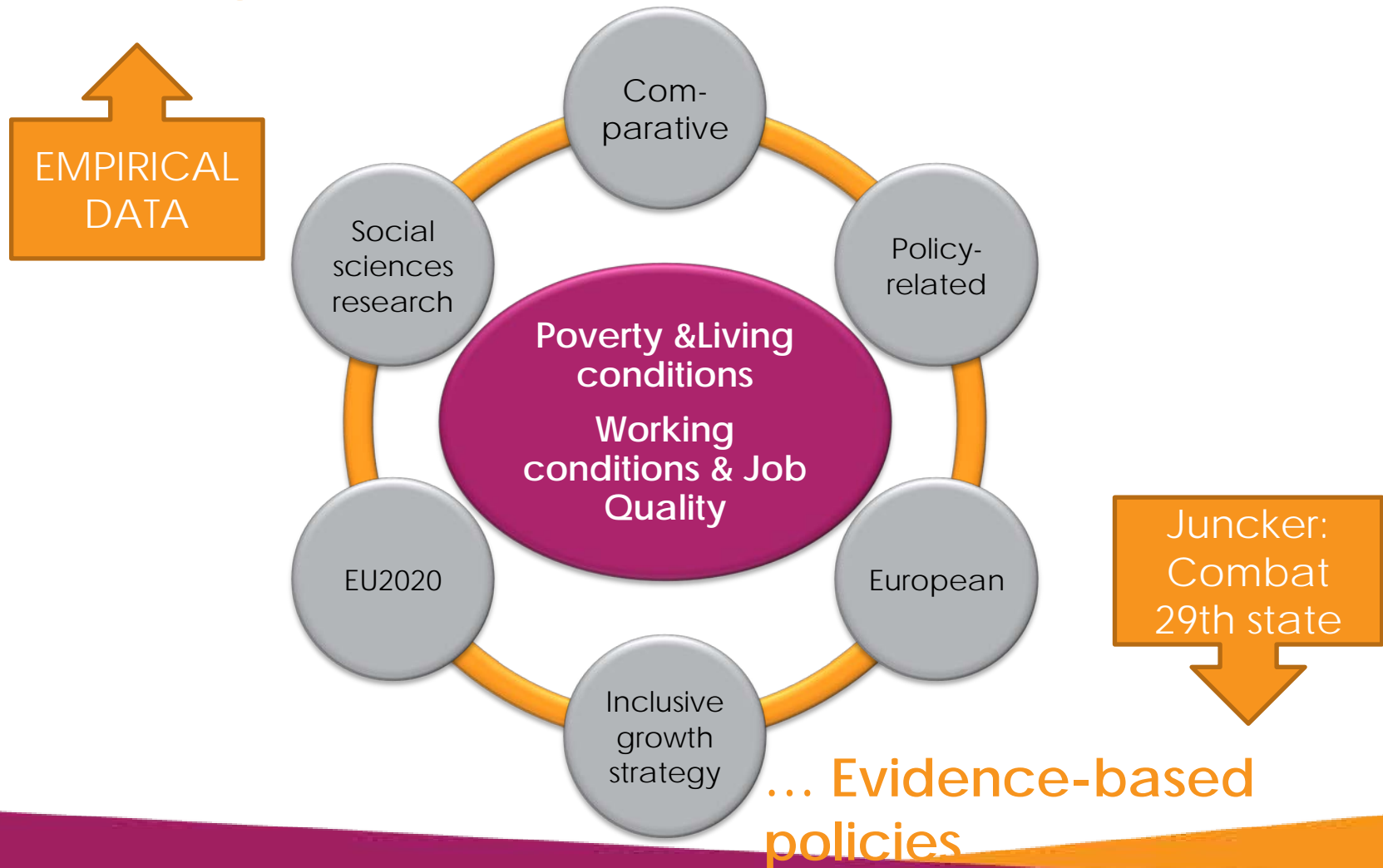
EU-Silc data request to Eurostat - Experience

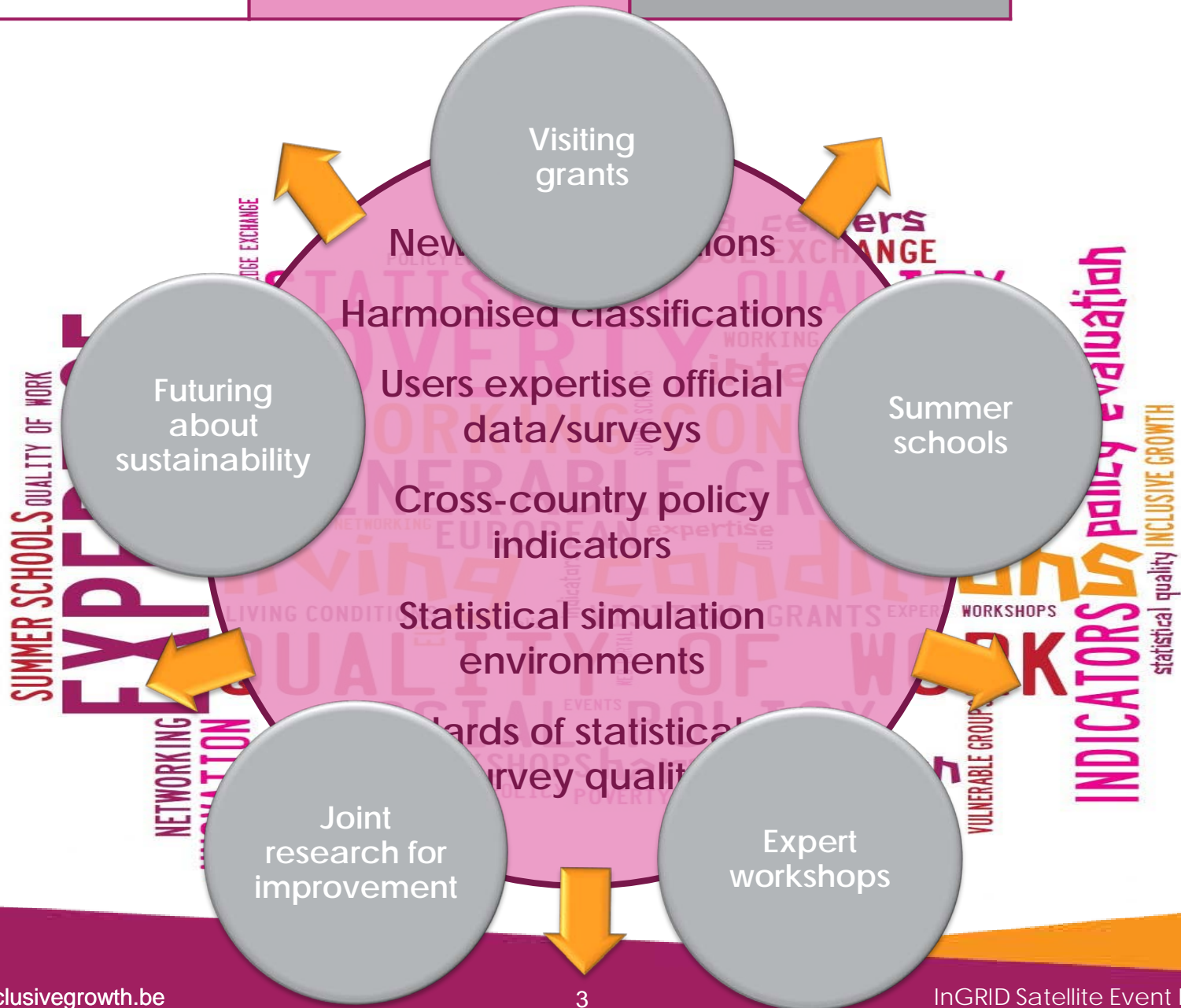
Guy Van Gyes, KULeuven-HIVA
2^{de} European data access forum,
Luxembourg, 24 March 2015



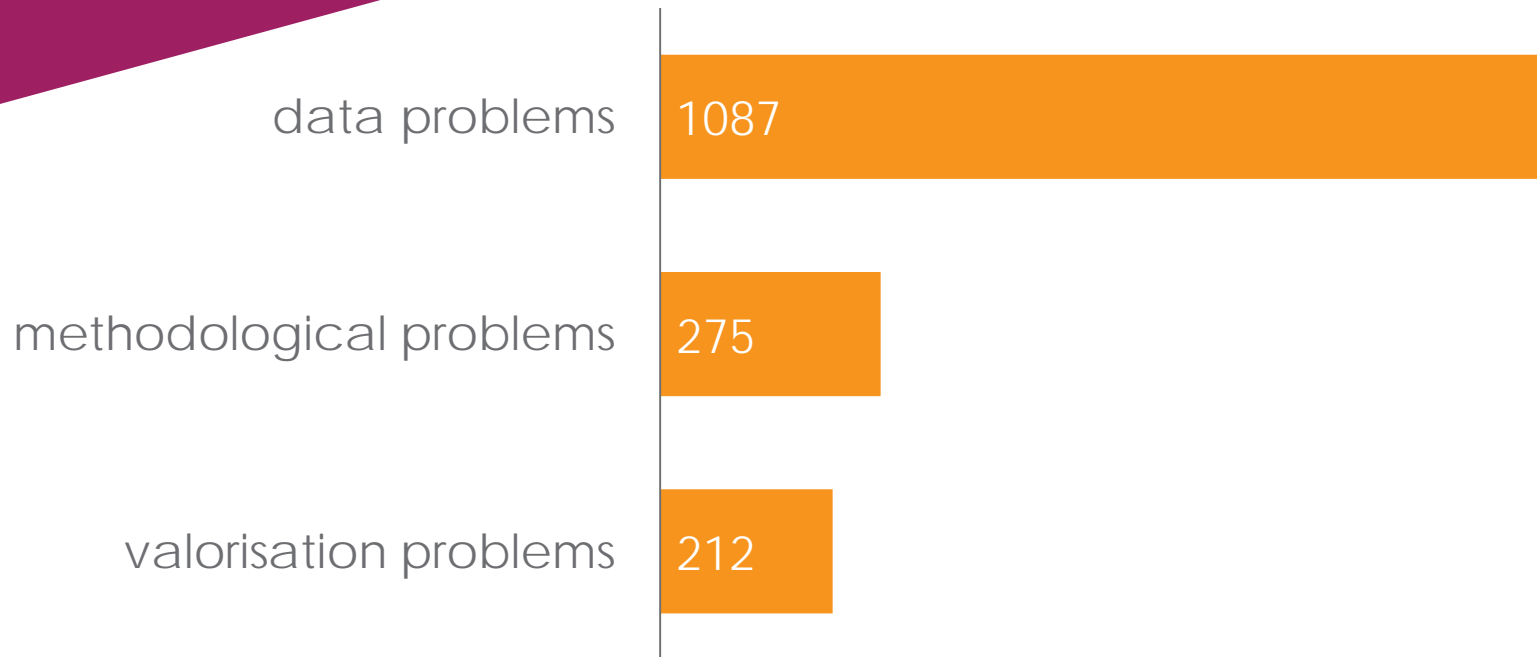
The InGRID Research Infrastructure

Facilitating top-level research ...





First results from Delphi survey (preliminary)



Description of the request

- Network application for FP7 research infrastructure for EU-SILC microdata
- 7 applicants
- A key group of the scientific consortium has a tradition of working with EU-SILC data as part of among others European projects like Equalsoc, Recwowe, Ameli, Improve, Gini, Most of them have still agreements running to use the EU-SILC data for particular research activities (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Tarki, ISER, CEPS/INSTEAD, UA, Bremen). These 10 research groups want as part of the InGRID activities continue their research on the EU-SILC data . They plan furthermore as part of the essential networking activities of the project to conduct these research activities by inviting other scientists to join the work and by giving expert training in advanced research on poverty, working conditions and social policies In these training activities EU SILC data will be used..
- We had 'time': mainly for doing additional work with the SILC-data

Application procedure

- November 2013 started
- First difficulty: not all institutes registered already; delayed the process
- First draft of form internally December 2013
- Second draft of form internally January 2014
- First draft to Eurostat end of January 2014
- Campus file difficulty: “microdata only provided for research not for training”
- Application to Eurostat end of February
- March-April-May
Due to duration, changes in composition of involved institutes (yes now accreditation, no not interested anymore) + turnover of research personnel => changes in the form (in and out form; in and out excel-file of additional researchers): form is not really flexible => new signing by me and responsible officer at the university (she signed already 4 times).
- June: signed application
Consultation of Member States
One key remark: security procedures by each applying partner separately to be provided
- Final stage: September 2014 =>

Evaluation

- Documents and guidelines are clear
- Personnel very helpful and quality service
- BUT:
- Feelings stays: Much ado about nothing
 - It are anonimised data (cf. NUTS= only region). The same type of data (for example European Working Conditions Survey or European Social survey) you can just download with a simple registration and you obtain in half an hour. Is it not the goal of gathering data that something is done with it?
 - => Even if everybody would do his/her upperbest and no technicalities would hamper the procedure, dissatisfaction would remain (to compare: Business in my country complain about the heavy administrative cost, because setting-up a new company costs on average 5 days).
 - => The 'hidden' costs: quick estimate, it costed about 6 days in total of coordinators, senior researchers and administrative people, about 1800 to 2000 Euro => half the cost of a person month of a phd researcher.
- As no time-line is involved in the process, own procedures of a network take on average 2 to 3 weeks. At a certain point in the procedure, you know you can start signing the application, but than you have to inform partners and give them 2 to 3 weeks to sign documents (as institute and individual researchers). You can't plan ahead in the procedure which prolongs especially for a network the procedure
- Form should be made for integrating as much researchers possible.

www.inclusivegrowth.be

Co-ordinator

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Partners

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InGRID

Inclusive Growth Research
Infrastructure Diffusion
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