Improvements in access over the last four years and work in progress

Roxane Silberman (CNRS, PI of DwB project)
Paola Tubaro (CNRS & University of Greenwich)

SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

DwB

Changes and work on progress

- Overview important for discussions on perspectives
  - ➢ Setting up the scene

- Why 4 years ?
  - ➢ DwB time line, 1st and 2nd EDAF
  - ➢ Rapid changes and new issues emerging

- Questionnaire sent to NSI and DA ahead of 2nd EDAF
  - ➢ High response rate: 28 NSI and 21 DA, from 32 countries (thank you!)
  - ➢ In general coherent! Unequally detailed, sometimes more on the side of NSIs
  - ➢ 3 sets of questions:
    - ▪ Changes in legal frameworks and procedures
    - ▪ Changes in metadata and access-related services
    - ▪ Changes in NSI-DA cooperation

This presentation

- Some examples of recent changes and work in progress

  (we may have missed some – sorry!)

- To put in perspective presentations within this EDAF

  (only a few of those proposed - impossible to include all!)

- Focus on legal changes and changes in services

  (cooperation NSI-DA will be addressed tomorrow) Session 6

The situation 4 years ago

- *European level*
  - ➢ Commission regulation N° 223/2000 was still in force, new regulation under discussion

- *National level*
  - ➢ Increasing access for researchers to Secure Use Files
  - ➢ Remote access in progress

- *Transnational access*
  - ➢ Transnational access often possible however mainly onsite
    - ▪ Researchers needed to travel
  - ➢ Accreditation conditions often unclear, multiple accreditations needed for comparative projects

Today: new opportunities and challenges

- Open data – bringing in new users (frontier between researchers/non researchers under discussion)

- Big data - raising additional confidentiality issues, new actors involved

- More personal data produced and collected, growing concerns about privacy protection

Legal frameworks and procedures

Legal provisions for access: Europe

- Regulation UE N° 557/2013 for researchers access to European microdata (Eurostat) Session 3
  - ➢ PUF on the way
  - ➢ Allows remote access from national point of access to Secure Use Files
    - ▪ Possible role the future for non-ESS actors – notably with RDCs in Data Archives
  - ➢ ESSnet DARA
    - ▪ Towards implementation : when ?

- New concerns
  - ➢ Burden for researchers Session 2
  - ➢ Future regulation on personal data protection under discussion
    - ▪ May raise new problems and affect national access

Legal provisions for access: national level (1)

- Previous trends confirmed all over Europe
- New laws with improved/clearer provisions for researchers access

  ➢ Already in force:
  - Statistical laws: FI (2013), GR (2012)
  - Data protection laws: BG (2013), HU (2012), LT (2011)

  ➢ Currently under discussion:
  - Statistical laws: CY, DE, HU, LT, LV, PT

Legal provisions for access: national level (2)

- New developments for administrative data : legal frameworks for merging and use of identification numbers
  - ➤ *Ex : Loi sur le numérique* (FR) under discussion
- New developments some types of sensitive data
  - ➤ The health sector: medico-administrative data `Session 3a`
    - ▪ New laws recently approved: NO (2012), UK (2012)
    - ▪ Under discussion: FI, FR
  - ➤ Tax microdata, financial data `Session 3a`
    - ▪ FR (2014), UK (under discussion)
- Looking forward: Big data and new actors
  - ➤ Need for new legal frameworks for NSIs ?
  - ➤ What consequences on researcher access ?
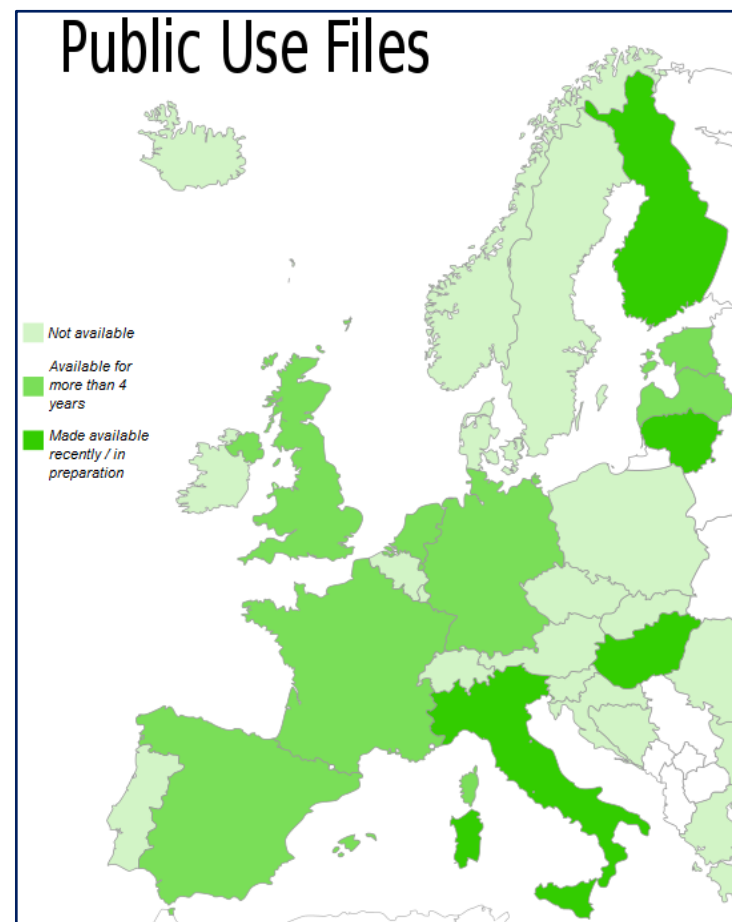
Procedures: Accreditation

- Systematisation of procedures, adoption of best practices
  - ➢ HR: new rules to regulate access in new Safe Centre (2013)
  - ➢ HU: redesign of access system, accreditation now a key part of it (2013-14)
  - ➢ MT: clearer procedures, standardised forms (2014)
  - ➢ SK: clearer conditions and easier procedures (2015)
- Greater use of standardised application forms instead of open statements
- Envisaged simplification of existing procedures
  - ➢ UK (Approved Researcher status – consultation)
  - ➢ Many NSIs would agree working on an harmonized application form (Lausanne DwB workshop, 2014)

Services

Open data context

- New open data policies, government open data portals
  - CH, DE, FR, IE (under discussion), IT, NL, NO, PT (in progress), SE, UK…
- Greater production of Public Use Files
  - EE, ES, FI (in progress), FR, HU (test version), LT (since 2013), IT (since 2013), NL, UK
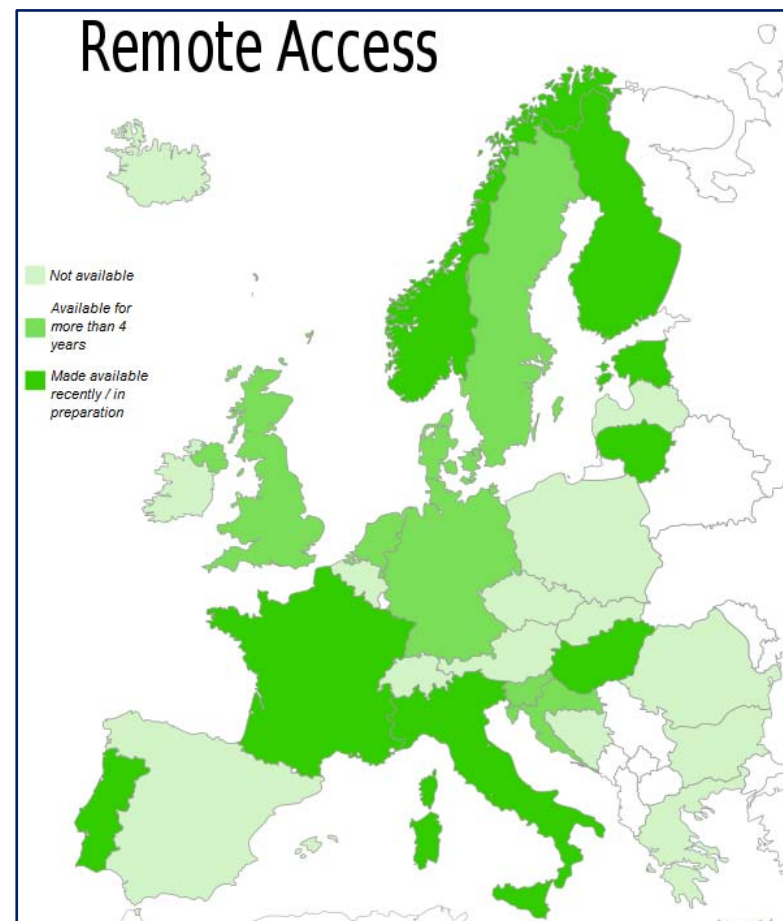- Campus files
  - DE, LV, UK…

Public Use Files

Not available

Available for more than 4 years

Made available recently / in preparation

Anonymisation

- Developing research on SDC methods to produce Public Use Files (can serve as Campus Files)
  - Synthetic data | Session 3b |

- Progress regarding terminology: PUF, SUF, ScUF
  - Regulation on researchers access to European microdata | Session 3 |

- Classification of files
  - Clarification of categories (EE)
  - *Comité du secret statistique* (FR)
  - Taking into account sensitive variables or not

Remote access increasingly popular at national level

- Remote solutions for Secure Use Files Session 2
  - ➤ Became operational in last few years:
    - DE (DESTATIS/House of Finance), EE, FI, FR (CASD), HU, LT, UK (UKDA)...
  - ➤ In progress (or being renewed):
    - IT, NO, PT, SE...
- Onsite Safe Centres for access to Secure Use Files recently opened
  - ➤ AT, EE, HR, HU, PL, SK, UK (UKDA)

Remote Access

Not available

Available for more than 4 years

Made available recently / in preparation

Transnational access and networks

- Transnational remote access in progress
  - ➤ Access from researchers office remains rare: Netherlands, FR (2011)
  - ➤ RDC to RDC solution
    - UKDA-IAB
  - ➤ Notion of *Circle of trust* OECD Session 4

- Networks
  - ➤ National networks
    - Administrative Data Research Network, UK Session 5a

  - ➤ New! Transnational Remote access networks   Session 3a
    - Common online access to microdata for Nordic researchers (2014)
    - PoC CASD France/ Destatis Germany/ GESIS/DwB
    - CBS/Netherlands and SCB (Sweden) network project Session 5a

DwB

More user-friendly information on line

- NSI' improvements in metadata for microdata
  - ➢ Use of DDI for microdata, FR — Session 3c
  - ➢ Metadata for registers/administrative data

- New services for administrative data
  - ➢ New metadata portal for administrative data, in preparation: FORS, CH
  - ➢ Services and portals for health data: FR, SI, UK

- Metadata for official microdata in Europe
  - ➢ CIMES and MISSY (DwB) — Session 5a

- Information and metadata in English more commonly found

Conclusions

- Significant improvements in the last four years
  - More favourable, clearer legal frameworks
  - Streamlining and simplification of procedures
  - Better information, better provision of metadata
  - New services (safe centres, remote access), greater open data production
- Work-in-progress for further improvements to come
  - Innovative solutions for transnational access
  - Remote access networks / joint initiatives
- Challenges ahead
  - From pilots/PoC to implementation
  - Big data
    - New actors involved: common issues for NSIs, DAs and researchers
  - Renewed concerns about personal data protection

Thanks for Listening

DwB website: http://www.dwbproject.org/