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Dissemination and Communication activities of project results

Deliverable 6.4

Mid-term workshop 1

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ISTAT

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Deliverable 6.4

Mid-term workshop 1

Summary

The first mid-term workshop of the project took place on 10th May 2018 as a special session hosted within the 3-days event scheduled in Pisa from 8th to 10th May 2018 at Congress Centre “Polo Le Benedettine” organised by the Jean Monnet Chair SAMPLEU focussing on “Small Area Methods and living conditions indicators in European poverty studies in the era of data deluge and Big data”.

According to the Grant Agreement, the due date of this deliverable was scheduled for March 2018 but, in accord with the Project Officer, who proposed to present a reflection paper before summer 2018 in order to support the FP9 preparation, the deadline was postponed to May 2018 to taking advantage of the opportunity presented by the above mentioned event, which offered a privileged audience made up of statistical community representatives as well as stakeholders.

The organisation of the first Workshop represents also the first milestone of MAKSWELL Project and the first opportunity to show the project’s results and activities publicly.



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INTRODUCTION

The planning of the first MAKSWELL Workshop on 10th May 2018 was established on the main aim of task 6.4 within WP6 “Dissemination and Communication activities of project results”, which is the discussion of the actual information needs of users/communities for making explicit the way the statistical information proposed may effectively enter into the decision making process, for developing the best forms of data dissemination. It also responds to the key objective of Work Package 6 to build up knowledge through the contact and reciprocal fertilization of NSIs, academics and stakeholders, identifying and contacting key practitioners to participate in debates and discussions.

In particular, MAKSWELL session entitled “MAKSWELL actual results and plan for the future, reflection on the research themes for FP9” was centred on the reflection on the future research needs in terms of statistical methodologies and new data and contribute to define future pathways for the new EU Framework Programme. It was hosted in the very pleasant premises of the Auditorium at the Congress Centre “Polo Le Benedettine”, Pisa, where a bigger event was organised by Jean Monnet Chair SAMPLEU and University of Pisa which lasted from 8th to 10th May 2018 dealing with “Small Area Methods and living conditions indicators in European poverty studies in the era of data deluge and Big data”.



1. Aim of the Workshop

The workshop was attended by representatives of University of Trier (UT), University of Pisa and its Dagum Centre (UNIPi-DAGUM), University of Southampton (SOUTHAMPTON), Statistics Netherlands (CBS), the Federal Statistical Office of Germany (DESTATIS), the Hungarian Central Statistical Office (HCSO) as well as Istat in its double role as coordinator with the Coordination team as well as partner with a good number of Istat researchers working in the different work packages' activities.

The main purpose of the event was to reflect on the future research needs in terms of statistical methodologies and new data and contribute to give input and useful food for thought for the European Commission in order to better develop the next European Framework Programme, including the horizontal area such as official statistics through the elaboration of a "Reflection Paper" as requested by the European Commission. In fact, the document's relevance presented as a draft can be found in its potential contribute to give a more precise value to the statistics in the next future decisions.

This physical meeting planned jointly with the seminar on Small area methods, where NSIs and academics but also policy makers, public administrations, civil society were present, gave the opportunity to share, collaborate and discuss relevant issues and best practices. In fact, the working group gathered in Pisa for the event represented an important forum to present and test the findings from the review of the analytical framework, which complement the research activities.



2. Proceedings

2.1. MAKSWELL plans and results

Maria Pia Sorvillo, covering in Istat the actual role of Chief Research Officer responsible for the area “multidimensional indicators” including SDGs and Well-being indicators, introduced Fabio Bacchini, MAKSWELL Scientific Coordinator, who opened the first part of the session dedicated to the project.

His presentation dealt with main aims, actual results and plan for the future, thus giving a general overview of the project activities to all the Workshop’s participants focusing, in particular, on the scientific motivations that stand behind MAKSWELL project and describing how these motivations were translated into an effective organisation of the project’s activities.

During his speech he explains different motivations that are behind the research activities of the project.

In detail, he listed the following relevant motivations:

- the growing attention to beyond GDP indicators, according to various initiatives developed worldwide (i.e. BES, Quality of life index, Better life index);
- the need for improving data availability, providing timelier social statistics, especially indicators on income poverty and inequality, or statistics on the joint distribution of income, consumption and wealth;
- the need for improving methodology ;
- the need for extending policy analysis;
- the example of the Italian case where the Budget Law establishes that policies are also evaluated through the effects on well-being indicators.

Through these motivations the effective research work has started within the five project’s Work Packages.

Finally he stressed the importance of the communication and dissemination activities showing the most important outcomes with this respect, that are website, twitter profile and brochure.

2.2. Project MAKSWELL and reflection on the research themes for FP9

The second part of the meeting, dedicated to the "Reflection Paper", was presented by Tommaso Rondinella, introduced always by Maria Pia Sorvillo, chair of it.

The document, which represents the 2nd milestone of the project, was presented in its draft version developed thanks also to the collection of contributions by the Consortium partners. Its relevance consists mainly in the fact that it will be useful to support and give input in order to influence the introduction of statistical issues within the forthcoming European 9th Framework Program for research.

The presentation started pointing out what is the rationale and background behind the paper, on the basis of the analysis of the major transformations affecting official statistics, among which



those brought in connection with the digitalization and artificial intelligence i.e. data deluge, data economy, Big Data, and the challenges that National statistical offices and data producers are called to face, in primis the moving up of the knowledge pyramid, then the complexity of modern societies and multidimensional phenomena, all data evolution using data from all traditional and new sources, an enhanced evidence-based policy making with more attention to relevance, innovative frameworks of analysis, extended macroeconomic and microeconomic models; finally the “statistical service” to support citizens and policy makers in data use, the training and promotion of a statistical culture.

Tommaso Rondinella went on describing the themes of action and the relative recommendations: as far as he listed the themes i.e. new data, methodologies for new sources, assessment capacity, skills and competence development and the building of a data-friendly environment, he associated what the next FP9 is expected to call for. He hinted also at the concept of “smart stats” with reference to the second theme mentioned.

After having presented the set of recommendations to the European commission for shaping the forthcoming 9th Framework Programme he at last showed the objectives of such work which mainly refer to activities dedicated to two distinctive groups:

a) moon-shot objectives:

- quality and timely data for the full implementation of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development;
- availability of evidence-based policy tools at different territorial level;
- extension of open data platforms to the whole public administration;
- enhancing integration between surveys, administrative data and new sources;

b) intermediary objectives:

- developing methodologies for big data treatment and production of new indicators;
- a shared big data quality framework;
- extending statistical literacy through formal and informal education.

As far as the continuous improvements are concerned, he suggested to increase trust in official statistics, minimize statistical burden of respondents as well as increase efficiency in data production and dissemination.



2.3. Discussion on Project Maxwell and reflection on the research themes for FP9

Brainstorming session

In order to boost the debate about MAKSWELL's main objectives and themes and to make useful reflections in its context the presence of Carrie Exton, Head of Section "Measuring Well-Being and Progress", from OECD Statistics Directorate, was of particular relevance.

Fabio Bacchini, as chair of this part of the meeting scheduled as a sort of "brainstorming", gave the floor to Ms Exton, whose presentation started outlining what is the work in OECD with regard to well-being and SDGs and making a sort of comparison with the issues carried out in the activities of MAKSWELL project. She stated that there is more need to better data for policy-makers who want to know whether life is getting better and for whom, as well as for people (civil society, media, private sector) to hold policy makers to account and to inform decisions.

She then went on describing her team's work which can be located somewhere between data producers and data users through its work made up of public outreach, reporting and analysis and research and methodologies activities.

At this point she focussed on the OECD approach in measuring well-being, mentioning its most important initiative "Better life" and the report "How's life" released in its fourth edition in November 2017, inviting all the presents to give a look at it in order to get interesting information about levels and trends in well-being since 2005. She hinted also at the structure of the publication which is divided in three thematic chapters on "Inequalities in well-being", "Migrants' well-being" and "Governance and well-being", with an additional section containing detailed country notes for 35 OECD members and 6 partners. She went on analyzing some of the most relevant data examined in this research, in particular about the real change that has occurred in better terms for the average OECD resident in some aspects of life since 2005 but it emerged also that progress has often been slow and unevenly distributed across countries. Furthermore, well-being inequalities persist across all dimensions (not just income).

Another important work mentioned by the speaker was the OECD study on "Measuring Distance to the SDG targets", a useful tool in order to identify priorities for action and communicate on challenge of SDGs. It also assesses countries' distance from the SDG targets, giving an high-level overview of strengths, weaknesses and measurement gaps. It was underlined that in this study participation is voluntary.

The presentation showed also Italy's current distance from achieving the SDG's 2030 targets, explaining through a pie chart that, based on the 128 available indicators allowing coverage of 96 of the 169 SDG targets, Italy has currently achieved 11 of the 2030 targets.

A consistent part of Ms Exton's speech, with the auxilium of clear charts, was centred on Well-being data gaps as well as SDGs ones, in this last case making a distinction by targets, by goals and by the "5Ps" (People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, Partnership).

The last part of her presentation focussed on the continuous efforts to improve data. To this purpose various OECD guidelines on measurement were mentioned and the constant work in developing innovative methods such as Trustlab experimental techniques or the satellite data for



environmental stats. An interesting hint was also made to the Smart Data Strategy which is increasingly receiving attention in OECD as a means to create a platform from new sources of data such as Macro-Micro data, text, social, geospatial or sensor data in order to cultivate new ecosystems, create new evidence and build new capabilities.

The policy use of wellbeing metrics was showed as a possible way to follow, taking as example the "Global Happiness" Policy Report 2018 presenting 7 detailed case studies, where countries' experiences with well-being and happiness are analysed through metrics.

2.4. Final Panel discussion

A final panel discussion followed the MAKSWELL session and officially closed the three days event. Before the discussion, the rapporteurs from the four tables of the previous sessions reported the most significant research findings arisen from the presentations and during the discussion that followed each table of work. Then the moderator Luca Gaballo, a journalist from Rainews24, introduced the panellists of this last table of work: Maria Pia Sorvillo from Istat, Espen Beer Prydz from the World Bank, Carrie Exton from OECD, Maurizio Franzini from the University La Sapienza of Rome, Paolo Ghezzi from InfoCamere (an institution that supports the Italian Chambers of Commerce), Marcin Szymkowiak from the Statistical Office in Poznan and Monica Pratesi from the University of Pisa-Dagum Centre. The main focus of this final discussion was on the importance of the dialogue between policy and research to provide scientific advice and support for regional policies combating poverty and in favour of social cohesion. Thus, the panellists, each of whom represents one of the key actors of this dialogue, gave a short speech on these issues and all agreed on the importance to establish partnership among them in order to improve scientific advances and better support policy makers. The panel discussion was concluded by Monica Pratesi who highlighted the importance of this type of events that contribute to the continuous development of statistical culture and knowledge with the aim also to support more informed policy decisions.



Annex 1

Programme of the event



Programme at a glance

Day 1 8 May 14:00-19:00	Day 2 9 May 09:30-18:30	Day 3 10 May 09:00-16:00
Opening and welcome 14:30- 15:30 – AUDITORIUM Keynote 1 Session - Joao Pedro Wagner De Azevedo (World Bank) <i>European poverty studies at local level</i> 16:00-17:00 – ROOM B Table 1 Monitoring poverty at a local level – why is it important? 17:00-18:00 – ROOM B Table 2 Multidimensional poverty at a local level – how to synthesize the dimensions? 18:00 – 19:00 - AUDITORIUM Panel discussion Small scale, big dimensions: sustainable development and innovation at local level 19:00 Aperitif	10:00-11:00 - AUDITORIUM Keynote 2 Session-Partha Lahiri (University of Maryland) <i>Data needs: SAE methods in official data production for policy making</i> 11:30-12:30 – ROOM B Table 3 New and traditional data sources for local indicators – reconciling small areas and big data? 14:00-15:00 – ROOM B Table 4 Statistical quality of small area estimates – internal and external validation of the estimates? 15:30 – 17:30 - AUDITORIUM Contributed paper sessions 17:30 – 18:30 Poster session and Aperitif	09:30-10:30 - AUDITORIUM Keynote 3 Session- Luigi Biggeri (Centre ASESD - Dagum) <i>The computation of subnational spatial price indexes for the study and monitoring of inequalities at a local level in the era of big data</i> 11:00-12:30 - AUDITORIUM Makswell Session: Makswell actual results and plan for the future, reflection on the research themes for FP9 12:30-13:30 - AUDITORIUM Table 5 Discussion on Project Makswell and reflection on the research themes for FP9 14:30-15:30 - AUDITORIUM Final Panel Discussion How is policy-making enhanced by measuring poverty and living conditions at a local level? Closing and farewell





Programme		
Day 1 8 May 14:00-19:00		
13:30-14:00	<i>Registration of participants</i>	
14:00- 14:30	Opening and welcome	
14:30- 15:30 AUDITORIUM	Keynote 1 Session	<p>Speaker: Joao Pedro Wagner De Azevedo (World Bank)</p> <p><i>European poverty studies at local level</i></p> <p>Chair: Monica Pratesi (University of Pisa)</p>
15:30-16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16:00-17:00 ROOM B	Table 1 Monitoring poverty at a local level – why is it important?	<p>Chair: Daniela Ghio (JRC-Ispra)</p> <p>Interventions: Espeen Beer Pryz (World Bank) Tiziana Laureti (University of Tuscia) Monica Pratesi (University of Pisa)</p> <p>Floor discussion</p>
17:00-18:00 ROOM B	Table 2 Multidimensional poverty at a local level – how to synthesize the dimensions?	<p>Chair: Achille Lemmi (Centre Dagum)</p> <p>Interventions: Vincenzo Mauro (University of Pisa) Matteo Mazziotta (Istat) Vijay Verma (Centre Dagum)</p> <p>Floor discussion</p>
18:00-19:00 AUDITORIUM	Panel discussion Small scale, big dimensions: sustainable development and innovation at local level	<p>Chair: Tommaso Rondinella (ISTAT)</p> <p>Letizia Ravagli (Irpel) Paolo Prosperini (CTAI Strategia Nazionale Aree) Gabriele Tomei (Assessore welfare Viareggio) Daniela Toccafondi (Assessore alla semplificazione e alle politiche economiche e per il lavoro Prato)</p>
19:00 Aperitif		





Day 2 9 May 9:30-18:30		
09:30-10:00	Registration of participants	
10:00-11:00 AUDITORIUM	Keynote 2 Session	<p>Speaker: Partha Lahiri (University of Maryland)</p> <p><i>Data needs: SAE methods in official data production for policy making, are they used?</i></p> <p>Chair: Ralf Muennich (University of Trier)</p>
11:00-11:30	Coffee break	
11:30-12:30 ROOM B	<p>Table 3</p> <p>New and traditional data sources for local indicators –reconciling small areas and big data?</p>	<p>Chair: Natalie Shlomo (University of Manchester)</p> <p>Interventions: Dario Buono (Eurostat) Caterina Giusti (University of Pisa) Marco Puts (Statistics Netherland)</p> <p>Floor discussion</p>
12:30-14:00	Lunch break	
14:00-15:00 ROOM B	<p>Table 4</p> <p>Statistical quality of small area estimates – internal and external validation of the estimates?</p>	<p>Chair: Risto Lehtonen (University of Helsinki)</p> <p>Interventions: Lola Ugarte (Public University of Navarra) Francesca Gagliardi (University of Siena) Tomasz Klimanek (Statistical Office Poland)</p> <p>Floor discussion</p>
15:00-15:30	Coffee break	





15:30-17:30 AUDITORIUM	Contributed papers session	<p>Chair: Mariola Chrzanowska (Warsaw University of Life Science)</p> <p>Discussant: Nina Drejerska (Warsaw University of Life Science)</p> <p><i>Contributions by:</i> Giorgio Cecchi (UNIFI/DAGUM), Daniela Cocchi (UNIBO), Antonella D'Agostino (UNIPARTHENOPE/DAGUM), Gianni Dugheri (Comune di Firenze), Francesco Giovinnazzi (UNIBO), Laura Grassini (UNIFI/DAGUM), Angelo Moretti (Univ. of Manchester/Univ. of Sheffield), Saverio Pertosa (UNIFI), Alessandra Petrucci (UNIFI/DAGUM), Linda Porciani (ISTAT), Monica Pratesi (UNIFI/DAGUM), Joseph Sakshaug (Institute for Employment Research), Nicola Salvati (UNIFI/DAGUM), Francesco Schiripa (UNIPARTHENOPE), Natalie Shlomo (Univ. of Manchester)</p>
17:30-18:30	Poster session and Aperitif	<p>Chair: Gaia Bertarelli (University of Pisa)</p> <p><i>Contributions by:</i> Christopher Galgo, Anna Stampa, Tam Nguyen Thi Thanh, Ronald Kiduma Wankya (MSc – Rural Development Programme – Ghent University); Hikmat Valadli, Fidan Gafarli, Hazal Yagmur Balikci, Nisa Baskan, Tommaso Crescioli, Marco Rispoli, Anna Mergoni, Tural Ahmadov, Merve Celimli (MSc – Economics – Univ. of Pisa), Phuong Hoang Vu, Zobaer Ahmed, Sanghyun Jeon, Khanh Lam Duy, Nathalie Onk Aparo, Ishimwe Aline (Incoming Erasmus student)</p>





 SMALL AREA METHODS FOR MONITORING OF POVERTY AND LIVING CONDITIONS IN EU 		
Day 3 10 May 9:00-16:00		
09:00-09:30	<i>Registration of participants</i>	
09:30-10:30 AUDITORIUM	Keynote 3 Session	Speaker: Luigi Biggeri (University of Florence) <i>The computation of subnational spatial price indexes for the study and monitoring of inequalities at a local level in the era of big data</i> Chair: Maurizio Franzini (University of Rome 1)
10:30-11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:00-12:30 AUDITORIUM	Makswell Session: Makswell actual results and plan for the future, reflection on the research themes for FP9	Makswell plans and results - Chair: Maria Pia Sorvillo (Istat) <i>The project Makswell (actual results and plan for the future)</i> Speaker: Fabio Bacchini (Istat) <i>Project Makswell and reflection on the research themes for FP9</i> Speaker: Tommaso Rondinella (Istat)
12:30-13:30 AUDITORIUM	Table 5 Discussion on Project Makswell and reflection on the research themes for FP9	Brainstorming session - Chair: Fabio Bacchini (Istat) Interventions: Carrie Exton (Oecd) Floor discussion During the floor discussion there are the Recommendations from Chairs of Tables 1-4
13:30-14:30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14:30-15:30 AUDITORIUM	Final Panel discussion and closing	Chair: Luca Gaballo (Rainews24) Maria Pia Sorvillo (Istat) Espen Beer Prydz (World Bank) Carrie Exton (Oecd) Maurizio Franzini (Rome University La Sapienza) Marcin Szymkowiak (Statistical Office in Poznan and Poznan University Economics and Business) Paolo Ghezzi (Direttore Generale InfoCamere) Monica Pratesi (Unipi/Dagum)
15:30	<i>Closing and farewell with final Coffee break</i>	





Annex 2

Presentations MAKSWELL Session

The full presentations are available at www.makswell.eu

The project Makswell (actual results and plan for the future)

- Fabio Bacchini - Istat

The slide features a blue header with two logos: on the left, a balance scale icon with the text "SMALL AREA METHODS FOR MONITORING OF POVERTY AND LIVING CONDITIONS IN EU"; on the right, the "Jean Monnet Chair" logo with the University of Pisa seal and the text "IN SUPREME DIGNITY 1343" and "European Commission".

The main text is centered and reads:

**The project Makswell main aims, actual results
and plan for the future**

Fabio Bacchini - Istat

PISA, 8-10 MAY 2018

**WORKSHOP "SMALL AREA METHODS AND LIVING CONDITIONS
INDICATORS IN EUROPEAN POVERTY STUDIES IN THE ERA OF
DATA DELUGE AND BIG DATA"**

FINAL EVENT OF THE JEAN MONNET CHAIR SAMPLEU

The slide is framed by a red bar at the top and a grey bar at the bottom. The bottom bar contains the text "Bacchini", "MAKSWELL", "10 May 2018", and "1 / 31".



Project Maxwell and reflection on the research themes for FP9 Speaker

- Tommaso Rondinella – Istat

The slide features a blue header with the text "SMALL AREA METHODS FOR MONITORING OF POVERTY AND LIVING CONDITIONS IN EU" and the "Jean Monnet Chair" logo. The main title is "Future research needs in terms of statistical methodologies and new data". Below it, the subtitle reads "Early reflection paper to define future pathways for the new EU Framework Programme". The speaker's name, "Tommaso Rondinella (Istat)", is displayed. The background image shows a large, historic building with a red-tiled roof and a central dome, likely the Istat headquarters in Rome.

Brainstorming session

- Carrie Exton - OECD

The slide has a blue background with a white diagonal stripe. The title "OECD WORK ON WELL-BEING AND SDGS: REFLECTIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF PROJECT MAKSWELL" is written in white and green. Below the title, the date "PISA, 10 MAY 2018" is shown. The speaker's name, "Carrie Exton", and her title, "Head of Section, Measuring Well-Being and Progress OECD Statistics Directorate", are listed. The OECD logo is in the bottom right corner.