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# Administrative Data Linking: Enriching Administrative Data with Surveys

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## Background

- Work Package 6 on new forms of data
- Task 6.2 focuses on the use of Administrative Data linking and the Legal and Ethical Challenges
- GGP has already conducted such linking and so will provide a central case study within the work
  - What does data linking constitute?
  - What obstacles and challenges are there?
  - What opportunities are there?





## Background

- Secure Site Access to administrative data is common
- Virtual Access Points are also increasingly prevalent
- Combined, multi-national access points are also being pursued (DWB)





## Background

- GGP is a longitudinal, cross-national survey currently conducted in 19 countries
- Survey focuses on families and demographic behavior
- In several countries respondents are linked to population registers
- Less common is integration of administrative data in PUF





## Example of Sweden

- Carried out by Stockholm University in collaboration with Statistics Sweden
- 9,688 Respondents aged 18-79 interviewed in 2012-13 (Response Rate of 54.7%)
- Phone survey with postal follow up and registry linkages
- Registry follow up provided every 3 years (2<sup>nd</sup> Wave is being prepared for release now)





## GGP Experiences

1. Improving Scientific Access to Population Registers
  - Survey Infrastructures work on Open Access Model
  - Population Registries have highly restricted access
  - Surveys can provide a 'key' of consent to allow for linking with surveys and even other data sources





## GGP Experiences

### 1. Improving Scientific Access to Population Registers

- Surveys and Registers have different definitions of Anonymity
- Re-identification risk in social surveys is relatively high compared to administrative data
- Successful linking depends on NSO accepting consent as circumventing this risk





## GGP Experiences

### 2. Validating Population Registry Data

- Registry and Survey data differ
- Data linking helps identify why, when and how
- 18.3% choose to correct their educational level in Sweden
- Research on partnership and fertility histories in Netherlands







## Administrative Data Linking in the GGP

- Challenges:
  - Data Protection
  - Respondent Consent
  - Data Privacy
- Opportunities:
  - Data Validation
  - Added Scientific Value to administrative data
  - Better quality survey data





## Next Steps

- Other successful data linking projects and their experiences (ESS, SHARE and others)
- Unsuccessful data linking projects and their experiences (why did they fail?)
- Consolidating these into best practices of linking administrative and survey data





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## Thank you



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