Best practice recommendations on facilitating access to microdata: outcomes from the INEXDA working group on data access

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1 This presentation was prepared for the meeting. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the BIS, the IFC or the central banks and other institutions represented at the meeting.
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Motivation

- Aggregate datasets are important for monitoring macroeconomic developments and macroeconomic policy.
- Granular data is necessary to understand global developments and in particular differences across countries.
- Combining datasets and looking beyond aggregate statistics into heterogeneous developments require the transformation of “data” into “knowledge”.
- Local constraints make it difficult, or often impossible, to link micro datasets from different jurisdictions, even for research and financial stability analysis.
- Better accessibility and sharing of granular data would open up new possibilities for analysis by providing new insights into the effect of policies.

What can we do from the statistical side to support this process?
INEXDA: The Granular Data Network

On 6th January 2017,

have launched the International Network of Exchanging Experiences on Statistical Handling of Granular Data (INEXDA), an international cooperative project to declare their willingness to further strengthen their cooperation.

Since its foundation, the following institutions have joined INEXDA as members:
Chronology of past INEXDA meetings

1st INEXDA meeting in Lisbon
- INEXDA members (DE, FR, IT, PT, UK)
- Guests: BIS

2nd INEXDA meeting in London
- INEXDA members
- Guests: BIS, ECB, ES

3rd INEXDA meeting in Paris
- INEXDA members (+ECB, ES)
- Guests: AT, BIS, CL, MX, TR, UK (NSI)

4th INEXDA meeting in Basel
- INEXDA members (+CL, TR)
- Guests: AT, CH, BIS, DE (NSI), Eurostat, MX, RU, UK (NSI)

5th INEXDA meeting in Frankfurt
- INEXDA members (+Eurostat, Russia)
- Guests: AT, BIS, DE (NSI), FR (NSI), GR, NO (NSI), UK (NSI)

Jan 2017 | Jul 2017 | Jan 2018 | Aug 2018 | Apr 2019

Working groups
1. Dissemination
2. Metadata
3. ADRF
4. Modes of accreditation
5. Contracts for research projects/bodies
6. Modes of data provision
7. Output control
8. Risk management for published results

Data Access

INEXDA Metadata Tool by GESIS

Memorandum of Understanding
Signing and publication

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Working Group on data access

1. **INEXDA workshop on data access procedures**
   - Serve as a kick-off event for the INEXDA work stream on data access
   - Utilise current momentum to improve data access procedures for data producers and researchers.

2. **Define common access procedures**
   - Identify similar workflows used by data providers.
   - From there define a standard
   - Need to be in compliance with internal data policies and external government regulations.

3. **Development of open software solution**
   - Set of common access procedures will define software requirements
   - Needs to be flexible enough to accommodate different legal frameworks
Facilitating access to data

INEXDA Workshop on access procedures (April 2019)

1 **Data discovery**: providing information on where to find the data
   - Ivana Ilijasic Versic, Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives (CESSDA)
   - Ines Drefs, GO FAIR
   - Hendrik Doll, Deutsche Bundesbank

2 **Data access centres**: how to grant access to the data: nationally and internationally
   - Paulo Guimarães, Banco de Portugal
   - Kamel Gadouche, Centre d’accès sécurisé aux données (CASD)
   - Beate Lichtwardt, UK Data Archiv (UKDA)

3 **Alternative access models for multi-source data**
   - Marina Randriamisaina, Banque de France
   - Fabio Ricciato, Eurostat
   - Johan Heldal, Statistik Sentralbyra (SSB)

4 **International Initiatives on micro data sharing**
   - Emily Witt, European Central Bank (ECB)
   - Roxane Silberman, International Data Access Network (IDAN)
   - Claus Goran Hjelm, Nordic Microdata Access Network (NordMAN)
Facilitating access to data

**Status quo:** Very complex to standardize multiple workflows

Example from the Bundesbank’s RDSC
Facilitating access to data

Ideal state: Automation of decisions in workflows

- **Metadata** describes how data can be managed and used from a legal, organisational or technical point of view
- **Workflows follow deterministically** from such administrative dataset metadata

Metadata from researcher
- e.g. information on personal affiliation and the planned project

Metadata from data producer
- e.g. administrative metadata such as dataset-specific usage restrictions

Data access request for research project

Deterministic decision

OR

- Rejection
- Workflow 1
- Workflow 2
- Workflow 3
- ...

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Conclusion

- INEXDA provides a platform for exchanging experiences on statistical handling of granular data for central banks, national statistical institutes and international organizations.
- INEXDA supports the G20 process, especially the Data Gaps Initiative 2 recommendation aiming to promote the exchange of (granular) data as well as metadata.
- Focus of the INEXDA Data Access Working Group is to define common access procedures and use these for the development of an open software solution.

Next steps

End of August 2019
Collection of feedback on proposed new metadata items

September 2019
Meeting of the INEXDA Data Access Working Group

End of 2019
Proof of concept for open source data stewardship module software in collaboration with NYU’s ADRF

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Thank you for your attention!