



to Co-ordination Group ESSnet Big Data  
cc  
from Martin van Sebille

subject Final minutes CG meeting 0.2 of ESSnet BD II by WebEx 8th of October 2018  
2018-10-24

*Participants:*

Peter Struijs (Chairman)	√	Marek Morze (PL WPH)	√
Martin van Sebille (Secretary)	√	David Salgado (PL WPI)	√
Marc Debusschere (Deputy WPA)		Marek Cierpial-Wolan (PL WPJ)	
Tomaž Špeh (PL WPB)	√	Alexander Kowarik (PL WPK)	√
Galya Stateva (PL WPC)	√	Natalie Rosenski (PL WPL)	√
Arko Kesküla (PL WPD)	√	Albrecht Wirthmann (Eurostat)	√
Anke Consten (PL WPE)	√		
Monica Scannapieco (PL WPF)			
Johan Fosen (PL WPG)	√		

*Replacements/Guests:*

Donato Summa (WPF)	√	Kate Kapica (WPJ)	√
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## 1. Opening and agenda

Peter welcomes everybody to meeting 0.2 of the Co-ordination Group of the ESSnet Big Data II (CG). Marc could not attend the meeting so communication will get more attention on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October.

Special welcome to Arko Kesküla who just started three weeks ago at Statistics Estonia and is the new WP leader of WPD. Monica (WPF) and Marek C. (WPJ) could also not attend the meeting and are replaced by Donato Summa and Kate Kapica, respectively.

For questions on process Albrecht Wirthmann from Eurostat attends the meeting.

## 2. Information on what has been submitted

Although it was a difficult period for preparation because of holidays, there were very good inputs produced on which the proposal could be based. There were some iterations, bilateral (WebEx) meetings and this worked out fine. The proposal has been further worked out than for previous ESSnet, in particular

concerning work distribution. In the last week some editorial changes were done by the coordinator, such as:

- Headings and subheadings standardized.
- All partners are mentioned at least at one task or deliverable (but IE for WPB missing, to be corrected).
- Numbering of deliverables and milestones; logic of timing.
- WPB: milestone adjustment to meeting scheme.
- WPD: internal WebEx meeting scheme deleted (useful, but not to be part of contract).

Furthermore, there were some minor corrections, in particular the addition of the organization of the kick-off for implementation by WPF. A final meeting had been added by Peter for WPL, but after discussion the group decided that the originally proposed meeting scheme for WPL would be restored. There have been no significant changes in the content delivered by the WP leaders.

There is still room for improvement of the contract if small changes are deemed necessary, for example:

- The idea of a starter kit of WPC may also be useful for other implementation WPs, or for WPF.
- Some WPs have very few deliverables, in particular WPF and WPJ. Can these deliverables be split or more specified? This would also be helpful for the Review Board (work more evenly spread).
- There may be risks associated with the availability of data sources. This may need to be checked by the WP leaders. Where needed, a go/no go decision can be added to the proposal for cases where deliverables depend on data availability if this availability is not sure yet.
- If during the preparation of the grant agreement new relevant information becomes available, for instance about data sources, the text may still be updated.

Natalie (WPL) asks for clarification about the number of reports and especially the final report. The final report for WPL should not be a doubling of earlier reports, although it may include executive summaries of the other, content-oriented deliverables. The final report would look forward to the future of subsequent projects on trusted smart statistics.

### **3. Information on the process between submission and the formal start of the ESSnet**

After the acceptance of the proposal by Eurostat (expected around 15 October) there is still room for changes in the text as mentioned above, but not everything is open for discussion. Modifications can be made where necessary, in particular based on comments from Eurostat, correction of errors, and new developments (such as the MoU with Banca d'Italia for WPG). Other changes are to be done only in consultation with Eurostat. WP leaders should inform Peter as soon as possible of any changes still to be made.

The project is planned to start at the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2018. From then on costs are eligible, under the assumption that the contract is going to be signed afterwards. Partners are requested to keep track of the resources spent from 1

November onwards. Bimonthly a request for resources spent will be done, before each CG meeting.

Albrecht mentions that after the evaluation of the proposal, and assuming a positive outcome, an official invitation for negotiation of the grant will be sent to the co-ordinator. He explains the grant agreement negotiation procedure, during which the partners have to express their consent through the portal and submit a declaration of honour. Please be aware that for this procedure there is a deadline of six weeks.

#### **4. Preparation of the kick-off meetings**

There are three WPs which will organize a kick-off meeting: WPF for the implementation WPs, WPK for the pilot WPs, and WPL.

WPF:

Donato Summa confirms that the intention is to have a kick-off meeting in Vienna at the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of December, which is a back-to-back meeting with the kick-off meeting of WPK. Alex mentions that on these days the venue of Statistics Austria is not available, but space can and will be rented outside the venue.

About the agenda for the days Donato has no further information as Monica will provide the agenda.

WPK:

The kick-off meeting will be held at the venue of Statistics Austria in Vienna on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of December. All partners have already been informed.

The first day will start with a catch up of the ideas for each WP, followed by discussion. This is input for WPK.

Then WPK will present their ideas on what is expected from the WPs.

On the second day the WPs will split up and work out in more detail the proposed plans, taking into account the input of the presentations and discussions.

WPL:

The intention is to have a kick-off meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of November in Wiesbaden. Not all partners have reacted so far and there is no agenda yet but it will be much the same as the one for WPK.

For the first two kick-off meetings, splitting up the WPs on the second day may be difficult, as (in addition to the organizing WP leader) only one person per partner will be reimbursed for attending the meeting and this person will have to represent all WPs in the track in which the partner participates. This person may not have all the knowledge needed for each WP.

Peter remarks that the NSI (or partner) itself must decide who is the best representative for the kick-off meetings. For budgetary reasons only one person is eligible, but countries may send more people to meetings on their own costs. Only at the midterm meetings the WP leaders of the WPs involved can also be reimbursed.

If possible by the end of the week (12<sup>th</sup> of October) the dates must be set for the meetings (WPK is already fixed).

## **5. Any remaining issues**

There are already some positive side effects concerning the ESSnet. The Basque country, for instance, has asked about the wiki of this new project and Flanders (part of Belgium, but not a formal partner of the ESS) would like to become involved. If interested parties can be accommodated without budget, this would be welcome, but only if the WP leader concerned agrees.

For all WPs it is possible to have WebEx meetings with the partners of the WP. WP leaders can ask for WebEx meetings when they need them or send a scheme to Martin and Peter so they can arrange the meetings, provided there is no overlap. If there is, the meetings concerned must be rescheduled.

The next WebEx CG meeting before the formal start of the new ESSnet (number 0.3) will be on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October from 10:30 till 12:00 CET.

The first official WebEx CG meeting of the new ESSnet (number 1) will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> of November starting at 10:30 a.m.. Then it will be decided if there is need for a second one this year. That one would then take place on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December. Please take this into account in your agenda.