



Generations & Gender Programme

Annual Report 2018

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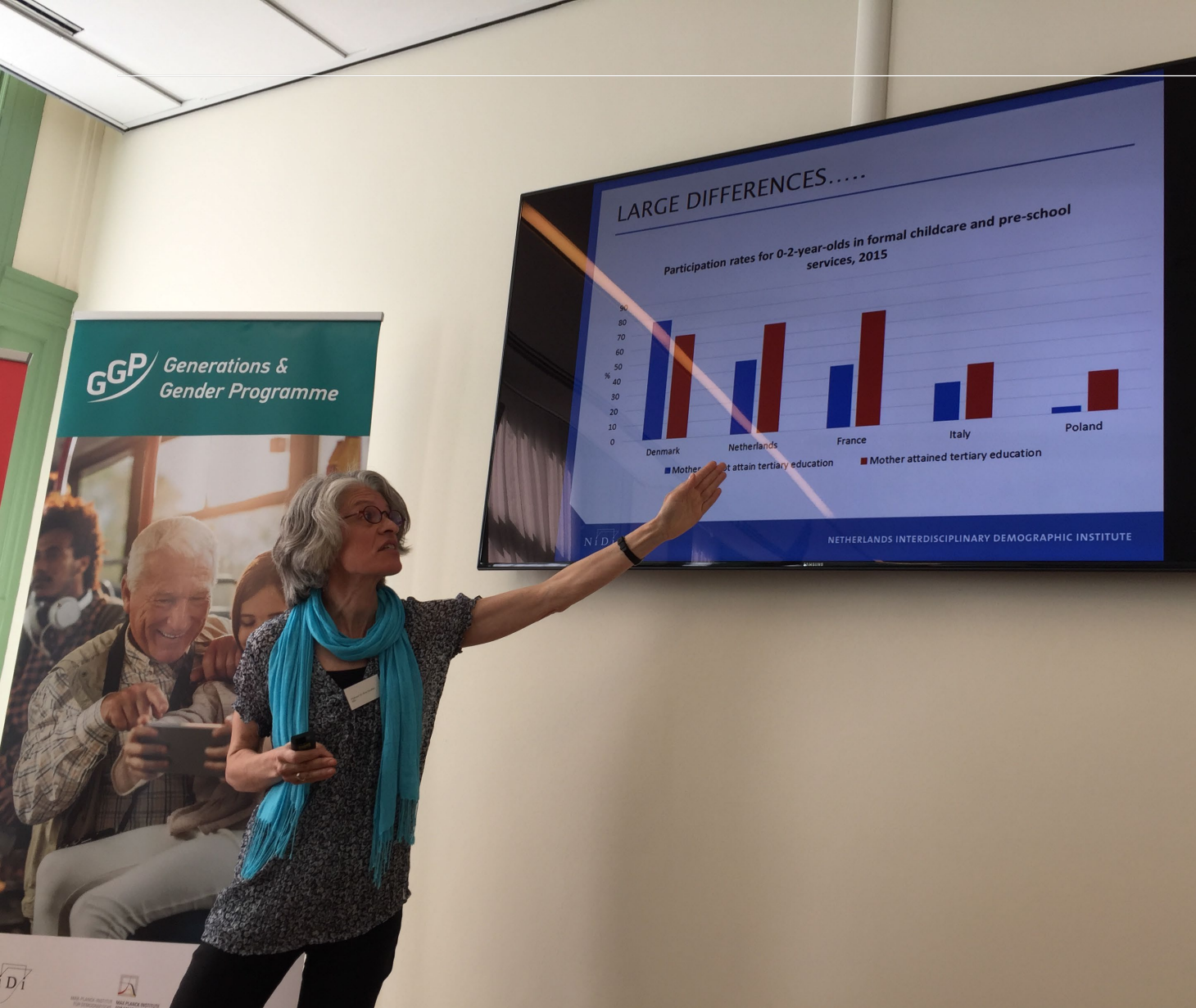


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Acronyms

ALAP	Latin America Population Association
APAC	Asian Population Association Conference
CESSDA	Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives
CRONOS	CROss-National Online Survey Panel
EEA	European Economic Area
EPI	Evaluate, Plan and Initiate
EOSC	European Open Science Cloud
EPC	European Population Conference
ESFRI	European Strategic Framework for Research Infrastructures
ESS	European Social Survey
EVS	European Values Study
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
GGP	The Generations & Gender Programme
GGs	The Generations & Gender Survey
ISCO	International Standard Classification of Occupations
IUSSP	International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
SERISS	Synergies for Europe's Research Infrastructures in the Social Sciences
SHARE	Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe
SSHOC	Social Sciences and Humanities Open Cloud
TMT	Translation Management Tool



“One of our key priorities has been to raise awareness around our new round of data collection scheduled for 2020”

Message from the Director

It is with great pleasure that I write the introduction to this totally restyled annual report. In line with our ambition to carve out a clear niche for the GGP in the landscape of research infrastructures, we have opted for an annual report that is shorter, more concise, and more vibrant. Above all, this new style captures the new energies in the GGP central coordination team.

The annual report is centered around our three main pillars of activities.

Data Collection

One of our key priorities has been to raise awareness and rally the GGP community around our forthcoming new round of data collection scheduled for 2020. To date twenty-five countries have signed a letter of intent to work with us to find funding to carry out the GGS in their country. This speaks to the recognition in the community about the value of the GGS in helping inform policies and answer pressing scientific questions regarding for example youth transitions, obstacles to childbearing and work-life balance, as well as health, caring and intergenerational exchanges.

Research and innovation

The need to collect high quality data, reduce

fieldwork costs, and increase response rates are central to our research infrastructure. This means continuously investing and testing new tools and software, and exploring new modes of data collection and participant recruitment. The three-country experiment on push-to-web that we have carried out in the past 12 months has brought fresh insights while also highlighting the challenges of collecting high quality data in diverse national contexts on topics characterized by increasing complexity, especially when it comes to life course trajectories and family dynamics.

The GGP community

Users and stakeholders are at the core of our research infrastructure and we have been investing in bi-directional activities to communicate and train our GGP community, but also to listen and engage with it in reflecting on pressing societal challenges and data gaps. In doing so, we have strengthened our collaboration with national teams in the past year, and have held a series of successful regional workshops to further understand national needs and constraints.

I hope that you will enjoy reading this annual report and look forward to hearing your feedback.

Anne Gauthier, Director

1. GGP OVERVIEW 2018

“The GGP aims to provide high quality and timely data to scientists, policy makers and civil society in order to improve our understanding of family and life-course dynamics”

GGP Mission Statement

1.1 Aim, mission and vision

The Generations and Gender Programme (GGP) is a social science research infrastructure that provides data on population and family dynamics. Our aim is to significantly improve social science and policymaking in Europe and across the globe. This section of the report states the aim, mission and vision that is shared across the GGP Research Infrastructure and Community.

Aim

The GGP collects, processes, and curates data dating back over 30 years in over 30 countries. We aim to be the leading source of data for cross-national studies of family dynamics in advanced economies. So far the GGP data has resulted in more than 1,800 publications and has been used by over 4,000 users worldwide which include social scientists but also policy makers and civil society. At its core, the Generations and Gender Programme is a demographic study which examines key demographic processes such as births and marriages and how they interrelate to each other through family life and the wider society.

Mission

The GGP's Mission is to provide high quality and timely data to scientists, policy makers and civil society in order to improve our understanding of family and life-course dynamics. The GGP inherited this mission from the UNECE project entitled 'The Families and Fertility Survey' (FFS). The GGP Consortium carries this mission forward for a new generation of demographers, statisticians and social scientists.

Vision

The GGP takes its mission exceptionally seriously, continuously seeking to develop along a future trajectory and vision for the GGP in which:

“The GGP is able to provide high quality, cutting edge data on population and family dynamics to the widest possible research community in the shortest possible time.”

This vision is not relative to the performance or work of other infrastructures. It is an absolute statement about the future direction of the GGP. This is because the GGP does not view the development of social surveys as a zero-sum game. Achieving high quality, openness, innovations and velocity require cooperation and collaboration across scientific infrastructures.

Data Products and Services	Research and Innovation	Dissemination and Engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Generations and Gender Survey▪ Harmonized Histories▪ Contextual Database▪ Support & training for users	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Questionnaire development and assessment▪ Data and methodological innovations▪ Collaboration with other Research Infrastructures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Communication with the GGP community▪ Dissemination of findings▪ Contribution to policy debates<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Fundraising

1.2 Domains of Activity

To deliver its mission, the GGP pursues three areas of activity centered around the core aim of providing high-quality, open source demographic data products and services. Through these activities we seek to ensure sustained open access to, and use of, GGP products and services by a wide array of researchers, policy makers and members of civil society.

Research and innovation

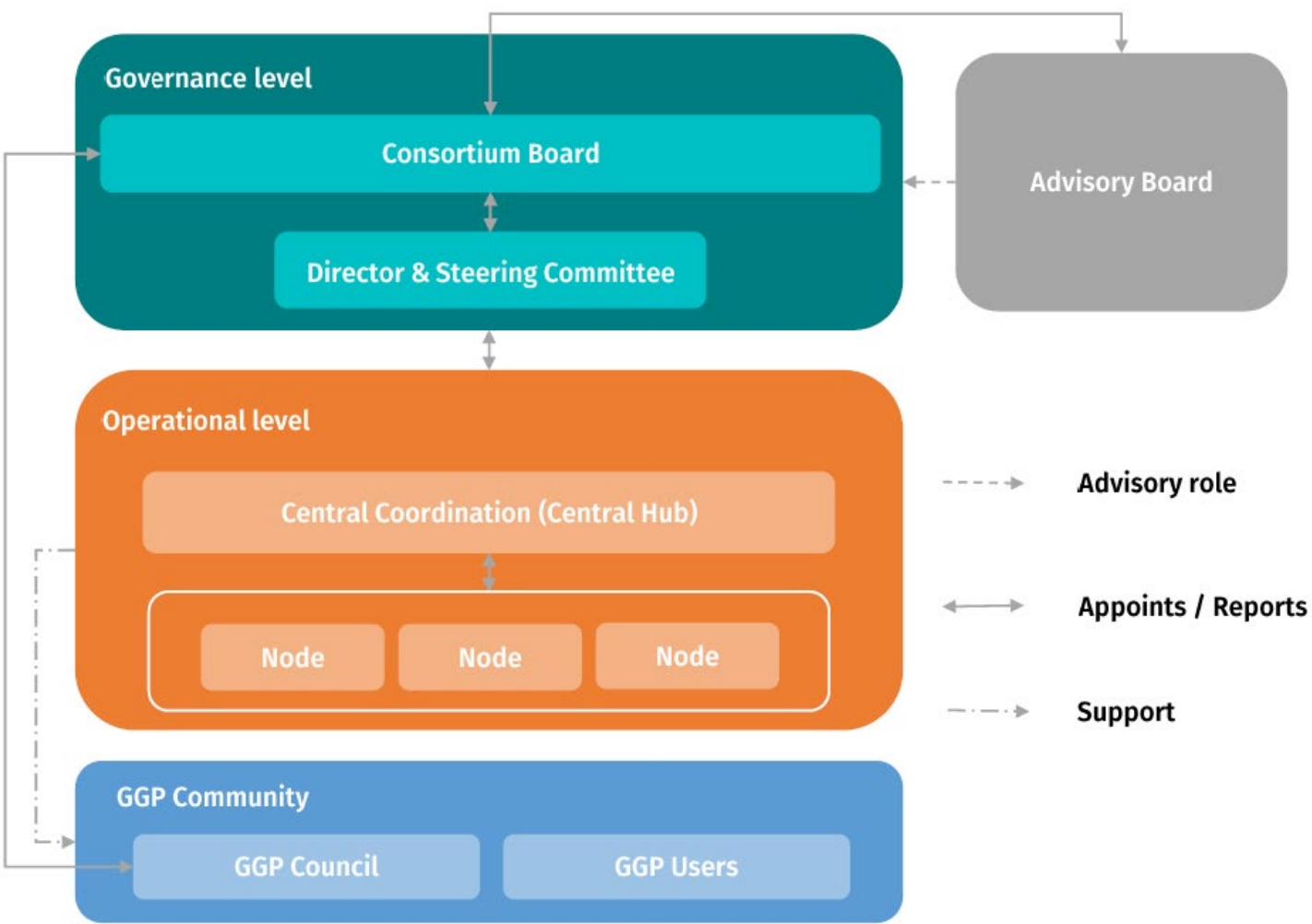
GGP strives to stay at the cutting edge of the rapidly evolving developments in data and computational sciences. These developments offer new, innovative means of conducting data collection and efficiencies for continuous updating and expansion of our datasets. To support this work, the GGP collaborates with a wide range of other research infrastructures in the social sciences and beyond to ensure that the GGP is constantly developing.

Data products and services

As the leading source of data for cross-national studies of life course transitions and family change, GGP ensures our data products and services are updated and accessible through continuous management and renewal of the micro-datasets. We collaborate with national teams to support them to collect, synthesize, understand and use the data. The range of data products provided are diverse and include microdata from the Generations and Gender Survey, the Families and Fertility Survey and a number of associated studies who contribute their data to the Harmonized Histories. Alongside this microdata, the GGP maintains a contextual database that can be used in isolation or in conjunction with the microdata. To support the use of all these data products, the GGP provides training and support to users.

Dissemination and engagement

Evidence-informed public policy requires timely, high-quality data that reveals trends in how the lives of individuals and families are changing. Research based upon GGP datasets studies these changes and seeks deeper insights into the underlying reasons for the observed changes. The GGP conducts a range of dissemination and stakeholder engagement activities to promote the use of our cross-nationally comparative open source datasets. The GGP raises awareness about research findings generated through the use of GGP datasets and supports data collection by national teams.



1.3 Organisational Structure

The GGP is a distributed, open-access research infrastructure. Following the recognition of the GGP as an ESFRI Emerging Project (March 2016), a main objective over the current period is to evaluate the governance and legal options to ensure a robust and sustainable structure for the GGP as we prepare to enter the Roadmap proper.

Governance and legal structures

A forward-looking evaluation of potential governance and legal structures resulted in an overview of options commonly adopted by other research infrastructures on the ESFRI Roadmap. The advice and guidance provided by the European Commission, ESFRI, OECD Global Science Forum (GSF) and other relevant institutions such as national ministries and supra-national organizations was compiled and analysed.

Governance Structure

The governance structure depicted in the figure on page 11 most closely reflects the GGP's current structure. In the future however, as a more mature infrastructure, a series of changes will be required. These relate to the membership criteria of the GGP's Consortium Board as well as the need to align membership with national level ESFRI

roadmaps. It was further assessed that the requirement that all CB members contribute financially to the infrastructure is in line with ESFRI expectations.

Legal Structure

Establishing a suitable legal structure is another aspect of confirming the maturity of a research infrastructure. Three possible options have been identified and analysed for their suitability to the GGP. These include:

- European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC) - the dominant type of legal format adopted by research infrastructures on the ESFRI Roadmap.
- *Association Internationale sans but lucratif* (AISBL) - a legal form of international non-profit association defined in the Belgian law.
- Foundation (*Stichting*) - a legal entity with limited liability defined in the Dutch law.

Looking Ahead

In 2019 further examination of the potential legal structures and their implications, including on governance issues, will be conducted. The preparatory steps to attain the next status will be put into motion.

1.4 An Emerging Infrastructure on Europe's Roadmap & the EPI Journey

An Emerging Infrastructure

As part of the ESFRI roadmap in 2016, the GGP was included as an emerging infrastructure. The evaluation of the GGP that took place pointed to its scientific excellence and vast potential for supporting scientific research and policy making in Europe

The report was, however, also critical of the informal nature of the governance and management aspects of the GGP and urged the infrastructure to demonstrate greater maturity and formality in its organization. In doing so, the GGP would become an excellent addition to a future ESFRI roadmap.

GGP-EPI

To support the development of the GGP towards ESFRI membership, the European Commission financed the GGP 'Evaluate, Plan, Initiate' (GGP-EPI) project (grant agreement n° 739511). This €2 million, 3-year project aims to professionalize, formalize and develop the organization of the GGP ahead of a new round of data collection and the submission of the GGP's ESFRI application in 2021.

The project consists of six work packages which each seek to develop specific aspects of the project: management, technical, financial, governance, strategic and

engagement. The project is broken down into three periods, each lasting a year. In the first year (2017), the various work packages evaluated the current state of the infrastructure and sought best practices from comparable infrastructures. In this second year of the project (2018), the work packages have put in place clear plans of how to formalize and develop the various aspects of the infrastructure. In the final year of the project, these plans will be put into action and the GGP will be declared ready for a new phase of operations and submit its ESFRI application.

Looking ahead

At the 4th International Conference on Research Infrastructures hosted by the European Union in Vienna, the ESFRI programme announced the deadline for the next ESFRI Roadmap will be launched in 2021.

This change in the expected application date does not present any challenges to the completion of the GGP-EPI deliverables which are on track for timely completion.

The timing of the ESFRI 2021 application round provides additional time for GGP to expand its efforts to identify and diversify its sources of finance.

European Strategy Forum
on Research Infrastructures

ESFRI

1.5 Consortium Board



The GGP Consortium Board membership is comprised of the following members:

- Bocconi University, Dondena Centre for Social Dynamics and Public Policy, Milan, Italy
- Erasmus University, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Federal Institute for Population Research, BiB, Wiesbaden, Germany
- Hungarian Demographic Research Institute, Budapest, Hungary
- Institut National d'Études Démographiques, Paris, France
- Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, The Hague, The Netherlands
- Norwegian Social Research, NOVA, Oslo Metropolitan University, Norway
- Population Europe/Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Rostock, Germany
- Population Unit, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
- Statistics Norway
- Stockholm University Demography Unit, Stockholm, Sweden
- University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom
- Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands
- Warsaw School of Economics, Warsaw, Poland
- Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital, Vienna, Austria



GGP Council of Partners Meeting Brussels, June 2018

1.6 Council of Partners

The GGP Council of Partners (CoP), consists of a network of national teams from participating and interested countries and meets every year to discuss progress, share experiences and make plans for future programme development.

Annual Convening

The 15th Council of Partners meeting was held on June 6th, 2018 prior to the commencement of the European Population Conference at the Vrije Universiteit Brussels, Belgium.

The CoP meeting is convened by the UNECE as Secretariat of the Council of Partners and serves as a key point of communication between the central GGP coordination team and national focal points to ensure the GGP remains a genuinely collaborative and relevant research infrastructure. The current Chair of the Council of Partners is Professor Zsolt Spéder of the Hungarian Demographic Research Institute.

Meeting Agenda

In 2018, the CoP meeting agenda focussed on three key aspects of the GGP's recent achievements as well as the forthcoming round of data collection.

Expansions of both GGP's geographic

coverage as well as newly released and/or harmonised datasets were highlighted during the CoP meeting.

Innovations in how the GGP survey is being implemented in the coming 2020 round of the survey were presented. The 'push-to-web' pilot work underway in Croatia, Germany and Portugal in 2018 was discussed.

Progress to date of the GGP's Horizon 2020 project 'Evaluate, Plan and Implement - EPI' (2017-2019) was reported, including updates from the Central Hub of the GGP on progress being made toward the GGP's application for inclusion into the 2021 European Strategic Framework for Research Infrastructures Roadmap, for which national and institutional support from GGP's Partners forms a crucial bedrock.

The agenda, report and presentations from the 2018 CoP meeting are available on the [UNECE's website](#).

Looking Ahead

The next GGP CoP meeting is scheduled to take place during the 2019 GGP User Conference in October in Paris. As the new round of fieldwork approaches, communication and meeting schedules will also be intensified.

2. Data Products & Services

The Generations and Gender Programme not only aims to provide researchers and policy makers with high quality data, but also the skills and expertise necessary to analyse this data

2.1 GGP Data Products

The GGP holds data that has been collected over the last 30 years from more than 30 countries across the world. The GGP invests significantly in the curation, documentation and archiving of this data to ensure that researchers and policy makers can draw upon the widest and highest quality empirical base possible.

Data Releases

Over the course of 2018, there have been a number of additions to the GGP data collection. Data from Wave 2 in Poland have been released (N=12,294), and widely used in research. Poland represents the largest baseline sample in the GGP and the addition of this data to the longitudinal collection from the previous round of the GGP greatly increases its statistical power, opening up new lines of research.

In addition to data from the previous round, the first data associated with the new round of data collection has also been released. The data from Belarus includes 9,994 respondents and the response rate was approximately 74%, with an average interview length of 45 minutes. A second wave is scheduled to be conducted in 2020. The data from this fieldwork was processed using a new centralized model of processing which

ensured that data was available to researchers soon after the final interview was conducted.

Waves 1-4 of the Netherlands Kinship Panel Study (NKPS) are also now available via the GGP website and can be downloaded by users with lite access. The NKPS is a sister study of the GGP and covers many of the same topics. Providing the data via the GGP website enables the data to reach a wider audience in a more sustainable manner.

Looking ahead

In 2019 the GGP will release the second wave from Sweden. This data was taken entirely from administrative records and forms the first ever virtual wave of the GGP.

In the coming year the GGP Institute will release Wave 3 data from the Netherlands, Hungary and France. In addition, data releases of the new GGP are expected for Kazakhstan, Latvia and Moldova.

A new data agreement is also being prepared. This data agreement will make it possible for users at registered institutes to access the data simply by agreeing to a set of terms and conditions. It is hoped that this will expand use of the data in teaching but also broaden access amongst early career researchers.



The Harmonized Histories includes detailed life histories for more than 240,000 people from across the globe

2.2 GGP Harmonized Histories

The Harmonized Histories is an international comparative dataset, created through harmonizing data from existing surveys into one common format by Professor Brienna Perelli-Harris and the Non-Marital Childbearing Network. The aim of the Harmonized Histories is to bring together information from different sources to facilitate cross-national research on topics as family formation and transition to adulthood.

Data releases

In November 2018, data from Uruguay was released as part of the Harmonized Histories data collection. The data of Uruguay is based on the survey '*Encuesta Nacional de Comportamientos Reproductivos*' that was collected in 2015 and include life histories from 3,487 individuals. Uruguay is the first country from Latin America to be added to the Harmonized Histories and it is hoped more will follow as interest in the GGP in the region is strengthening.

The Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research has also helped the GGP to develop a syntax that creates the Harmonized Histories of newly collected GGS waves. The first data that was released is the Belarusian data. This process will enable future GGP data collections to be automatically integrated into the Harmonized Histories data collection

such that the Harmonized Histories will be updated simultaneously with the GGP data release.

Looking ahead

In the coming months the Harmonized Histories will be updated with several new data sources. The GGP Central Hub is currently working on the harmonization of the Dutch survey '*Onderzoeksgezinsvorming*' collected in 2013 which includes over 10,000 respondents.

A team in Canada has also commenced data harmonization of the Canadian survey '*General Social Survey*' collected in 2006. A data agreement is now in place for the release of this data and it is expected to be available to the community in early 2019.

Data from Latvia, Kazakhstan and Moldova will also be added. Taken with the aforementioned data collections, it is therefore expected that the Harmonized Histories will grow to over 300,000 individual life histories in 2019.

In addition to harmonization activities a hackathon will be organized in 2019 to bring different parties together in order to update some of the data with information of more recent waves and explore new areas for the Harmonized Histories.



The new INED Headquarters, future home of the GGP-CDB

2.3 Contextual Database

The GGP produces and develops a Contextual Database (GGP-CDB) alongside the micro data collected via surveys. The GGP-CDB includes over 200 indicators which cover the past 40 years and can be used on its own or alongside the GGP micro-level data.

Moving and Renewing the CDB

In 2018, the GGP-CDB was moved from the Max Planck Demographic Research Institute in Rostock to INED in Paris. This was done to increase the sustainability of the GGP-CDB and place it under the leadership of Dr Arianna Caporali.

The GGP team at INED has tested several software programs to replace the current interface to further increase its sustainability. PX-Web has been chosen and implementation has begun. A consultation on all existing indicators has also been started amongst experts on contextual data.

In addition, the Multilinks database has been released via the GGP website. The dataset provides a set of indicators for social policies and legal frameworks in the 27 European Union member states as of 2011 as well as in Georgia, Norway and Russia for the years 2004 (GGS wave 1) and 2009 (GGS wave 2). The database includes information on four domains: a) Responsibilities to care for

children, b) Responsibilities to provide financial support for children, c) Responsibilities to care for people in need of care, d) Responsibilities to provide financial support for elderly people.

Looking ahead

PX-Web reproduces most of the functionalities of the previous platform. Some adaptations were necessary for metadata and geographic codes visualizations. In addition, a revision of the CDB content has started based on a consultation amongst experts, bibliographic research, and a review of the content of other databases. A report has been prepared with proposals on:

- a new simplified and updated list of indicators,
- a new data collection procedure, with a reduced amount of work for the national data collectors,
- a detailed timetable for data updates,
- a promotion strategy and a management and cost plan for the CDB, in view of GGP 2020

In 2019 this review will be completed and implemented ahead of the new round of data collection.



The past 12 months have seen the GGP Fieldwork scaled-up and diversified in a number of ways.

2.4 Fieldwork Update

The GGP is preparing a new round of data collection in 2020. As part of this, several forerunner countries have already begun their data collection using the new GGP centralized fieldwork model.

Centralized Fieldwork

The GGP now coordinates the fieldwork of the GGS centrally from the Hague. Face-to-Face interviews are transmitted directly back to the GGP Server and are processed automatically by the GGP central hub. This leads to a high degree of control, high data quality and fast processing of data.

The first country to conduct fieldwork using this model was Belarus in 2017 where around 10,000 interviews were conducted. The data were cleaned, processed and made rapidly available to researchers and policy makers.

Fieldwork in 2018

The past 12 months have seen the GGP Fieldwork scaled-up and diversified in a number of ways. Fieldwork in Kazakhstan resulted in data collection from over 12,500 respondents. The fieldwork conditions were challenging and complex but the fieldwork operators were exceptionally dedicated and ensured that data collection was a success

with a response rate of 78%. This was the first GGP questionnaire to be multilingual (Kazakh and Russian).

Fieldwork has also begun in Latvia where the target net sample is 2,000 respondents. In this fieldwork, live switching of the GGP questionnaire between Latvian and Russian has been enabled.

In addition to regular fieldwork, the GGP has been conducting pilots in several countries ahead of the new round of data collection. Pilots that are part of GGP-EPI are being conducted in Croatia, Germany and Portugal. These pilots are testing the feasibility of web interviews in the GGP.

Looking Ahead

In 2019, there are several pieces of fieldwork planned. Moldova will be the next country to join the GGP and will begin fieldwork in spring 2019.

In addition to this, several other piloting initiatives are currently being planned including a pilot in Buenos Aires which will be the first GGP data collection conducted outside the Western Hemisphere. These pilots are funded and developed by national funding and initiatives



2.5 National Preparations

The GGP is planning fieldwork in 2020. To prepare for this national teams all over the world are busy developing the technical planning for this data collection and securing the necessary political and financial support to ensure the project is a success.

Statements of Intent

The GGP has developed a 'Statement of Intent' for countries interested in fielding GGP 2020. The statement is designed to (a) allow countries to formalize their interest and ensure that the GGP becomes part of national agendas, and (b) allow the GGP community to see how many countries are interested in fielding the GGP in 2020. To date, 26 countries have signed the Statement and interest has been very high.

National Planning

Planning is under way in many countries. Here we provide a very brief overview of some of the many highlights in this area. The German national team at the Federal Institute for Population Research has submitted an application to finance the survey in Germany for seven years and expects to know the result of this application by the end of the year.

The Dutch national team at NIDI is part of a consortium called 'ODISSEI' which will be submitting an application for financing in June 2019 that would include funding for the new round of data collection. The result of this is expected in December 2019.

The national team in Uruguay is at an advanced stage in negotiations with a national consortium to finance the GGP. The Polish national team submitted a joint application with the Croatian and Estonian National teams for data collection in all three countries.

The Romanian national team has submitted an application for funding to the EEA grants committee. A consortium are also developing a co-financing proposal that would cover fieldwork in 7 South Eastern European Countries. Statistics Canada and the Hungarian Statistical Office are currently considering participation as part of the strategic planning.

Looking ahead

It is expected that up to 35 countries will sign the statement of intent by the end of 2019. It is the hope for the GGP that funding could be secured for 12 countries to participate in the new round of data collection by the end of 2019. Currently 3 countries have secured this funding.



GGP Regional Meeting in Zagreb

2.6 Technical preparations

The new round of data collection in the GGP requires the technical preparation of the infrastructure at the GGP Central Hub at NIDI in the Hague. This includes the development of new fieldwork guidelines, the deployment of the central questionnaire and the alignment of data technologies for use in fieldwork.

New Fieldwork Guidelines

As part of the GGP-EPI project, the GGP is publishing new fieldwork guidelines to instruct national teams during the new round of data collection. These guidelines are currently being finalized and will be made available by the end of the year. Notable amendments from the previous guidelines include the ability of national teams to restrict the sample to 5,000 respondents aged 18-49 and the requirement that national teams must use the Centralized Survey Instrument.

The New Questionnaire

As well as new fieldwork guidelines, the GGP has also revised and refined its questionnaire to ensure it is fit for purpose ahead of the new round of data collection in 2020. The new questionnaire was finalized and adopted by the end of 2018. Amendments include a significant reduction in the length of the questionnaire from an estimated completion time of 52 minutes down to 40 minutes. It also

includes a simplification and rationalization of routing procedures, the automation of ISO, ISCO and ISCED coding, and a refreshment of some questions to reflect changes in the scientific and policy making agenda.

Integrating Survey Technologies

The new centralized survey instrument is developed using Blaise Survey technology and is integrated with bespoke survey tools developed by CentERdata such as the Translation Management Tool and Blaise Survey Tools Suite. The GGP will also be integrating the use of Colectica® into its data processing to ensure a higher standard is set by its metadata and that all elements of the survey are recorded. The use of all these software tools is documented and integrated in the GGP Fieldwork Guidelines.

Looking Ahead

In 2019, the final element of fieldwork preparations will be concluded when the GGP-EPI fieldwork pilot produces its final report and recommendation on the use of computer-assisted web interviewing (CAWI) in the GGP. The preliminary findings of the experiments are promising but significant analysis needs to be conducted to ensure that web surveys produce data of sufficient quality for the GGP in 2020.



GGP Training in Kazakhstan

2.7 Training

Training events are held to support the user community, key stakeholders and policy makers. Training events in 2018 have ranged in focus from general awareness about the GGP survey instrument to technical guidance on data collection and analysis protocols.

Building Fieldwork Capacity

During 2018 several data collection campaigns have been fielded in 'new' GGP countries – that is countries that are fielding the GGP survey instrument for the first time.

Bespoke training courses have been provided by the Central Coordination Team in Belarus, Croatia, Kazakhstan, Moldova and Portugal.

Training topics covered during the tailor-made courses has included a general introduction to the GGP survey instrument for enumerators, panel survey interview techniques, and data synthesis and analysis methods.

GGP Teaching Dataset

In the course of 2018, the GGP started to develop a teaching dataset specifically designed for use in teaching. The dataset is cleaned and standardized for ease of use in class assignments and awaits final approval for release. Data have been redacted to

ensure that the data is defined as anonymous and made more freely available for use in training and teaching by the GGP community. The GGP aims to develop standard teaching and training modules using this dataset in order to introduce students to the core principles of demographic and sociological analysis.

Looking ahead

Training for key stakeholders from the domains of policy making, civil society and journalism are planned in collaboration with Population Europe in Germany and the UK. Hosted by the Embassies of the UK and Germany respectively, the content and proceedings of these trainings will be made available more broadly for other stakeholders interested in optimising their use of demographic data and research findings based upon GGP data sets for the purposes of policy formulation, advocacy and influencing as well as reporting in the mainstream media.

The GGP aims to release and build upon the GGP teaching dataset as a means of engaging with a new generation of researchers interested in family and life course dynamics.

3. Research & Innovations

3.1 Innovations in the GGP

The GGP is constantly looking for ways to innovate in its activities and produce higher quality data more efficiently. There are a number of initiatives that the GGP is currently pursuing that seek to develop and implement new methodologies within the GGP.

Social Media Experiment

As a follow-up to the push-to-web pilot that was conducted as part of GGP-EPI, the GGP will run a small experiment on the use of Social Media Platforms as a sampling frame and the potential for linkage with social media data sources. To further support this work, the GGP is working with Social Science One, a project coordinated by Professor Gary King at Harvard University. Social Science One is a collaborative agreement between Facebook and researchers that allows for access to Facebook data for social research purposes. The experiment will examine the feasibility of integrating such linkages in future GGP data collections.

Creating an Open Infrastructure

The Open Science Framework (OSF) is an open source software project that facilitates open collaboration in science research. It is a scholarly commons that aims to support

researchers through the research lifecycle and ensure that scientific standards are upheld through accountability and transparency.

The GGP is currently examining a number of ways to integrate the Open Science Framework within its work. To this end, the Coordination Team is conducting a preliminary scoping study to weigh the benefits of the following options:

- The publication of the source code for the GGP survey instrument via the SocArXiv which is run by the OSF
- The integration of persistent identifiers for researchers, data and publications in GGP work flows.
- The ability to pre-register GGP analysis with the GGP via the OSF pre-registration facility
- The requirement of GGP users to make all analytical code available via the OSF or an equivalent in order to foster transparency and replicability in the use of GGP data

Looking ahead

The GGP will seek to develop these activities and identify funding sources for these activities over the coming 12 months.



Addressing key challenges for cross-national data collection

SERISS provides a platform for surveys to collaborate in tackling two key challenges facing cross-national data collection – generating comparable representative samples of the target population and achieving equivalence of meaning across countries through high-quality translation.

3.2 SERISS

Synergies for Europe's Research Infrastructures in the Social Sciences ([SERISS](#)), aims to equip Europe's social science data infrastructures to play a major role in addressing the key societal challenges facing Europe today and ensure that national and European policymaking is built on a solid base of the highest-quality socio-economic evidence. SERISS is funded under H2020 grant agreement No 654221.

Synergies

The project brings together leading European Research Infrastructures in the social sciences – the European Social Survey (ESS ERIC), the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE ERIC) and Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives (CESSDA ERIC) – alongside organizations representing the Generations and Gender Programme (GGP), European Values Study (EVS) and the WageIndicator Survey. It aims to exploit potential synergies and overcome existing fragmentation across infrastructures in order to enhance the key role played by these infrastructures, which form the bedrock of empirical social science in Europe.

GGP Activities

The GGP has worked with the University of Tilburg to adapt the Translation Management

Tool (TMT) and Blaise Tools Suite which have been deployed under the GGP-EPI Pilot Survey in Croatia, Germany and Portugal and will be evaluated ahead of broader adoption.

The Wage Indicator Survey supported the GGP in the efficient processing of ISCO, the International Standard Classification of Occupations list of codes set by the International Labour Organisation. This will be integrated in new data collection efforts enabling automatic coding and improving accuracy of job classifications.

The GGP has been collaborating closely with ESS ERIC and SHARE ERIC on sampling access and quality in European Countries. Together they drafted a letter outlining the need for high quality sampling frames and this joint effort was vital in securing sample access for the GGP pilot in Croatia.

The GGP has also been leading work on the linking of administrative data and survey data under GDPR. This resulted in a successful event held in London in June and resulted in guidelines to be published in December.

Looking ahead

SERISS will conclude in August 2019 but before this the GGP will be hosting a Survey Experts network event in the Hague. This event will examine the cost structures of fieldwork and future challenges in this area.



3.3 Relationships with other Research Infrastructures

The GGP is also collaborating internationally and nationally with various research infrastructures. Through these collaborations, the GGP is helping to enhance the visibility and sustainability of social science research infrastructures, but also to build synergies to advance knowledge in demographic processes and survey methodology.

The European Cohort Development Project (ECDP)

Funded by a Horizon 2020 Design Study grant, ECDP aims at building a research infrastructure that will be collecting comparative longitudinal survey data on child and young adult well-being over the next 25 years.

The GGP is collaborating with ECDP and has an advisory role in the Work Packages related with Survey Design and Governance. In addition, GGP serves as a link with other Europe-wide social science survey data services to promote an integrated community of population and family research and innovation.

Specifically, the GGP has provided guidance and advice on the ECDP's forthcoming ESFRI application and advised on the development

of the Infrastructure. The GGP attended ECDP project meetings in Manchester, Zagreb, Jyväskylä, and Barcelona. The project Director, Gary Pollock visited NIDI in June 2018 to learn about how the GGP works and its preparations for data collection in 2021.

National-level Synergies

The landscape of social science research infrastructures is highly fragmented at the national level, resulting in some inefficiencies and missed opportunities for collaboration. In an attempt at correcting this situation, the GGP has joined forces with other research infrastructures in some countries. This is for example the case in the Netherlands, with ODISSEI, which brings together GGP, SHARE, ESS, and EVS among others. In France, PROGEDO, has used a similar approach. The GGP is currently busy promoting this collaborative model in other countries including Poland.



 A large white cloud with the letters 'EOSC' in bold blue font, surrounded by various circular icons representing different research fields like film, books, and technology, all connected by lines on a dark blue background.

EOSC

3.4 SSHOC

The European Commission announced on 14 March 2018 the adoption of the Roadmap for implementing the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC). The GGP is involved with EOSC through our collaboration with the Social Sciences and Humanities Open Cloud (SSHOC) initiative.

EOSC

The European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) is a major initiative of the European Commission. The idea of EOSC took shape in 2015, as a vision of the European Commission of a large infrastructure to support and develop open science and open innovation in Europe and beyond.

The EOSC is projected to become a reality by 2020 and will be Europe's virtual environment for all researchers to store, manage, analyze and re-use data for research, innovation and educational purposes. To support the development of EOSC, the commission has allocated over €300 million. This funding also includes funds for the 6 scientific domains of ESFRI to integrate existing research infrastructures with the EOSC. For the social sciences and humanities, the project aimed at achieving this is called SSHOC.

SSHOC

The SSHOC project is financed through the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme. The

goal of the project is to support further synergies between and among existing European Research Infrastructures in the domains of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) as well as with the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC). These efforts will result in better services and alignment with the needs of researchers within the SSH-domain. The project's duration is 40 months and starts on 1 January 2019.

Looking ahead

In SSHOC the GGP will be leading two key activities. Firstly the GGP will be working closely with CLARIN which is the European Linguistic Infrastructure. In this collaboration they will be testing the recording of interviews in order to collect and analyse open ended questions. The GGP will provide sampling expertise and the survey infrastructure and CLARIN will advise on question design and will conduct natural language processing analysis on the resulting. This activity focuses on the interaction of survey and linguistic tools within EOSC.

The second activity will be the development of policy coding algorithms looking at family policies that seek to link the contextual data in the GGP-CDB with the micro-data collected and allow for policy experiments within the GGP design. These policy algorithms will then be made available via the EOSC.

4. Dissemination & Engagement

4.1 Pathways to Impact

The GGP provides cross-nationally comparative data that allow for investigating mechanisms underlying demographic processes and social changes. Strategic dissemination and engagement activities promote the uptake and use of GGP data with the aim of contributing to research, policy and public discourse.

Contributions to Research

In 2018 GGP engaged directly with the international research community in various ways. At the 2018 International Conference for Research Infrastructures in Vienna, GGP Director Anne H. Gauthier [presented](#) the GGP's approach to delivering societal value as a social science research infrastructure. The publication of the [GGS Study Profile](#) in The Longitudinal and Life Course Studies Journal offers insight into how the GGS is designed and managed to ensure ongoing open access to high quality panel survey data. GGP-based research findings, published regularly in high-impact journals, are recorded in our online [bibliography](#).

Contributions to Policy

Analyses based on GGP data bring crucial insights for designing policy measures that support families and individuals across the life

course. In [The Power of Choice](#), UNFPA's 2018 State of the World Population Report, six GGP-based research articles were cited. Another example of effective engagement was the uptake of the concept of 'the rush hour of life' by the Netherlands Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment in their 2019-2022 *Kennis Agenda* (Knowledge Agenda) following the participation of ministerial representatives in [the June 2018 Expert Meeting](#) organised by the GGP and co-hosted by NIDI and the University of Groningen.

Contributions to Public Discourse

In 2018, 192 people from 35 countries participated in GGP's regional meetings, training and awareness events and expert meetings. Coordinated with national partners, these events served to inform the GGP about changing trends and societal challenges being observed while strengthening collaboration with national teams as we work jointly to identify funding opportunities for fielding the forthcoming 202 round of data collection.



4.2 Stakeholder Engagement

The GGP delivers data to the scientific community with the aim of informing and shaping policy. This is not an organic process and the GGP pursues several lines of dissemination and engagement activities to ensure relevance and impact in the domains of research and policy making.

Engaging Policy Makers

Public events, social media campaigns and tailored communication materials are part of the GGP's ongoing effort to connect researchers, policy makers and civil society actors with the resources offered by GGP in order to enable them to address pressing societal questions.

Over the course of 2018, a number of key national and international stakeholder events took place. These included a [Stakeholder Seminar for Policy Makers](#) organized by Population Europe and hosted by Members of the European Parliament in Brussels. This was attended by a diverse range of key stakeholders and raised interest in the GGP at the European level.

The GGP also created a public engagement [animation](#) which highlighted the role that GGP data has in informing government policy. This video can be viewed on the GGP website and summarizes the societal value of the GGP in just 2 minutes.

The GGP Director was also an invited speaker at the [UNECE IPCD +25 conference](#) and the [ICRI 2018 International Conference on Research Infrastructures](#).

National Events

As well as many international events, the national teams of the GGP have engaged policy makers extensively. Teams in Belarus, Croatia, Kazakhstan and Moldova have hosted events aimed at engaging policy makers in discussions about the use of GGP data and building policies out of its findings.

In The Netherlands, the GGP organized an event entitled '[The Rush of Hour of Life](#)' which was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Education, Culture & Science and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment. The discussion at the event focused on the need for better data detailing the increasing complexity of life course trajectories of individuals in the Netherlands today.

Looking Ahead

Over the next 12 months, the GGP will continue to engage policy makers in the GGP. Specifically, Population Europe is preparing the publication of two discussion papers which seek to engage a wider audience in GGP research.

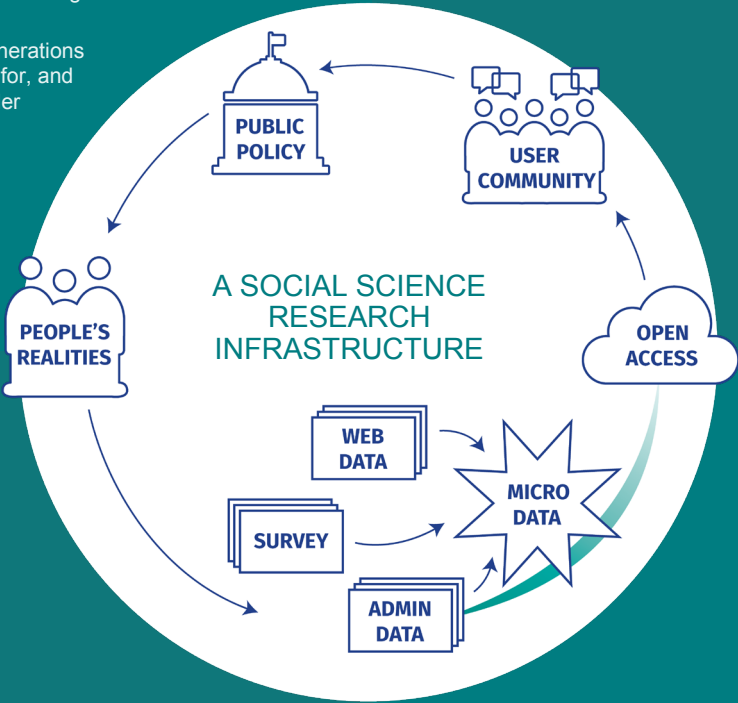
Societal and scientific questions

- How do people organize their lives and families in Europe and elsewhere?
- How do policies impact their family decisions?
- What helps or hinder younger people in their transition into adulthood?
- Are social disadvantages transmitted across generations?
- How are individuals combining work and family responsibilities?
- Why are young people having fewer children?
- How are the older generations supported and cared for, and which support are older people providing themselves?

Knowledge transfer

Insights gained from the GGP data are shared with the academic community and made available to a range of stakeholders.

This in turn can inform public discourse and policy-making processes addressing pressing societal challenges.



Needs for empirical evidence

To answer these questions, the GGP collects, combines, harmonizes and curates micro-level data on family dynamics and life trajectories through retrospective and prospective survey questions.

GGP products

- The GGP datasets are openly available to registered users through the following products:
- Cross-nationally harmonized micro-level data including fertility and partnership histories
 - Contextual database
 - Online browsing of data and codebook
 - Micro-data access for registered users

4.3 Uptake and Use in Research

To understand the scientific impact of the infrastructure, the GGP regularly assesses the usage of the data and various measures of scientific output. This allows the GGP to react to the needs and demands of its users and refine the infrastructure to reflect these.

Usage Analysis

As of October 2018, the total number of unique users has reached 4,044. This is a 11% over the past 12 months. The number of data downloads has increased by 35%, to 432 downloads per month.

The data documentation for the GGP data is currently hosted on Nesstar. The number of Nesstar sessions from new users has reached 11,153 which is a 20% increase on 2017. The number of sessions from returning visitors has reached 8,867, a 22% increase since 2017. The mean number of sessions per month has increased from 255 to 328 since 2017. The sessions come from 123 different countries.

Since entry into force of the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) from 25 May 2018, the GGP no longer uses the Google Analytics counter of Nesstar visits. A new analytics tool called MATOMO has been adopted which is more respectful of users' privacy and recommended by French

National Commission for Data Protection and Liberties (CNIL).

Bibliography

The [GGP bibliography](#) now has 1,236 entries. In the last year there have been a number of notable GGP publications featured in high impact scientific journals including

- *Demographic Research*
- *European Journal of Population*
- *European Sociological Review*
- *Longitudinal and Life Course Studies*
- *Population Research and Policy Review*
- *Populations, Space and Place*
- *Work, Employment and Society*

Looking ahead

To facilitate wider and more intensive usage of the data, the GGP is streamlining the data access procedures and making a GGP teaching dataset available. Ahead of the GGP User Conference in 2019, the GGP aims to engage new users and increase interest in the new round of data collection. The aim is to increase the number of GGP users to 4,500.

Discussion Paper

No. 10

December 2018



Population Europe

THE NETWORK OF EUROPE'S LEADING
DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH CENTRES

GGP Discussion Paper: Gender (In)Equality over the Life Course

4.4 Engagement with Wider Society

The GGP contributes to civil society and public discourse about changing demographic patterns through a range of dissemination and engagement activities.

Expanding Networks

In May a [webinar](#) hosted by Population Europe welcomed over 50 international participants interested to learn about the plans for the GGP2020 round of data collection. This was vital for reaching out to individuals who are generally unable to attend GGP events and has led to an increasing globalization in the GGP community.

The GGP team has coordinated and held [Regional Meetings](#) in Asia, Latin America, Northern and South-Eastern Europe to garner new interest in fielding the survey, mobilize national teams and seek collaborative funding opportunities for the GGP2020 survey. These meetings have enabled the GGP team to address the diverse challenges that various regions face in fielding the GGP.

The GGP team installed teleconferencing facilities at NIDI to ensure that they can quickly and easily communicate with fieldwork teams from all over the world.

Training events have also featured as a key activity for growing awareness and use of GGP resources by social and political stakeholders. In addition to engagement with

social and policy making stakeholders, building skills among journalists to understand and use GGP datasets and research in their reporting.

Enhanced Public Visibility

2018 has been a year of significant growth in the dissemination activities of the GGP. The number of unique site visits to the GGP website has doubled from around 4,000 per month in 2017 to around 8,000 per month in 2018.

Twitter usage and engagement has also significantly increased with the number of organic impressions rising by 50% from 20,000 per month to 30,000 per month in 2018.

The GGP has also had a presence at many international conferences in the last 12 months including the IUSSP, APAC, ALAP and EPC.

Looking Ahead

In 2019 these efforts will continue and will culminate in the GGP User Conference to be held in Paris at the end of the year. This conference will be hosted by INED and will serve as a closing conference for GGP-EPI and a launch event for the new round of data collection.

Work Plan for 2019

- Complete the GGP ESFRI application
- Implement a new GGP data agreement
- Release the GGP Training Dataset
- Host the first Harmonized Histories Hackathon
- Add Canada and the Netherlands to the Harmonized Dataset
- Release data from Latvia and Kazakhstan
- Complete Fieldwork in Moldova
- Publish the report on the GGP-EPI Fieldwork Pilot
- Increase the number of GGP Users to 4,500
- Increase the GGP bibliography to 2,000 publications
- Ensure a GGP presence at major conferences including ESA and ESRA
- Host the GGP User Conference at INED in Paris
- 35 countries have sign the GGP Statement of Intent
- Secure the financing for fieldwork in 10 countries for GGP 2020
- Host the GGP Stakeholder training in Berlin and London
- Publish two GGP Discussion Papers
- Secure further financing for GGP innovations
- Host SERISS Survey Expert Network meeting on fieldwork costs in May 2019
- Establish long term collaboration with the EuroCohort Study
- Begin the GGP SSHOC Experiment on audio questions
- Begin the coding of the GGP Policy Algorithm as part of SSHOC

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