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QuantMig

Introduction
QuantMig Migration Data Inventory

photo: iStockphoto.com/Guenter Guni

The QuantMig project
(www.quantmig.eu)

- **Aim:** To produce comprehensive, multi-perspective and robust **quantitative** migration scenarios to support EU migration policy

- **Approach:** Developments in in conceptualising, explaining, estimating and predicting migration

- **Key themes: complexity and uncertainty**

QuantMig

```
                    Migration processes:
                    who, where, why, how
                             |
                             v
  Complexity                                  Migration
      \                                       features
       \              Migration               /
        --->          scenarios &        <---
                      simulations
       /                  |                   \
      /                   |                    \
  Uncertainty             v                  Data and
                    Migration impacts:       information
                    Policy and society
```
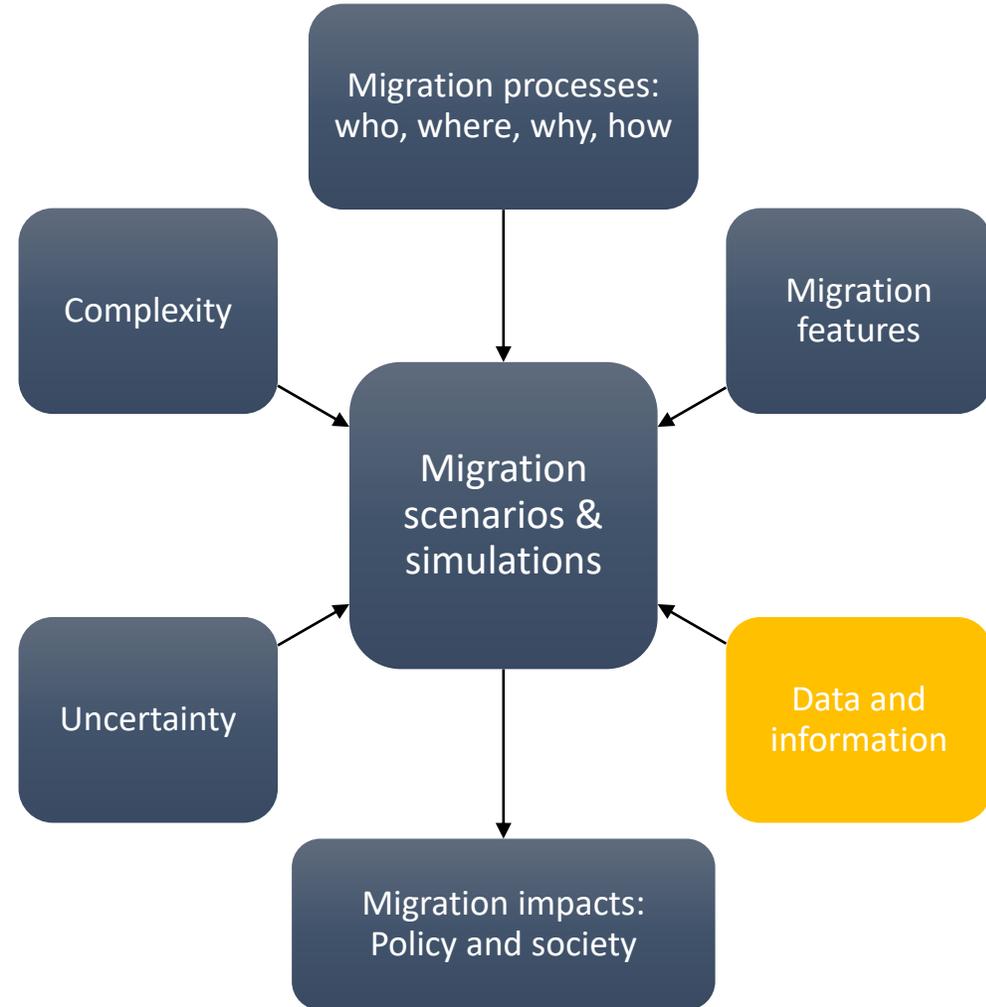
Why a migration data inventory?

- Increasing demand of researchers and policymakers alike to **improve the evidence base** on current migration situations, but also of migration foresights
  - Cf. Global Compact for Migration (Goal 1)

- For historic, contemporary and predictive migration modelling, **'good' migration data** on migration flows and migrant stocks is a key input.

- What is 'good' migration data?
  - It exists (=collected)
  - It is accurate (=error-free)
  - It is reliable (=consistent)
  - It is comprehensive (=free of missings)
  - It is comparable (=harmonised)
  - It is purposeful

- Is 'good' migration data all that we need?
  - No.
  - We need (a) good theory, (b) good models, (c) and good data (cf. QuantMig D1.1, Bijak/Czaika 2020)

Objectives of the QuantMig migration data inventory

- Overview: what migration data is out there?
  - This meta-database is constructed to offer users a **structured overview and access to the data sources** that can help understand, explain and predict migration to, from and within the EU.

- User-friendliness
  - This meta-database is explicitly taking a **user's perspective** in compiling and assessing the different data sources. Its purpose is not only to catalogue existing datasets on migration to, from and within the EU, but also to **provide key information on each dataset** that may be relevant for the user.

- Quality assessment
  - We aim to strike a **balance between relevance, comprehensiveness, and user-friendliness**. This inventory also includes information on different **quality criteria**, which can help users to identify the appropriate datasets.

QuantMig Migration Data Inventory

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Overview

- Selection criteria

- Search strategy

- What characteristics of the datasets we show

- Quality assessment

- Website demonstration

- Future

Selection criteria

- Migration to and within EU – cross-national
- Stock/flow, quantitative data, including surveys
- Country level
- Not older than 2000
- Accessible
- Not digital trace/social media data

- What is a dataset?
- Treat each table in Eurostat, OECD, UN etc. as unique dataset
- Unless dataset clearly subset of other dataset

Search Strategy

- Existing metadatabases:
  - KCMD data catalogue
  - Ethmig survey registry
  - REMINDER
  - PROMINSTAT
  - IOM GMDAC's Global Migration Data Portal
  - Migration Research Hub (Crossmigration)
- Big dataproviders Eurostat, OECD, World Bank, UNCHR etc.
- Checking projects funded by EU for data
- Consulted experts

Overview of key characteristics (1)

- Name, provider, source

- Data characteristics
  - Type of data – register, census, survey etc.
  - Design of data – cross-sectional, longitudinal etc.
  - Stock or Flow
  - Micro or macro data

- Migrant characteristics and definitions
  - Citizenship, country of birth, previous/next residence
  - Migrant type – labor, refugee, student etc.
  - Details on migration definition (time)

Overview of key characteristics (2)

- Coverage (geographical and temporal)
    - Origin and destination countries
    - Aggregation level (country, region)
    - Intra-EU
    - Years (data collection)
    - Update status
- Demographic characteristics
    - Sex
    - Age
    - Education
    - Labour/occupational status

Quality Assessment

- Aim: provide overview of relative strenghths and weaknesses
- NOT ranking datasets from best to worst
- Different dimensions
- Acknowledge comparing accross different types of data is difficult
- User can decide what matters more

Quality Assessment dimensions

- *Geographic coverage* – origin and destination countries

- *Migrant characteristics* – 1 or more indicators: citizenship, previous/next residence, country of birth

- *Target type* – distinction in type of migrant, specific, not specified

- *Completeness* – register: origin-destination cell missings;

  crossnational surveys: country missing; more weight to recent data!

- *Timeliness* – time between collection and publication and how recent data is

Overview Quality Assessment

Quality assessment indicator	High score	Medium score	Low score
Q1 Geographical coverage	>=100 origin/destination countries	>10 & <100 origin/destination countries	<=10 origin/destination countries
Q2 Migrant characteristics	3 indicators	2 indicators	1 indicator
Q3 Completeness	<10% missing	>10% & <33.3% missing	>33.3% missing
Q4 Target type	*Multiple migration types*	*One specific migrant type*	*Not specified*
Q5 Timeliness	T	T − 1	T − 2 or earlier

Browsable website version

- Can search through data inventory

- Links to data, documentation, reports

- Accessibility: open access, apply for access, or no (easy) access

- Can download selected search results!

www.quantmig.eu/data_inventory

Future

- Continue to update

- Beyond QuantMig

- Join forces - MPIDR Human migration database

- Move away from data from national statistical offices?

- More complete data from big data providers, combining data tables?

- Want to know your thoughts!

The people behind the data inventory

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Mathias Czaika

Helga de Valk

Ian Waldock

Jason Sadler

QuantMig

Check out the data inventory!

Website: www.quantmig.eu/data_inventory