



# Session 4

## General methodological issues

# 1. Norway: harmonized core variable

- Impressive access to data
- Far reaching integration of social, business, macroeconomic and property information – geocoded
- Gives possibility of being explorative
- A dream for statisticians!...But...”Description of the administrative reality only”.

## 1. Norway, cont

- The link between the social variables and some of the business variables and in particular the National accounts variables?
- Why is health data so sensitive? They seem to be of an administrative character.

## 2. Sweden

- Again impressive access to register data
- National accounts as a co-ordinating and quality framework
- Logical and structured approach to types of registers and the uses of them
- Clear identification of the differences between registers on persons to registers on businesses - example births and deaths

## 2. Sweden, cont

- Effects on coverage errors clearly identified
- A quality approach to registers
- The role of enterprise groups and multinational groups? Business profiling?

## 3. Spain

- Preconditions are very different between MS - Not easy to access complete register information
- In Spain, be a good survey statistician
- Annual updates - not only census years
- Historical agreement between INE and Tax authorities
- Auxiliary information - better targeted surveys
- Do you see any possibility to strengthen your legal rights to administrative data?

## 4. Italy

- Impressive, huge work
- Agriculture is different - but how different?
  - Other administrative sources
  - Common with temporary workers
- Holder - Holdings - Parcels
- Farm register – Business register -Local KAU

## 5. Eurostat

- Half of EU MS have a common identifier in the farm register and the business register
- Half of EU MS have systems for automatic update of their farm register from other links

## 6. The Netherlands

- Importance of quality
- Must find ways to control quality of registers
- Quality reporting is also a must

# Cross-cutting issues

- Data warehouse approach to statistics – Yes - micro-data linking - "steady states"
- Is there enough statistical research in register based approaches ? Is there enough training?
- Have statisticians the best legal rights to
  - Get access
  - Verify quality
  - Can EU legislation help?
- What do we give up? Will statisticians give only parts of the answer? Will surveys suffer? Design phase important.

## Cross-cutting issues - business statistics

- Business statistics – many Member States have projects to modernise data collection for business
- Burden on businesses - take it serious but not overdo
- Globalisation – the national picture is insufficient
- Other publicly available data?
- Sensitivity
- Confidentiality - will more business data be released?