Setting up a statistical register of individuals and dwellings in France

Concertation and ethical issues









01 THE FRENCH CONTEXT



No population register in France, neither shared personal ID for administrative purposes.

The project of shared ID was abandoned in 1974, after a big polemic, some people still remember...

We have to improve our capacity to collect, process and link administrative data for statistical purposes



A statistical register of individuals and dwellings, (Résil), to be deployed in 2025, in order to

- Produce sampling frames more complete
- Produce inputs for census processes
- Facilitate records linkages and quality assessments
- Harmonize tools for exploitation of administrative data

ETHICAL AND LEGAL ISSUES, 02 CONCERTATION



STRONG NEED FOR CONCERTATION

- because ethical questions are important and need an external exchange of views
- it helps us to « customize » the project, regarding ethical principles
- and to ensure that users and civil society understand and support the project
 - explain the finalities of the statistical register
 - be transparent about the use and the linkage of administrative data for statistical purposes (people are not aware of that)
 - reassure on the respect of data confidentiality, IT security and barriers/protections against misuses



MEETING ON INDIVIDUAL DATA MATCHING, (JANUARY 2022)

300 participants, beyond statisticians and users effort of transparency and pedagogy highly appreciated but a clear need to go further

SETTING UP A CONCERTATION GROUP (MAY-OCTOBER 2022)

Citizen representatives and qualified persons, "beyond our usual circles"

- Human Rights League, think tanks about data protection
- Ethicians, Jurists
- Journalists
- Member of Parliament, trade unions
- Researcher using statistical data, researcher on dataprotection

CONCERTATION ASPECTS: FACTS, FEARS AND RISKS

ON THE CONTEXT « HOW DOES INSEE WORK »: PEOPLE DON'T REALLY KNOW...

Beyond usual partners, no awareness of our processes, the sources of data, our ways of security...

ON RESIL

- Risk of data leakage
- Risk of misuses (for tracking people or for an administrative use regarding individuals, especially for controls)

ON RECORDS LINKAGES AND PRODUCING NEW DATA (NOT ONLY RESIL)

- Risks regarding excessive intrusion into personnal privacy
- Production of granular statistics that would allow the stigmatisation of social groups
- Risk of encouraging an excessive "governance by numbers".



CONCERTATION ASPECTS: GROUP'S OPINION

CONFIDENCE IN OUR ABILITY TO MANAGE RESIL WITH FULL RESPECT OF LAW AND GOOD PRACTISES, BUT

- the subject (exhaustive directories and matching)
- the context (increased vigilance on the use of personal data, expectation of transparency... opinion is quickly "inflammatory" on certain subjects)
- some possible temptations to misuse

IMPOSE TO DEFINE A FRAMEWORK

- set some operating rules,
- set limits (especially regarding the use of some datasets 3 of them received an unfavorable opinion),
- Involve external institutes to reinforce the credibility of the garanties offered: national data authority, National Cybersecurity Agency, CNIS (concertation on official statistics), National Statistical Authority,
- be fully transparent and involve citizens more than usually



03

FOLLOW_UP AND FEEDBACK



OUR DECISIONS, IN LINE WITH THE PRECONISATIONS

NO USE OF SOURCES WITH AN UNFAVOURABLE OPINION OF THE GROUP

DEVELOP AN ACTIVE COMMUNICATION ON RESIL, THE USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SOURCES AND LINKAGE

BEYOND OPPORTUNITY, STRENGTHEN THE ETHICAL DIMENSION (NECESSITY AND PROPORTIONALITY)

- -go beyond the point of view of users: "we want more and more statistics"
- -challenge our projects, from the point of view of the citizens (principle of proportionnality, data protection) "you work with my personnal data"

CHALLENGING (FOR US AND OUR PARTNERS IN CONCERTATION)

- For us, substantial effort to find partners, to explain Resil, and more generally, the way officials statistics are produced
- a major effort from the members of the group in order to fully understand this and formalise their points of view
- some unexpected questions and reactions, about what seems obvious to us
 BUT VERY USEFUL
- a progress in our capacity of communication about the project, and about our practises in general
- some concrete recommendations about the project
- an explicit and published external point of view; a first step for further concertation





RELEVANT **IMPARTIAL TRANSPARENT** INDÉPENDANT CONFIDENTIALITY **COLLABORATIVE**

With this concertation, we have practised a great deal of transparency,

in a collaborative way,

and communicated (to share the context, justify and reassure) about the 4 other values

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Thanks for your attention

Some questions?

