

EUROSTUDENT III 2005-2008

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☆☆☆

The EUROSTUDENT project: Organisation, results, experiences

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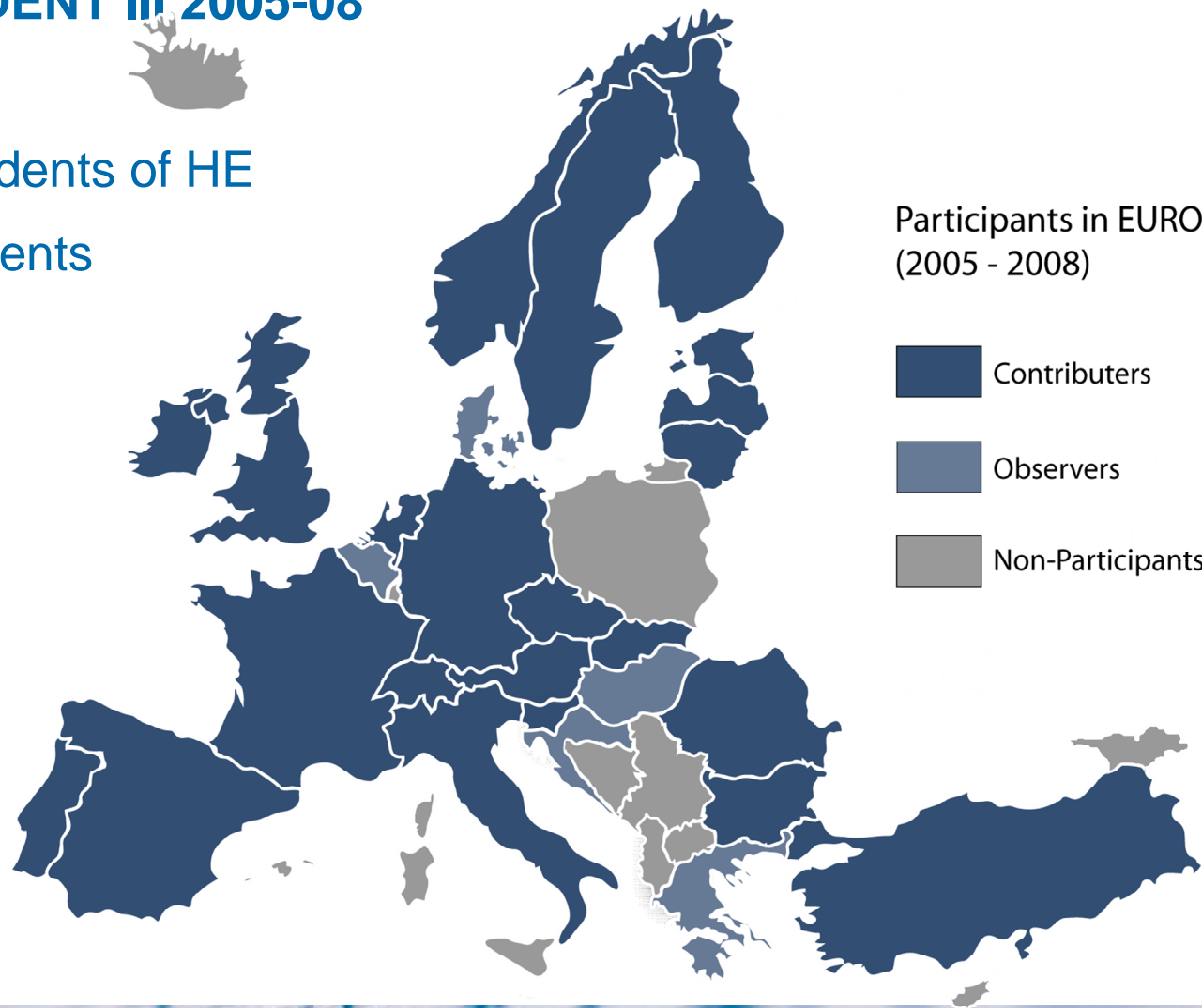
1. Participants and stakeholders of EUROSTUDENT

EUROSTUDENT III 2005-08

24 countries

National students of HE

c. 120k students



1. Participants and stakeholders of EUROSTUDENT

List of participants Eurostudent III 2005-08

§ Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Germany, England/Wales, Estonia, Spain, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Sweden, Slovenia, Slovakia, Turkey.

EUROSTUDENT IV 2008-11

§ Indicated participation in Eurostudent IV

Goal: 25 or more participating countries

So far many countries have confirmed to participate in fourth round of the project.

1. Participants and stakeholders of EUROSTUDENT

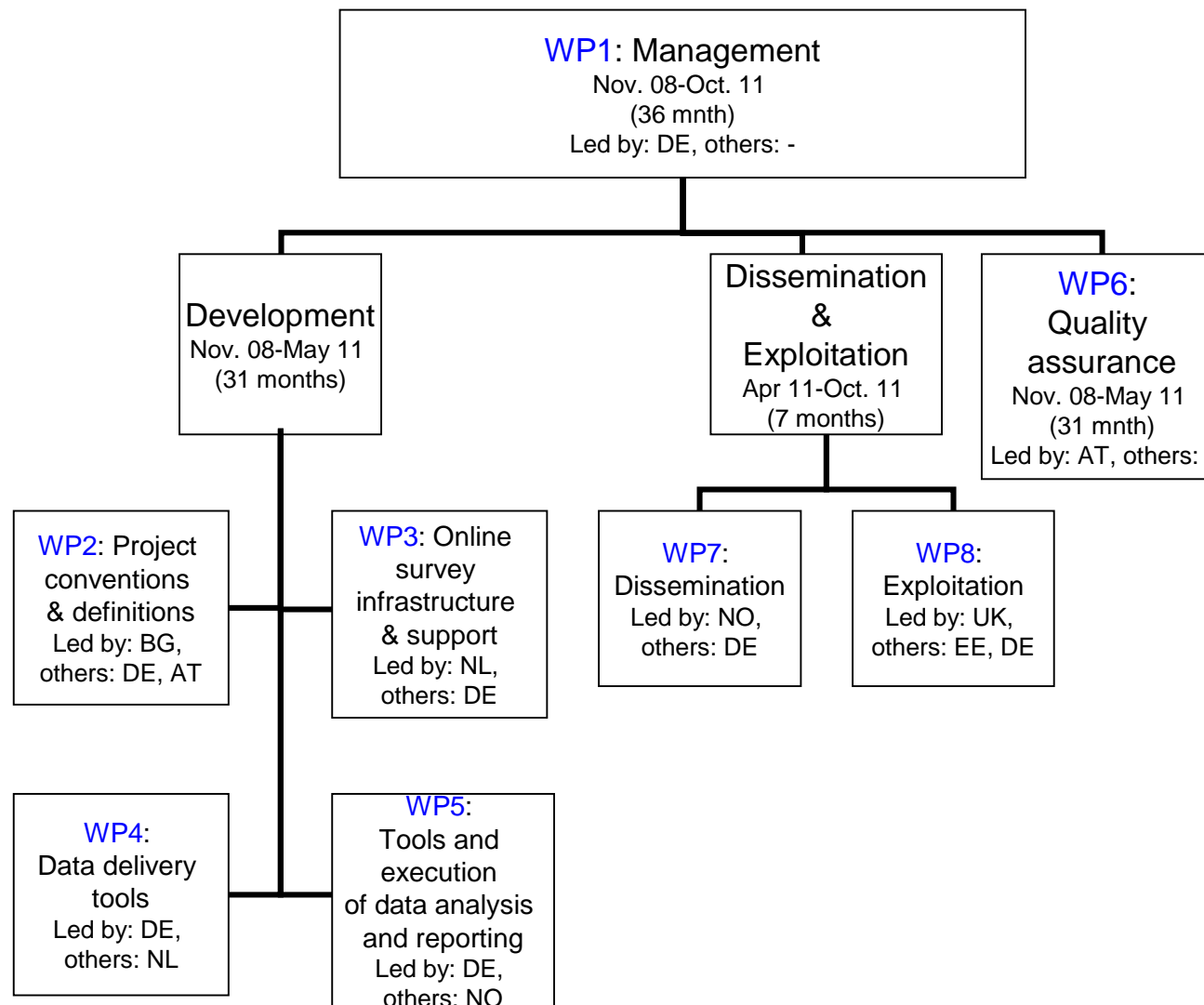
EUROSTUDENT III

Network



1. Participants and stakeholders of EUROSTUDENT

- E:IV: Organised on the basis of shared responsibility
- Central team is made up of seven member organisations; each of these partners is assigned specific tasks
- Work programme has been divided up into 8 work packages



Schedule of EUROSTUDENT IV

Schedule

Nov 08 – Dec 09	Survey preparation
Apr 09 – May 10	Data collection
Apr 10 – Sept 10	Data delivery, central checks and cleaning
Oct 10 – Sept 11	Data analysis and reporting

2. The Questionnaire: Core questions

Common core Questionnaire

- § Set of questions developed by participating countries
- § Basis for the used indicators
- § Reform of the questionnaire for EUROSTUDENT IV
- § Manual for designing the questionnaire available end of May

2. The Questionnaire: National adaptation

Shorter/ longer questionnaire

- § Shorter questionnaire is possible, but a minimum of indicators must be delivered to participate in EUROSTUDENT IV
- § Longer questionnaire is possible anyhow
Many examples of additional national questions (“student monitor”)

Different wording of questions

- § Different wording of questions or different design of questions to be avoided

3. Online Surveys: Pros, Cons

Contra

- Answers more superficial/ ad hoc (less data quality?)

Pros

- Cheap
- Individualized, dynamic questionnaires (better data quality)
- Immediate availability of data
- Can be quite long, if done properly

3. Online Surveys: Open

“Open questionnaire” – public website

- + Anonymous
 - Not possible to interrupt answering
 - No control who participates
 - No control how often a person participates
- è Not an option

3. Online Surveys: Protected

Password protected survey

- ? How to deliver the passwords ?
- ? Anonymity ? Technically vs trustfully?
- + Possible to interrupt answering
- + Control “who” participates (random sample)
- + Control how often a person participates
- + Different versions of questionnaire by password

- è Desirable option

3. Online Surveys: Passwords by post

Password delivered by snail mail

- Expensive
- “Individualization” of questionnaire by target group even more \$
- Change of media necessary (lower return rate)
- If anonymous, reminder difficult
- + Anonymity can be ensured trustfully
- + Further information can be provided (folder)
- + Postal address not case sensitive

3. Online Surveys: Passwords by E-Mail

Password delivered by E-Mail

- Reliance on a quickly changing medium, case sensitive
- Only very, very short E-Mails will be read
- Maybe technically anonymous, but trustfully?
- ? E-Mails, esp. private E-Mails available ?
- ? Return rate depends mostly on quality of E-Mails
- ? Inflation of online surveys advertised by E-Mail ?
- + Cheap
- + Targeted reminders possible
- + Immediate control of access by groups
- + Easy “individualization”

3. Online Surveys: How to?

Online Surveys

- Design and Layout very important
- Interactive, dynamic and “personalized” questionnaire:
As more suited to individual situations, as less drop-outs
- Make it as easy as possible for respondents
(use checks carefully, error messages, complicated questions, possibility to go back, to interrupt, to ignore checks...)

Examples

- Name of institution, budget by source
- Interactivity Austrian survey:
HE sector, Name of institution, study programme, level of programme (BA, MA, PhD)

3. Excurs: Representativity

Representativity

- There is nothing like representativity in statistics !
- A high return rate does not per se mean better representativity !

Important

- Random sample, everybody has same chances
- Biased return
 - by known facts (gender, age, institution...) è Weighting
 - by unknown facts (working hours, children, satisfaction...) è Non Response Analysis (NRA)
- Only a NRA can indicate your representativity

4. Execution and reception of the project

Execution

- § Common international survey based on a standardised questionnaire
- § Different survey methods

	Online survey	Face-to-face interview	Paper and pencil	Telephone interview
Countries	AT, BG, CH, CZ, EE, FI, IE, LV, NL, RO, SI, TR	ES, E/W, LT, NO, PT, SCO, SK	DE, FR, SE	IT
Total	12	7	3	1

- § Dutch survey tool used by some countries for hosting data

4. Execution and reception of the project

Execution

§ Execution problems

- different sample size
- different dates for interviews
- plain manual for translating questionnaire
- sharp rise in number of participating countries
- Eurostudent questionnaire as add-on to national survey

4. Execution and reception of the project

Reception

§ Reception by users of EUROSTUDENT data

- Bologna Process (Communiqués, BFUG)
- OECD (Education at a Glance)
- BMBF, Germany (Federal Ministry of Education and Research)
- Media
- Student organisations
- Universities
- Political parties
- Researchers

4. Execution and reception of the project

Reception

§ Dissemination of Eurostudent data

Examples:

- BFUG report (joint report of Eurostat and Eurostudent)
- Germany: several articles in newspapers and magazines, translation of the full report into German, German national report on Bologna reforms, German national report on education
- Switzerland: The Swiss Survey on Social and economic conditions of Student Life
- Eurostudent website
- conferences.....