

# Perspectives for research data on young academics and early career researchers

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# Situation

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## Demand for data

Multitude of studies but lack of representative and longitudinal data on the situation of young academics, careers of researchers and PhD-holders

- Similar questions and topics are placed in several surveys

→ Benefit of this data would increase with coordination

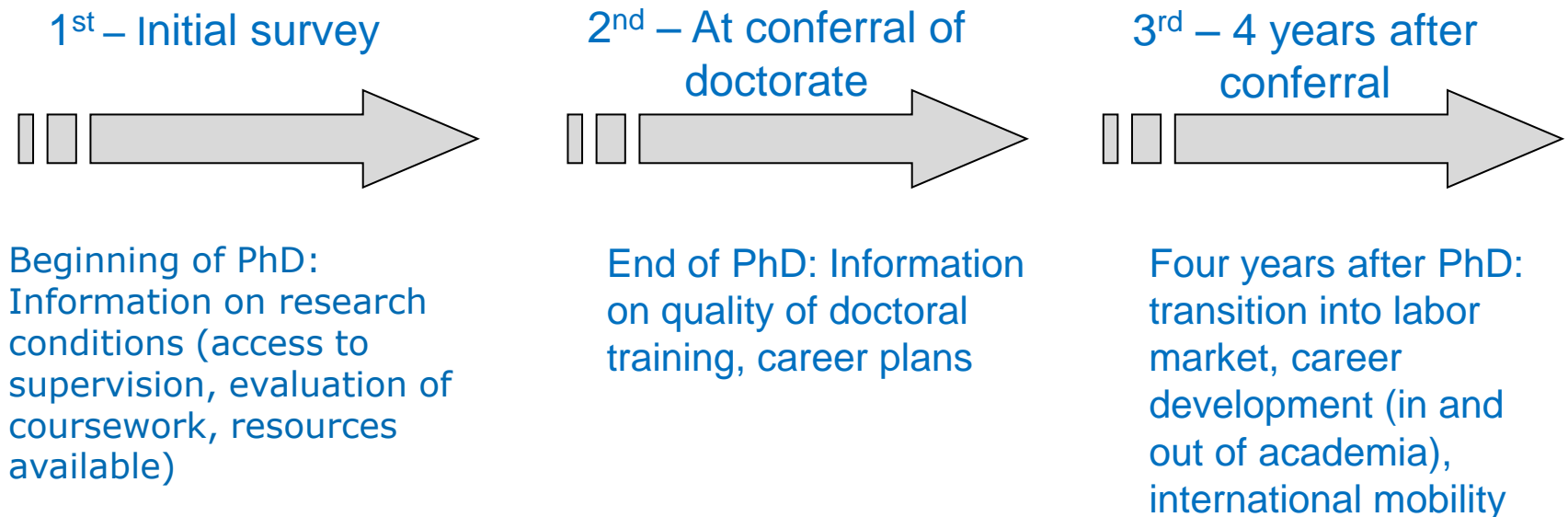
## Expertise and data inquiry at DZHW

- WiNbus (since 2008)
- ProFile – Doctorate candidates Panel (since 2009)
- “Karrieren Promovierter” Panel of PhD-holders (since 2014)
- Graduate surveys

# ProFile

## Research design

- Long-term cooperation with HEIs + other stakeholders for access to contact data
- Current (cluster) sample: 8 HEIs, 3 graduate schools, 3 foundations
- Multi cohort online panel survey
- 3 main survey + intermediates

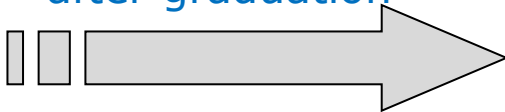


# Panel of PhD-holders

## Research design

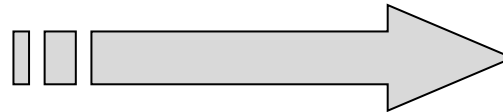
- Complete survey of all PhD-holders obtaining their degree in 2014
- Survey with two waves (end of 2014/beginning of 2015 & spring 2016)
- Further waves planned

1<sup>st</sup> – Survey shortly  
after graduation



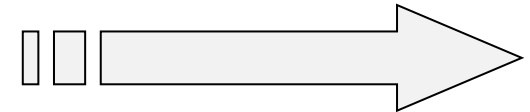
End of PhD: Information on conditions of research, learning environments, scientific activities, aspirations, networks, financing, practical experiences

2<sup>nd</sup> – One year after



One year after PhD: Information on occupational development, scientific activities, aims in life, further qualification

Future waves taking  
place every single year



Every single (further) year after PhD: Information on occupational career and life course, scientific activities, ...

# Vision

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## **Panel-study about young academics and early career researchers in Germany**

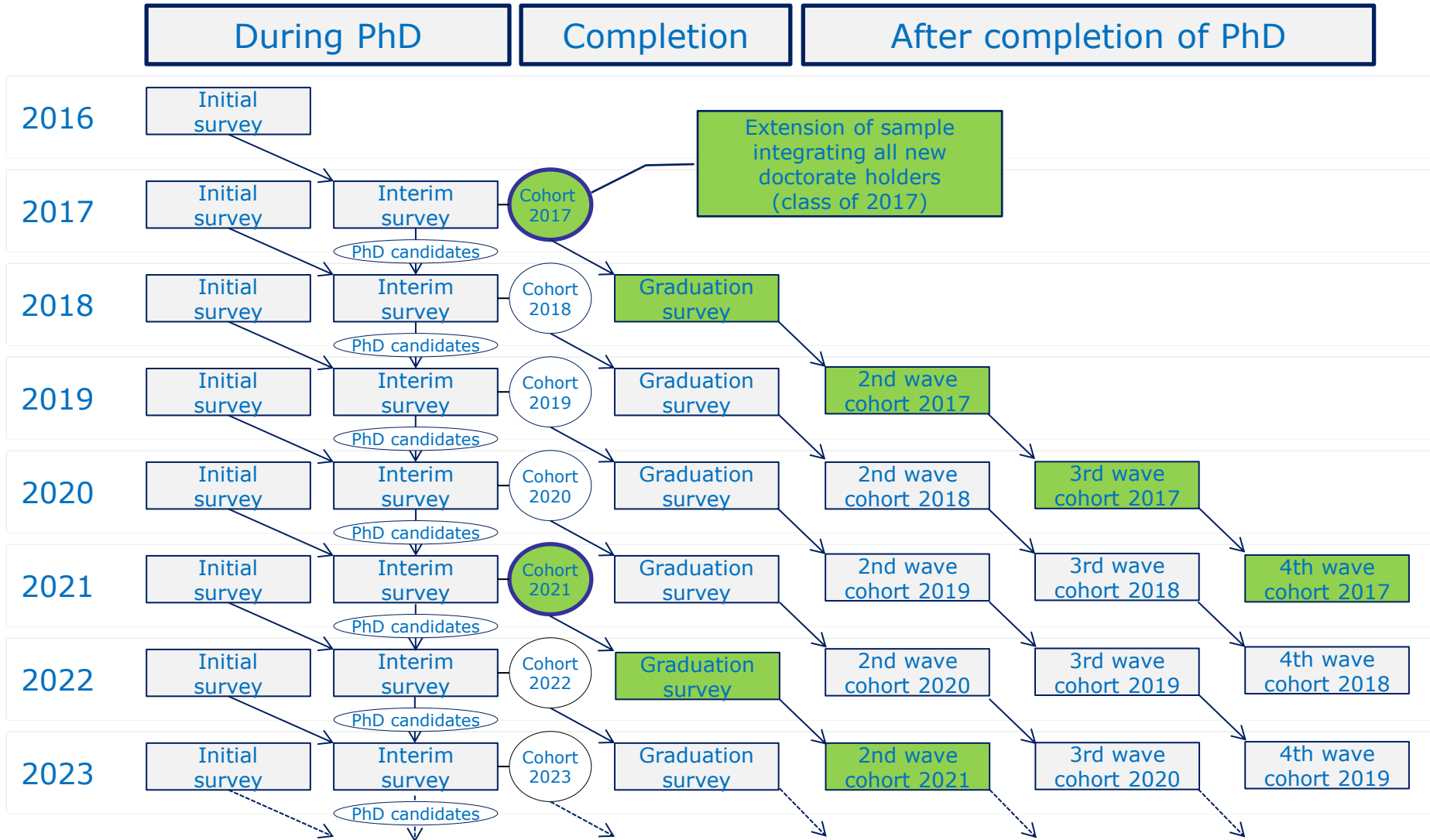
### **Objectives**

- Generate representative data for national and international level reporting about early career researchers (BuWiN)
- Provision of data for scientific community (SUFs)
- Monitoring and benchmarking for HEIs and stakeholders in HE and science policy

### **Features**

- Coordinated data collection
- Concerted questionnaires
- Integrated panel design

# Idea for an integrated Design



# Tasks & Challenges

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## **Collaboration with HEIs as prerequisite for sampling + data inquiry**

- Decreasing willingness of HEI to participate (personnel effort, multitude of parallel studies, unclear benefit of participation)
- Time-consuming negotiation procedures
- No or insufficient registration of doctoral students: lack of information about population of doctoral students at HEIs/in Germany

**Task 1:** Think about links between studies

**Task 2:** Rethink design of studies

**Task 3:** Harmonize/revise of questionnaires (contents, single questions)

**Task 4:** Improve visibility of study outcomes

**Task 5:** Call for political commitment

**Task 6:** Provide incentives for HEI participation (e.g. in conjunction with establishment of registration of doctoral students)

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# Thank you for your attention!

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and Quality Assurance

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