

Data control in multi-country surveys

ELECDEM

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TNS opinion



The Eurobarometer in figures

- **Number of F2F interviews** = approx. 160 000 per year
- **Number of questions asked** = approx. 1 000 per year
- **Number of countries** = up to 34
- **Regional and national languages covered** = 46
- **Number of topics** = 25 per year
- **Processing** = close to 50 000 tables per wave
- **Printouts** = 90 000 A4 pages per wave
- **Reporting** = 30 to 40 reports per year

Our objective

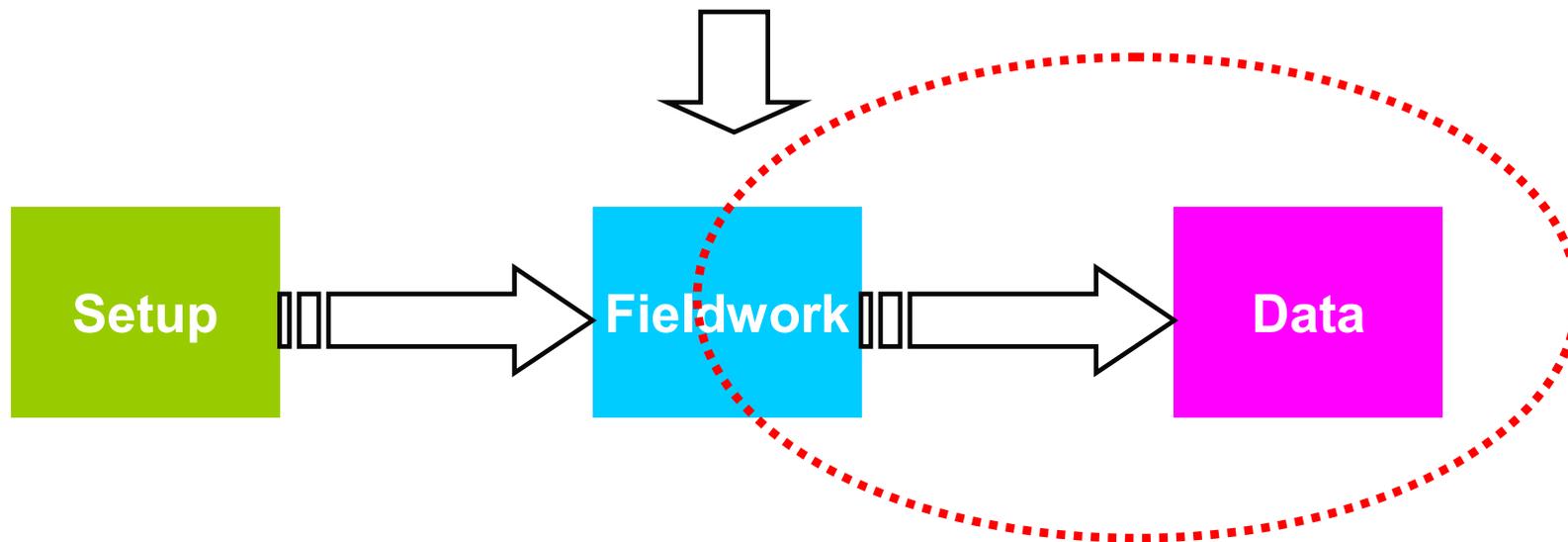
Provide the client with error –free & consistent data

- Why **error-free**? Because the EB is a policy tool in hands of the EU and national policy makers → a severe error in the data can lead to a misinterpretation of the public opinion!
- Why **consistent**? Because the EB is an international survey with its rules and its logic, not a accumulation of national surveys.

Eurobarometer – process

Centralized management of the quality throughout the whole process

- More than 50 days before data delivery
- Around 30.000 people involved
- **At least 1 risk of error per person involved!**



Raw data control - Online data checking

Robot activity (pid=1977)  Waiting

Country	Member	Survey	Wave	Type	Status	Last notification	Errors	Warnings	Interviews	Sended files
										
AT	Osterreichisches Gallup-Institut	BBVA	3402	fin	CONFIRMED	28/01/2008 10:32:26	0	0	1728 kit	10
AT	Osterreichisches Gallup-Institut	EQLS	4202	fin	CONFIRMED	21/02/2008 11:27:58	0	0	1043 kit	12
AT	Osterreichisches Gallup-Institut	EB	0692	fin	CONFIRMED	24/04/2008 16:44:37	0	0	1000 kit	10
BE	TNS Dimarso	EQLS	4202	fin	ACCEPTED (W)	21/02/2008 14:22:03	0	3	1010 kit	27
BE	TNS Dimarso	EB	0692	fin	CONFIRMED	05/05/2008 17:34:01	0	0	1003 kit	9
BG	TNS BBSS	EQLS	4202	fin	CONFIRMED (W)	07/12/2007 10:12:49	0	1	1030 kit	19
BG	TNS BBSS	EB	0692	fin	CONFIRMED (W)	24/04/2008 14:31:49	0	22	1000 kit	5
CY	Synovate	EQLS	4202	fin	CONFIRMED (W)	21/02/2008 08:40:40	0	43	1003 kit	12
CY	Synovate	EB	0692	fin	CONFIRMED (W)	08/05/2008 12:03:37	0	5	504 kit	7
CZ	TNS AISA	EQLS	4202	fin	ACCEPTED (W)	11/12/2007 09:34:45	0	97	1227 kit	21
CZ	TNS AISA	BBVA	3402	fin	REFUSED (F)	29/01/2008 09:40:27	217	3	1726 kit	13
CZ	TNS AISA	EB	0692	fin	CONFIRMED	28/04/2008 16:34:14	0	0	1014 kit	9
DE	TNS Germanv	EOLS	4202	fin	CONFIRMED (W)	10/01/2008 12:10:52	0	153	2008 ...	27

Done

Reporting of errors

CTRL-EOS-0652-DK[1].zip - WinRAR (evaluation copy)

File Commands History Favorites Options Help

Extract Extract to Test View Delete Comment SFX Info

CTRL-EOS-0652-DK[1].zip - zip archive, unpacked size 3,782,154 bytes

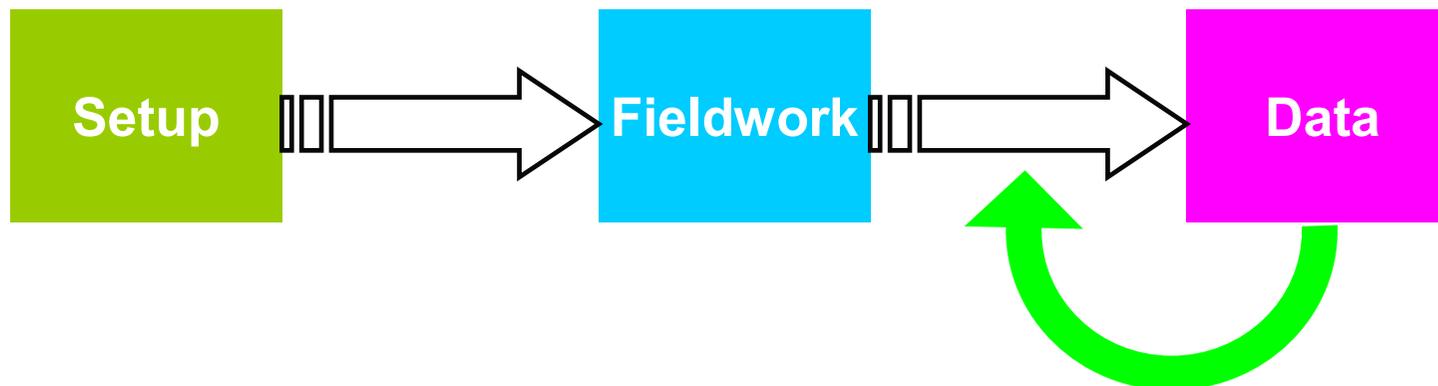
Name	Size	Packed	Type	Modified
..			Folder	
CTRL-0652-DK.xls	675,840	79,496	Microsoft Excel Wor...	03/05/2006 ...
CTRL_COHER_0652_DK_finDAT.txt	0	0	Text Document	03/05/2006 ...
CTRL_TOT_0652_DK_finDAT.txt	17,100	1,282	Text Document	03/05/2006 ...
DK0652_fin_C01.txt	9,616	1,901	Text Document	03/05/2006 ...
EB0652DKfinDATcheck1.out	178,077	26,179	out File	03/05/2006 ...
EB0652DKfinDATcheck3.out	9,574	1,868	out File	03/05/2006 ...
EB0652DKfinDATcheck5.out	2,891,947	23,736	out File	03/05/2006 ...

Reporting of errors (Cont.)

Examples of mistakes made by data processing

- Minor issues =>
- Coding mistake in a numerical variable
 - Values out of limits
 - Blank values

Solution →



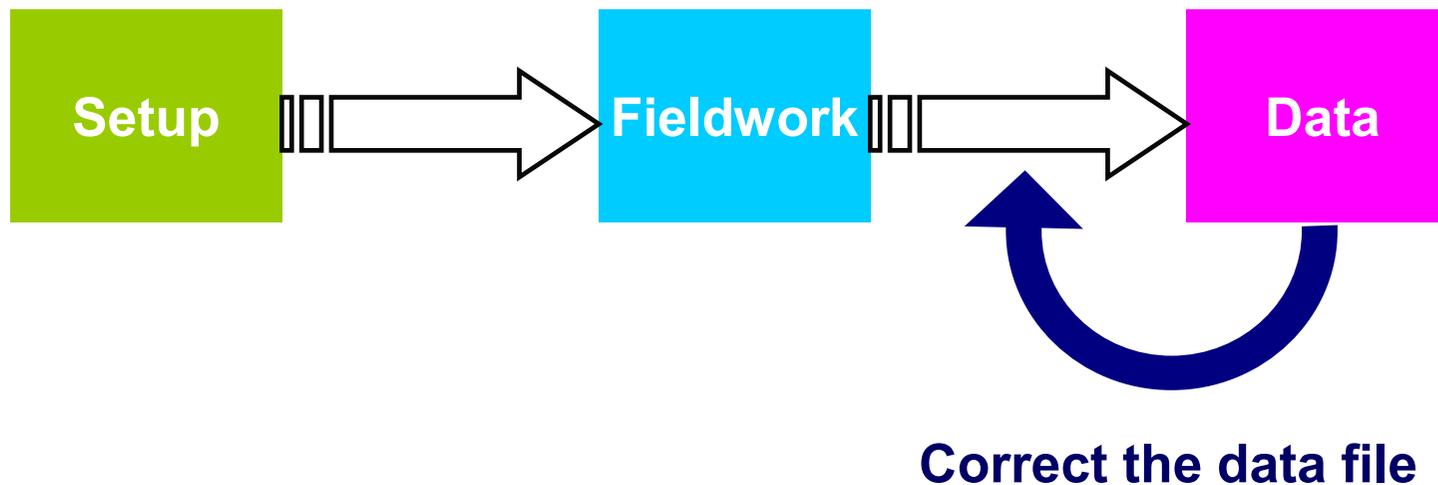
- Confirm the validity of the data
- Correct the data file

Trend patterns control (Cont.)

Examples of issues discovered when controlling the datasets

- Minor problem => Bad coding of a variable

Solution →

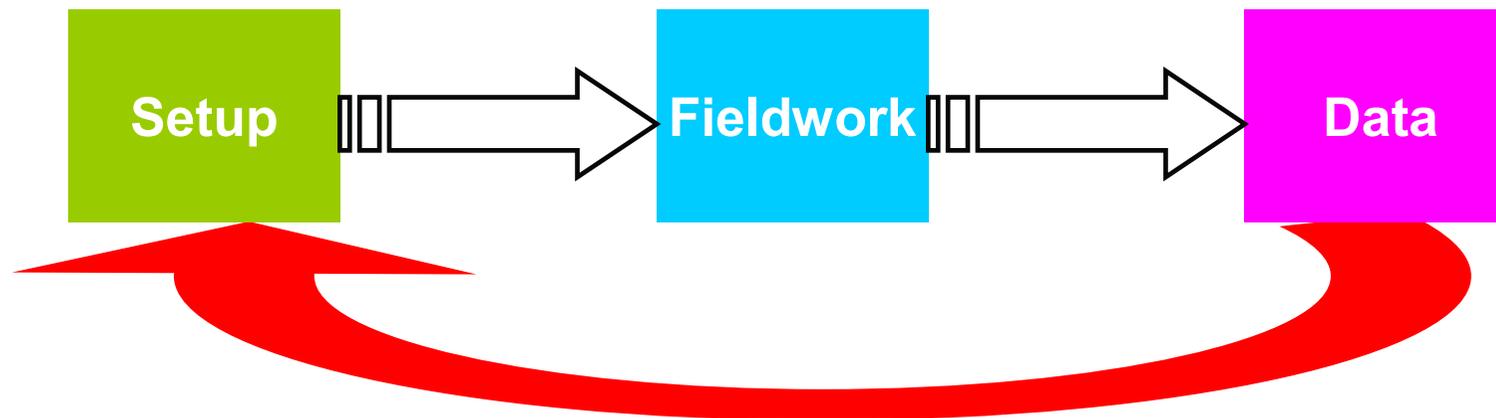


Trend patterns control (Cont.)

Examples of issues discovered when controlling the datasets

- Major problem => inappropriate administration of the questionnaire

Solution →



Ask the question within a following wave

