

# Scientific impact of the MESS Project

A brief overview

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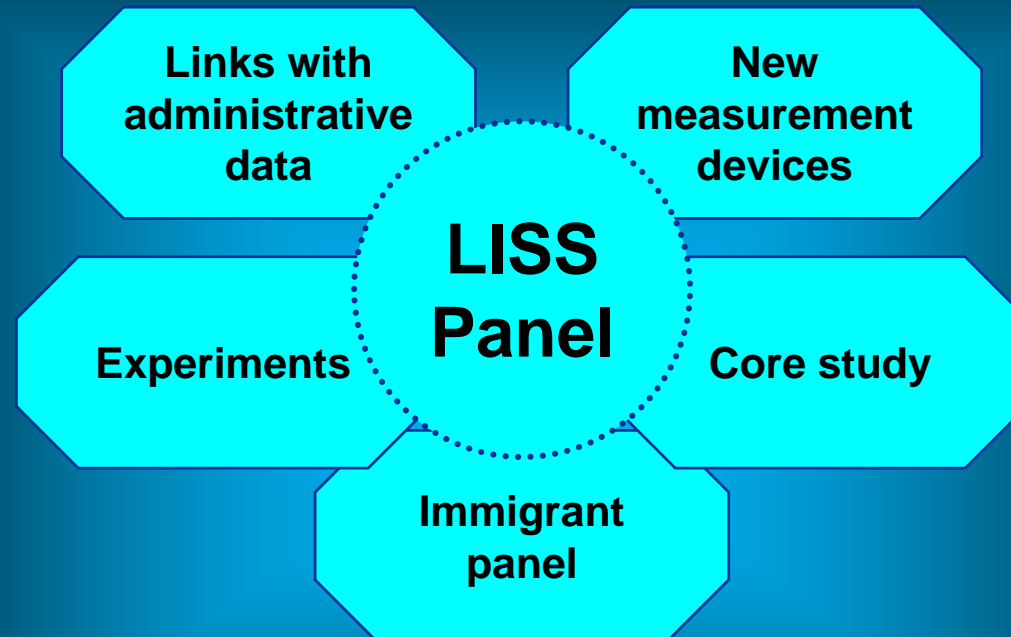
University of Essex, 7 June 2013



**CentERdata**  
Institute for data collection and research

# MESS is a highly advanced research infrastructure for the social sciences

## The MESS Project



**Open to scientists  
worldwide, free of charge**



# Use of the facility

**1.** Collection of ***new*** data; proposals can be submitted throughout the year

→ Academic researchers can use the LISS panel at **no cost**

**2.** Use of ***existing*** data (free of charge)

→ Available data:

- longitudinal core study
- proposed studies



# Proposals: collection of new data

<i>Decision Board of Overseers</i>	<b>Jan 2010</b>	<b>May 2013</b>
Accepted	40	125
In review or under revision	6	25
Rejected	9	25
<b>Total</b>	55	175

# Involved universities / institutes

(unique counts per row)

<i>Decision Board of Overseers</i>	<b>Jan 2010</b>	<b>May 2013</b>
Accepted	27	82
In review or under revision	8	31
Rejected	8	19
<b>Total (without overlap)</b>	34	107



# Affiliation:

## *Accepted proposals (May 2013)*

Tilburg University	35	
Other Dutch university / research institute	64	
Foreign university / research institute	64	29 (Europe) 24 (US) 11 (other)

# Overview of affiliations

Proposals LISS panel

## The Netherlands

Delft University of Technology  
Eindhoven University of Technology  
Erasmus MC, Rotterdam  
Erasmus University Rotterdam  
Free University, Amsterdam  
Groningen University  
Leiden University  
Maastricht University  
Open Universiteit  
Radboud University Nijmegen  
Tilburg University / CentERdata  
University Medical Center Utrecht  
University of Amsterdam  
Twente University  
Utrecht University  
VU University MC  
Wageningen University

ACCR (Free University Amsterdam)  
ASCoR (University of Amsterdam)  
Dutch Central Bank  
Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis (CPB)  
Netherlands Institute for Social Research (SCP)  
Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement  
Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI)  
Netherlands Organization for Applied Scientific Research (TNO)  
Netspar  
NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences  
OSA, Institute for Labour Studies  
Rutgers Nisso Groep  
Statistics Netherlands  
Tranzo

## Australia

## Canada

## Israel

## New Zealand

## USA

Arizona State University  
Bar-Ilan University  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Connecticut College  
Duke University  
Emory University  
Federal Reserve Bank of New York  
Griffith University  
Harvard University  
Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Laval University  
Michigan State University  
Michigan Technological University  
Neuroscience Research Australia  
New York University  
Northeastern University  
Northwestern University  
Pew Research Center  
Saint Leo University  
Stanford University

Stony Brook University  
Swinburne University of Technology  
Tel Aviv University  
Université du Québec à Montréal  
University of Calgary  
University of California  
University of Florida  
University of Michigan  
University of Texas  
University of Waterloo  
University of Wellington  
Washington State University  
World Values Survey Association

## Europe

Basel University  
ECARES  
European University Institute  
GESIS  
Ghent University  
Goettingen University  
Institute for Employment Research (IAB)  
Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA)  
Knowledge Media Research Center Tübingen  
KU Leuven  
Max Planck Institute  
National Center for Scientific Research (France)  
Norwegian University of Science and Technology  
Nuffield College  
Turin University  
Ulm University

University College Dublin  
University College London  
University of Bath  
University of Bonn  
University of Bristol  
University of Copenhagen  
University of Duisberg  
University of Essex  
University of Florence  
University of Heidelberg  
University of Lausanne  
University of Limerick  
University of Mannheim  
University of Padua  
University of Southampton  
University of Southern Denmark  
University of Stirling  
University of Vienna  
University of Zurich  
Universitat Pompeu Fabra



# Disciplines using facility

(proposals LISS panel)

economists (health, behavioral, marketing, social),  
political scientists, psychologists, epidemiologists,  
survey statisticians / methodologists,  
criminologists, decision theorists, sociologists,  
nutritionists, linguists, philosophers,  
demographers, theologians, social geographers,  
communication scientists, humanists, ...

A facility like MESS allows for connections  
across domains





# Use of existing data

As of May 2013, there are 667 registered users, of which

- 124 are affiliated with Tilburg University,
- 330 with other Dutch universities or research institutes,
- 213 are from abroad



# MESS is more cost-effective than other approaches

- For example, the LISS panel, at the core of MESS, is much less expensive than other major panels
  - Four times cheaper than PSID and HRS (in terms of cost per respondent per hour)
  - Two to three times cheaper than traditional surveys in the Netherlands
- For the money spent, MESS generates more extensive data than traditional surveys
- MESS also saves money by accommodating many new data collections at marginal cost



# In its first phase, MESS has generated a clear return on investment

- An ultra-modern, efficient research infrastructure is now solidly in place
- The LISS panel has collected more than five years of rich and innovative data, using state-of-the-art methods
- Researchers worldwide have accessed this data for use in scientific, policy, and societal studies
- An innovative data archive is now easily available through a web tool on a dedicated LISS website (<http://www.lissdata.nl>)



# Even higher return on investment...?

- The return on investment will certainly grow over time, with an exponentially increasing number of publications (e.g. because of secondary analyses)

But also:

- International collaboration!

This may lead to a wealth of international comparisons and new global data networks

[www.lissdata.nl](http://www.lissdata.nl)



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