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## Integrating multiple data sources: working together to modernise official statistics

Topic 1 – Bringing in information from where we can get it

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### Introduction

Integrating multiple data sources effectively has the potential to provide more timely and more detailed statistics and new official statistics for new data needs at both the national and international level. The High Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics (HLG MOS) has recognised the need to rapidly improve the capacity of official statistics organisations to integrate multiple data sources effectively. The HLG MOS initiated the Data integration Project, a collaboration of more than 10 countries from across the world to work together on practical steps for this endeavour.

This paper will outline the approach and results to date of the HLG MOS Data Integration Project, including experiments done, challenges, opportunities, methods and architectures as well as plans for further work.

### Methods / Problem statement

National Statistical Offices (NSOs) face declining response rates and declining accuracy of survey data while at the same time there are increasing data needs at both the national and international levels. Despite tightening budgets, there are strong calls to NSOs to produce more timely data that is additionally ever more disaggregated.

### Results / Proposed solution

It is clear that NSOs are challenged by the capacities needed to incorporate new data sources in their statistical production process while at the same time companies have appeared exploiting these new sources to provide alternative statistics.

The project is gaining experience in data integration by pooling resources in joint practical activities and is translating experience into general recommendations for data integration| including initial guidance for a quality framework.

### Conclusions

With the enormous range of potential data sources and associated methods and issues, working together is an important way to speed up the modernisation of official statistics.