

# Impact Assessment and Impact Evaluation Practice in the Joint Research Centre

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# Outline

- The JRC and CC-ME.
- The role of IAs and IEs within the Policy Cycle.
- Examples:
  - Roam Like At Home Directive;
  - Work Experience for Graduates initiative in Umbria (Italy);
  - Youth Guarantee in Latvia;
  - Late Payment Directive;
  - Airport Charges Directive;
  - a few more (time allowing).
- Conclusions

# The JRC and CC-ME

# Joint Research Centre Mission

- *"As the science and knowledge service of the Commission our mission is to support EU policies with independent evidence throughout the whole policy cycle."*

- (Source: JRC strategy 2030 [https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/sites/jrcsh/files/jrc-strategy-2030\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/sites/jrcsh/files/jrc-strategy-2030_en.pdf))

- Central role in:
- Quantitative empirical evidence
- Independence
- Policy cycle

# The role of IAs and IEs within the Policy Cycle

# Regulatory Scrutiny Board

- Established as part of May 2015 Better Regulation package; operational since 2016
- Succeeds Impact Assessment Board (2006); main changes:
  - Independent; reports to President
  - Full-time, internal and external members, for 3 years
  - Covers fitness checks and major evaluations
- Unchanged:
  - Negative opinions on IAs block procedure
  - Transparency
- Other tasks:
  - Advice on individual IAs or evaluations, methodology
  - Advice on development of Better Regulation policy

- RSB-SG-JRC collaboration

- JRC I.1 is collaborating with the Regulatory Scrutiny Board (RSB) and the Secretariat General (SG) for the Quantification of Commission impact assessments and evaluations.
- The EC is preparing the Next Multi-Annual Financial Framework (MFF) and the RSB is guiding this process on quality.
- JRC-I1-CC-ME is helping advising Commission services on data plans - Collaboration between MS and EC will be more and more important as data from administrative archives can be linked and exploited for evaluation (preserving privacy etc).
- This will bring saving, better quality and many opportunities for MS and EC together to improve upon current situation in evaluation

# Examples



# DG CONNECT

## Impact assessment of the Roam Like At Home Directive

### WHY

The project is aimed at assessing the impact of the “Roam like at home” directive which deleted surcharges for mobile phone connections when abroad in another EU country. In particular, the purpose of the analysis is to determine the best option for regulating the wholesale roaming market in the EU, while maintaining the sustainability of domestic charging models.

### WHEN

The project ended in the spring of 2017.

### WITH WHOM

Directorate-General Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG-CONNECT).

### FINDINGS

Several different scenarios corresponding to different level of economic sustainability were computed on the basis of data from network operators, collected anonymously by Regulatory Agencies in the member states.



Source: European Commission website

# DG EMPL

## What worked with the Work Experience for Graduates initiative in Umbria (Italy)

### WHY

The goal of the project is to evaluate the impact of an European Social Fund intervention, the 'Work Experience for Graduates' implemented in Umbria (Italy).

### WHEN

The project ended in December 2016

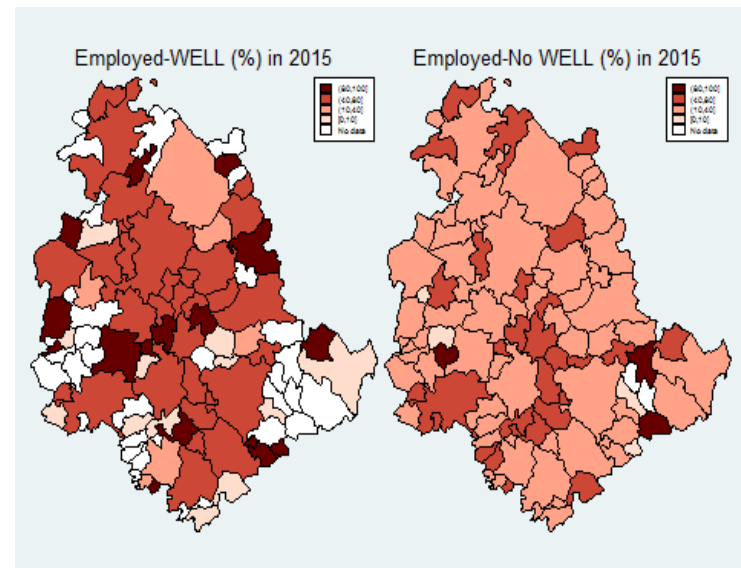
### WITH WHOM

The Umbria regional authorities

### FINDINGS

The programme:

- targeted unemployed graduates;
  - consisted in, first, on-the-job training, and, second, wage subsidies to firm and organizations that finally hired the trainees.
  - was implemented between April 2013 and September 2014.
- The analysis carried out with Propensity Score Matching indicates that the participants are more likely to be employed. However, the positive effect is measured only for participants who found a job within the region boundaries.



*Employment rate of WELL participants and non-participants,*

*at the municipality level*

# DG EMPL

## What worked in the implementation of Youth Guarantee in Latvia

### WHY

The goal of the project is to evaluate the impact of a Youth Guarantee intervention implemented in Latvia. This is one of the first counterfactual impact evaluation on Youth Guarantee in Europe.

### WHEN

Ongoing project until September 2017

### WITH WHOM

The Latvian European Social Fund managing authority

### FINDINGS

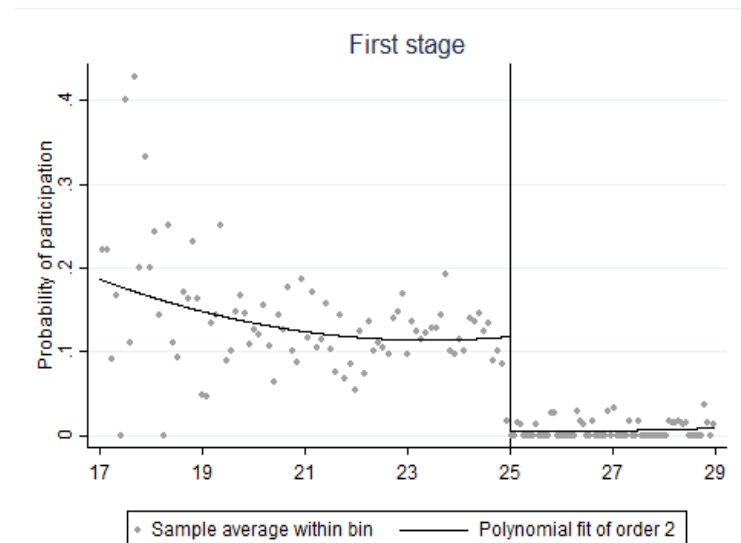
The intervention :

- targeted young NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training) aged 15-29 years;
- consisted in vocational training courses offered to participants
- the evaluation refers to the period January 2014 - December 2015.

Fuzzy Regression Discontinuity Design method using a priority rule for those aged 15-24.

The rule was effective in increasing participation.

Though, participation did not increase the employability and the income of the participants.



*Age measured on registration date at PES*

# DG GROW

## What worked in the implementation of the Late Payment Directive

### WHY

The evaluation focuses on the impact of the Late Payment Directive (LPD) implementation on business performance, notably on firms exit rate

### WHEN

On going project until December 2017

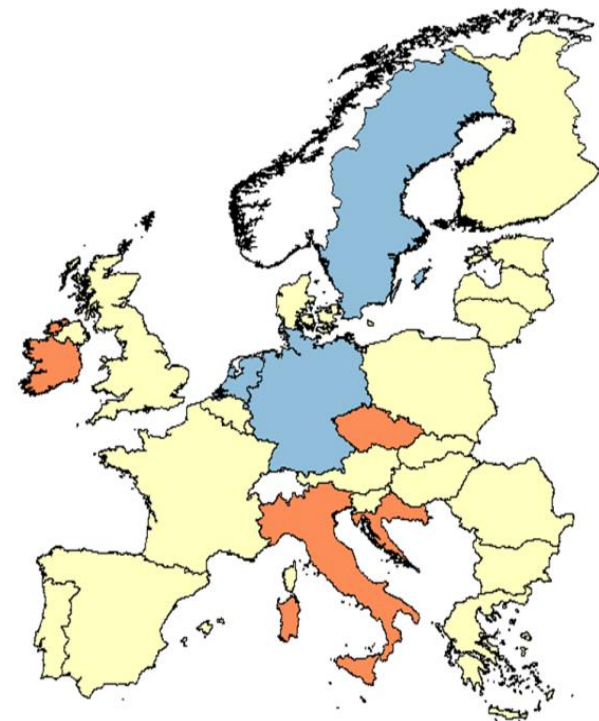
### WITH WHOM

Directorate-General Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), and the European Commission Secretariat- General (SEC GEN)

### FINDINGS

The counterfactual impact evaluation (method DID) has focused on the case of payments from the Public Administrations to economic operators (PA2B), for the period 2008-2014.

The analysis showed that the implementation of the LPD significantly reduced firms' exit rate, and that the effect is stronger for the member states that showed longer average payment period before the adoption of the LPD.



# DG MOVE

## What worked in the implementation of the Airport Charges Directive

### WHY

The evaluation focuses on the impact of the Airport Charges Directive on the level of Airport Charges

### WHEN

On going project until December 2017

### WITH WHOM

Directorate-General Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) and the European Commission Secretariat- General (SEC GEN)

### FINDINGS

The analysis showed that the implementation of the ACD reduced the level of charges and that the effect is more pronounced one year after its adoption.

## DG RTD

### What worked in the disbursement of Research grants

- **Performance measures:** number of patents, number of trademarks, labor productivity growth, sales growth, employment growth
- **Three databases:** FP7 Corda (grants), Orbis (firm data), PATSTAT (patent data)
- **Methods:** RDD



# Collaboration with New Zealand: demonstrating the power of admin data

## WHY

The project aims at carrying out demonstration projects to show how administrative data can be used to demonstrate the impact of social investment.

## WHEN

The project started in March 2017.

## WITH WHOM

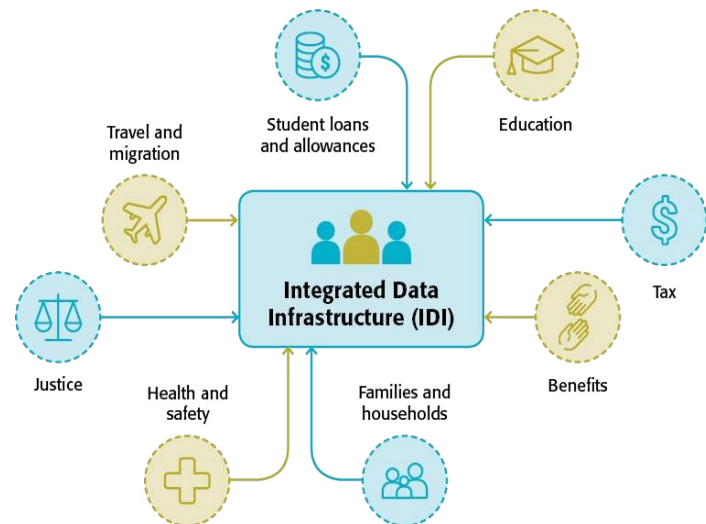
The New Zealand Office of the Prime Minister Chief Scientific Advisor and Statistics New Zealand.

Three projects will be carried out, namely:

The effect of education on crime behavior

The effects of involuntary job loss on adult and child outcomes

m The effect of the 2011 Christchurch earthquake on school and health outcomes.



Source: Statistics New Zealand website





*Meeting with NZ representatives in Ispra, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017; left to right: Jean-Philippe Gammel, Paolo Paruolo, Giovanni De Santi, Massimiliano Bratti, Sir Peter Gluckman, Vladimir Sucha, Andrew Sweet, Elena Meroni, Claudio Deiana, Gianluca Mazzarella, Sophie Guthmuller, Stefano Verzillo, Corinna Ghirelli, Enkelejda Havari.*



# Conclusions / Take away messages

- Impact Assessments (IAs) and Impact Evaluations (IEs) are intrinsically connected.
- Appropriate data and methods are key factors of success for IE (and IA).
- Collaboration among and within EU and MS institutions is key to obtain good-quality evidence.
- CC-ME will be happy to liaise with you, advising or collaborating on pilot examples of evaluation of EU policies.

благодаря  
(Thank You)