

SUPPORT FOR TRANSNATIONAL ACCESS TO OFFICIAL MICRODATA

Call for research proposals under the FP7 EU-project

“Data without Boundaries” (DwB)

Highly detailed or "confidential" microdata from other countries are often not available for research purposes. Or, if they are available, researchers have to go through diverse national accreditation processes and self-finance their access. To enhance access across borders to official microdata for comparative research, DwB gives you the unique opportunity to work with data from a number of European countries.

WHAT DATA AND SUPPORT ARE AVAILABLE?

The data are available through Research Data Centers (RDCs) from France, Germany, the Netherlands and UK. For more information see [Research Data Centres and Datasets](#). The RDCs/DwB will:

- provide support and access to microdata via guest stays or, depending upon the RDC, remote access/execution
- support researchers with national accreditation processes and, where application forms and information about the data are not in English, will assist with translation.
- reimburse travel and accommodation expenses (subject to an upper limit) either for visiting the RDC prior to remote access, for onsite access (including any access fees), for mandatory training, accreditation or enrolment purposes (depending upon the specific RDC access requirements).

WHO CAN APPLY?

Academic researchers, including PhD students, from countries within the European Union or the European Free Trade Association, are eligible. Researchers should apply to RDCs that are not in their country of residence (they may independently use microdata from their own country of residence).

The data will be of interest particularly to researchers in sociology, demography, economics and geography. Comparative research projects requiring access to multiple RDCs are very welcome.

HOW TO APPLY?

Please send an [application form](#) before February, 15th, 2012 to tna@dwbproject.org describing your research project, the relevance of your research topic (including literature), the methodology and the required data (demonstrating why you need highly detailed data in case less detailed data are available through other channels).

The RDC will conduct administrative checks on your proposal, such as: are the data available; is it likely that the applicant will pass the accreditation process? A User Selection Panel within DwB will also evaluate and select the applications on the basis of scientific merit. A decision will be made not later than March, 15th, 2012. Researchers should be able to start their work in the first half of 2012. Other formal criteria you need to fulfill and information about the selection criteria are available [here](#). Applicants should be aware that they will also have to go through the national accreditation process for which DwB will provide help.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED OUTCOMES?

Researchers are expected to publish their results and may be given the opportunity to present them in at least one international conference organized by DwB with travel and accommodation expenses paid for. Selected researchers will also be required to write a short report about their visit for the European Commission, no later than 60 days following its completion, and submit this to tna@dwbproject.org. A template for the report can be found [here](#).