

Agenda

1. Introductions and the composition of the Working Group

Members, Participation

Member	Name	Affiliation
Belgium	Toon Braeye	Scientific Institute of Public Health
	Patrick Lusyne	Statistics Belgium
Cyprus	Andreas Anastasiou	University of Cyprus
Germany	Thomas Morten	Destatis
	Katharina Schueller	STAT-UP
	Ralf Muennich	University of Trier
Spain	Rosa Crujeiras	University of Santiago de Compostela
Finland	Pauliina Ilmonen	Aalto University School of Science
France	Anne Gégout-Petit	University of Lorraine
Croatia	Mirjana Landika	University "Apeiron" Banja Luka
	Ivo Ugrina	University of Split
	Ivan Jurak	University of Applied Health Sciences Zagreb
Italy	Monica Pratesi	University of Pisa
Luxembourg	Michel Vaillant	Luxembourg Institute of Health
Portugal	Laetitia Teixeira	University of Porto
Romania	Daniel Pele	Bucharest University of Economic Studies
Slovenia	Lara Lusa	University of Ljubljana
Sweden	Hans Alberg	Swedish Association for Industrial Statistics
UK	Jennifer Rogers	PHASTAR
ECB	Celestino Giron	ECB
ECAS	Christophe Ley	Gent University
ENBIS	Jean-Michel Poggi	University Paris-Sud, liaison officer to the ISI
FENStatS	Walter J. Radermacher	Sapienza University, Rome, Pres FENStatS
	Maria Eduarda Silva	University of Porto, FENStatS SecGen
	Lola Ugarte	Public University of Navarra, FENStatS Treasurer
	Corrado Crocetta	University of Foggia, Editor FENStatS 3S-Magazine
	Marleen De Smedt	Former Head of Unit Eurostat, Author of background paper on European health statistics

Participation: All, except Monica Pratesi, Christophe Ley (both apologized), Jennifer Rogers

2. Expectations, contributions, goals (see background paper)

After a discussion of the background paper, it was decided to focus in a first phase of the working group on topics related to the health aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The focus is on the combinations resulting from the following overview:

Working areas in the first phase of the working group

Variables	Production Processes, Standards, Guidelines	Analyses, (Short-term) Forecasts	Communication, Interpretation, Literacy
Mortality			
Causes of Deaths			
Health Care (i.e. hospital beds, intensive care capacities etc.)			
R Reproduction Number			
Number of Cases			
Number of Tests			
Number of Immunised People			

As in any other field of applying statistical methods, it is important to integrate the context into all this work and to cooperate with the relevant experts and disciplines (especially epidemiology).

At a later stage (i.e. from autumn onwards), the working group will also consider the consequences of the pandemic (economic, social, environmental) from a statistical perspective.

For the issues of statistical education and communication, it is expected that the relevant ECAS working group will focus on these issues so that redundancies can be avoided through close co-operation.

The expected results and concrete outputs of the working group were defined as follows:

- Sharing information,
- sharing recommendations and guidelines,
- sharing knowledge, data, software, communication tools.

In addition, although this is not a concrete output, cooperation in a European network was articulated as an added value of the FENStatS working group.

3. Working plan

In a very first and rapid action, it was agreed that the information related to the pandemic on the FENStatS website (<https://www.fenstats.eu/homepage>) should be enriched by the end of June with all rapidly available information on relevant activities, whether national, European or international. The members of the working group participate actively in the collection and provision of these sources, links etc. An appropriate presentation form as part of the website shall be provided for this purpose. Marleen De Smedt

will take care of assembling information concerning European and international sources. It is emphasised that such information platforms necessarily require constant maintenance and regular updates. The first collection at the end of June can therefore only be seen as the beginning of an ongoing process.

4. Ideas for other people to engage

An enrichment of the working group by experts from ECDC, Eurostat, National Statistical Institutes etc., later also from ENBIS, is welcomed.

5. Role allocation, chairmanship

Katharina Schueller was appointed chair of the working group. Walter Radermacher will continue to support her in this chairmanship, especially with regard to FENStatS internal matters.

6. Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for the second half of July.

7. Other

The issue of languages was briefly raised, mainly with a view to improving statistics education in a user-friendly and effective way. This point will be addressed in cooperation with ECAS. A digital workspace is set up for the group (to be checked: FENStatS Intranet or open platform)¹.

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¹ Katharina has created a Slack workspace including a dropbox for our working group
https://join.slack.com/t/fenstatscovid-19/shared_invite/zt-fgbrnelc-4y6B4G6v6rsiUulyZIOuww