An Overview over the IAB-SOEP Migration Sample as part of the SOEP

The new IAB-SOEP Migration Sample will be part of the SOEP from 2014 onwards. We would like to use the opportunity of the conference and present a poster on the idea and the content of the sample. Furthermore, we can give a short overview over the possible research topics that can be carried out with the new sample. The poster will be a joint work of IAB and SOEP researchers.

The content of the sample is very much like the standard SOEP content, because both samples should be merged together as soon as possible. In the first waves, special interest topics that are only relevant to migrants, have been added. To save space, parts of the standard SOEP questions had to be postponed to later waves. The topics of the questionnaires include: the citizenship and origin, the migration history and the channels of entry, the education biography and the educational degrees obtained abroad and in Germany, the employment and income (incl. remittances) in Germany, the childhood and parents, the partnership including moving decisions of partners, language, cultural ties and social community (social integration), the life satisfaction and health and attitudes and religion.

The sampling strategy of the survey considers the later linkage with register data (record linkage) from the beginning. The anchor persons of our sample are drawn from register data of the IAB which cover the entire labour force, but not the total population. Potential immigrants are identified via nationality, program participation and onomastic procedures. Screening questions assure that only our target groups are considered. The 250 primary sampling units chosen are representative for the migrant population, more recent immigrant cohorts and specific countries have disproportionally sampled.

The field time was from May to November 2013. During that time, 4964 migrants have been successfully interviewed; among them there are 2723 anchor persons. The data will be available with the 2014 wave of the SOEP.

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