

InGRID2 Expert Workshop

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# Integration of Migrants and Refugees in Household Panel Surveys

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Methodological Challenges and first results of the IAB-BAMF-SOEP  
Sample of Refugees in Germany

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Budapest, April 25th, 2018

## Integration of Migrants and Refugees in Household Panel Surveys

1. SOEP, Samples, Sampling Procedure and Weighting
2. Challenges in Fieldwork
3. Content and First Results

# “SOEP” (German Socio-Economic Panel Study)

- 1984: start of the survey with two sub-samples: one presenting a representative picture of the entire population and one with an above-average proportion of immigrants from the “guest worker” countries
  - now 33 waves available, wave 34 in autumn, wave 35 in the field and wave 36 in preparation
- Longest-running longitudinal multiple-cohort study of private households and persons in the Federal Republic of Germany (“Living in Germany”)
- Started with 6,000 households in 1984, actually approx. 15,000 households → about 30,000 individuals
  - Over-sampling of foreigners, migrants, 2013/15 (with IAB)
  - East Germans (1990), high-income, families with small children
  - Various top-up and refresher samples
  - Starting 2016 with a random sample of refugees (with IAB/BAMF)



# Existing Migration Samples in the SOEP

- **Existing Migration Samples in the SOEP (1984, 1994)**
  - Immigration up to 1983 (“Guest Workers”, Sample B)
  - Immigration from 1984-94 (“Ethnic Germans”, Sample D)
  - General population refreshers (Samples E, H, K), with oversampling of migrants (Samples F and J)
- **IAB-SOEP Migration Samples (2013, 2015)**
  - Immigration between 1995-2012 (also refugees) and second-generation migrants (*Adult Anchor Person* (majority EU-25, Sample M1)
  - Immigration between 2009-14 (often EU-27, Sample M2)



# The IAB-BAMF-SOEP Refugee Samples (M3, M4 & M5)

- **Background (initial applications for asylum, BAMF)**

- 2013: 109,580
- 2014: 173,072
- 2015: 441,899
- 2016: 722,370
- 2017: 198,317

- **Target Population**

- Asylum seekers migrating to Germany between Jan. 2013 and Jan. 2016 (M3 & M4) and between Jan. 2016 and Dec. 2016 (M5)
- Applications still being processed, person with protection from removal on humanitarian grounds, and temporary residence permit (both private and institutional households)

- **Sampling**

- Central Register of Foreigners of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF), monthly updates
- Addresses held by the local Foreigners Registration Office



# Summary of all Migration boosts of the SOEP

Table 15

## Migration boosts of the SOEP

First Wave		Target Population	
1984	Sample B	Migration to (West) Germany up to 1983	"Guest Workers"
1994	Sample D	Migration to (West) Germany 1984/1994	Ethnic German
2013	Sample M1	Migration to Germany 1995/2010	Mainly EU migrants
2015	Sample M2	Migration to Germany 2010/2013	Mainly EU migrants
2016	Sample M3	Migration to Germany 2013/2015	Refugees
2016	Sample M4	Migration to Germany 2013/2015	Refugee families
2017	Sample M5	Migration to Germany 2016	Refugees

Wave Report 2016, p. 42

## Number of Adult Anchor Persons by Origin (M3)

Country of Origin	Frame (AZR)	Gross Sample
Syria	208,692 (39.7)	6,586 (42.2)
Afghanistan	<b>41,510 (7.9)</b>	<b>1,569 (10.1)</b>
Iraq	<b>38,367 (7.3)</b>	<b>2,204 (14.1)</b>
Albania, Serbia, Kosovo	49,204 (9.4)	852 (5.5)
Eritrea, Somalia	<b>35,745 (6.8)</b>	<b>1,396 (8.9)</b>
Iran, Pakistan	23,301 (4.4)	587 (3.8)
Other	128,379 (24.4)	2,406 (15.4)
Total	525,198 (100)	<b>15,600 (100)</b>

- Sampling by gender (Female), Age (30+), Country of birth (Non-Europe), and status (Permit)
- Sample size M3 (estimated): 1,600 households with 2,700 adults, and 500 children
- Sample size M4 (estimated): 1,600 households with 2,000 adults, and 1,600 children

# Steps of the Sampling Procedure

## Two Step sampling procedure

### 1. Regional Clustering of Foreigners Registration Offices

- 369 clusters (min. 300 adults in target population)
- *Länder* borders, geographical proximity

### 2. Random selection of sample points (sampling probabilities proportional to size)

- 99 PSUs in M3, 95 PSUs in M4, and 99 PSUs in M5

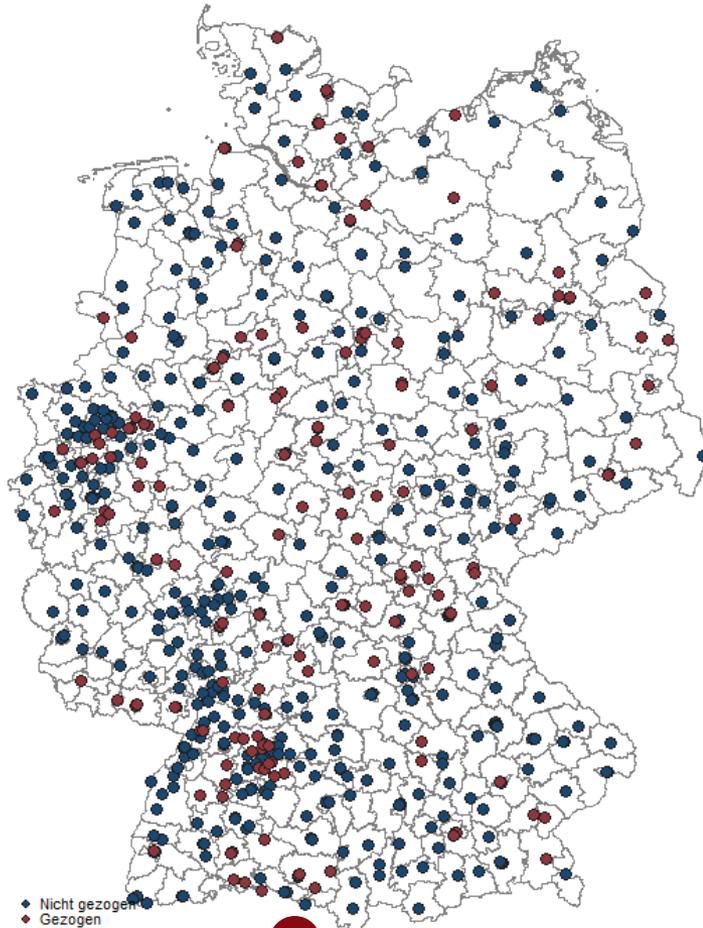
### 3. Random selection of 80 anchor persons per point (gross sample)

- Provision of the addresses by local Foreigners Registration Offices

Sampling probability by gender (female), Age (30+), Country of birth (non-Europe), and status (permit)

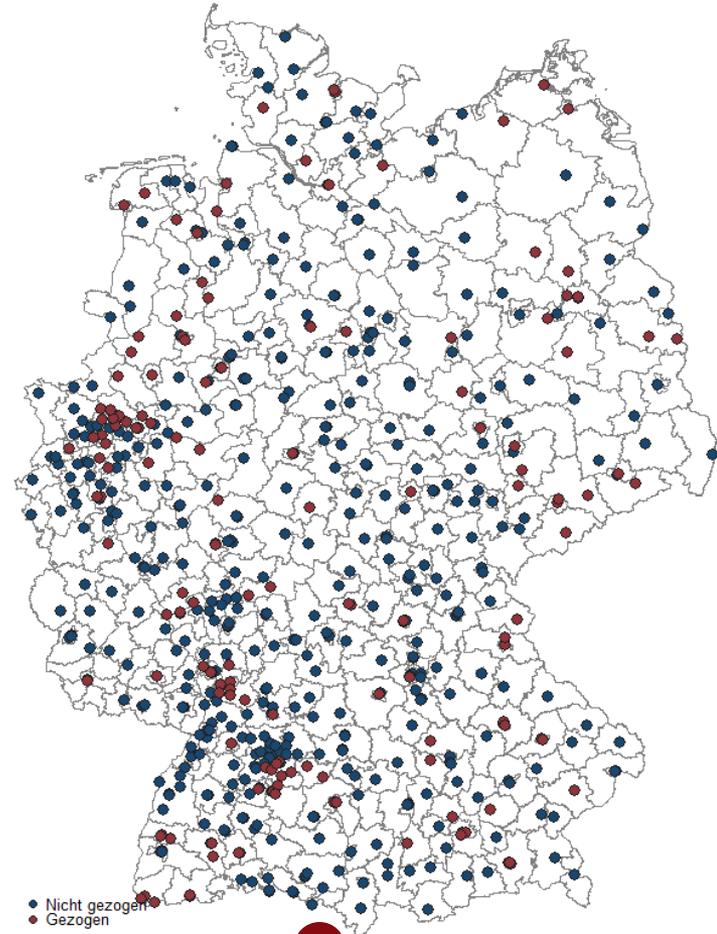
# Sampled Foreigners Registration Offices in M3 & M4

## M3



**In Sample**  
**Not in Sample**

## M4



**In Sample**  
**Not in Sample**

## Nonresponse-Rates M3 & M4

	Distribution in % (case numbers in parentheses)
<b>Completed interviews with anchor person</b>	48.7 (3,336)
<b>Household non-response</b>	51.3 (3,512)
<b>among those (%):</b>	
not locatable	40.2 (1,412)
not accessible	17.6 (617)
illness or nursing care	1.7 (61)
mental or language problems	8.9 (311)
no time	18.4 (645)
currently not willing	4.8 (170)
refusal	8.4 (296)
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 (3,512)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 (6,848)</b>



# Cross Sectional Weighting and Integration into SOEP-Core

## 1. Design Weighting (Inverse Sampling Probabilities)

## 2. Nonresponse Weighting

- Propensity-Score Model
  - Linking survey to register data anonymously
  - Aggregated regional information about respondents' and nonrespondents' living area
  - Interviewer information on the housing and the residential surrounding

## 3. Post-Stratification I

## 4. Integration into SOEP-Core (Post-Stratification II)

## 5. Longitudinal Weight

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# Challenges in the Fieldwork

## 1. Interviews in Arrival Centers, Public and Private Housing

- Access to arrival centers and public housing
- Support of the (joint) Welfare Associations on local level
- Cooperation of the local registration offices crucial

## 2. Language barriers

- Visual translation
- Audio records
- Interpreters (Hotline)

## 3. Modes

- F2F (CAPI)
- Mobile phone app (Living in Germany)

# Usage of questionnaire translation and audio support

H27

Was für eine Gemeinschaftsunterkunft ist das?

ما نوع السكن المشترك؟

1 Eine kleinräumige Gemeinschaftsunterkunft mit einzelnen, getrennten Wohnräumen  
1 سكن مشترك صغير المساحة بمناطق معيشة فردية مقسمة

2 Eine großräumige Gemeinschaftsunterkunft  
2 سكن مشترك كبير

3 Sonstige Gemeinschaftsunterkunft  
3 سكن مشترك آخر

Keine Angabe

Text vorlesen      Antworten vorlesen

Visual translation	Usage (%)
English	16.1
Arabic	62.2
Farsi	12.6
Pashto	1.0
Urdu	1.7
Kurmanji	3.4

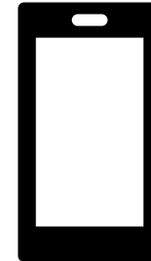
# Usage of audio files

Audio Files	Usage (%)
For every question	7.2
For 2/3 of the questions	6.3
For 50% of the questions	4.0
In less than 50%	9.1
Not used	73.4

# Mobile phone app

**Problem:** highly mobile population

**Solution:** mobile phone app



1. Address maintenance (5%)
2. Request telephone numbers (45%)
3. Refresh information for refugees regularly

## Civic engagement in the refugee context

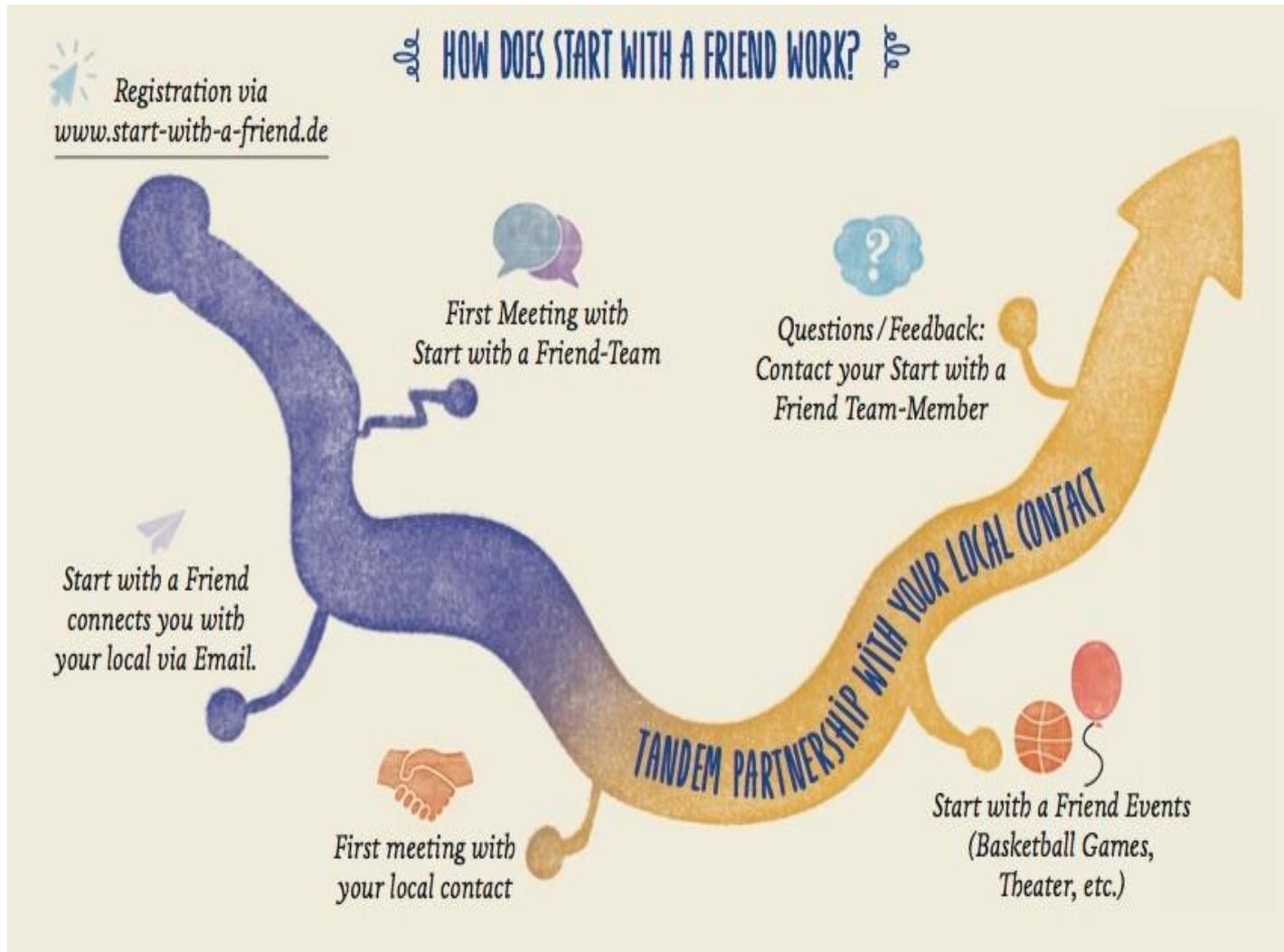
- Since 2015 commitment of large numbers of volunteers who wanted to help these newcomers upon their arrival.
- The **“Mentoring of Refugees-Project” MORE** has partnered with the social start-up Start with a Friend e.V., which has created more than 2500 mentor-like relationships (known in German as “Tandems”) between refugees and locals since 2014.
- Like many other civic initiatives for refugees, Start with a Friend aims at creating friendships between refugees and locals and providing emotional as well as practical support.

# Special Add-On-Study „Mentoring of Refugees“

## Design of the Study

- The MORE study uses a randomized controlled trial that will be conducted with participants of the IAB-BAMF-SOEP Refugee Sample 2017 and 2018.
- Participants who are interested in participating in the study are being randomly selected into either the group of about 50 participants (the treatment group) or the group of 500 non-participants (the control group).
- All participants will be matched with a local by Start with a Friend for a mentoring relationship. Both the treatment and the control group will be interviewed annually as part of the IAB-BAMF-SOEP Refugee Sample.

# Special Add-On-Study „Mentoring of Refugees“



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## Integration of refugees

- A special issue of the DIW Economic Bulletin (No. 35/2016) analyzes 2013 survey data provided by several hundred refugees living in Germany.
- Most of the individuals in this group migrated between the years 1990 and 2010, and to a large extent, they came from the West Balkans and Arab or Muslim nations – countries of origin that are playing a major role in the current immigration wave
- These empirical findings may allow us to draw conclusions about how refugees in the recent past were able to successfully integrate into the education system and labor market

# Integrating refugees: insights from the past

- [http://www.diw.de/documents/publikationen/73/diw\\_01.c.542002.de/diw\\_econ\\_bull\\_2016-34.pdf](http://www.diw.de/documents/publikationen/73/diw_01.c.542002.de/diw_econ_bull_2016-34.pdf)
- The primary data basis is the IAB-SOEP Migration Sample, a joint initiative between the Institute for Employment Research (IAB) and the German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP); most of the analyses in this EB are based on results from surveys conducted in 2013 .
- Data on refugees in Germany are compared to those of non-refugee migrants who entered the country during the same time period.
- This issue of the EB investigates five different areas of refugee integration: the **skillsets of refugees** who came to Germany, as well as their **educational backgrounds** and **professional qualifications** from abroad; **refugees' language acquisition**; **labor market participation**; landing their **first job** in Germany; and the use of **voluntary education programs** by children and young people with refugee backgrounds

# Content

Survey Year	2016	2017	
Sample	M3 & M4 (1st-time respondents)	M3 & M4 (repeating respondents)	M5 (1st-time respondents)
Questionnaire			
Individual biography	x	x	x
Household	x	x	x
Residential surroundings	x	(x)	x
Integrated child(ren)		x	
Pre-teen (including cognitive testing)		x	
Early teen (including cognitive testing)		x	
Teen (including cognitive testing)		x	

## Some characteristics of the life situation

	Population without migration background	Population with migration background	Refugees (arrived before 2013)	Refugees (arrived after 2013)
German citizenship (%)	100	57	39	0
Average length of stay (years)	X	26	20	1
Age at immigration (mean)	X	23	24	29
Housing conditions				
Rent per sqm (mean)	7.1	7.7	8	-
Household size (number of persons)	1.9	2.3	3.2	2.6 / 1.5
Living sqm per person (mean)	60	47	31	29 / 9

## Some characteristics of the life situation

	Population without migration background	Population with migration background	Refugees (arrived before 2013)	Refugees (arrived after 2013)
Income distribution				
<60 % (poverty rate)	13	20	48	94
60 %–100 %	33	34	40	5
100 %–150 %	33	29	10	1
>150 %	21	17	1	1
Equalized household net income (median)	1,667	1,500	969	404

# Employment Status

	Population without migration background	Population with migration background	Refugees (arrived before 2013)	Refugees (arrived after 2013)
Full-time employment (%)	53	46	35	3
Part-time employment (%)	21	21	18	5
Temporarily not working (%)	1	2	1	0
Unemployed (%)	7	10	21	0
School/trainee /apprenticeship /study at university (%)	8	9	6	8
Not working (%)	10	11	19	83
thereof in courses (%)	X	X	X	47

## Some experiences and languages skills

	Population without migration background	Population with migration background	Refugees (arrived before 2013)	Refugees (arrived after 2013)
Perceived discrimination because of your ethnic origins (often)	-	4	6	10
Concerns about xenophobia (share very concerned)	48	43	37	8
Concerns about economic situation (share very concerned)	12	19	39	33
Stay in Germany forever (yes)	-	85	91	95
Transfers abroad	1	9	14	0
Language skills				
speaking	-	75	66	17
writing	-	65	52	20
reading	-	76	65	25

# Satisfaction

Satisfaction with ...	Population without migration background	Population with migration background	Refugees (arrived before 2013)	Refugees (arrived after 2013)
Your life today.	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.9
Your personal income.	6.5	6.1	5.3	5.2
Your dwelling situation.	8.0	7.7	6.9	6.2

# Conclusion

- Immigration from EU-27 became a major issue in Germany
- Over the course of 2015, around one million refugees arrived in Germany
- The growing (forced) migration population poses a major challenge for Germany's policy makers, civic administrators, and society at large
- Government administrators, politicians, and the public need robust analyses of the accompanying and demographic changes based on valid and reliable empirical data
- Migrants and refugee cohorts were already part of the SOEP
  - But: this population was only covered to a limited degree
- SOEP, IAB and BAMF-FZ develop a joint survey of recently arrived refugees
  - That allows more complex analysis and comparative analysis of particular refugee

Thank you for your attention.

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# Late Application for Asylum and the „EASY Gap“

Tranche 1 (M3): registered adults as of Jan. 2016 (N=10,400)

Tranche 2 (M3): *newly* registered adults as of April 2016 (N=5,200)

Tranche 3 (M4): registered adults as of April 2016 (N=5,850)

Tranche 4 (M4): registered underage persons as of June 2016 (N=9,750)

Tranche 5 (M5): *newly* registered adults as of Jan. 2017 (N=3,368)

Tranche 6 (M5): adults arrived between Jan. 2016 / Jan. 2017 (N=2,482)

# Questionnaire for Refugee Samples (M3, M4 & M5)

- **Individual biography questionnaire:**
  - Country of origin
  - How respondent came to Germany
  - Status of asylum procedure
  - Arrival in Germany
  - Intention to stay
  - Language knowledge
  - Support / networks
  - Employment (prior to coming to Germany and now), income
  - Education, training, and qualifications (in country of origin, recognition of qualifications, qualifications already obtained in Germany, currently ongoing training, numbers and figures test)

# Questionnaire for Refugee Samples (M3, M4 & M5)

- **Individual biography questionnaire:**
  - Health (SF12, loneliness, resilience, fear and depression, self-esteem)
  - Personality (reciprocity, control beliefs, risk-taking)
  - Attitudes and opinions (connection to country of origin, feeling welcome in Germany, perceptions of discrimination, religion, worries, political interest in country of origin and in Germany, conception of democracy, gender role images)
  - Expectations for the future in relation to education and labor market participation
  - Family situation
  - Payments made
  - Request for consent to record linkage

# Questionnaire of the Refugee-Samples (M3, M4 & M5)

- **Household questionnaire:**
  - Current housing / apartment
  - Transfers received
  - Provision of daily necessities
  - Participation
  - Children (attendance of daycare, preschool, school)