

Archives as full partners in transnational micro-data access

- UK and France examples

Paul Jackson and Michel Isnard

ONS and INSEE

DwB

UK Economic and Social Data Service (ESDS) is not cheap:

- UK Economic and Social Data Service economic case examined in 2012
- http://www.esrc.ac.uk/images/ESDS_Economic_Impact_Evaluation_tcm8-22229.pdf
 - » Depositor costs = £20 million/yr (approx £24,000 per dataset)
 - » ESDS annual budget = £3.3 million/yr
 - » Cost to UK approx £24 million/yr
- (Actually, £3.3 million/yr is excellent value...)
- **Why should UK invest £24 million per year in a data archive?**

ESDS is valued by users:

- UK Economic and Social Data Service economic case examined in 2012
- http://www.esrc.ac.uk/images/ESDS_Economic_Impact_Evaluation_tcm8-22229.pdf
 - » Users would ask for £100 million in compensation if the service was removed ("willingness to accept")
 - » 56,000 micro-data downloads per year
 - » 121,000 remote job submissions per year
 - » Approx 700 different institutional users
- **Is that worth a UK investment of £24 million per year?**

ESDS is an economic asset to UK:

- UK Economic and Social Data Service economic case examined in 2012
- http://www.esrc.ac.uk/images/ESDS_Economic_Impact_Evaluation_tcm8-22229.pdf
 - » Efficiency gain for academic data users of approx £100 million/yr
 - » Other gains for users/society of approx £100 million/yr
 - » Net economic value return on ESDS investment = 5 to 1
 - » Full return on investment ratio = 10 to 1
- **£24 million made into approx £200 million.**
- **Good economic case.**

How is this RoI achieved?

- **Capture and Growth of the data assets**
 - » Excellent relationship with data providers
 - » Build the range of sources
 - » Deposits of new data a condition of research grants
 - » Accept data unconditionally...
 - » ...but lobby depositors for the best quality data possible
 - » Minimise administration costs
 - » Catalogue and make visible the collection

How is this RoI achieved?

- **Maximise use of the captured data assets**
 - » Minimise barriers to access
 - » On-demand access
 - » Guaranteed continuity of access
 - » Authenticity of sources
 - » Excellent online catalogue and website
 - » Recognise the depositor investment
 - » Free at point of use

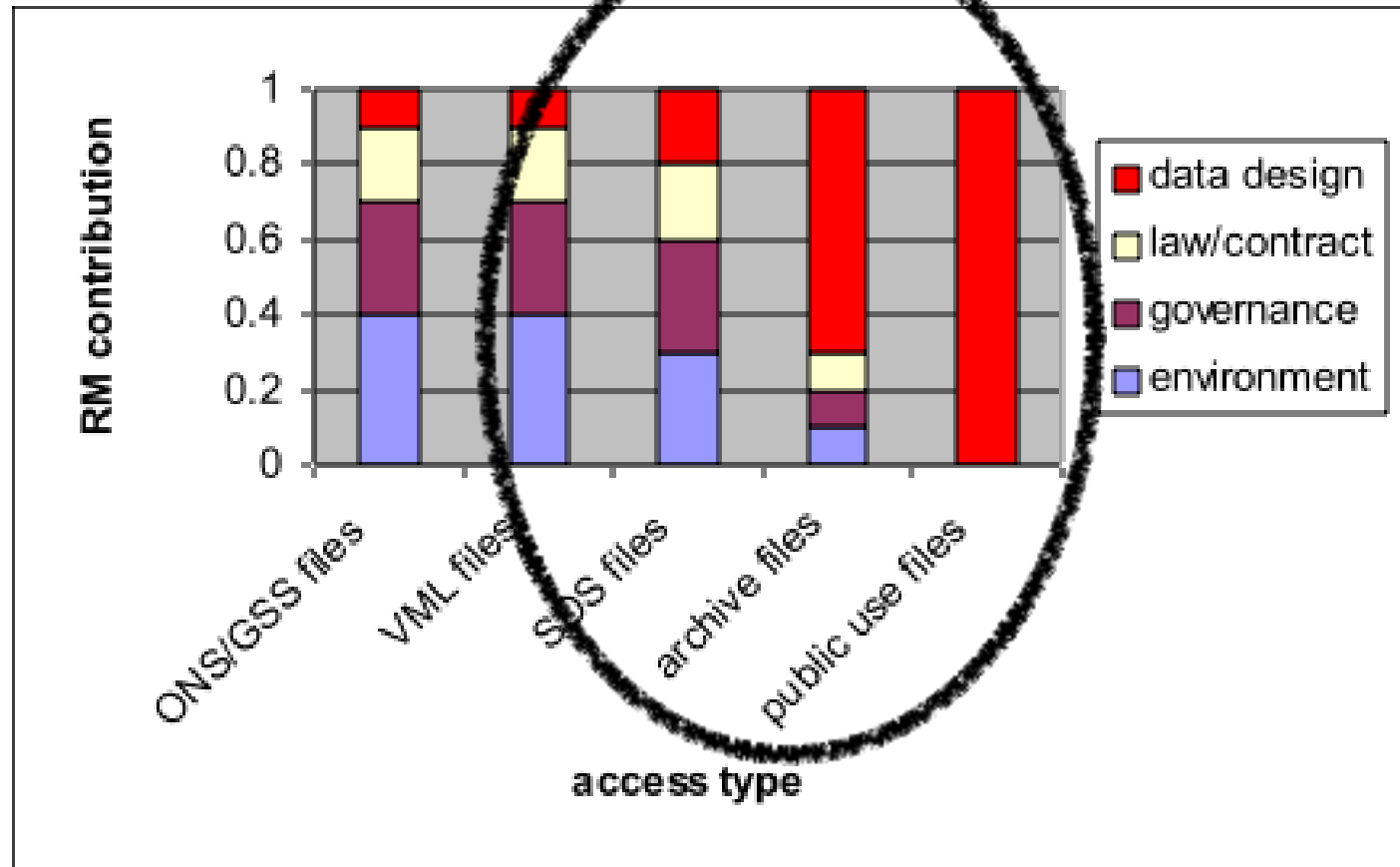
Use of ESDS by ONS

- **Capture and Growth of the data assets**
 - » All ONS social surveys generate an ESDS dataset in both anonymised and scientific use formats
 - » Prompt deposit, just 1 wave of embargo
 - » Negotiate and agree the balance of risk to utility, given access controls
 - » Partnership approach - minimise duplication of services
 - » Agreed delegations of responsibilities
 - » No money changes hands

Use of ESDS by ONS

- **Maximising use of the data assets**
 - » Let the experts in data access administer the data access
 - » ...and the data cataloging
 - » ...and researcher user liaison
 - » ...and the metadata
 - » ...and licencing
 - » ...and output checking
 - » ...and data distribution
 - » ...and remote access
 - » ...and remote job submission...

ESDS services in the spectrum :



ESDS and transnational access?

- **Same formula:**
- **Secure growth of the data assets**
 - » Deposit data marked suitable for international use using the same discipline as for national use.
- **Maximise use of the data assets**
 - » Seek "equivalence with evidence" for license / contact terms
 - » ...and for researcher accreditation.
 - » Seek partner organisations with evidenced equivalent practices in administration of data access
- **Trust, not faith, as the basis for transnational access**
- **This partnership will be tested when the means of statistical production change in the future.**

The French Experience

Another way to look at NSI – DA cooperation



The French experience

- In the 80s, Insee wants to enable access to Household Scientific Use File to researchers
- Two questions arose :
 - What is a researcher ?
 - Is this person requesting some data a researcher or not ?

The French Experience

- Insee unable to answer clearly to this question

=>Cooperation with research world

- Definitions worked out by Insee and Reseau Quetelet
- Insee delegates to Reseau Quetelet :
 - Accreditation for SUF, even for foreign researchers
 - Access to the Data
 - First level support
- Insee is giving to Reseau Quetelet the SUF of every new survey and documentation

The French Experience

- Both Parties satisfied with the arrangement, even if there could be some problems (delays, documentation incomplete, ..)
- Researchers are satisfied :
 - 62% satisfied by RQ intervention
 - 72% satisfied by RQ support to researchers

The French Experience

- Some dates
 - **1986** : First contract of Insee with LASMAS CNRS (predecessor of Quetelet) only for CNRS researchers in 1986, followed by similar contracts of statistical departments during the next decade.
 - **2001** : new contract allowed extension of access to all universities, PHD, masters and to foreign universities. Also allowed campus files.
 - **2004** : Quetelet started cooperation with Insee to provide researchers bespoke tabulations
 - **2010** : Creation of CASD
 - **2012** : Insee's data through CASD
- Quetelet and Insee meet 2 or 3 times by year to discuss researchers needs and improve cooperation

The French Experience

- Partnership between Réseau Quetelet and CASD :
 - To give better support to researchers
 - Common portal being developed to serve as a unique entry point for researchers

Thanks for Listening

Paul.j.jackson@ons.gov.uk

Michel.Isnard@insee.fr



DwB
Data without Boundaries