

Eurofound and ETF work in the fields of living, working and learning

New surveys and research support available to EU neighbouring countries

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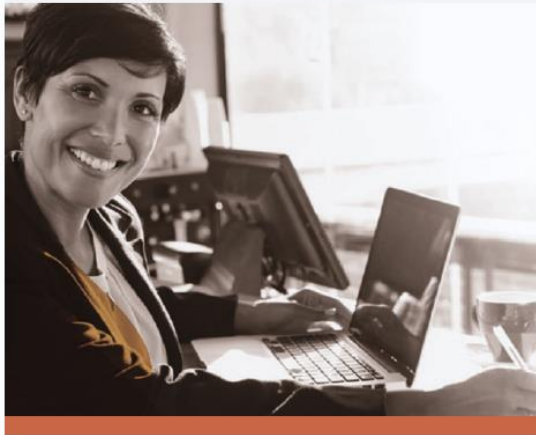
Content of today's presentation

1. Eurofound's traditional surveys and COVID-19
2. The Living, working and COVID-19 e-survey
3. The e-survey in EU neighbouring countries
4. Future work



Eurofound's traditional surveys

The European Working
Conditions Survey



**European Working
Conditions Survey**

1990/91; 1995/96; 2000;
2005; 2010; 2015; 2024
(EWCTS 2021)

The European
Quality of Life Survey



**European Quality of
Life Survey**

2003; 2007/8;
2011/12; 2016; 2026

The European
Company Survey

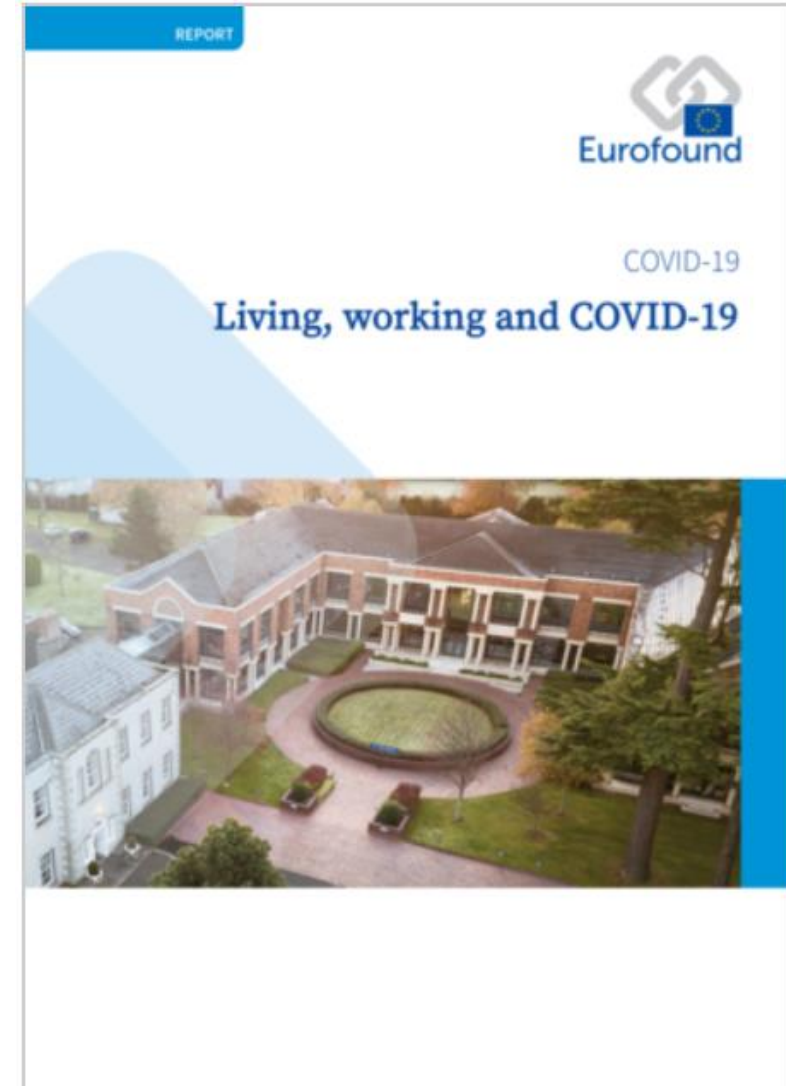


**European Company
Survey**

2004; 2009;
2013; 2019; 2028

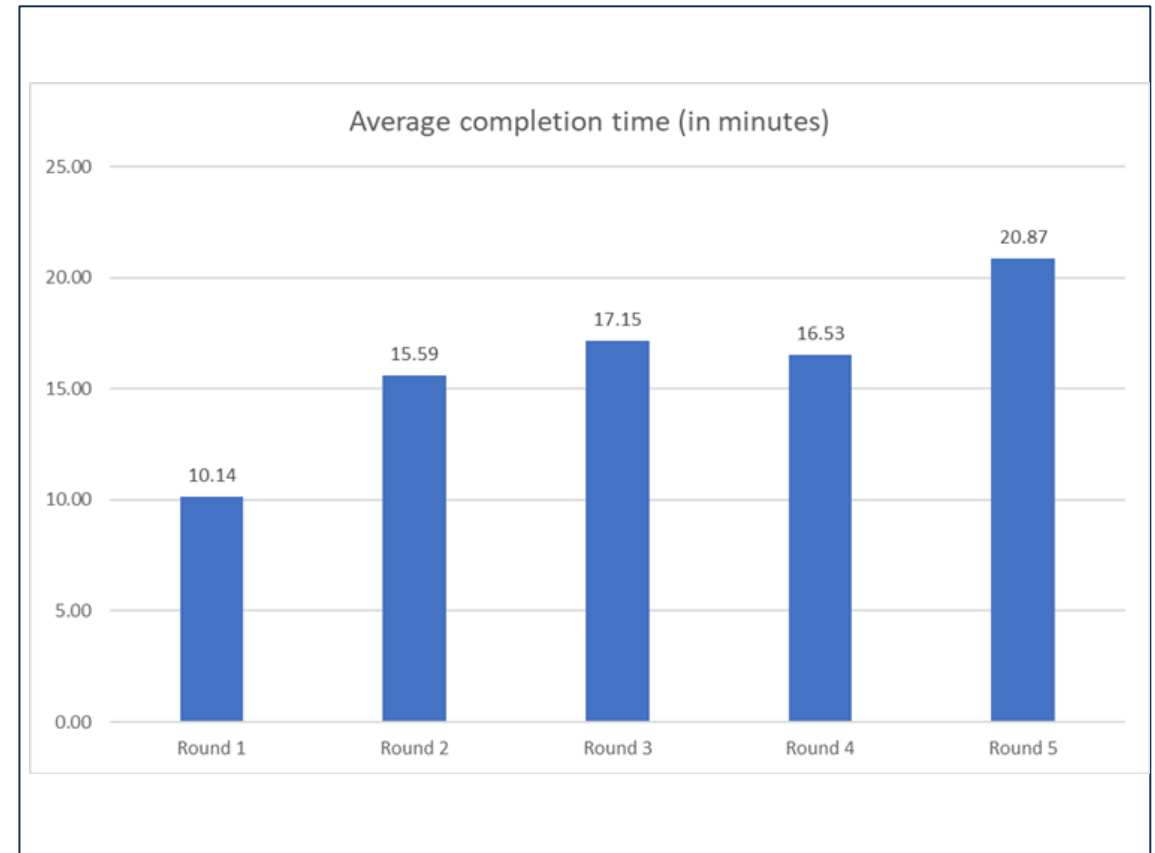
Changing survey landscape

- Eurofound is in the process of future-proofing the surveys with a long-term testing plan to transition to online data-collection.
- The advent of COVID-19 led Eurofound to move the EWCS from CAPI to CATI and to quickly launch a new survey: the Living, Working and Covid-19 (LWC-19) e-survey.



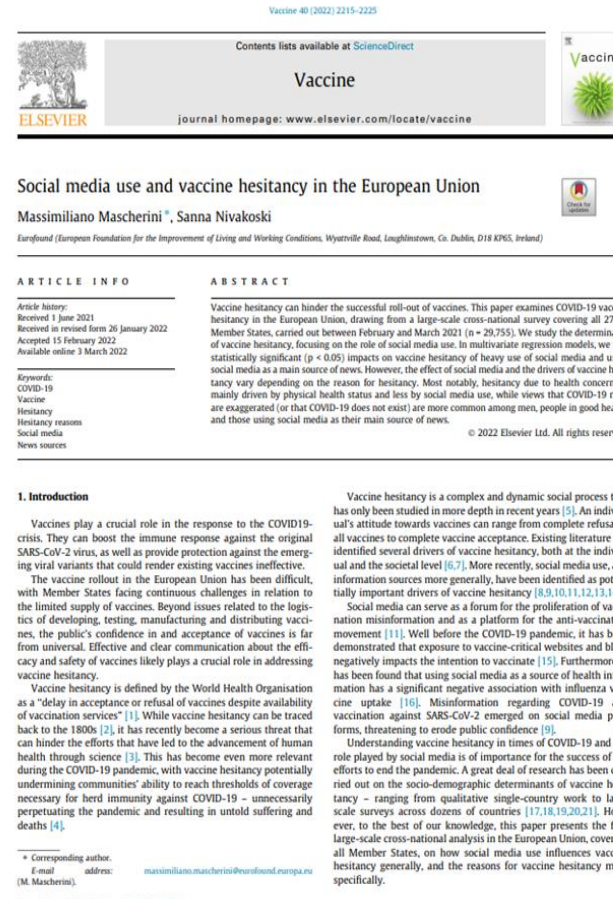
The LWC-19 e-survey: from hoping to get a 1000 cases to....

- Launched in April 2020, over 175,000 cases have been collected across the EU in 5 rounds:
 - April 2020 n= 67,685
 - July 2020 n= 24,143
 - March-April 2021 n= 46,800
 - October-November 2021 (Panel only) n=19,573
 - April-May 2022 n=38,951



...Becoming a very widely used data-source

- The LWC-19 e-survey reports were Eurofound's most downloaded publications in 2020/2021.
- Over 200 articles have been published to date in academic peer reviewed journals that mention the LWC-19 e-survey
- 4 papers from Eurofound staff have been published using data from the LWC-19 e-survey in academic peer reviewed journals



...that provided timely data

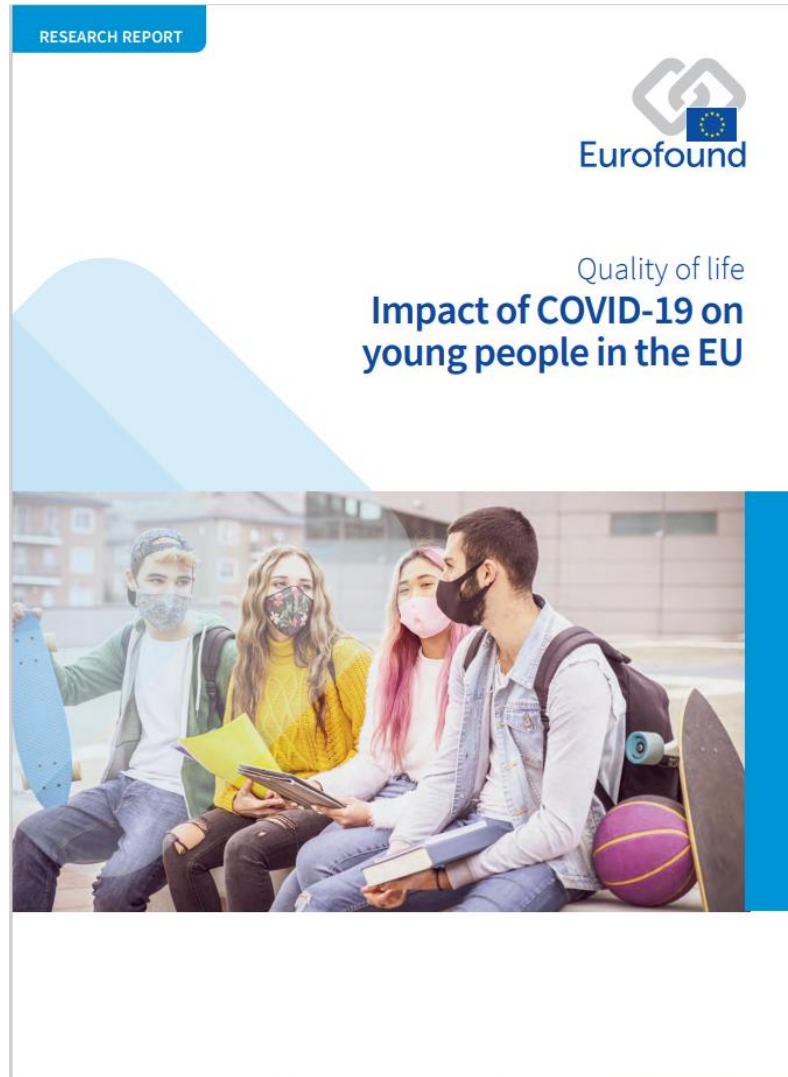
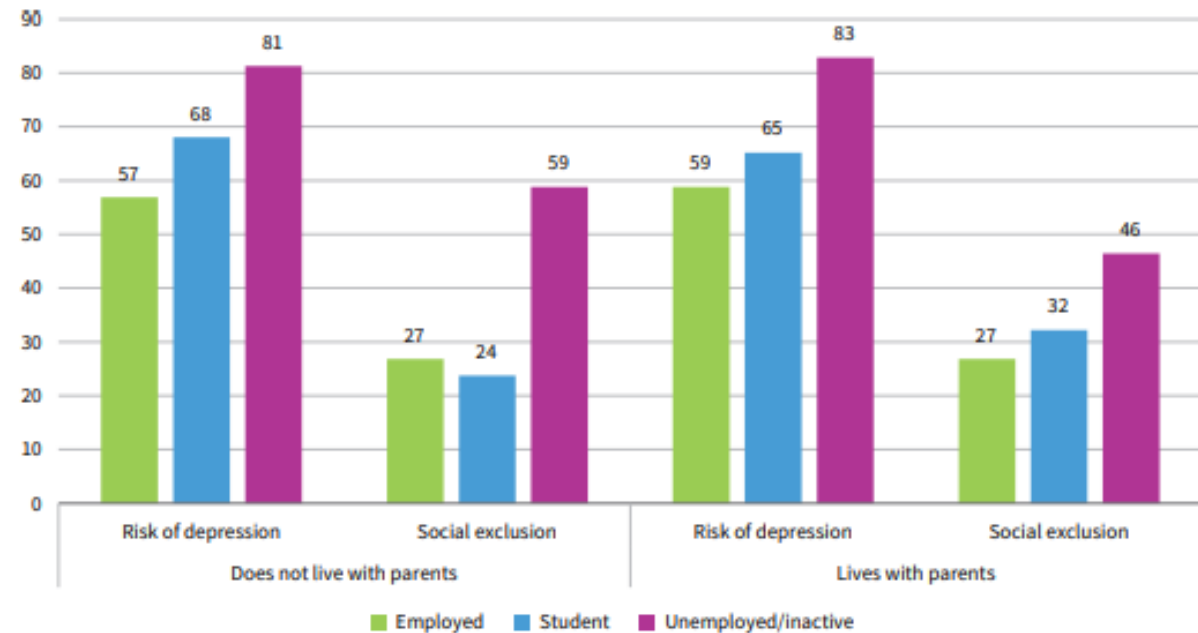


Figure 25: Proportions of young people aged 18–29 at risk of depression and feeling socially excluded by employment status and living situation, spring 2021 (%)



...as well as information where there's a data-gap

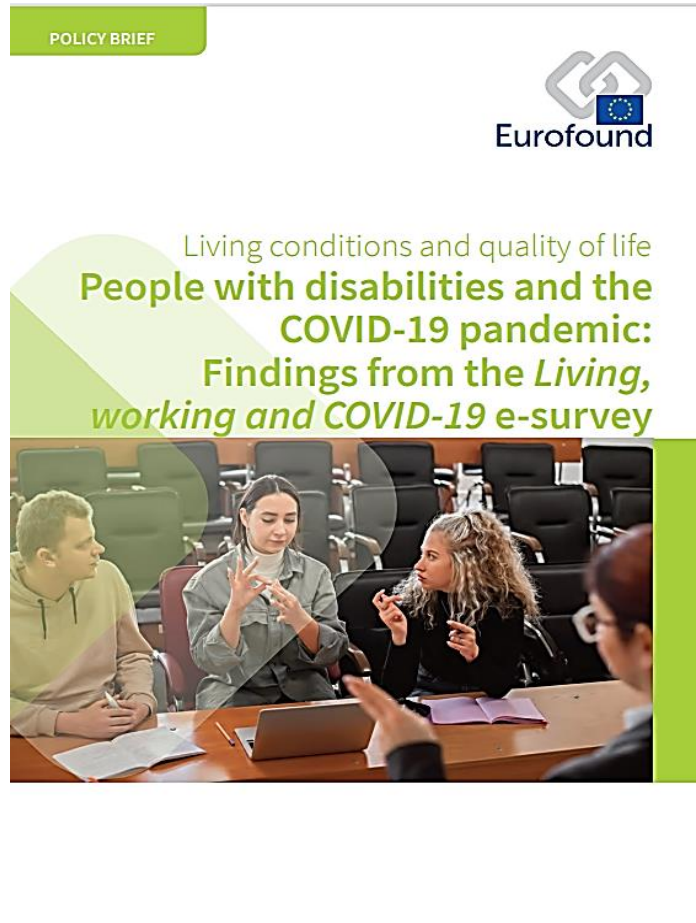
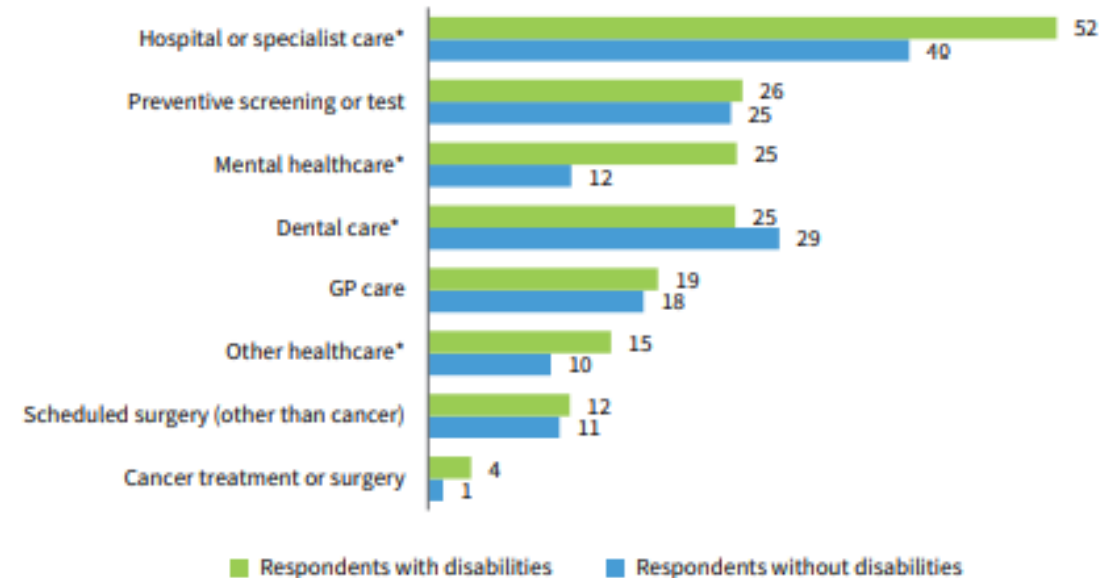


Figure 3: Unmet healthcare needs, by type of healthcare, respondents with and without disabilities compared (%), EU27, 2021



* denotes a statistically significant difference ($p < 0.05$) between respondents with and without disabilities.
Source: Living, working and COVID-19 e-survey; author's calculations

... that culminated in ETF joining forces with Eurofound...



- In spring 2022, the 5th round of the e-survey was piloted in 10 EU neighbouring countries
- ETF and EF presented the results in a joint publication
- A new e-survey is currently in the field in the EU27 and 17 neighbouring countries

[Living, working and COVID-19 in the European Union and 10 EU neighbouring countries | ETF \(europa.eu\)](#)

The methodology of the e-survey

- The sample is drawn through convenience sampling: the link to the survey is shared among stakeholders, then 'snowballed' further
- Social media advertising is used for additional coverage



The social media campaign

- Campaign objective is to generate responses to the e-survey across the countries
- Quota targets are set to reach 500 people per country (or more depending on population size), broken down into several categories
- Weekly meetings with the media company to monitor progress and adjust the campaign
- People potentially still outside coverage: elderly with low digital skills, vulnerable populations with no internet access, people who dislike social media, people who distrust the EU/are not interested in social issues
- People using adblockers can only see the survey if shared by friends, cannot be targeted
- Using different types of social media may help as well as different images

The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: coverage

- **10 countries in 2022:**

- Albania, Georgia, Jordan, Kosovo*, Lebanon, Moldova, Morocco, North Macedonia, Tunisia and Palestine**

- **17 countries in 2023:**

Albania, Georgia, Jordan, Kosovo*, Lebanon, Moldova, Morocco, North Macedonia, Tunisia, Palestine**, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Armenia, Egypt

** This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.*

*** This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual position of the Member States on this issue.*

The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: focus areas

Focus in 2022:

Experiences and perceptions linked to

- working, including teleworking patterns,
- quality of life, social conditions, poverty,
- work-life balance and well-being;
- education and skills development

(in Covid-19/post-Covid 19 context)

Outreach:

- 18 461 respondents from 10 neighbouring countries
- Higher number of responses from women, middle-aged and older people and tertiary-educated

Additional topics in 2023:

- Access and quality of work-based learning opportunities (apprenticeships, traineeships, other forms),
- Access to career guidance and counselling,
- Employment and income gaining by using online platforms or apps.

E-survey ongoing

The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: key findings

- **Widespread feelings of social exclusion among younger respondents**, with many expressing fears about their financial and job situation.
- **Health and mental well-being are a major concern across all countries.** 75% of those aged between 18 and 44 are at risk of depression in the EU neighbouring countries.
- **Women report a higher frequency of tiredness** due to performing most of the unpaid household work in their free time
- **Lack of sufficient access to education and training programmes and the low quality of education services** reported by most of EU neighbouring countries' respondents
- **Limited telework:** the highest proportions of respondents who never work from home among those whose jobs are entirely teleworkable registered in EU neighbouring countries

The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: youth in focus

- Lower levels of life satisfaction due to limited opportunities, leading to feeling of social exclusion
- Higher risks of depression

Feeling of being excluded from society (%)	EU neighbouring countries	EU-27
Ages 18-29	41%	28%
Ages 30-44	37%	26%
Ages 45-64	29%	21%

The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: key findings

- **Strong measures to prevent families from becoming homeless, improved childcare facilities and access to quality health services, including mental care.**
- **Gender-responsive active labour market measures targeting women and integrated employment, skills and social support to youth.**
- **Educational and training systems to offer genuine upskilling and reskilling opportunities for job seekers, people with lower skills and inactive.**
- **Quality employment opportunities and fair social protection systems**

Future work: surveys in the IPA countries

- Eurofound will field its 2024 European Working Conditions Survey (EWCS) in : Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia
- Funding has been received from DG NEAR to field the e-survey in 2024 and 2025 in the Western Balkan and Türkiye

Objectives: surveys in the IPA countries

- a. **Provision of comparative (trend) data** on working conditions and on quality of life as input to evidence-informed policy decisions in the beneficiary countries, allowing for cross-country comparisons and for monitoring changes overtime;
- b. Interpretation of data in national and regional context through **analysis and exchange**. This analysis can range from broad overviews of the data to more in-depth thematic topics;
- c. **Supporting** capacity building (notably through tri-partite dialogue);
- d. **Inclusion** of future stakeholders in Eurofound's activities;
- e. **Raising awareness** Eurofound's work within the **very limited** resources available;
- f. **Partnership** between Eurofound and ETF for joint implementation, processing and analysis of datasets covering EU-27 and neighbouring countries.

IPA survey outputs

- Analytical studies: 2021 EWCTs and of the 2024 and 2025 e-surveys;
- (Web)publishing based on four outputs;
- Expert meetings for all analytical studies;
- Seminars with stakeholders

Lessons learned from the e-survey

- E-surveys are a useful tool to:
 - respond quickly to a particular situation or development, as has been the case during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - fill in gaps in data
- The new e-survey tool and the traditional random-probability surveys complement each other to collect timely and policy-relevant data.
- The traditional high-quality random probability population surveys provide point-estimates needed to monitor trends in living and working conditions.

Thank you



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