



Challenges in developing cross-border Statistics

Perspective from a national statistician

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Why do we need cross-border statistics?

- ✓ Countries are not remote islands
- ✓ Extremely relevant for border regions
 - To identify opportunities and challenges
 - To monitor effects of cross-border policies

National stakeholders need this information!



Role of statistical institutes?

- Statistical institutes are ***able*** to produce statistics on (border) regions effectively
 - have detailed regional data
 - have knowledge on methods and sources
 - used to international coordination
- And are ***willing*** ...
 - If there is a genuine need for data

Examples of products: Open data website



DE ▾ INTERREG Erklrung API

Grenzdaten Open Data

zoeken



◀ Thema auswhlen



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[Grensdata.eu](https://grensdata.eu)



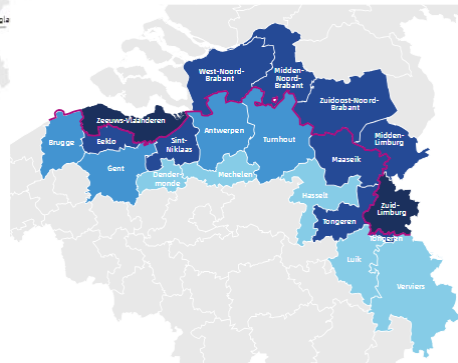
Important indicator: cross-border workers



DE-> NL



BE-> NL



Challenges: Data availability

1. High regional granularity is required
 - Administrative data
 - Machine generated data
2. International comparison
3. Flow data is desirable



Challenges: Organisation



1. National Statistical Institutes are reluctant
 - Is not an EU obligation
 - Mandated for *national* data only
 - (Border) regions no priority for national governments
2. Regional Statistical Institutes seem less equipped
 - Coordination of methods within countries is challenge
 - International coordination is not a regular task



Challenges: Finance

- Extra work means additional funding
 - Main beneficiaries are border regions ...
 - while funding should be at national level
 - At national level: which Ministry should finance?
 - NSI/Ministry responsible for regions/ Ministry responsible for statistics/ Ministries responsible for separate themes?

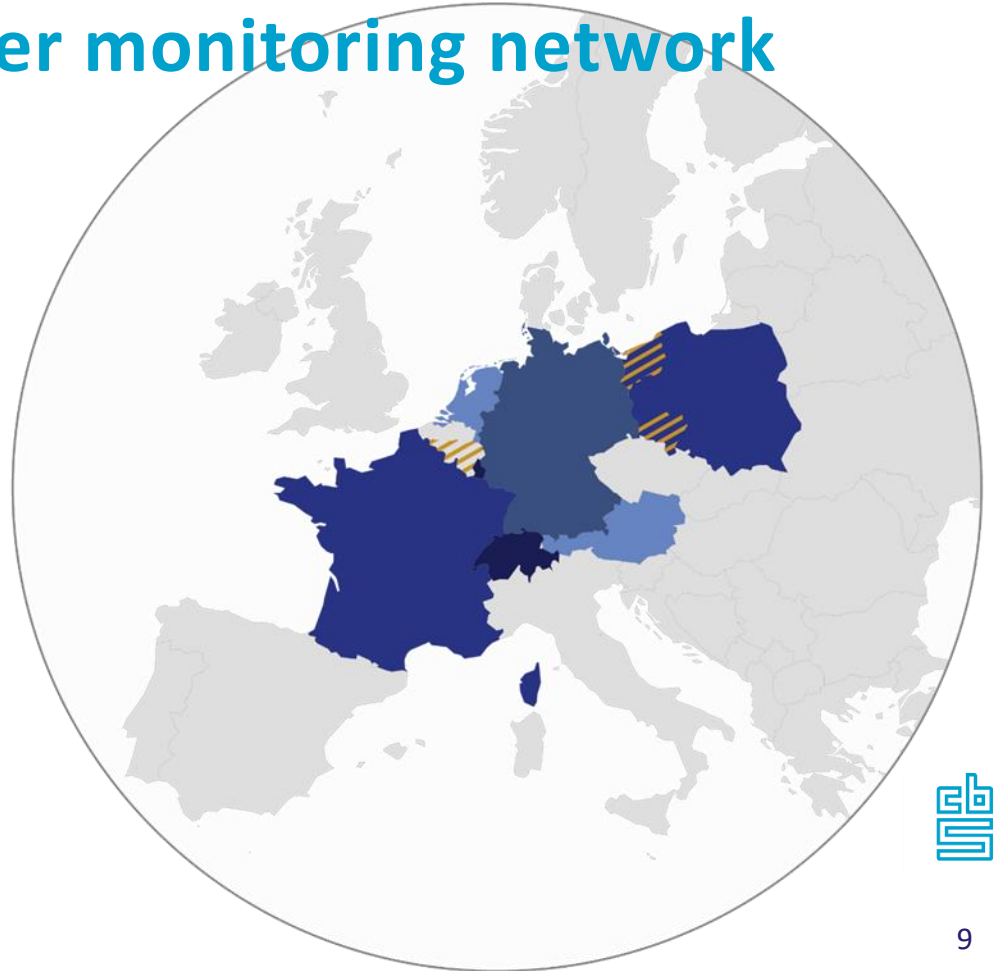


European cross-border monitoring network

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[website](#)



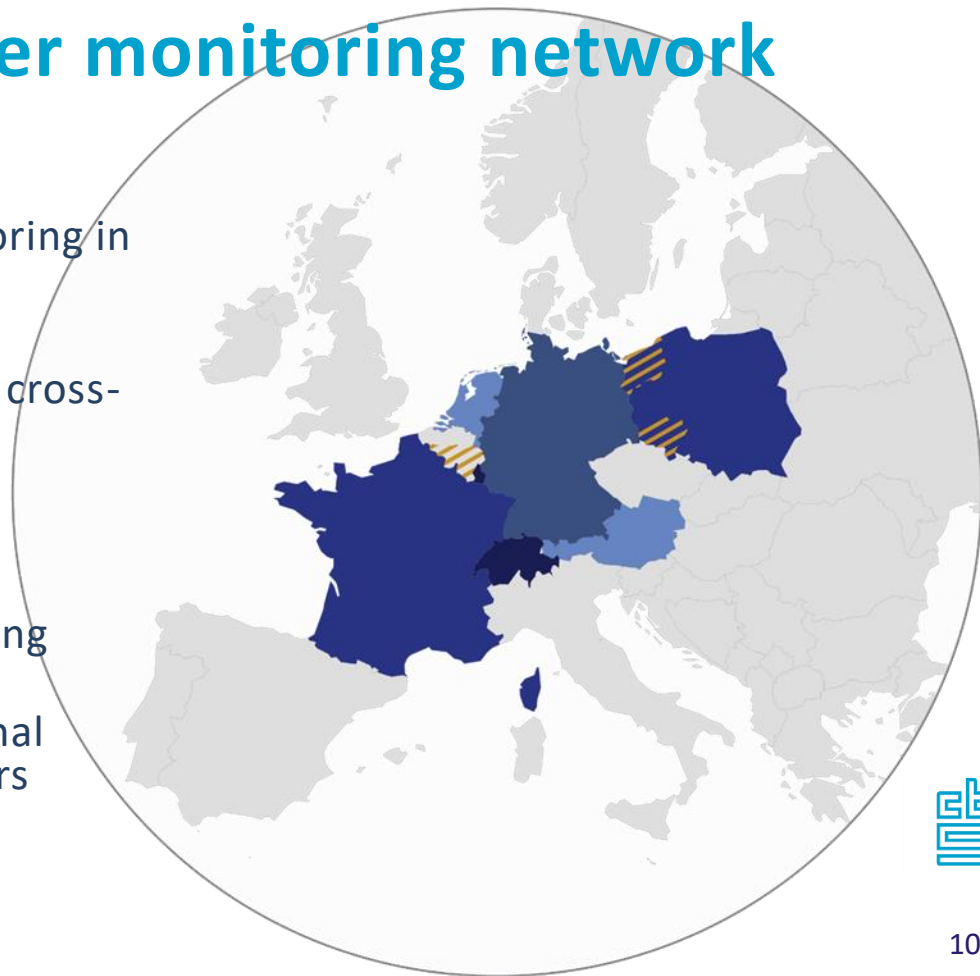
European cross-border monitoring network

➤ Goals

- ✓ improve territorial monitoring in cross-border areas
- ✓ facilitate access to data
- ✓ foster the development of cross-border statistics

➤ Objectives

- ✓ formulate needs and solving obstacles
- ✓ connect with (inter)national initiatives and stakeholders
- ✓ raise awareness



Appeal to you

1. Join the CM-network

- User or stakeholder of cross-border data
- Potential producer of cross-border data

2. Let us collaborate

- Data on cross-border workers for all countries in Europe
- Based on administrative data (social security register)

