



TOWARDS A EUROPEAN INFRASTRUCTURE OF RDCS

IDAN INTERNATIONAL
DATA ACCESS NETWORK

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On behalf of IDAN team

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OUTLINE

- **DO WE NEED A EUROPEAN INFRASTRUCTURE OF RDCS ?**

- **CONSTRAINTS AND DIFFICULTIES**

- **IDAN “QUICK WINS” APPROACH : FIRST OUTPUTS**

- **NEXT STEPS**

■ DO WE NEED A EUROPEAN INFRASTRUCTURE OF RDCs ?

- Increasing demand for access, pooling and linkage of administrative data from different domains
 - **Going Beyond DGP** requires a shift in mind from focusing solely on economic output to considering a broader range of factors that contribute to well-being and quality of life. Innovation in statistics plays a crucial role in this shift by enabling the measurement and analysis of these multidimensional aspects of societal progress. Mostly relying on an increasing joint use of administrative data from many domains.
 - Mostly highly detailed data requiring secured access
 - In progress in many countries at national levels
 - However still uneven and available in various ways
 - A huge amount of secured data sources from many different RDCs (data producers/data providers)
 - Generating silos at national level and even more at European/international level
 - Mostly not gathered at European level (Eurostat)

■ DO WE NEED A EUROPEAN INFRASTRUCTURE OF RDCs ?

- Do we have a demand for transnational access ?
 - Yes, based on current state of play of several RDCs providing such access across borders (CASD, CBS, IAB ...)
20% of CASD access points
 - For what use ?
 - Researchers' mobility increasing
 - Original data sources that might not be available in all countries
 - Researchers based in different countries requiring the possibilities to work together from their country (not necessarily for comparative research)
 - Comparative research requiring possibilities to work with data from different countries
 - Demand from international/European surveys managed by international teams requiring linkage with administrative data from different countries

■ CONSTRAINTS AND DIFFICULTIES

- **The researchers' ideal**

- Remote access preferably from their university with the same equipment, procedures, harmonized metadata, metadata translated
 - Allowing the possibilities to work with other researchers located in different places
 - Possibilities to pool or link the data when necessary
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- **Outputs from a previous EU project (FP7 DwB/Data without boundaries project 2011-2015 exploring the situation**

- On site, remote execution, remote access with different systems and equipment
 - Principles rather similar, however different interpretations for transnational access
 - Silos due to security requirements
 - A pilot for a secure distributed secure system
 - No follow up by the Commission
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- **Still the situation in spite of some progress : remote access and access across borders still uneven**

- **Other initiatives such as NordMan for a few years, INEXDA ...**

■ IDAN “QUICK WINS” APPROACH AND FIRST OUTPUTS



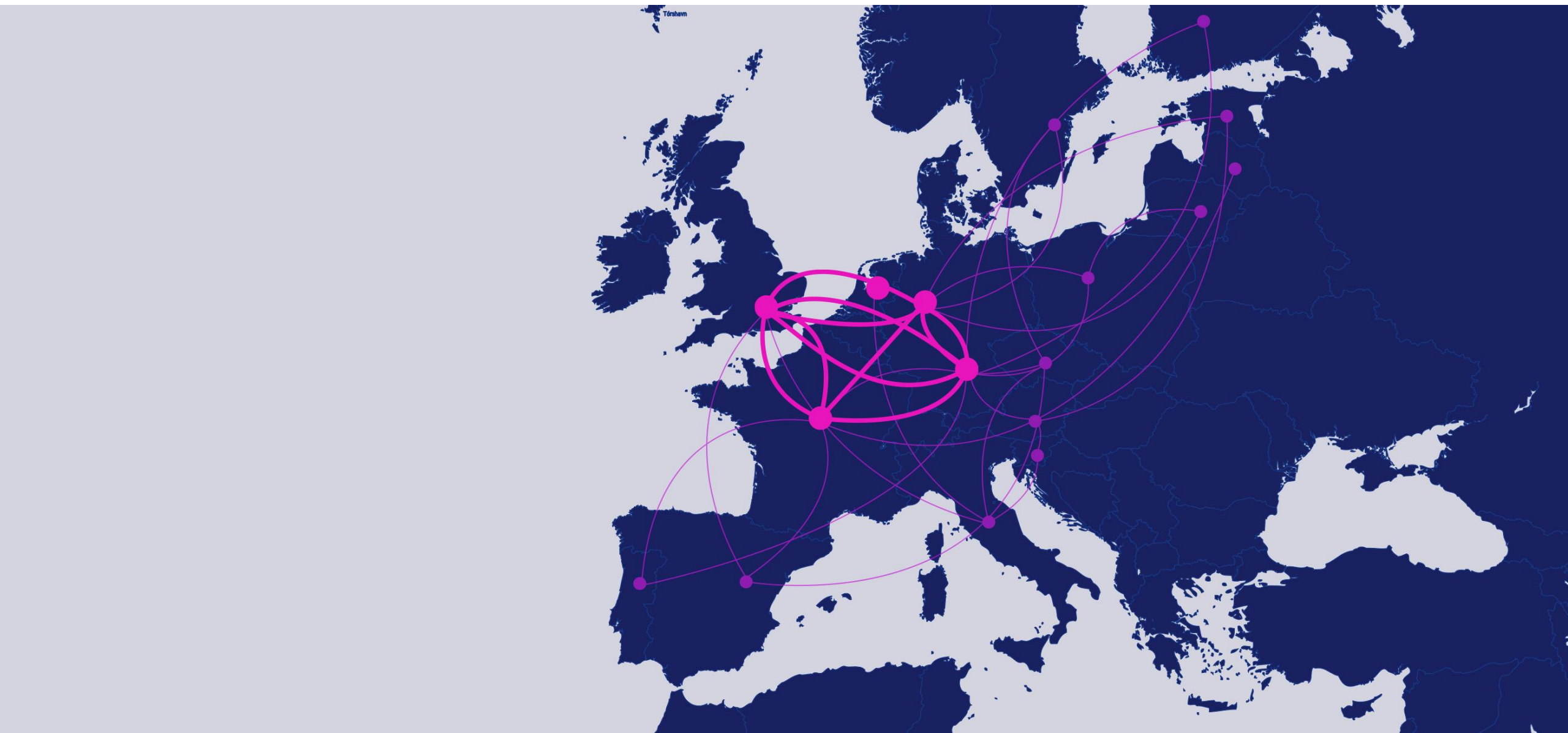
■ A - IDAN CONCEPT: START “WITH QUICK WINS”

- **Ideal system too complex and long to reach**
 - Too many issues to solve (legal, contractual, technical, financial ...)
 - **Decision for quick wins with first steps not too difficult to reach based on partners' own resources**
 - Based on the collaboration of a limited number of RDCs
 - Based on their own resources
 - Volunteers to move forwards facilitating secure remote access across borders to their data
 - Work to implement a secure remote access if not the case
 - Work to allow transnational access if not the case
 - **Concept**
 - Implementing reciprocal access of the different access points in the different RDCs
 - via bilateral contracts
 - via agreements on security requirements for the « IDAN facilities/safe room » hosting the partners access points
 - Accreditation, system for access, outputs control remain in the hands of the RDCs partners and their authorities
 - A website providing links to partners' data catalogues, harmonized information on partners' procedures for authorisation and links to the procedures
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So that

- Users can find all the partners' access points in the same place in their local RDC
- Users can find all the information on one place with direct links
- Less travel and easier to work from their country with data from different countries and work together with researchers from based in the partner RDCs

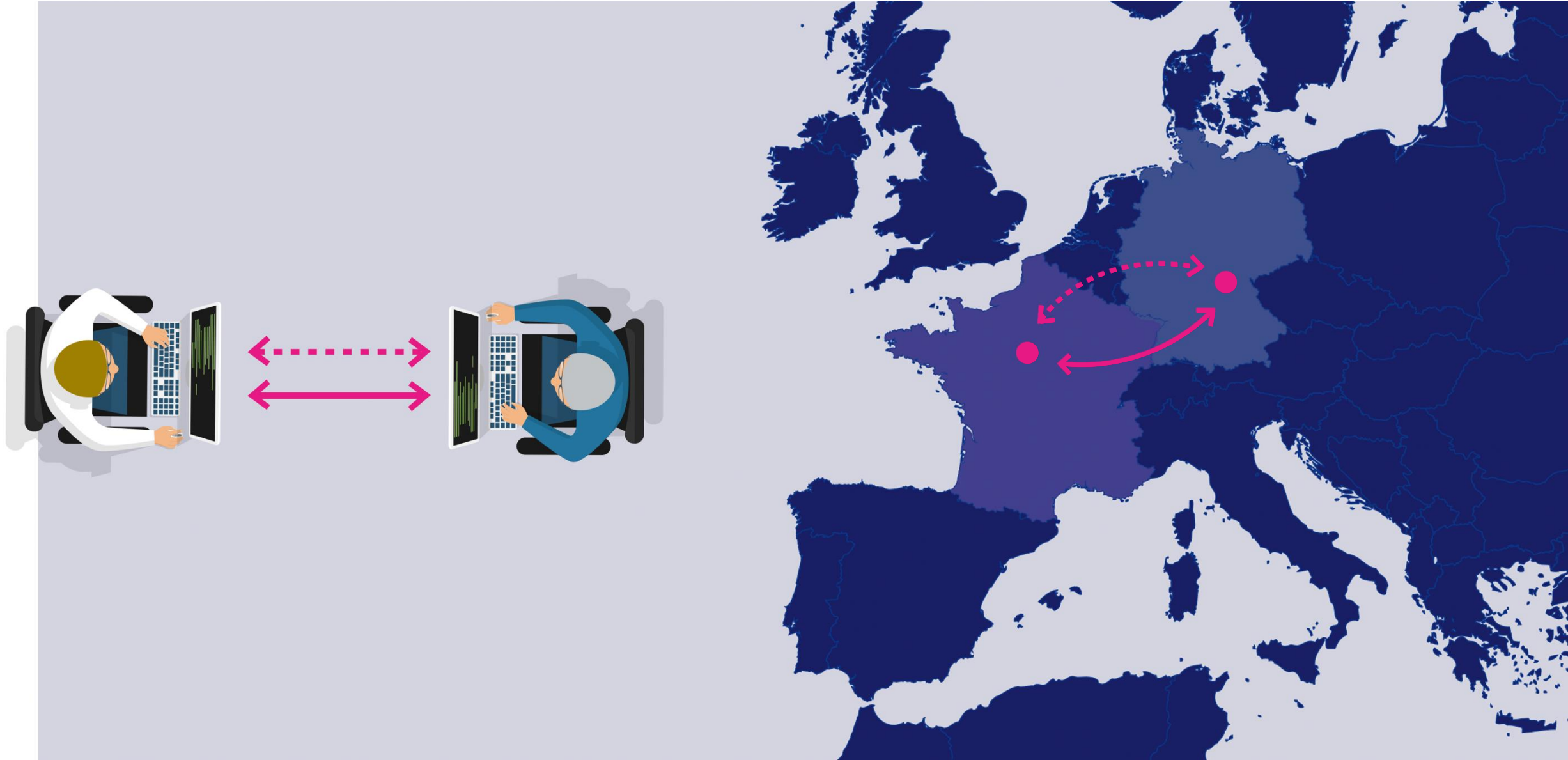
■ DEVELOP A NETWORK OF RDCS



■ SO THAT USERS CAN WORK FROM THEIR LOCAL PARTNER'S PREMISES



■ AND CAN WORK TOGETHER FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES



■ B OUTPUTS TILL NOW

- **Implementation of access points finalized in 4 RDCs from 3 countries**
 - CASD (Paris - France)
 - IAB/FDZ Institut for Employment Research/ Federal Employment Agency (Nuremberg - Germany)
 - GESIS (Mannheim and Köln - Germany)
 - UKDA Secure Lab (United Kingdom)
- **Facilities implemented (Safe rooms at RDCs) frequently welcoming users**
- **Trust built between partners that could help for future data sharing**

IDAN “QUICK WINS” APPROACH AND FIRST OUTPUTS

FRANCE

Once you get authorized, contact the partner's IDAN safe room to access the data and make reservations

CASD Secure data center

For further information on how to book the safe room please contact:
service@casd.eu or visit www.casd.eu.

> Safe Room booking procedure

> Contact



CASD
Access available



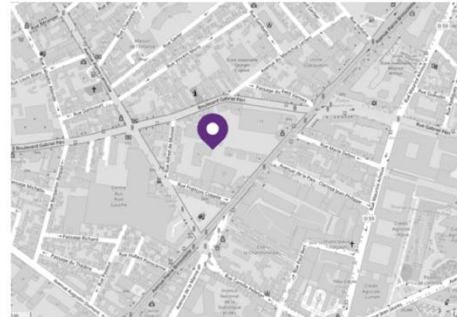
GESIS
On discussion



IAB
Access available



UKDS
Access available



Head Office:
Bâtiment Le Polaris - 76 avenue Pierre Brossollette - 92240 MALAKOFF - France

UK

Once you get authorized, contact the partner's IDAN safe room to access the data and make reservations

UKDS UK Data Service

For further information on how to book the safe room please contact:
help@ukdataservice.ac.uk or visit www.ukdataservice.ac.uk.

> Safe Room booking procedure

> Contact



CASD
Access available



GESIS
On discussion



IAB
Access available



UKDS
Access available



Head Office:
University of Essex Wivenhoe Park Colchester Essex CO4 3SQ - England

GERMANY

Once you get authorized, contact the partner's IDAN safe room to access the data and make reservations

GESIS (Mannheim) Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences

For further information on how to book the safe room please contact:
idan-mannheim@gesis.org or visit www.gesis.org/en/gml/safe-room-mannheim.

> Safe Room booking procedure

> Contact



CASD
Access available



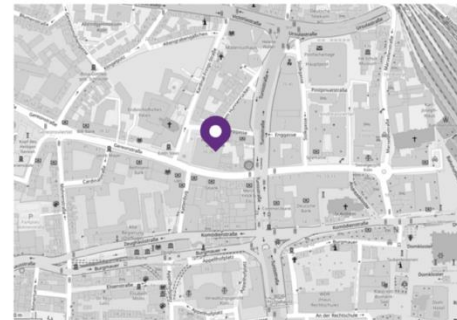
GESIS
Access available



IAB
Access available



UKDS
Access available



Head Office:
B6, 4-5 68159 Mannheim - Germany

GERMANY

Once you get authorized, contact the partner's IDAN safe room to access the data and make reservations

IAB Institute for Employment Research

For further information on how to book the safe room please contact:
iab.fdz@iab.de or visit fdz.iab.de/en/data-access/.

> Safe Room booking procedure

> Contact



CASD
Access available



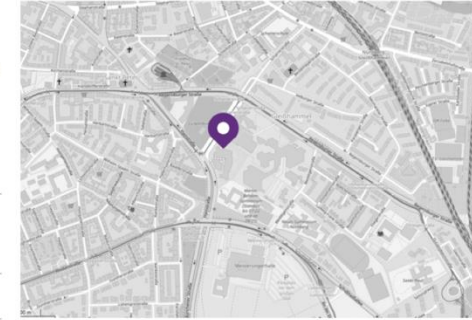
GESIS
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IAB
Access available

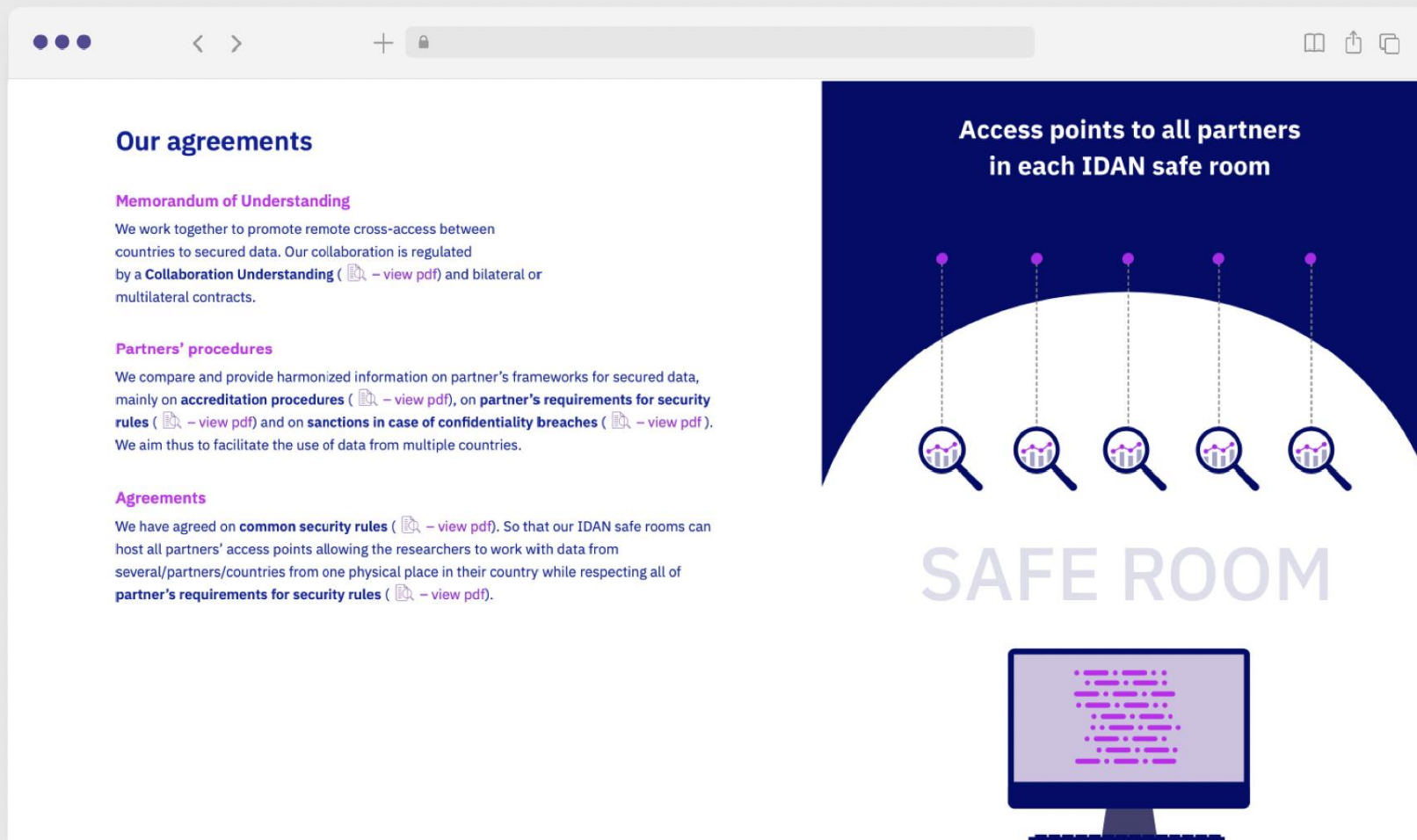


UKDS
Access available




Head Office:
Regensburger Straße 104 90478 Nürnberg - Germany

WHICH REQUIRED AGREEMENTS






Our agreements



Memorandum of Understanding

We work together to promote remote cross-access between countries to secured data. Our collaboration is regulated by a **Collaboration Understanding** ( - [view pdf](#)) and bilateral or multilateral contracts.

Partners' procedures

We compare and provide harmonized information on partner's frameworks for secured data, mainly on **accreditation procedures** ( - [view pdf](#)), on **partner's requirements for security rules** ( - [view pdf](#)) and on **sanctions in case of confidentiality breaches** ( - [view pdf](#)). We aim thus to facilitate the use of data from multiple countries.

Agreements

We have agreed on **common security rules** ( - [view pdf](#)). So that our IDAN safe rooms can host all partners' access points allowing the researchers to work with data from several/partners/countries from one physical place in their country while respecting all of **partner's requirements for security rules** ( - [view pdf](#)).

Access points to all partners in each IDAN safe room

SAFE ROOM

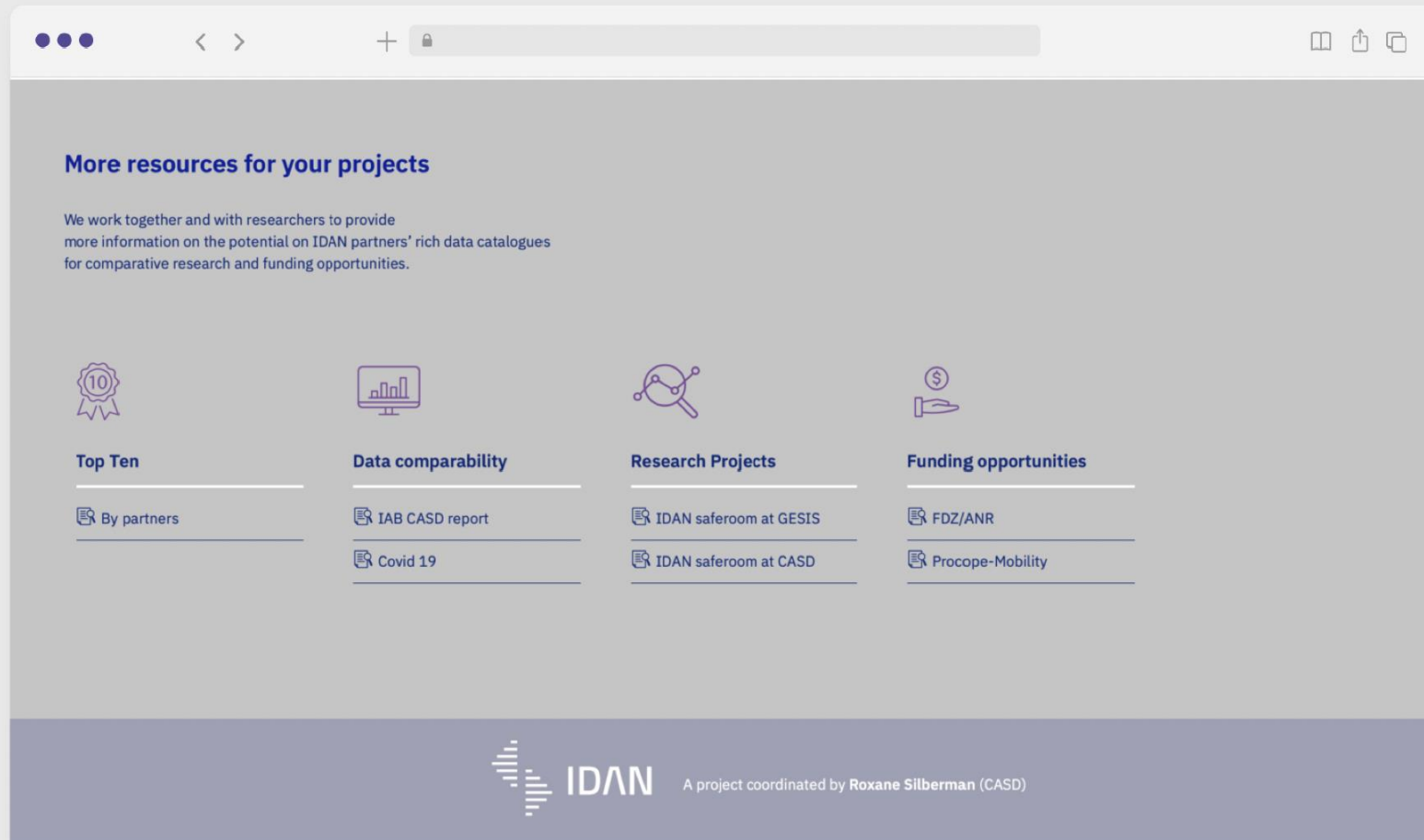
■ AND CHANGES FROM THE INITIAL SITUATION

- **IAB/FDZ and UKDA Secure Lab had on site access or remote access only allowed from their country**
 - Now available from the partners' premises
 - Allowed the implementation of partners' access points in their premises

- **CASD provided remote access across borders from EU and with specific conditions North America**
 - Implemented a safe room for hosting the partners' access points

- **GESIS only had an on site access**
 - Allowed the implementation of the partners' access points in their safe room
 - Work in progress for developing a remote access

FIRST RESEARCH PROJECTS AND MORE RESOURCES PROVIDED FOR THE USERS



NEXT STEPS

- **Achievement was not possible for 2 other partners : CBS and ONS**
 - CBS: provides remote access across borders but no safe room, not in their mandate to host access points
 - ONS still busy in setting up remote access at national level
 - **On-going discussions with other RDCs**
 - German Fund of Pensions, INE Portugal ...
 - Research centres involved in comparative work interested in hosting the IDAN partners' access points
 - **Enlargement with more flexibility required**
 - Allow different possibilities at different pace in order to build a dynamic path
 - With minimum requirements : access to confidential data for researchers
 - Focus on concrete development on access
-

➤ A workshop in 2025 for interested RDCs



THANK YOU

<https://idan.network>