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Editorial

Dear SHARE users and friends,

in early 2012 the Danish EU presidency opened the “European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations” and SHARE has been prominently featured and specifically contributed to debunking several myths (see below) concerning ageing and its consequences for European societies. As up-to-date data on the process of ageing plays a significant role not only for scientists but also for policy makers, we are happy to let you know that we are working on releasing the data of wave 4 in November.

Not only will you be able to use the data by the end of the year for your own research, we will also publish a new volume of our “First Results” book series (FRB), as well as a special FRB dealing exclusively with methodological matters of SHARE. Additionally we will publish a SHARELIFE special issue titled “One Century of Life Histories in Europe” which will exploit the retrospective dimension of SHARELIFE data in detail. Speaking of books, we are very glad that the first results based on SHARELIFE (wave 3) and published in “The Individual and the Welfare State” are quite popular in the research community as there have been more than 700 chapter download requests since May 2011.
Last but not least the preparations for wave 5 are underway and will keep us busy during the summer months in our new headquarters in Munich and in our SHARE country teams all around Europe.

Please read on for more information about the “European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations”, workshops and conferences, our reorganized website share-project.org as well as interesting new publications.

Yours sincerely,
Axel Börsch-Supan
Munich, June 2012

“European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity”

People all around Europe tend to worry about growing older, yet many factors about this complex process remain unclear to the public. At the same time the fraction of people reaching higher ages steadily increases which poses several challenges not only to individuals, but to society as a whole. It is for these reasons the Danish EU presidency declared 2012 the “European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity”. SHARE’s coordinator Prof. Axel Börsch-Supan, Ph.D. consequently talked about widely accepted myths considering the process of ageing and confronted these with recent scientific evidence. He came to the conclusion that population ageing can be actively shaped by the implementation of policies that encourage healthy living, lifelong learning and labour market regulations which not only target the younger, but also the older generations. If you would like to know more about this topic, you can download the presentation right here. SHARE will be at the “Active Ageing – the Potential for Society”-conference in Dublin (July 9th-11th) where we will focus on the influence of social policies on intergenerational transfers.

SHARE workshops and conferences

Offering user friendly information and staying in touch with researchers using SHARE data all across Europe is of essential importance to us. The first Italian SHARE users’ conference will take place June 28th and 29th at the Ca’ Foscari University of Venice. The aim of the conference is to promote the exchange of research ideas and discuss results of ongoing research among international users of SHARE data. Papers on a wide range of fields including retirement and ageing, labour economics, public economics, health economics and demography will be presented and will ensure an exciting conference in Italy. To follow the conference, you can contact share@unive.it by June 24th. As there are only a few spots left, we ask you to send an email as soon as possible if you are interested in participating.

As you know, SHARE is not only active in Europe but also across the pond: SHARE will be represented at the 3rd International Panel Survey Methods Workshop (July 4th and 5th) in Melbourne, Australia as well as the 107th American Sociological Association annual meeting in Denver, Colorado
(August 17th to 20th). Together with other major German panel surveys SHARE will once again be
part of the “Research in Germany”-initiative. There will be a presentation in a workshop and an
exhibition stand. If you happen to be there for one of the conferences, do not hesitate to come by and
get in touch.

In September (24th – 26th), SHARE will also be part of the datalab workshop hosted by the University
of Bielefeld. The user workshop will cover the analytical potential of social science data and
specifically aims at introducing doctoral students to panel data. Guided by our database management
specialists, users will learn to work with SHARE data and will be provided with an overview of
research possibilities.

**Restructured and updated website**

We have restructured our website share-project.org from the ground up in order to increase its
usability. Now it should be much easier to find your way around and quickly access the information
needed. A lot of work has gone into the publications category over the past months, so make sure to
take a look as we have added several new interesting publications. Especially noteworthy are our new
sections “Policy Papers” and “Other”. For an overview of selected SHARE results we are also
updating our SHARE brochure. You will be able to download the new borchure from our website
within the next days.

Last but not least we also wanted to let you know that SHARE and its website have arrived in the age
of Web 2.0: we created a brand new facebook page for you to “like” and additionally started
“tweeting” relevant SHARE news – getting and staying in touch with SHARE has never been this
easy!

**Presentation of the SHARE team**

*Saša Mašič*
Saša joined the Slovenian SHARE country team in February 2011. She studied Social Informatics at
the University of Ljubljana (UL), with a focus on sociological research and the usage of information technologies in the process of social research. With experiences as a quantitative researcher in the survey agency, public relations and community affairs assistant at a large software company and in project management, she took over the position of Slovenian country team operator at The Institute for Economic Research (IER) in Ljubljana.

Marina Motsenok
Marina is SHARE operator for the Israeli country team. She obtained a BA degree in Sociology and Anthropology and an MA degree in Organizational Sociology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Prior to her work with SHARE, she was engaged in the private sector as a market analyst and in research at the Hebrew University in the study of rationality and decision making.

Selected new publications
SHARE increasingly aims to deliver a solid basis for policy discussions around world and therefore policy briefs issued by various renowned organizations have a new and prominent place on our website. Additionally we have decided to include papers and final theses written by students that base their work on SHARE data. We are very happy that SHARE data is increasingly used in universities and continuously work on promoting research concerning health, ageing and retirement in Europe. If you would like to let us know about new publications, please do not hesitate to send an email to info@share-project.org. For an overview of especially noteworthy new publications please refer to the


Please find a complete list of SHARE-based publications on our website share-project.org. Please help us to keep this list up-to-date by informing us about all SHARE-based publications. Moreover, always remember to include the user acknowledgement: “This paper uses data from SHARELIFE release 1, as of November 24th 2010 or SHARE release 2.5.0, as of May 24th 2011. The SHARE data collection has been primarily funded by the European Commission through the 5th framework programme (project QLK6-CT-2001-00360 in the thematic programme Quality of Life), through the 6th framework programme (projects SHARE-13, RII-CT-2006-062193, COMPARE, CIT5-CT-2005-028857, and SHARELIFE, CIT4-CT-2006-028812) and through the 7th framework programme (SHARE-PREP, 211909 and SHARE-LEAP, 227822). Additional funding from the U.S. National Institute on Aging (U01 AG09740-13S2, P01 AG005842, P01 AG08291, P30 AG12815, Y1-AG-4553-01 and OGHA 04-064, IAG BSR06-11, R21 AG025169) as well as from various national sources is gratefully acknowledged (see www.share-project.org for a full list of funding institutions).”

The recent acknowledgement version can be found in the section "Research Data Center" on the SHARE website.

Please always consider including your publications in the US archive PubMed Central to raise the awareness of our research worldwide. Information on the submission process can be found here (Method C).

Contact and imprint