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Welcome to the BigSurv20 Bugle

The BigSurv20 Bugle supplements the [BigSurv20 webpage](#) and the [BigSurv20 Twitter feed](#). Please reach out to us at info@bigSurv20.org if there is a topic you would like for us to discuss in a future newsletter.

COVID-19 Monitoring

The BigSurv20 Scientific Committee is committed to ensuring the health and safety of its participants and host country residents. Because of this, we are actively monitoring the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) on travel and safety. As of now, there are no planned changes to the BigSurv20 conference or to pre-conference activities. However, we will continue to monitor the situation and will be holding a BigSurv20 Scientific Committee meeting in May to determine whether any changes need to be made. We will keep you updated through our [BigSurv20 webpage](#).



In Search of Big Data Challenge Ideas

We've extended the Big Data Challenge idea submission deadline to May 15th. Please consider submitting an idea.

As we discussed in this space last month, we're inviting you to become a challenge owner by submitting data challenge ideas for use in the BigSurv20 Big Data Challenge (BDC). Challenge owners are invited to pitch their challenge at the start of the BDC event and to coach teams that are working on their challenge. **There will be benefits for the challenge owners including a night of accommodations, free registration to the main conference, and food/drink during the BDC!**

In this newsletter, we will spend a little time discussing hypothetical examples to spark some thoughts for BDC idea submissions. We are looking for challenge ideas that force the teams to create their own data. Here are two examples:

(1) If a challenge idea asked teams to identify ways to measure time use of individuals, BDC

teams could use wearable data-collecting devices and sensors in combination with administrative or survey data.

(2) If a challenge idea asked teams to measure energy usage of households, BDC teams could use energy meters and in-house sensor systems in combination with administrative data.

In both examples, the challenges were conceptual in that teams would be asked to generate data during the event and prove the data would solve the challenge. To aid in the data generating, teams will be equipped with data-collecting sensors, devices, and hardware. To submit a BDC challenge idea, use the "Submit Challenge" button on the [BigSurv20 BDC webpage](#).





Sneak Peek

Announcing the BigSurv20 Plenary Session and Speakers

We are excited to announce the plenary panel topic and speaker list for BigSurv20! The plenary session will focus on the topic of data and privacy and will feature an expert lineup of speakers and perspectives from the U.S., Europe, and Africa. These speakers will cover a wide variety of topics including differential privacy, perspectives on data and privacy in the global south, trust amongst technology platform users, ethical data use, and the emerging concept of “data counseling”. Our panel speakers will be:

- Jennifer Hunter Childs, Assistant Center Chief for Emerging Methods and Applications at the U.S. Census Bureau
- Dr. Chipo Dendere, a Zimbabwean-born scholar of political science, who is Chair of Social Science One’s Africa Committee and Post-Doctoral fellow at Amherst College
- Dr. Radha Iyengar Plumb, Director for Trust and Safety Research and Insights at Google
- Bianca Marcu, the Senior Advocacy and Standards Programmes Coordinator at ESOMAR, a not-for-profit organisation that promotes the value of market, opinion, and social research and data analytics

The panel will be moderated by Dr. Amelia Burke-Garcia, Digital Strategy and Outreach Program Area Director at NORC at the University of Chicago.

More details on the day, time, and location of the panel will be forthcoming.

BigSurv20 Abstract Review Process

Are you curious how the 250+ abstracts submitted to BigSurv20 are reviewed and evaluated? If so, please read on my friend!

So you’ve crafted a fantastic abstract, submitted it a few weeks ago, and now you’re twiddling your thumbs wondering what happens next. Well, you’ve come to the right place. This article provides an overview of the process used to review all abstracts submitted to BigSurv20.

Step 1: Each abstract receives three independent reviews. Using a scale of 1 (unacceptable) to 5 (outstanding), the reviewers are asked to rate each abstract using the following criteria:

- **Readability:** Is the abstract well written and clearly organized?
- **Relevance:** Does this abstract describe research that either combines survey research and big data, discusses emerging analysis techniques, has the potential to extend to larger or complex data sets, or aligns with one of the presentation track categories?
- **Technical quality:** Are the research methods sound, and do the results appropriately address the research questions?
- **Novelty:** Is the research a novel contribution to the community/do we learn something new?
- **Implications:** Will this research stimulate discussion at the conference? Does it draw broader implications that would advance the literature?
- **Overall:** How would you rate the abstract submission overall?

Finally, the reviewers are asked to select one of the following recommendations:

- Accept as a paper/post/demo presentation
- As applicable: Accept for publication outlet
- Reject

Step 2: Using the independent reviews as input into their discussions, a subcommittee of the BigSurv20 Scientific Committee discussed the merit of each abstract and its fit within the BigSurv20 Program in order to determine whether to accept or reject the abstract. By the end of the meeting, the subcommittee made a final accept/reject decision on every abstract and drafted a preliminary program.

Step 3: In early April, the BigSurv20 Scientific Committee will email abstract accept/reject decisions.

Monthly Q&A about the Netherlands



Q: What’s the deal with the color orange in the Netherlands?

A: Orange is the traditional color of the [Dutch Royal Family](#), which hails from the House of Orange. Orange is a city in the south of France, close to the Côte d’Azur. It was part of the heritage that Willem of Orange received, the first ‘king’ of the Netherlands. For special events, especially related to the royal family, a small orange flag is added to the national flag. So the color goes back some 450 years. (Sources: Barry Schouten and www.dutchamsterdam.nl)