

Trusted data – trusted statistics

Twelfth Plenary Meeting UN-GGIM: Europe

On behalf of Mariana KOTZEVA, Director-General of Eurostat

Márta NAGY-ROTHENGASS, Eurostat

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Overview



Challenges



Value and importance of trusted data

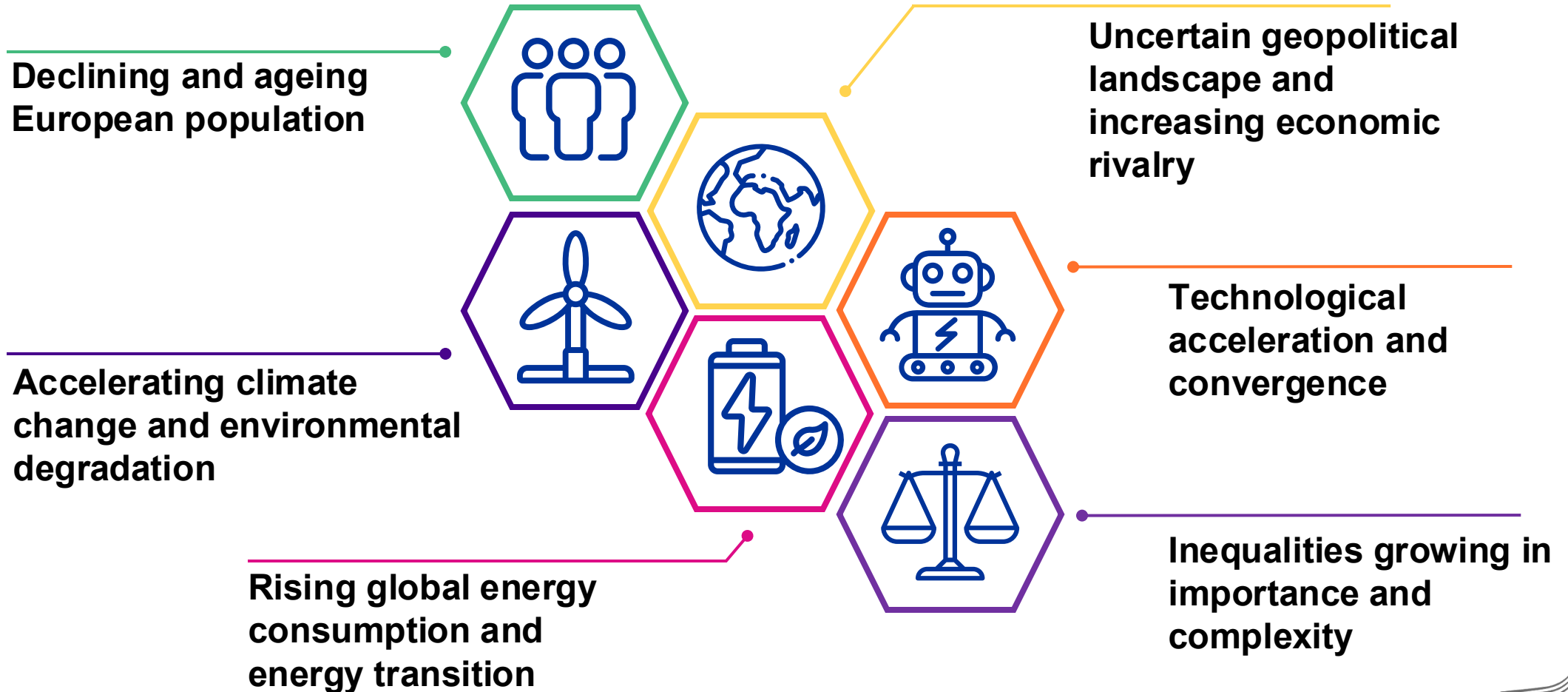


Addressing the challenges



Challenges

Overall trends impacting the demand for statistical information



Fast-changing societies



Increasingly complex issues
on which NSOs are being
asked to produce statistics



Policy timetables
are becoming
more pressing



Increased sense
of privacy



Growing political
polarisation

Fast-changing technologies



Generative
Artificial
Intelligence
(AI)



Cloud and
edge
computing



Cybersecurity &
Privacy
enhancing
technologies



Internet of
things (IoT)



Augmented
reality and
digital twins



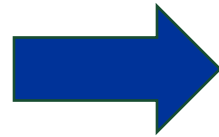
Increasing
availability of
new data
sources and
actors in
data
ecosystems



Changing way of information supply

Open Data from official statistics are becoming increasingly available through:

- Specialised third party data platforms
- AI-powered knowledge retrieval systems



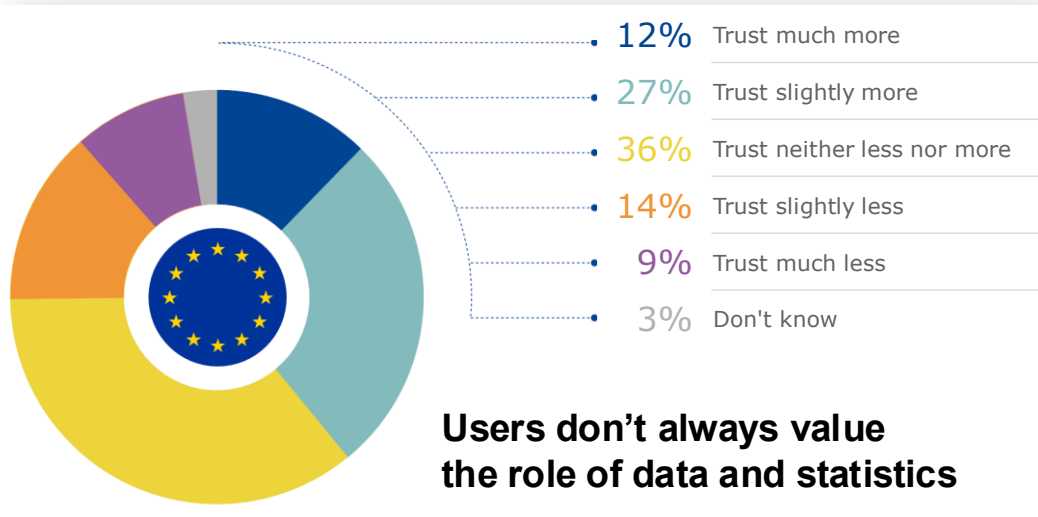
Confronting users with:

- Lack of transparency to evaluate and select the sources presented by search engines and chat bots
- Inconsistencies in data reported from different sources
- Outdated information and still significant AI hallucination
- Lack of metadata to fact-check the AI generated answers

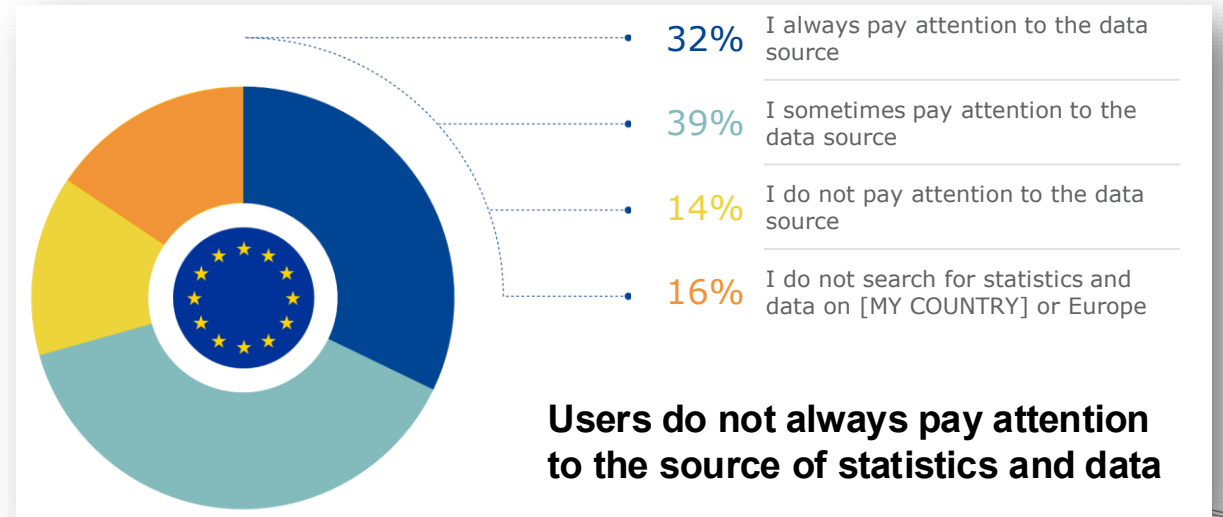
Changing user behaviour

- Users seek information from people and sources they know
- They rely on personal opinions to form their own opinions
- They develop their own search engines in social media and online communities
- They use data to socialise and engage

Do you trust information more or less if it is backed up by statistics and data? (% EU27)



Searching for statistics and data on your country or Europe, how much attention do you pay to the source? (% EU27)



(Eurobarometer survey, October 2023)





Value and importance of trusted data



Eurostat's mission

“Our mission is to provide high quality statistics and data on Europe.”



Three dimensions of quality in official statistics:

- the **institutional environment** in which the statistical authorities operate
- the **statistical processes** that produce them
- **statistical outputs.**

Facts matter

Independence

European statistics are produced in an independent, impartial and professional manner – free from any political or other external influence

Relevance

European statistics are based on user needs – proving especially relevant in times of crisis

Reliability

European statistics accurately and reliably portray reality – released in a timely and punctual way according to precise deadlines

Comparability

European statistics are coherent and comparable between countries over time – according to agreed standards and definitions

Accessibility

European statistics are easily accessible and clearly explained – accompanied by methodological descriptions to ensure clarity



EU thematic priorities for 2024-2029 – call for more trusted data



**Boosting
competitiveness
and productivity**



**EU economic
agenda and
governance
framework**



**Green transition
and fairness
aspects**



**Defence and
Security**



Addressing the challenges

How to respond to the challenges and evolving threats to the society?



Increase **statistical and data literacy**



Adopt legislation that **balances privacy and security**



Build partnerships and alliances to fight disinformation



Introduce **quality criteria and transparency standards** for search engines and AI based knowledge retrieval systems



Manage rapid technological advancements



To understand **technology trends** and follow them appropriately



To have in mind that different technology trends have different **impacts** on official statistics



To **choose** those that are expected to have the **greatest impact** on official statistics

Trusted data - might need more effort



Ensuring **validity and accuracy** of the outputs



Respecting **data subjects' privacy** and **protecting confidentiality**



Confirm the **principles** covering the institutional environment, the statistical production processes and the output of statistics.



Build trustworthiness into Smart Data: the data life-cycle needs to be auditable, transparent, with guarantees of accuracy and privacy by design, satisfy consent and purpose conditions, assessment boards, ...



Challenges to be addressed



How to balance the **growing demands** for more timely and granular statistics with limited available resources and budget declines?



How statistical offices can become **agile organisations** capable of rapid adaptation to new technologies?



How to build **flexible IT infrastructures** and ensure evolving skills sets that go beyond what is already available?

Thank you!

marta.nagy-rothengass@ec.europa.eu



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