



***Global data for diabetes and obesity research***

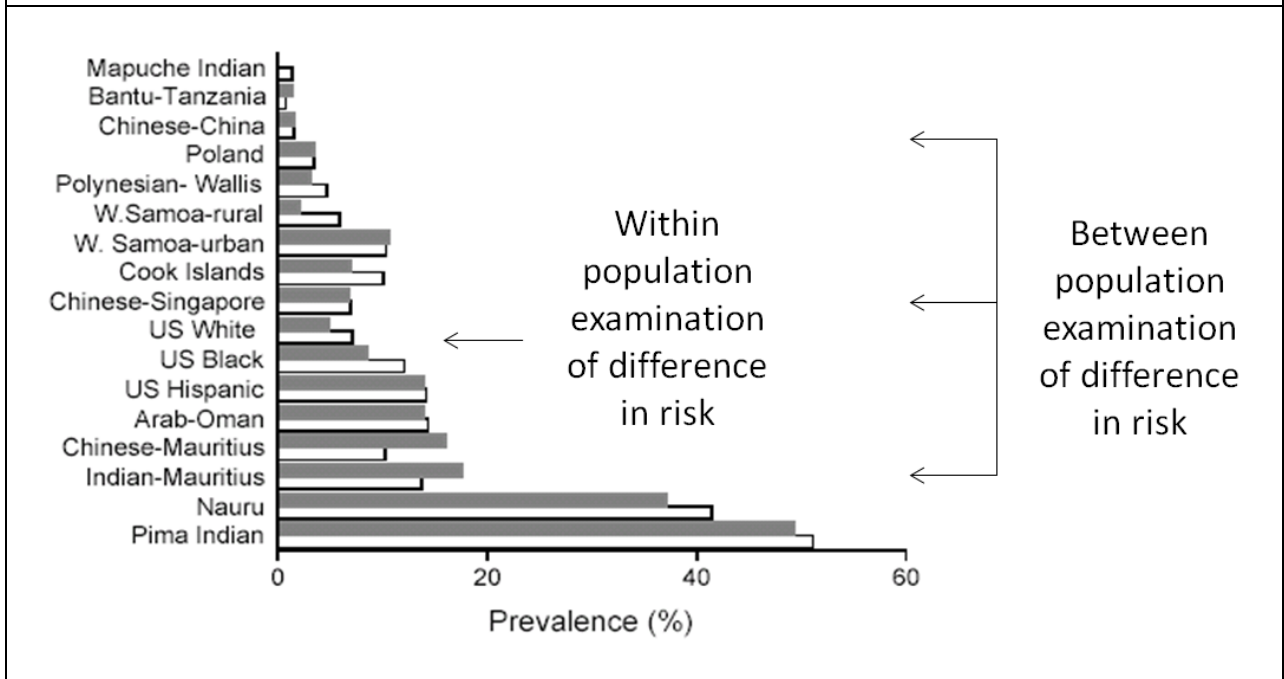
## **InterConnect**

**Global initiative on gene environment  
interactions in diabetes / obesity in specific  
populations**

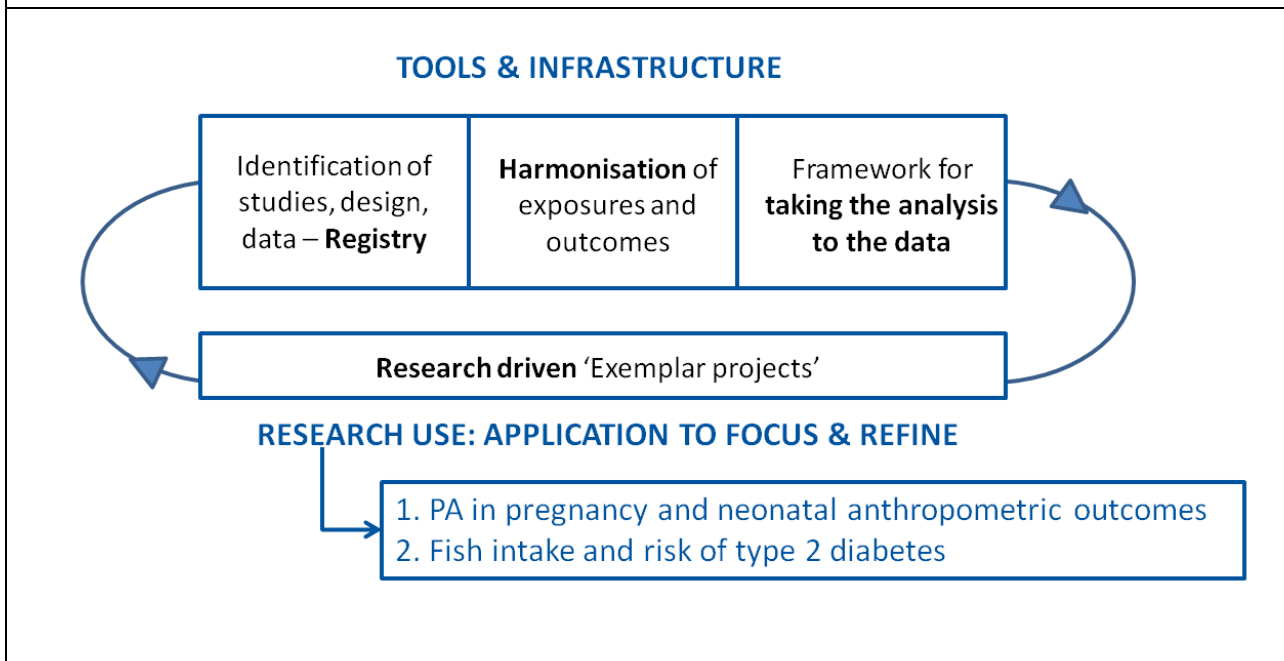
**Grant agreement no: 602068**

**Figures to accompany  
Final Report, 29 November 2017**

**Figure 1: Global variation in the prevalence of type 2 diabetes, moving from within-population investigation to the study of between-population differences**



**Figure 2: Illustration of the main domains of the InterConnect project**



**Figure 3: Screen shot of the searchable online registry**

Short Name	Name	Study Design	Actual number of participants recruited to the study	Country of residence
MEC	<a href="#">Multiethnic Cohort Study</a>	Prospective cohort study	215 251	United States
SWS	<a href="#">Southampton Women's Survey</a>	Prospective cohort study	12 583	United Kingdom
	<a href="#">Healthy Start study</a>	Prospective cohort study	2 820	United States
ALSPAC	<a href="#">Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children</a>	Prospective cohort study	14 541	United Kingdom
AHS	<a href="#">Agricultural Health Study</a>	Prospective cohort study	89 655	United States
ARIC	<a href="#">Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities Study</a>	Prospective cohort study	15 792	United States
DNBC	<a href="#">Danish National Birth Cohort</a>	Prospective cohort study	101 042	Denmark
EPIC - Turin	<a href="#">European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition - Turin</a>	Prospective cohort study	10 604	Italy
NHS I	<a href="#">Nurses Health Study I</a>	Prospective cohort study	121 700	United States
NOMAS	<a href="#">The NOthern MANhattan Study</a>	Prospective cohort study	3 298	United States

**Figure 4: Geographic spread of studies within the registry; diameter is proportional to the number of studies**



**Figure 5: Catalogue the harmonisation algorithms from the exemplar projects so that they are widely available for re-use by others.** An overview of the resource is provided below, through screen-shots of the website to illustrate the information therein; these focus on the exemplar that investigated the role of physical activity during pregnancy on neonatal anthropometric outcomes.

a. Studies participating in the exemplar:

Acronym	Name	Study design	Data sources available				Participants	Networks	Individual	
									Datasets	Variables
<a href="#">ABCD</a>	Amsterdam Born Children and their Development	Cohort	-	-	-	-	8,226	-	1	42
<a href="#">ALSPAC</a>	Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children	Cohort	-	-	-	-	14,541	-	1	101
<a href="#">DNBC</a>	Danish National Birth Cohort	Cohort	-	-	-	-	101,042	-	1	293
<a href="#">GECKO Drenthe</a>	Groningen Expert Center for Kids with Obesity (GECKO)-Drenthe	Cohort	-	-	-	-	2,997	-	1	22
<a href="#">HSS</a>	Healthy Start study	Cohort	-	-	-	-	2,820	-	1	80

b. Raw variables within one study:

Name	Label	Type	Study	Dataset
<a href="#">ABCD_ID</a>	participant identifier	Collected	<a href="#">ABCD</a>	<a href="#">ABCD_RD</a>
<a href="#">BW</a>	Birth weight	Collected	<a href="#">ABCD</a>	<a href="#">ABCD_RD</a>
<a href="#">GA_birth_day</a>	Gestational age at birth_extra days after weeks	Collected	<a href="#">ABCD</a>	<a href="#">ABCD_RD</a>
<a href="#">GA_birth_week</a>	Gestational age at birth in weeks	Collected	<a href="#">ABCD</a>	<a href="#">ABCD_RD</a>
<a href="#">Mat_ethnicity</a>	Maternal Ethnicity	Collected	<a href="#">ABCD</a>	<a href="#">ABCD_RD</a>
<a href="#">PIH</a>	Preeclampsia	Collected	<a href="#">ABCD</a>	<a href="#">ABCD_RD</a>
<a href="#">QZW2</a>	Maternal age	Collected	<a href="#">ABCD</a>	<a href="#">ABCD_RD</a>
<a href="#">QZW3A_aany</a>	Height	Collected	<a href="#">ABCD</a>	<a href="#">ABCD_RD</a>
<a href="#">QZWS2A</a>	did you drink any alcohol in the last week?	Collected	<a href="#">ABCD</a>	<a href="#">ABCD_RD</a>
<a href="#">QZWSA_aany</a>	Pre-pregnancy weight	Collected	<a href="#">ABCD</a>	<a href="#">ABCD_RD</a>

c. Harmonisation potential across participating studies:

## Harmonization

Click on each status icon to get more details on the corresponding harmonization results:

● **Undetermined** - the harmonization potential of this variable has not yet been evaluated.  
✔ **Complete** - the study assessment item(s) (e.g. survey question, physical measure, biochemical measure) allow construction of the variable as defined in the dataset.  
✘ **Impossible** - there is no information or insufficient information collected by this study to allow the construction of the variable as defined in the dataset.

[Download](#)

Showing 1 to 25 of 29 entries

Variable	ABCD	DNBC	GECKO Drenthe	ALSPAC	HSS
<a href="#">BIRTH_WEIGHT</a>	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
<a href="#">LTPA_EE_fit</a>	✔	✔	✘	✔	✔
<a href="#">BIRTH_WEIGHT_SGA</a>	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
<a href="#">VIG_3_fit</a>	✘	✔	✘	✘	✔
<a href="#">MACROSOMIA</a>	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
<a href="#">ALCOHOL</a>	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
<a href="#">PREECLAMPSIA</a>	✔	✔	✔	✔	✔
<a href="#">VIG_fit</a>	✔	✔	✘	✔	✔
<a href="#">LTPA_EE_3_fit</a>	✘	✔	✘	✘	✔

d. Example harmonisation algorithms for one variable:

Harmonized Variable	Study	Data Collection Event	Status	Comment
<a href="#">BIRTH_WEIGHT -- ABCD</a>	<a href="#">ABCD</a>	Pregnant Women -- ABCD data collection	✔	-
<a href="#">BIRTH_WEIGHT -- ALSPAC</a>	<a href="#">ALSPAC</a>	Population -- ALSPAC data collection	✔	-
<a href="#">BIRTH_WEIGHT -- DNBC</a>	<a href="#">DNBC</a>	1st DNBC cohort -- DNBC data	✔	-
<a href="#">BIRTH_WEIGHT -- GECKO Drenthe</a>	<a href="#">GECKO Drenthe</a>	Sampling frame 1 -- GECKO data collection	✔	-
<a href="#">BIRTH_WEIGHT -- HSS</a>	<a href="#">HSS</a>	Sampling Frame 2 -- HSS DCE	✔	-

[Hide Harmonization Algorithms](#)

**BIRTH\_WEIGHT -- abcd**

```
birthweight = $('BW').value(); if (birthweight != -1){ if (birthweight < 1000){ output = 1000; } else if (birthweight > 6000){ output = 6000; } else { output = birthweight; } } else { output = -1; } output;
```

**BIRTH\_WEIGHT -- alspac**

```
if ($('kz030').isNull().value() || $('kz030') == -1 || $('kz030') == -11 || $('kz030') == -10 || $('kz030') == -9999){ weight = -1; } else { weight = $('kz030').value(); } if (weight != -1){ if (weight < 1000) { output = 1000; } else if (weight > 6000){ output = 6000; } else { output = weight; } } else { output = -1; }
```

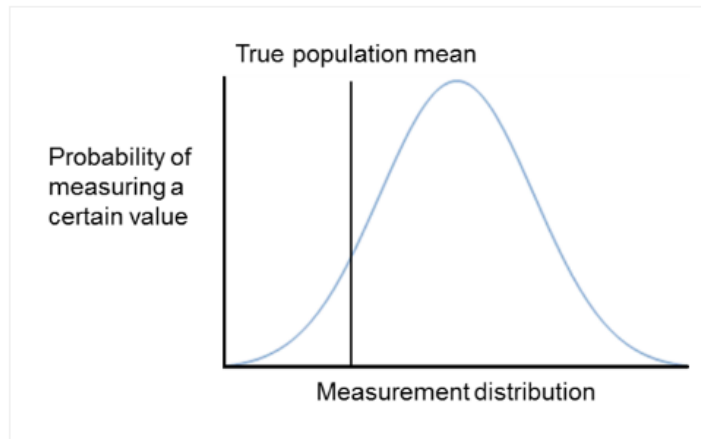
**Figure 5: Screenshots from the DAPA toolkit to illustrate content**

a. Introduction to basic concepts of assessment in population health sciences

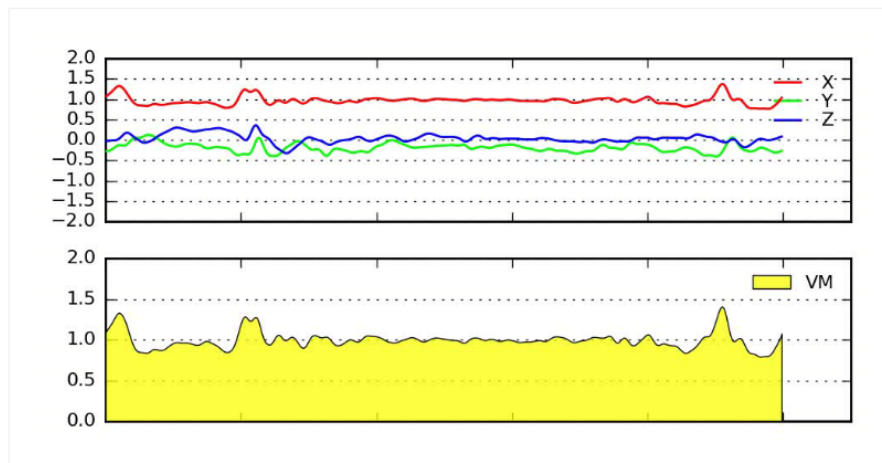
**Systematic error**

Effect of systematic error on predicted values

Systematic error causes deviation away from the true value in a particular direction (i.e. higher or lower, as shown by C.4.2). Unlike random error (see section above) systematic error distorts the mean and median of the estimated values, and is more commonly associated with the validity of a method.



b. Inventories of subjective and objective methods; An example for accelerometry methods of assessing physical activity explaining one of the procedures involved when deriving physical activity variables



c. Method selector matrices; A section of the method selector matrix which summarises the suitability of methods to assess different dimensions of physical activity.

Dimension	Questionnaires	Diaries and logs	Simple Pedometer	Time Series Pedometer	Accelerometer	Heart Rate Monitor
Duration	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Intensity	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Frequency	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Volume	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Total physical activity energy expenditure	✓	✓			✓	✓
Type	✓	✓			Maybe	
Timing of bouts of activity (i.e. pattern of activity)		✓		✓	✓	✓
Domain	✓	✓				
Contextual information (e.g. location)	✓	✓				
Posture	✓	✓			✓	
Sedentary behaviour	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓

d. Instrument library; A section of the instrument library indicating availability of resources for different instruments for assessing diet and physical activity.

	Access to instrument	Description	Design information	Output information	Links to resources	Information on validity	Examples of use
EPIC Physical Activity Questionnaire (second version)	<a href="#">Link to PDF</a>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
EPIC-Norfolk Food Frequency Questionnaire	<a href="#">Link to PDF</a>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
24-hour Physical Activity Recall		✓					
One-week Physical Activity Recall		✓					
7-Day Physical Activity Recall	<a href="#">Link to PDF</a>	✓			✓		



- e. Overview and case studies describing data harmonisation: Example of a page describing concepts of data harmonisation.

### What is data harmonisation?

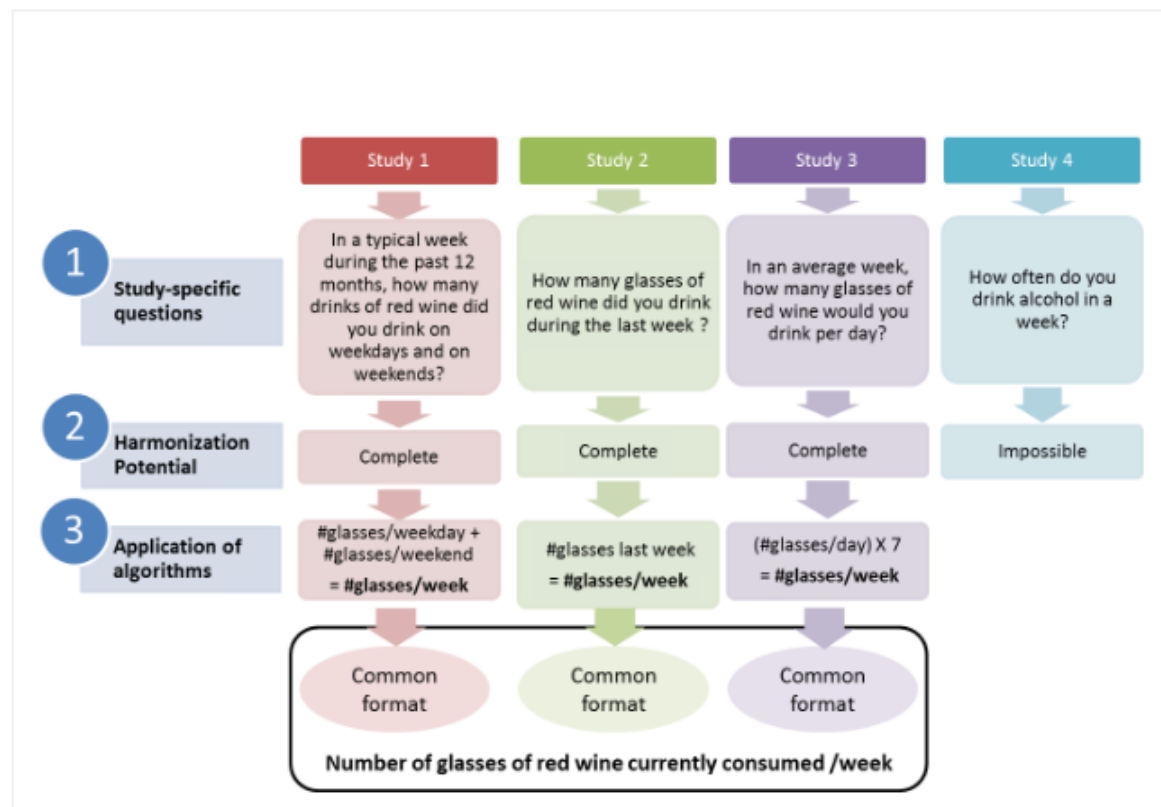
(Note: British English spelling - 'harmonisation'; North American English spelling - 'harmonization')

There are many definitions of data harmonisation, but a good working definition is provided by [Maelstrom Research](#).

Harmonisation involves achieving or improving comparability of similar measures collected by separate studies or databases for different individuals. Some research programs foster prospective implementation of harmonised measures to collect data across studies, while others turn their efforts to retrospective harmonisation and co-analysis of existing datasets.

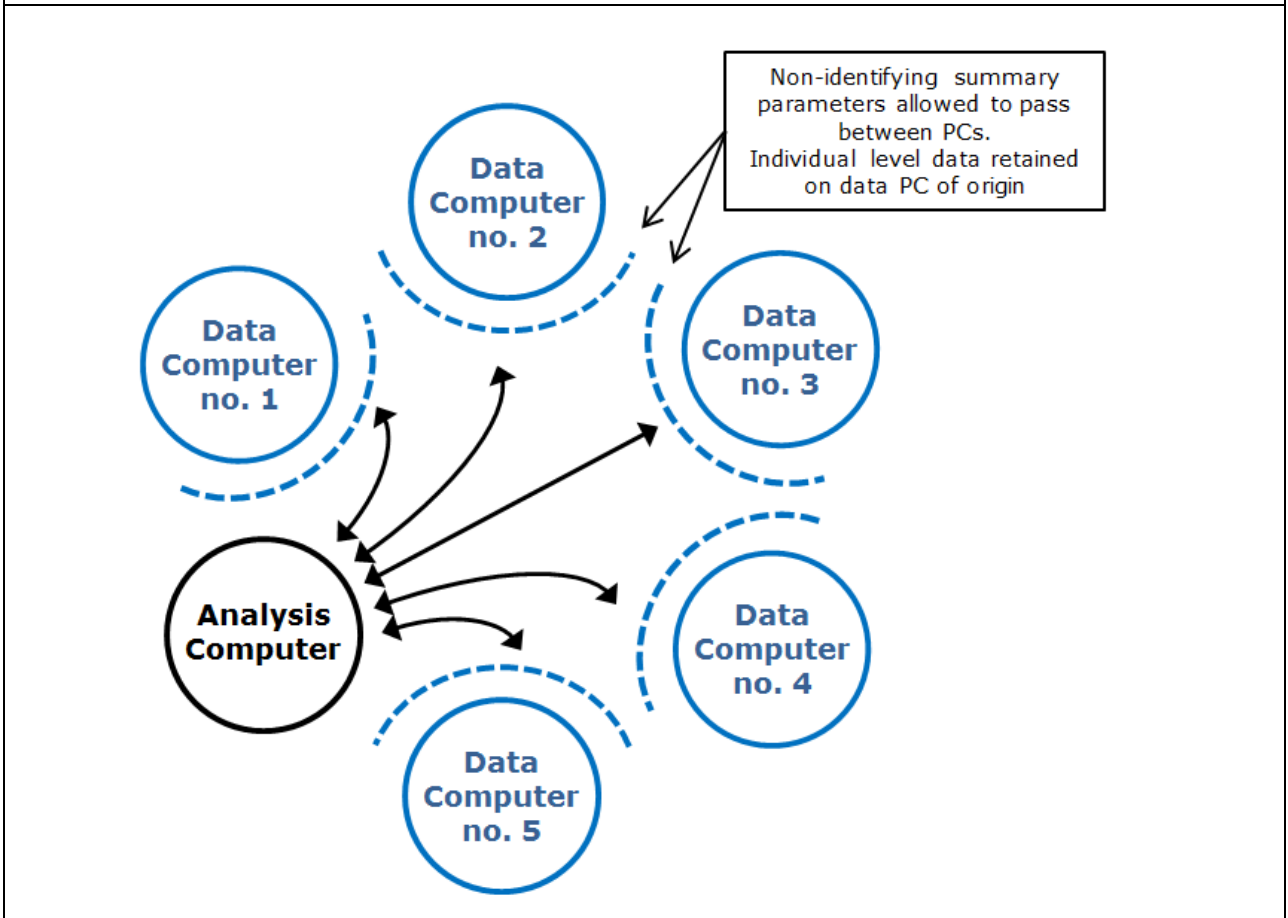
In summary, harmonisation seeks to bring together various types, levels and sources of data, which represent measurement of the same **latent** construct(s), in such a way that they can be made compatible and comparable (see Figure C.8.1 for example on wine consumption).

Harmonisation differs from standardisation in that it does not impose a single methodology or norm, but rather seeks to find ways of integrating or making "an agreeable effect" from information gathered through disparate methodologies [10].

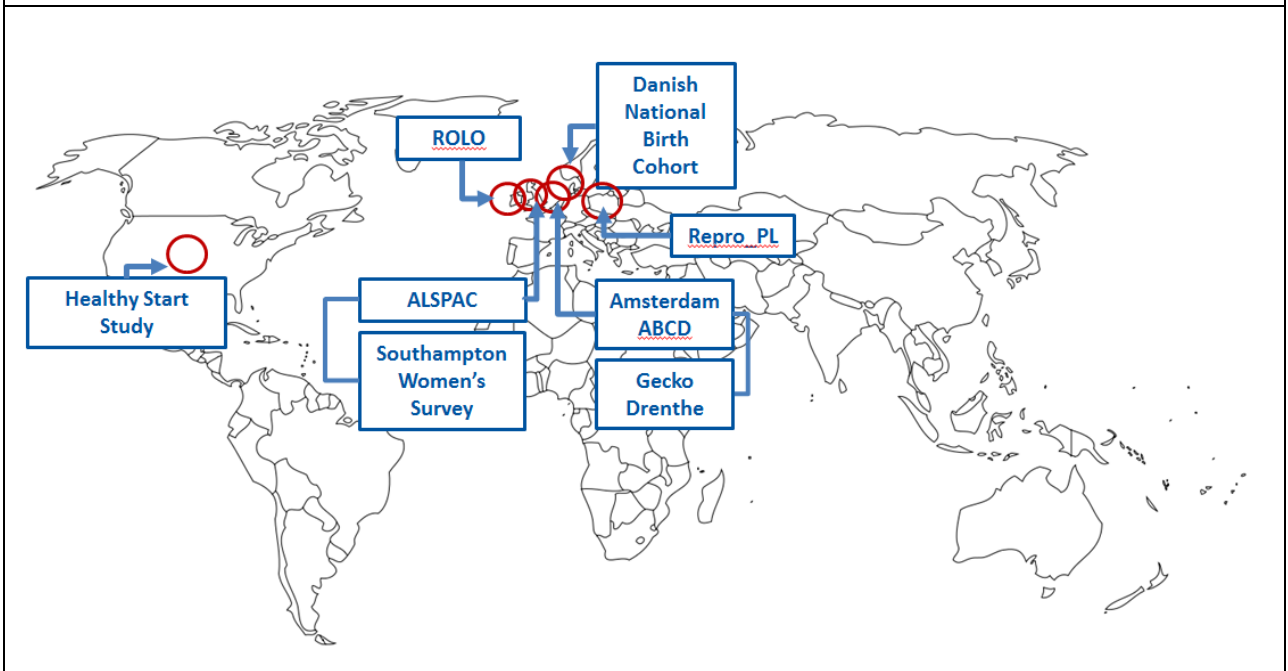




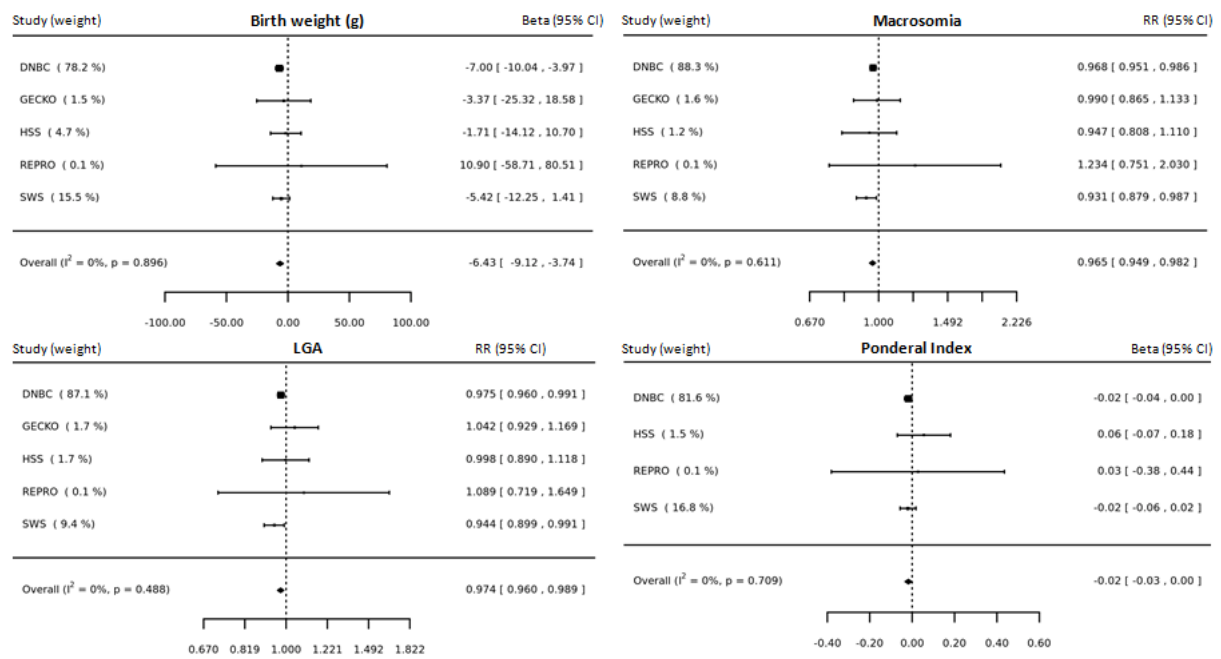
**Figure 7: Federated meta-analysis, data stays within the governance structure of the cohort**



**Figure 8: Cohorts participating in the first exemplar question on the association between physical activity in pregnancy and neonatal outcomes**



**Figure 9: Illustrative results from the first exemplar question, derived from meta-analysis of individual participant data without direct access to the data**



**Figure 1.** Forest plots for third trimester moderate to vigorous activity associated with birth measurements . All associations were adjusted for gestational age, sex, parity, maternal age, smoking, alcohol, maternal education and ethnicity. N=58,820 except for Ponderal Index (N=57,172)