

# BELMOD

Steering Committee, 29 October 2020

Introduction by Natascha Van Mechelen

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5 minute break halfway the meeting

## 1. Reform plan aimed at reducing the non-take up of rights

- to draw up a list of policy measures aimed at improving the take up and to provide empirical evidence on the possibilities of a simplification, harmonization and automatic granting of means-tested benefits in Belgium

## 2. A new micro-simulation tool

- to modernize the FPS's current static tax-benefit model MIMOSIS by integrating it in the EUROMOD infrastructure. This model is based on a large sample administrative dataset and will allow us to assess the impact of changes in means-tests on the size and profile of the target population.

## Financed by

European Commission  
Access to Social Protection and National Reform Support – EaSI

## Coordinated by

Federal Public Service Social Security

## Partners

University of Antwerp (UA)  
Federal Planning Bureau (FPB)  
KULeuven  
University of Essex  
National Pension Office  
National Inst. for Sickness and Disability Insurance  
Combat Poverty, Insecurity and Social Exclusion Service

## Period

January 2019 – December 2021 (June 2022)

## For the microsimulation part:

- An input dataset = a sample of administrative data to be shared among FBP, UA, KULeuven and FPB

## For the non-take up part:

- An explorative report on the possibilities of simplifying and harmonising means tests in Belgium (presented later in this meeting)
- An explorative report on the possibilities of automatic granting in Belgium (presented later in this meeting)

13/10/20

## For the microsimulation part:

- An input dataset = a sample of existing data to be shared among FBP, UA, KULeuven and FPB

## For the non-take up part:

✓

- An explorative report on the possibilities of simplifying and harmonising means tests in Belgium (presented later in this meeting)

✓

- An explorative report on the possibilities of automatic granting in Belgium (presented later in this meeting)

## For the microsimulation part:

- An operational, validated and documented simulation tool
  - √ income support (leefloon)
  - √ income support elderly (IGO)
  - √ income support disabled (IVT/IT)
  - √ increased reimbursement (VT)
  - √ heating allowance
  - personal income tax -> KULeuven
  - social security contributions -> KULeuven
  - unemployment insurance benefits -> FPB
  - sickness insurance benefits -> FPB

Apr/May '21

## For the microsimulation part:

- An operational, validated and documented simulation tool

Nov/dec '20

## For the non-take up part:

- BONUS: Stakeholder consultations in cooperation with Combat Poverty Service and BAPN (presented later in this meeting)



## For the microsimulation part:

- Dissemination report and **workshops** to promote the tool to scientific community and governmental audiences in BE & EU
- Roadmap on how the tool can be used to **monitor** for measuring non-take up
- BONUS: **remote access** to the model and the underlying data

## For the non-take up part:

- A report that proposes a **reformed income** concept and measures its impact on the beneficiary population and public expenditure
- Reports that present procedures to **identify potential beneficiaries** of income support (leefloon, IGO, VT) automatically (or to improve existing procedures)
- Reports that identifies best practices of **nudging** people to actually apply for a benefit once identified as a potential beneficiary
- A **reform plan** that presents policy proposals

1. Introduction: project progression
2. Illustrations of possibilities of the microsimulation model
3. Harmonisation and automation: first conclusions
4. Harmonisation and automation : stakeholder consultations
5. Miscellaneous

## Objectives

- To present a reformed income concept
- To present alternative procedures to identify potential beneficiaries of income support
- To propose modelling exercises
- To gather feedback