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Research questions

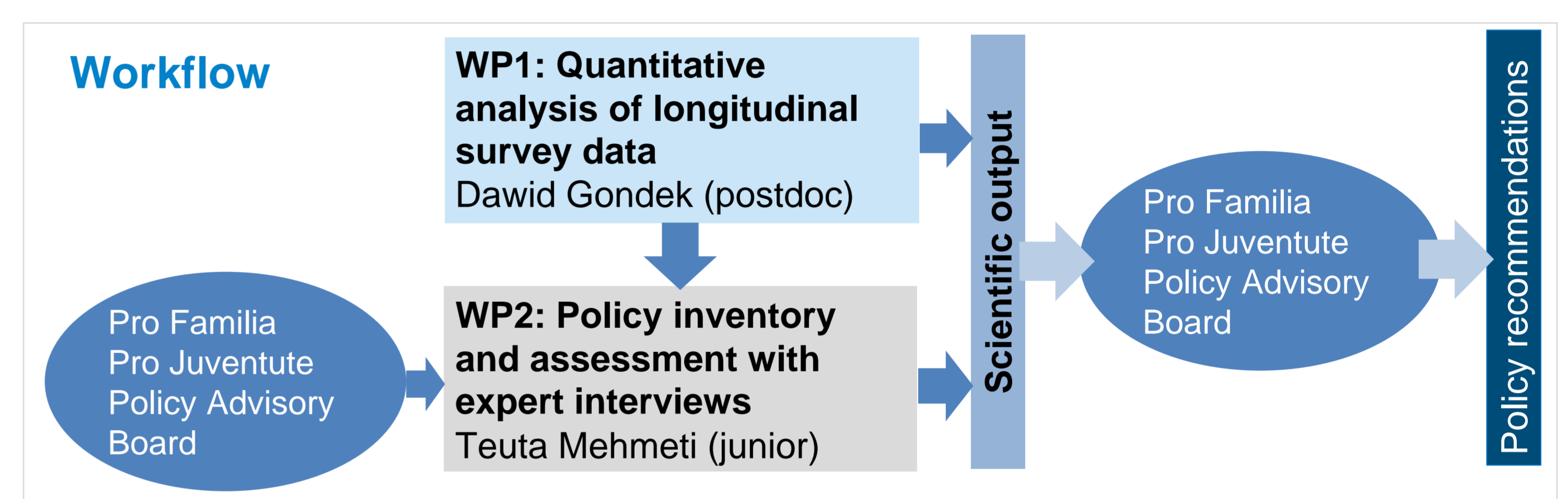
1. To what extent did the COVID-19 pandemic affect **wellbeing of young people** over time, what were the main **drivers**, the groups most at **risk** and which **protective factors** mitigated negative consequences for wellbeing?
2. Did **policy initiatives** to support young people during the pandemic focus on the groups most at risk, and what can we learn from the **development** and **implementation** of these programs them for future crises?

The Covid Generation project aims:

- To bring together findings from **statistical analyses** on **drivers of wellbeing** with a **qualitative assessment of policy responses** and evaluate whether policy measures focused on the drivers and risk groups determined in the statistical analyses
- to foster **young people's resilience** in future pandemics or crises
- and provide insights that will **help in designing policies** aimed at supporting wellbeing of young people

Mixed-methods research design

- **Quantitative analysis** of longitudinal survey data to understand drivers of wellbeing during the pandemic
- **Desk research and expert interviews** to develop an inventory and critical assessment of the policy response in selected cantons



Work Packages

WP1: Quantitative analysis of longitudinal survey data

Secondary data analysis of the Swiss Household Panel (1999-2024) (+LABB data):

- Assess the negative effect of the pandemic;
- Assess risk groups by age, socio-economic background and educational and employment situation at the start of the pandemic;
- Explain changes in wellbeing focusing on the importance of changes in social support, socio-economic resources and educational and employment trajectories

Analytical approach:

- **Difference-in-differences analysis** comparing youth during pandemic with earlier cohorts
- **Growth curve analysis** modeling trajectories of wellbeing before, during and after the pandemic
- **Causal mediation analysis** examining drivers of change in wellbeing

Scientific output: four peer-reviewed articles

WP2: Policy inventory and assessment with expert interviews

Data collection: Develop database of policy initiatives in selected cantons

1. Identification of policies and programmes in collaboration with Pro Juventute, Pro Familia and the Policy Advisory Board
2. Constitute **CovidGen Database** including the following information:
 - Organisational body and implementation partners
 - Domain of intervention
 - Type of measure and scope (federal, cantonal, local)
 - Date and duration of implementation
 - Target group and intended impact
 - Budget
 - Internal evaluation and data allowing external evaluation
3. Identify **10-15 relevant policies** for in-depth assessment
4. **25-30 expert interviews** to conduct the policies' assessment

Scientific output: one peer-reviewed article

Outreach and knowledge transfer

Outreach activities:

- Final open symposium
- Workshops at cantonal bodies in the selected cantons

Online outreach activities

- <https://covidgeneration.ch>
- Social media updates

Knowledge transfer publications:

- Policy report summarizing project findings with policy recommendations
- Policy briefs and other non-academic publications (e.g. DeFacto)
- Press releases

Other output:

- CovidGen Database
- Dissemination of results through project partners

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Federal Office of Public Health (COVID-19 Taskforce)
 Eidgenössische Kommission für Kinder- und Jugendfragen
 Federal Social Insurance Office
 Die Konferenz der kantonalen Sozialdirektorinnen und Sozialdirektoren
 Gesundheitsförderung Schweiz

Further links, contacts & info

<https://covidgeneration.ch/>
<https://nfp80.ch>
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