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Migration scenarios

Beyond the narratives?

Silke Goubin



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Migration scenarios: what's in a name?

Scenarios vs Forecasting

Forecasting

Predicting migration

Quantifying estimates of future migration flows and stocks

→ Scenarios produce narrative storylines: forecasts produce numbers

Scenario

What if?

A scenario study does not predict the actual migration flows, **but compares** different versions of a possible future.

Scenarios vs Forecasting: methodology

Forecasting

Analysing migration data

- Migration intention survey
- Bayesian model
- Spatial interaction model
- Machine learning
- ...

Scenarios

Building storylines

- Participatory workshops
- (Delphi) interviews
- Surveys
- Actor analysis
- Large-scale mixed studies / computer assisted full scenario generation
- ...





Michaël Boissonneault, Jarl Mooyaart, Petra de Jong, Helga de Valk

QuantMig: The use of migration scenarios in future characterisations: A systematic review and typology

Deliverable 7.1



QuantMig has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 870299 Website: www.quantmig.eu

ASSESSING IMMIGRATION SCENARIOS FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION IN 2030

RELEVANT, REALISTIC AND RELIABLE?

netherlands interdisciplinary demographic institute



Making Migration and Integration Policies Future Ready
Ministerial and Forum on Migration

Towards 2035

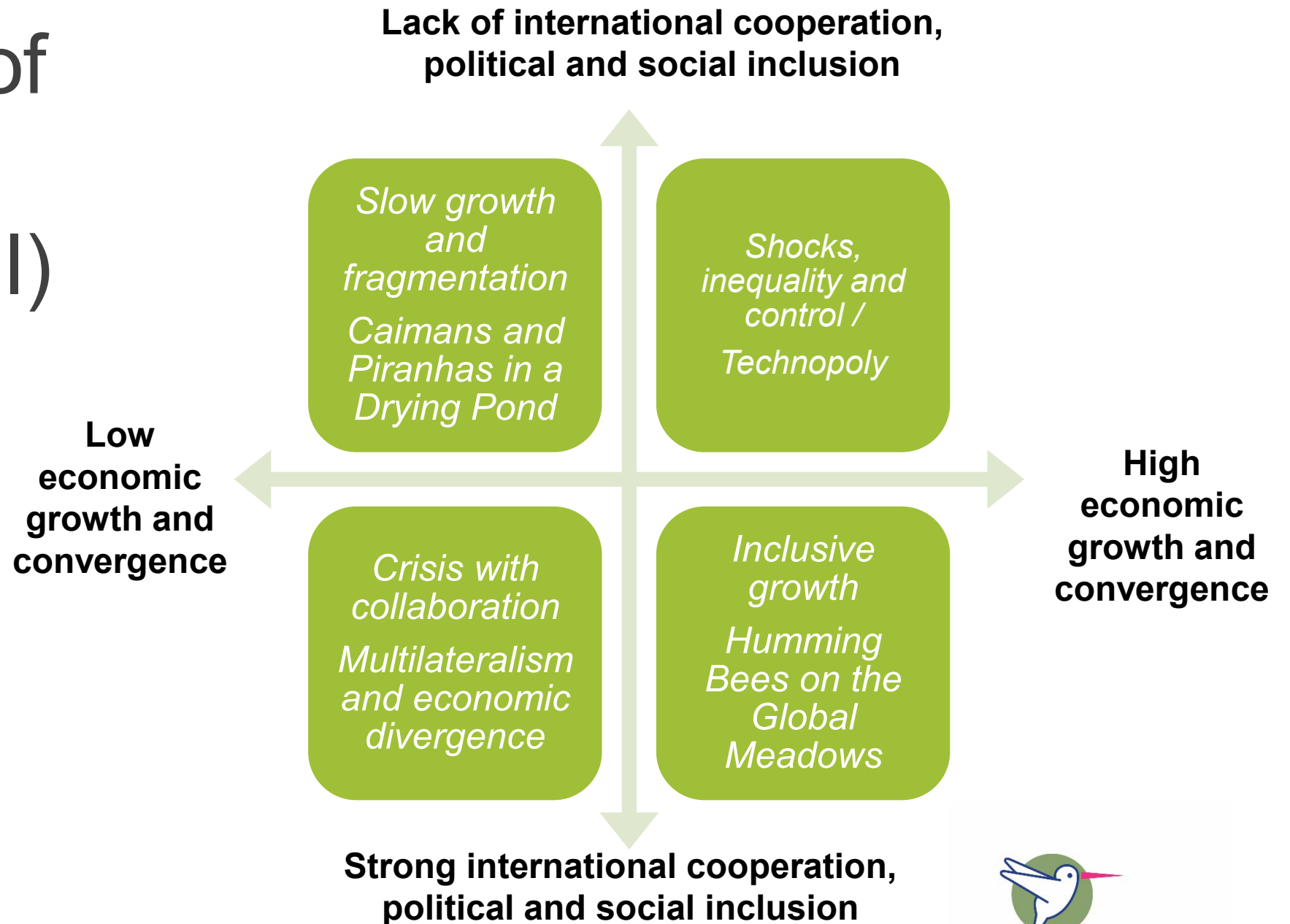
STRATEGIC FORESIGHT

Making Migration and Integration Policies Future Ready



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Summary of existing scenarios (I)



Summary of existing scenarios (II): key building blocks

Demography and society

- Ageing populations
- Integration of migrants
- Changing nature of work
- Technological change
- Change in the purpose of migration and integration
- New Stakeholders (cities, superfirms)
- Predicted economic growth

International affairs

- Environmental changes and extreme weather events
- Geopolitical instability and conflict, or international cooperation?
- Shifting Migration Directions

Policy-making

- Migration policies as conditioning safety of migration and integration



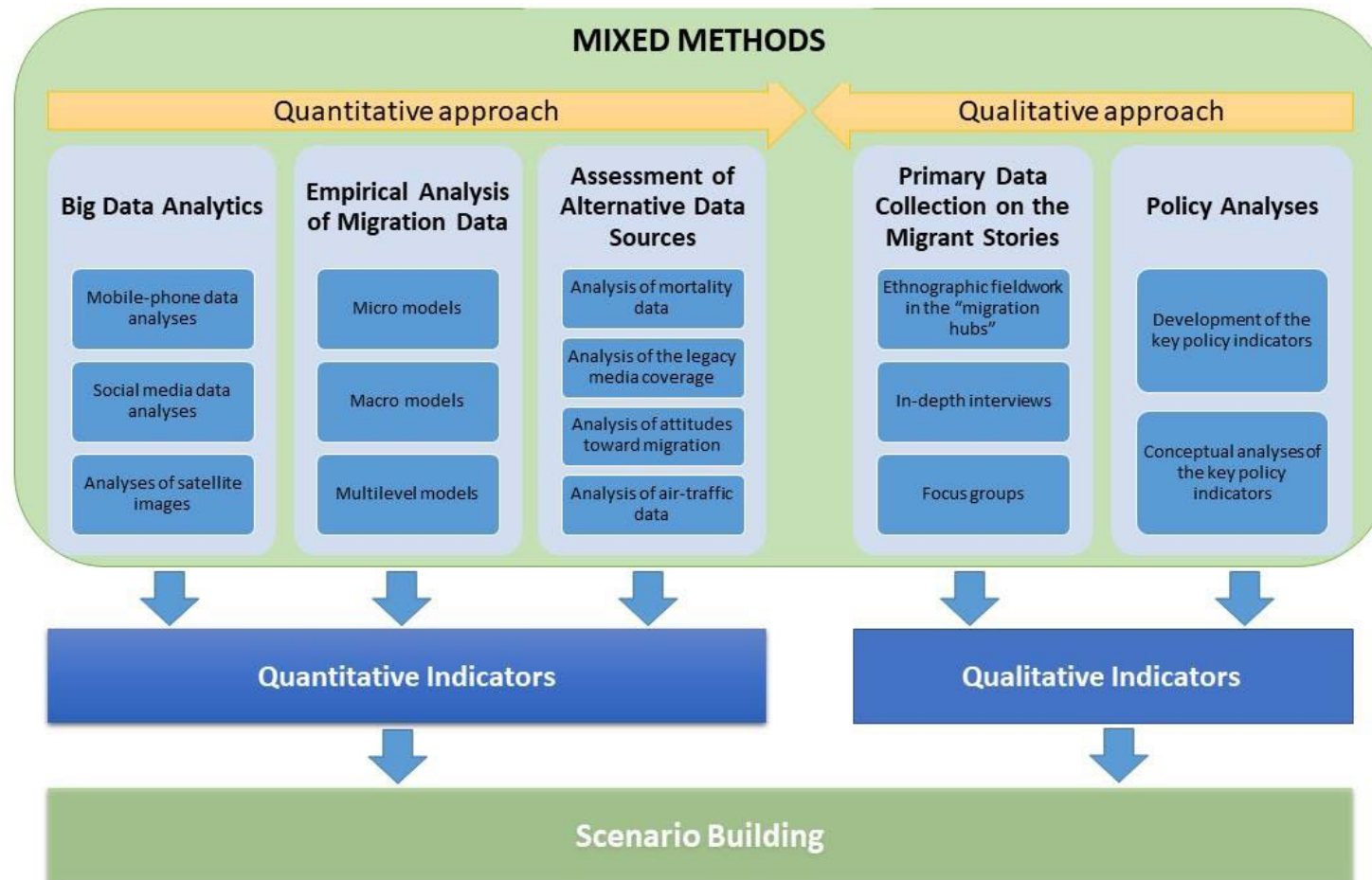
Challenges of scenarios: going beyond 'stereotypical' futures

- Strong disconnect between migration scenarios and forecasts
- Dichotomies:
 - High/low growth
 - Strong/no cooperation
 - Sending/receiving countries
- Within-European migration often overlooked
- Narratives remain rather opaque
- Eurocentric views

- **Probability of scenarios?**
- **How to capture towards which direction we are heading?**

The HumMingBird perspective

- Consolidate, inform and enrich existing scenarios





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