

## Methods and Research Meetings FORS

# «PICE - A mixed-method TREE study: study design, methodological considerations and first results»

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**TREE**  
**PICE**

TRansitionen von der Erstausbildung ins Erwerbsleben  
TRansitions de l'Ecole à l'Emploi  
TRansitions from Education to Employment

Parental Investment in Childrens Education

FORS 

# Switzerland: Diversity on different levels



# Research Questions & theoretical approaches

# Aspirations

Who aspires what?



What is success?

Who succeeds how and why?

## Aspirations: Who aspires what?

### Parents - Children/Youngster

- Parents aspiration (and role models as well as support) are important for the development of childrens aspiration.
- Idealistic or realistic?
- What if parental and youngster's aspiration conflict?



### Natives – Migration Background

- Migrants often have higher aspiration than Natives
- Migration as family project of social upward mobility
- Knowledge of educational system?

## Aspirations: What is success?

Objective - Subjective?

- Educational achievement?
- Money?
- Occupational status?
- Lower risk of unemployment?
- Satisfaction?
- Doing the best I can?
- Personal growth?
- Work-life - Family?



## Aspirations: Who succeeds how and why?

### Ressources

- Migrants have (on average) lower educational outcomes in Switzerland (compared to natives)
- (partly/mainly due to) fewer ressources of migrant parents (time, knowledge, money, networks, ..)



### Opportunities

- Structure of educational system shapes chances: early tracking, permeability?
- VET is (also) «suited» for low achieving – but for youth with migration background:
  - Often not well known/less accepted
  - Discrimination process at the apprenticeship / labour market might hinder entrance to VET

BUT: Unexpected educational success of part of the children of migrants from modest social origin – the so called “immigrant paradox”

# Parental Investment (PI)

PI as multidimensional interplay of aspirations, resources and strategies:

*How* do parents develop, mobilize, and use the resources when attempting to realize their aspirations?





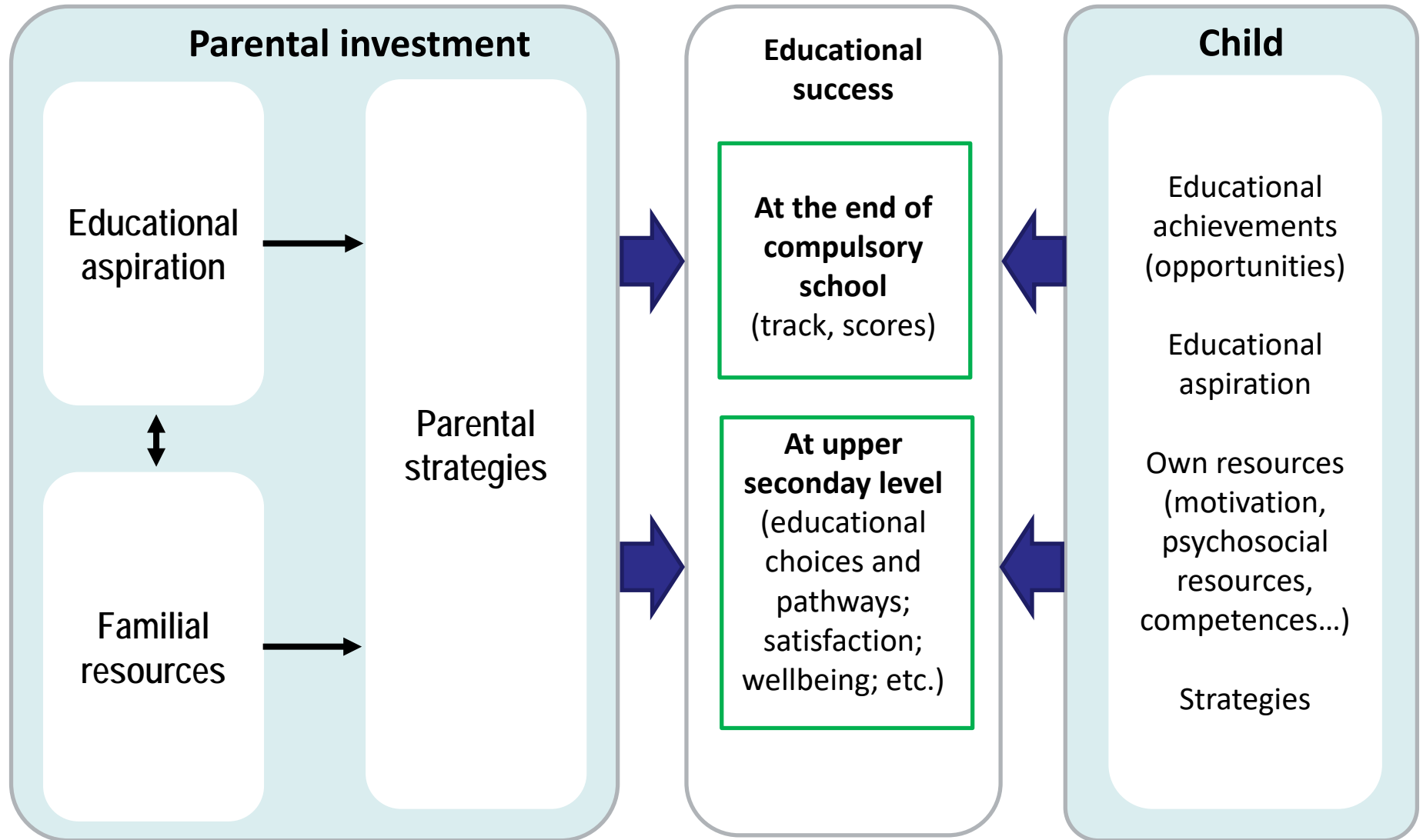
## Aims/ Research questions of PICE

- What do youth and their parents aspire?
- What do they understand as “success”?
- What can explain this “success against the odds”?
- Do (only) high parental aspirations matter?
- Which role play parental strategies?



- Can we observe different types of Parental Investment
- Does PI differ between native and migrant families?
- Does PI changes over time or context?

# Conceptual model



(Based on Heckhausen & Buchmann, 2019)

# PICE-Sampling

## Youngsters that are “successful against the odds” (9<sup>th</sup>)

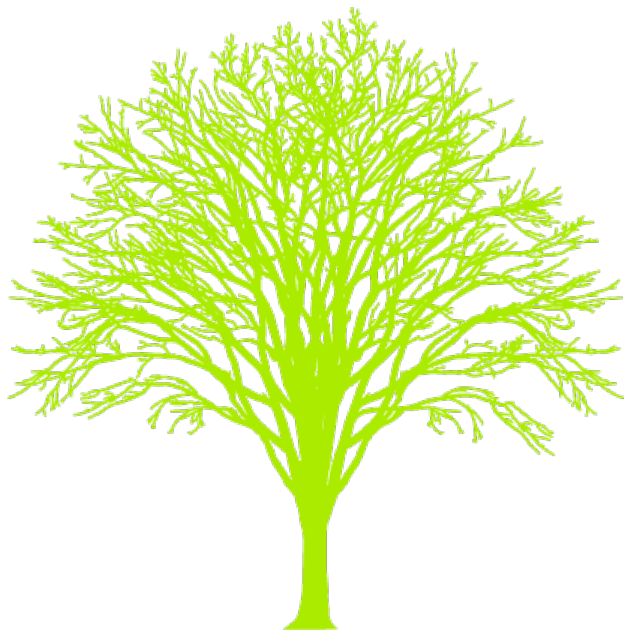
- Attend the pre-baccalaureate or extended requirement tracks at the end of compulsory education
- Have parents with modest social background (no tertiary education and low/medium SES)
- Distributed by gender and German/French linguistic regions
- Distributed by country of origin: Switzerland, Southern EU (Portugal, Spain, Italy) or Non-EU (former-Yugoslavia, Turkey, Sri-Lanka)

## Challenge: Diversity

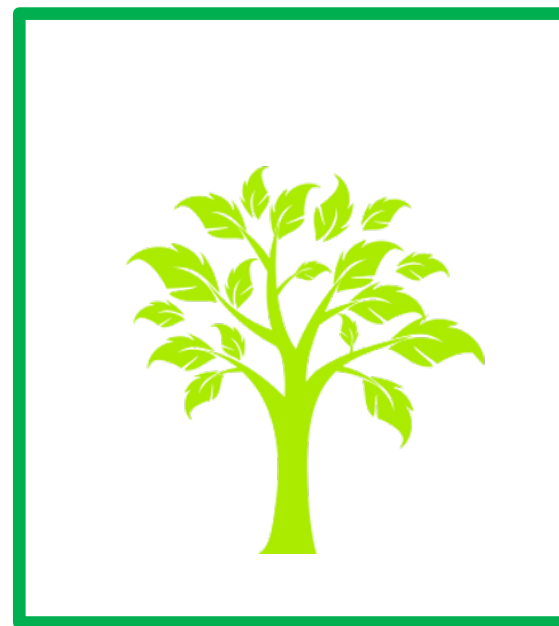
- ...of different perspectives (parents – students, migrants-natives, CH-country of origin)
- ...of context (cantonal school system, language region, interview language)
- ...do we start too late (end of compulsory schooling)?
- ...in regard of the timing: when does adaption of strategies take place? Do we capture the right moment?
- Not all research questions can be addressed using the same method => Mixed Method Design is necessary! (But: what does this mean for the results and the possibility of combining them?)

# Research Design

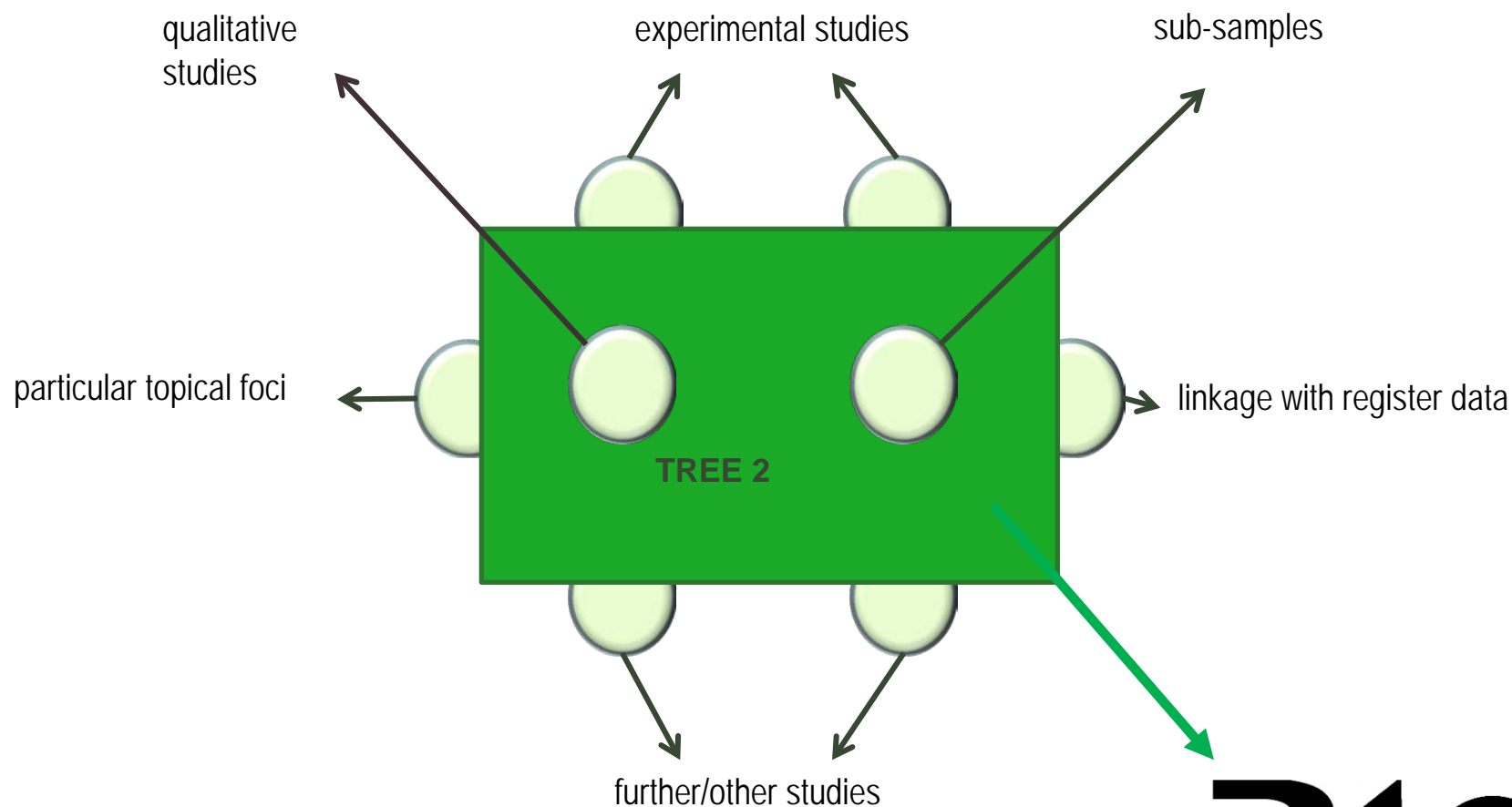
TREE1 is an PISA 2000-follow-up  
(>6'000 respondents, 10 waves)



TREE2 is an ÜGK /COFO 2016 –follow-up  
(approx. 10'000 respondents, 5 waves).

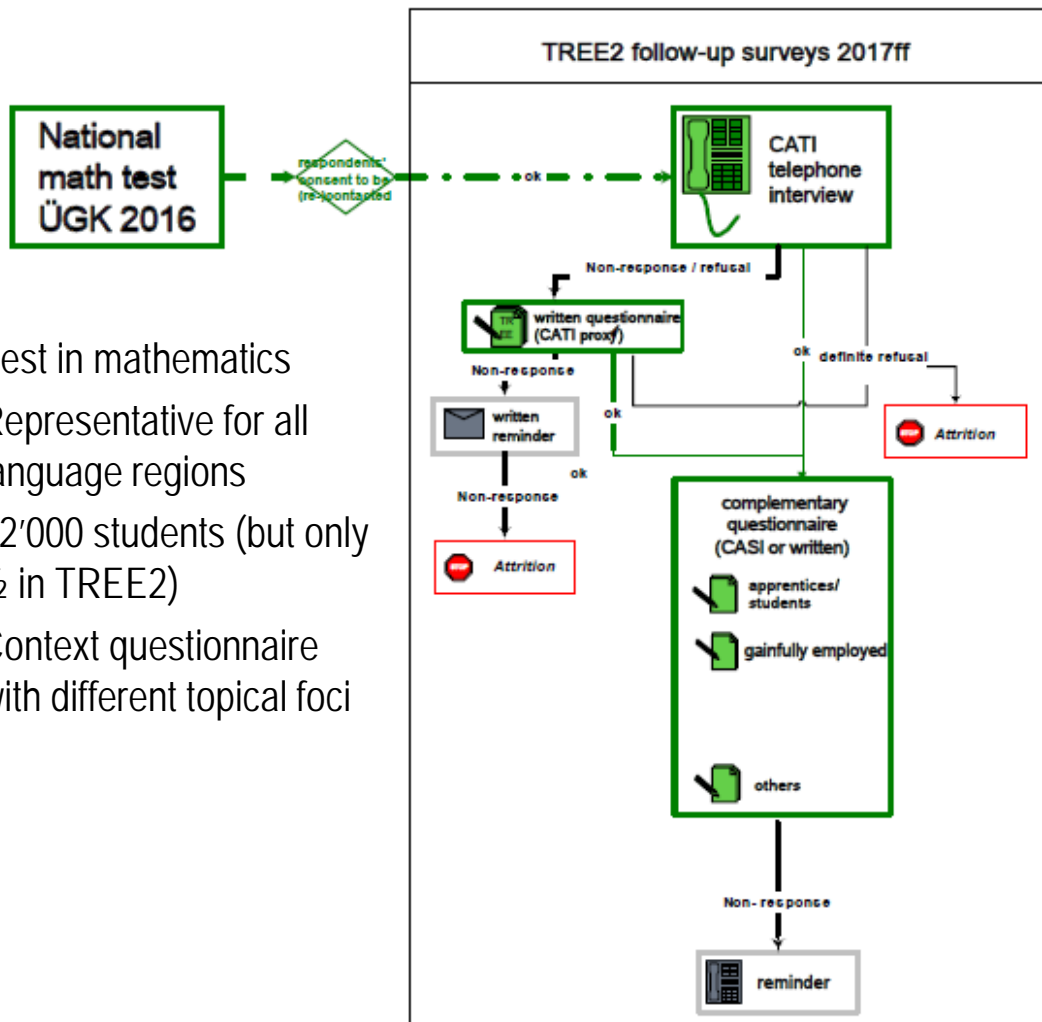


# TREE 2 as a base survey for complementary studies («Lego» design)



**PIE**

# Survey Design TREE2



- Test in mathematics
- Representative for all language regions
- 22'000 students (but only ½ in TREE2)
- Context questionnaire with different topical foci

- Mixed modes design (CATI, Online& P&P)
- Dependend Interviewing (standardized Computer Assisted Telephone Call, T1 ff)
- Incentives for some (critical) groups and a tombola for all who conclude the additional (written) questionnaire



# Methodological design

ÜGK TREE2

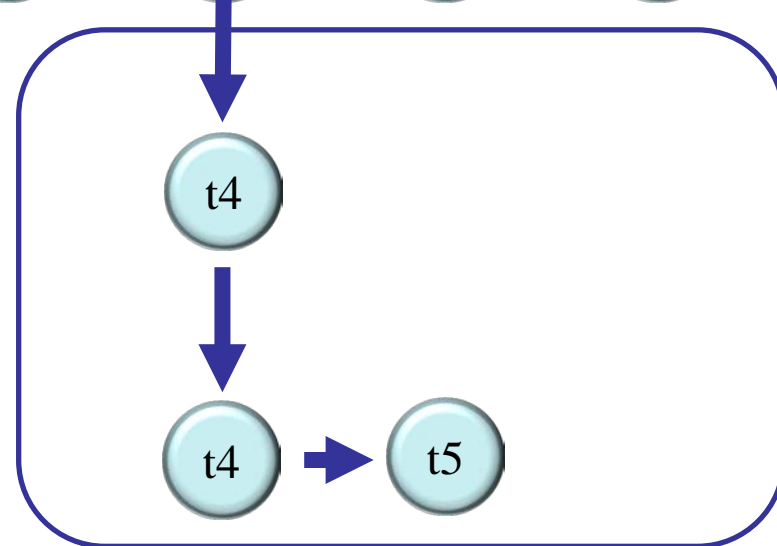
2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022



Interviews:

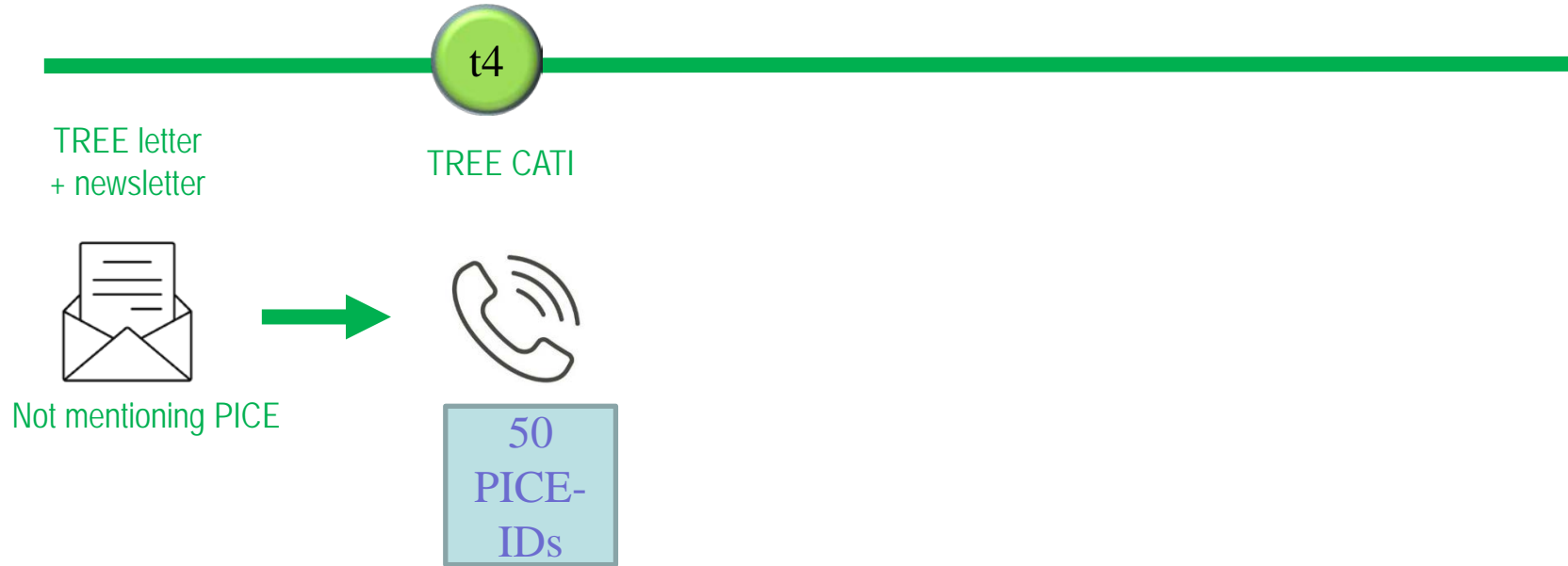
TREE2  
respondents

Parents



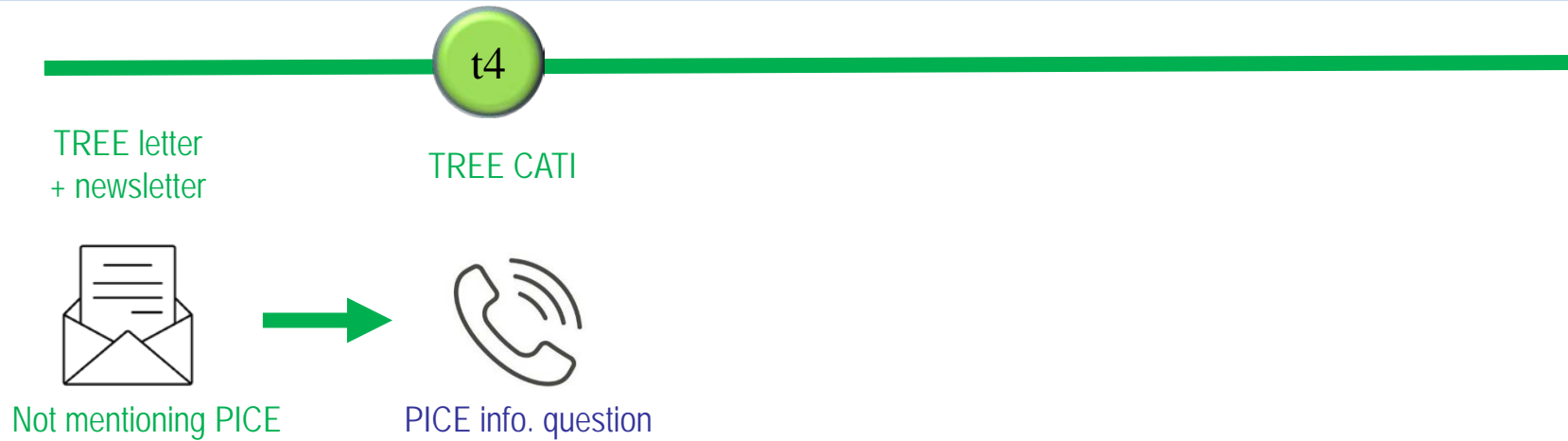
PICE project 2019-2022

## TREE2/PICE participation process



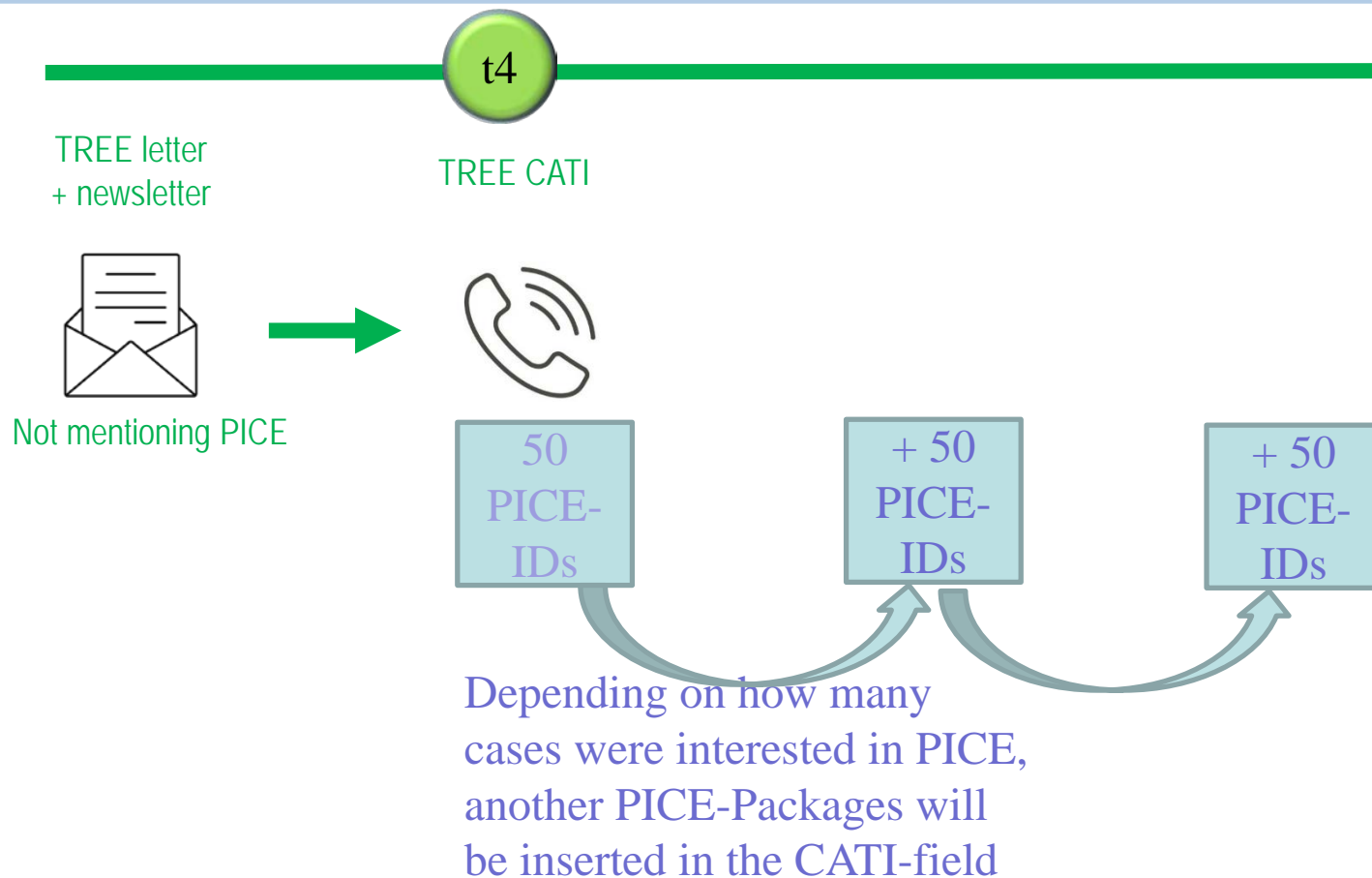
Approx. 200 cases marked as «PICE»-cases:  
Youngster that had been successful against the odds

## TREE2/PICE participation process

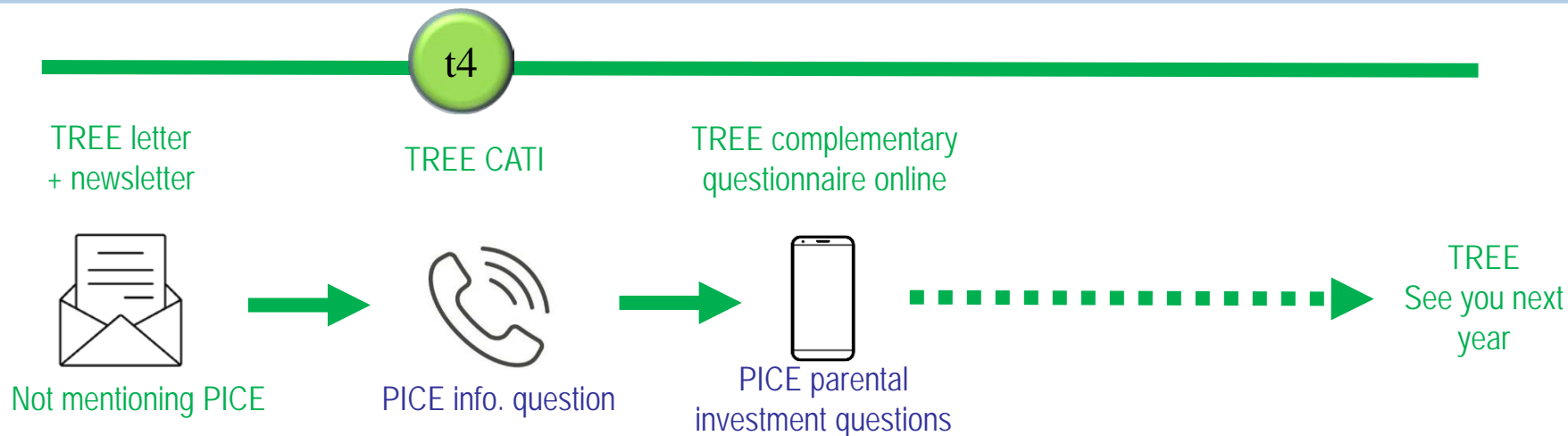


«There is an in-depth study by TREE for which we are still looking for participants. The in-depth study is specifically about how young people have experienced their educational career so far and what support they have received from their parents and other people important to them. Those who participate would have a personal interview with one of our interviewers. The interview lasts one to one and a half hours. Participants will receive 50 Swiss francs for it. Is it okay if we send you more information about the study?»

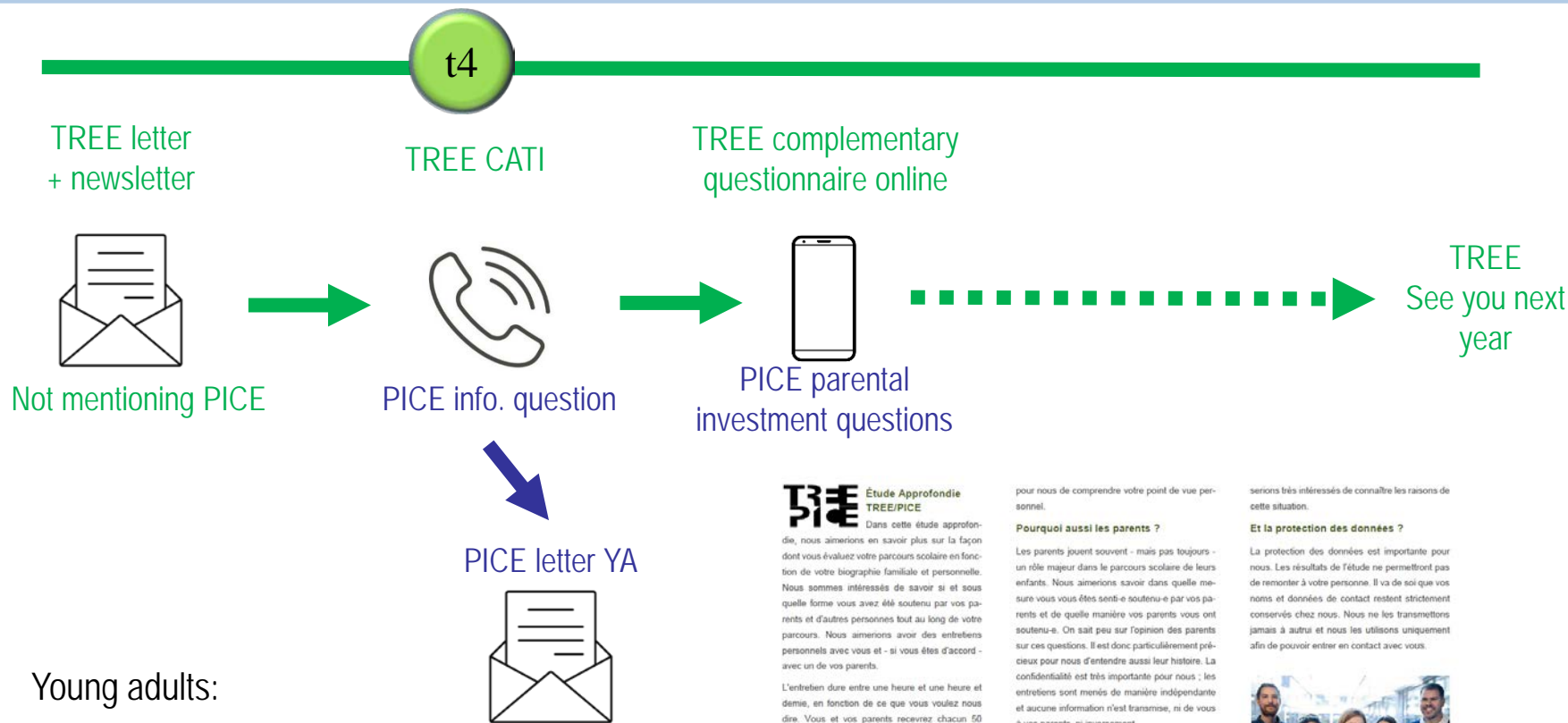
## TREE2/PICE participation process



## TREE2/PICE participation process



# TREE2/PICE participation process



Young adults:

## TREE Étude Approfondie TREE/PICE

Dans cette étude approfondie, nous aimerions en savoir plus sur la façon dont vous évaluez votre parcours scolaire en fonction de votre biographie familiale et personnelle. Nous sommes intéressés de savoir si et sous quelle forme vous avez été soutenu-e par vos parents et d'autres personnes tout au long de votre parcours. Nous aimerions avoir des entretiens personnels avec vous et - si vous êtes d'accord - avec un de vos parents.

L'entretien dure entre une heure et une heure et demie, en fonction de ce que vous voulez nous dire. Vous et vos parents recevrez chacun 50 francs pour ces deux entretiens en remerciement pour votre temps précieux.

### Pourquoi moi ?

Parmi tous les jeunes qui participent à l'étude TREE, nous vous avons sélectionné-e comme l'une des 50 personnes avec lesquelles nous aimerions avoir un entretien approfondi. Il s'agit

pour nous de comprendre votre point de vue personnel.

### Pourquoi aussi les parents ?

Les parents jouent souvent - mais pas toujours - un rôle majeur dans le parcours scolaire de leurs enfants. Nous aimerions savoir dans quelle mesure vous vous êtes senti-e soutenu-e par vos parents et de quelle manière vos parents vous ont soutenu-e. On sait peu sur l'opinion des parents sur ces questions. Il est donc particulièrement précieux pour nous d'entendre aussi leur histoire. La confidentialité est très importante pour nous ; les entretiens sont menés de manière indépendante et aucune information n'est transmise, ni de vous à vos parents, ni inversement.

### Ma participation ou celle de mes parents est-elle obligatoire ?

La participation à l'étude approfondie est bien sûr volontaire pour vous et vos parents. Nous serions heureux de nous entretenir avec vous, même si votre père ou votre mère ne participe pas. Nous

serions très intéressés de connaître les raisons de cette situation.

### Et la protection des données ?

La protection des données est importante pour nous. Les résultats de l'étude ne permettront pas de remonter à votre personne. Il va de soi que vos noms et données de contact restent strictement conservés chez nous. Nous ne les transmettons jamais à autrui et nous les utilisons uniquement afin de pouvoir entrer en contact avec vous.



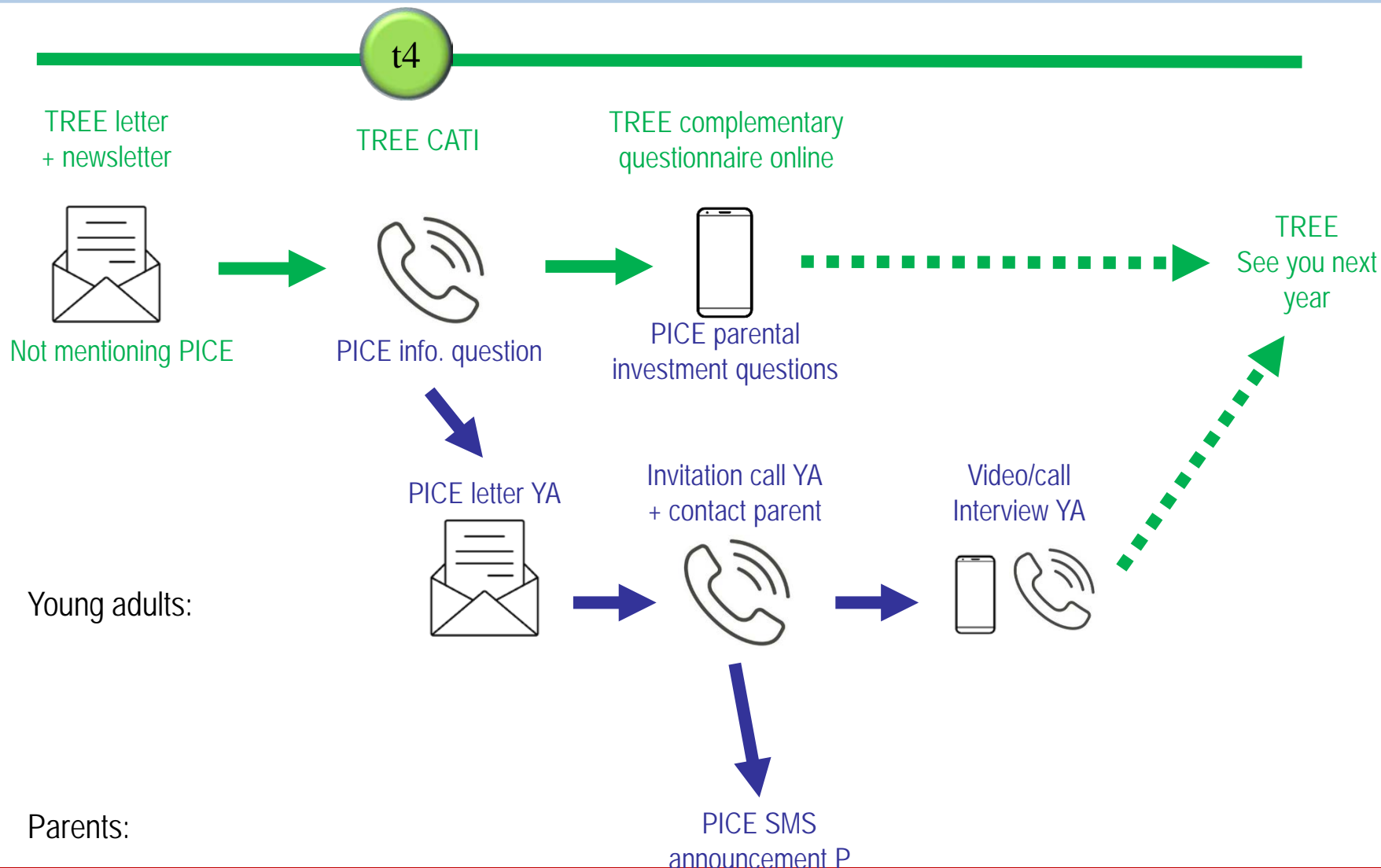
L'équipe de l'étude approfondie TREE/PICE, de gauche à droite: Jakob Schmitt, Chantal Kamm, Manike Heers, Sandra Hupka-Brunner, André Genssler

### Qui est derrière „PICE“?

L'étude approfondie est dirigée par Sandra Hupka-Brunner, qui est également co-directrice de l'étude principale TREE, et Manike Heers. L'équipe comprend des enquêteurs multilingues qui nous aident à mener les entretiens avec vous.

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Courriel : [pice@soz.unibe.ch](mailto:pice@soz.unibe.ch)  
Web : [www.pice.unibe.ch](http://www.pice.unibe.ch) / [www.tree.unibe.ch](http://www.tree.unibe.ch)

# TREE2/PICE participation process



## TREE2/PICE participation process

t4

«We have received your phone number from your son/daughter [name of JA]. We are from the study TREE, the University of Bern. Your son/daughter has already participated in our study several times. In the in-depth study of TREE, we are interested in your personal opinion as a parent regarding the educational path of your son/daughter. More information at: [www.pice.unibe.ch](http://www.pice.unibe.ch) We will call you in the next few days to ask if you would agree to have an online or phone conversation with us. [Migrant parents: you are welcome to speak with us in [language]]. Participation is voluntary and your data will be anonymized and used only for university research. In case you would participate, you will receive 50.- as a thank you for your valuable time. We look forward to your participation! Best regards from the TREE team»

=> Translated in all languages of parents (D, F, E, P, T, T, A, S)!

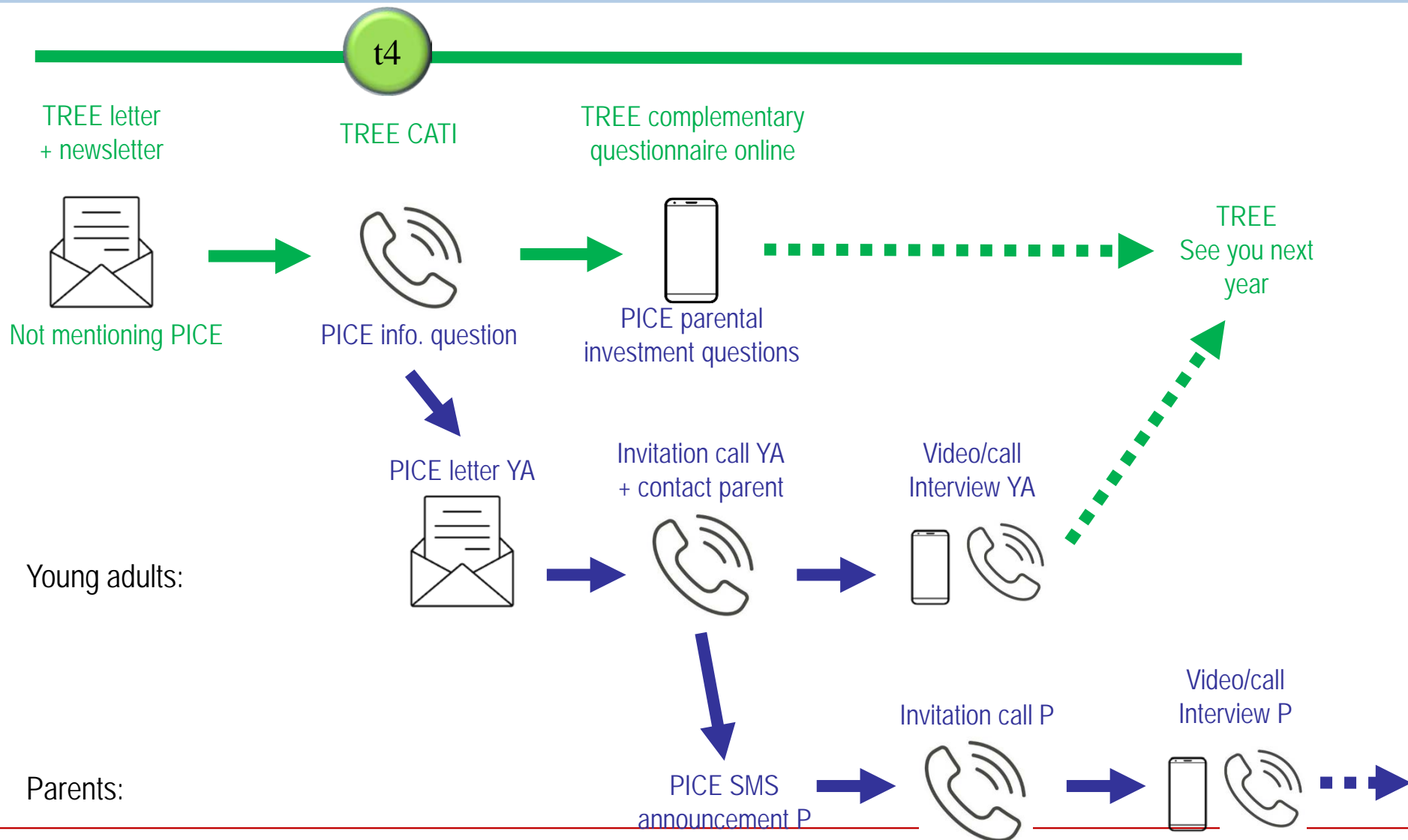


Parents:

PICE SMS  
announcement P



# TREE2/PICE participation process



## Contact strategy in cooperation and alignment with TREE2

- 50.- CHF incentives for Parents and Young Adults
- X-mas-card

Malgré les défis posés par la pandémie de Corona, vous avez participé à l'étude approfondie TREE\* au printemps dernier. Nous vous en remercions encore une fois en cette fin d'année. Ce que vous nous avez confié au cours de ces longues conversations personnelles est précieux pour nos recherches.

Nous vous souhaitons, à vous et à votre famille, un excellent début d'année 2021 et nous nous réjouissons de rester en contact avec vous.

Meilleures salutations de l'équipe TREE/PICE

\* [www.pice.unibe.ch](http://www.pice.unibe.ch)

- T5 Contact of parents by interviewers (if possible the same than last year)
- Emphasize the value of a longitudinal research approach
- Again 50.- CHF Incentive

# Methodological design

ÜGK TREE2

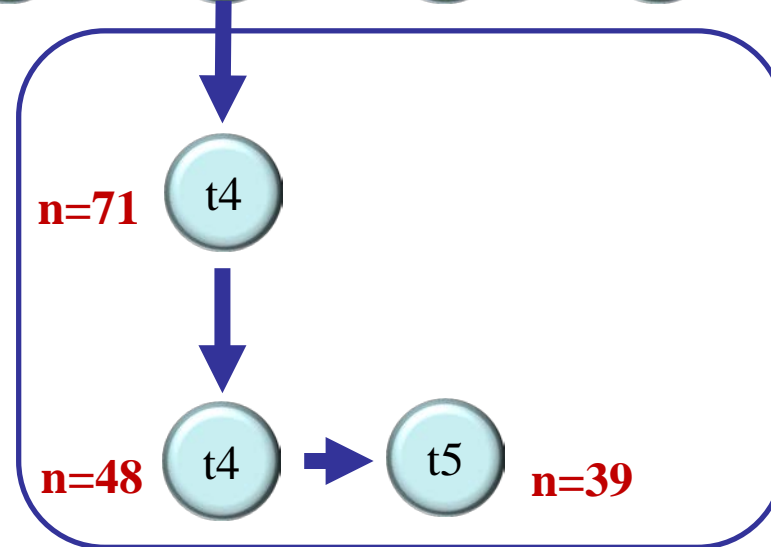
2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022



Interviews:

TREE2  
respondents

Parents

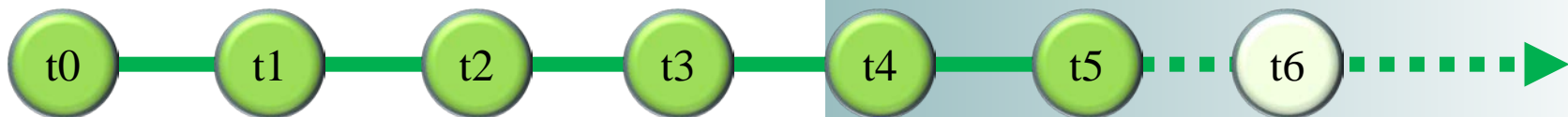


PICE project 2019-2022

# Methodological design

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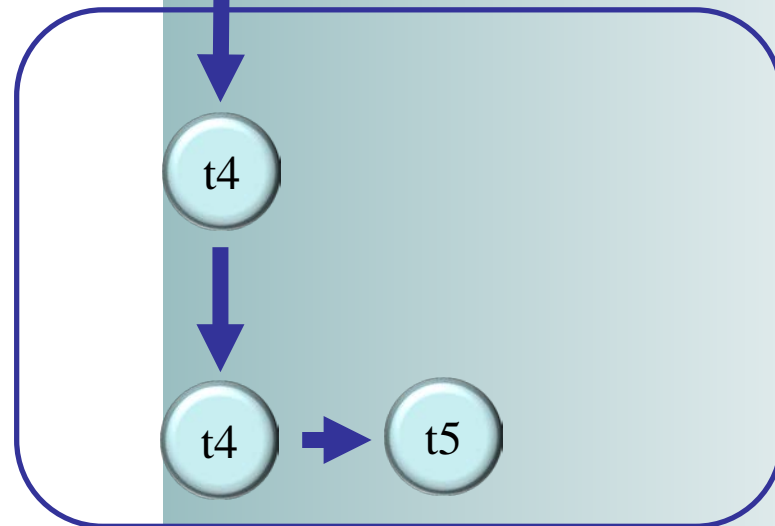
2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022



Interviews:

TREE2  
respondents

Parents



PICE project 2019-2022

# Challenges

- Face-to-face interviews were not allowed => shifting to different online-  
/Video-tools



# Challenges

- Excellent field access & sampling opportunities BUT close cooperation with TREE is indispensable
- Project branding? TREE as trustful brand vs. PICE as innovative but additional survey burden
- Contact addresses of parents: before or during the interview with TREE2 respondents? Uncertainty during the field whether we will get dyads
- Difficulty in finding good interviewers in all parent languages
- tight timing necessary because the staggered information should follow each other quickly & interviewers must have time at the appropriate stages  
=> Not all cases can be handled simultaneously in the survey field

# Challenges

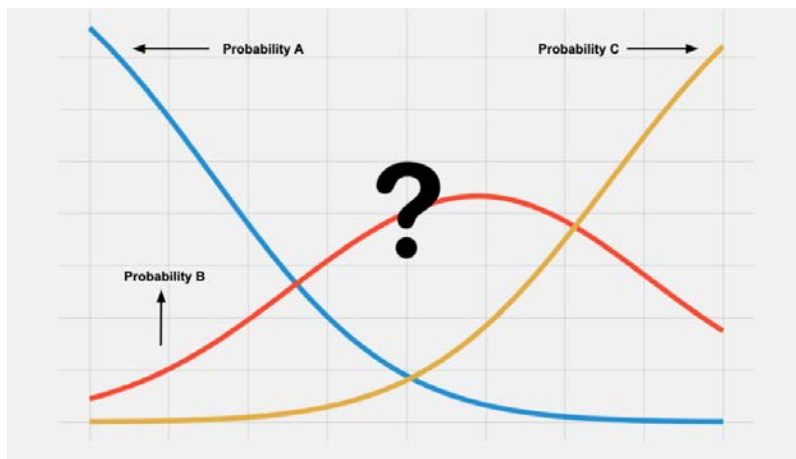
- large amount of interview material requires a lot of time for transcription, translation, coding and anonymization
- link between quanti- and quali-data is removed due to data protection issues – reduces analytical power
- Anonymization: it is difficult to keep the information content as high as possible and still meet data protection requirements (=> very time consuming, because you have to check context information on cantonal level)

# Analyses Design & Results



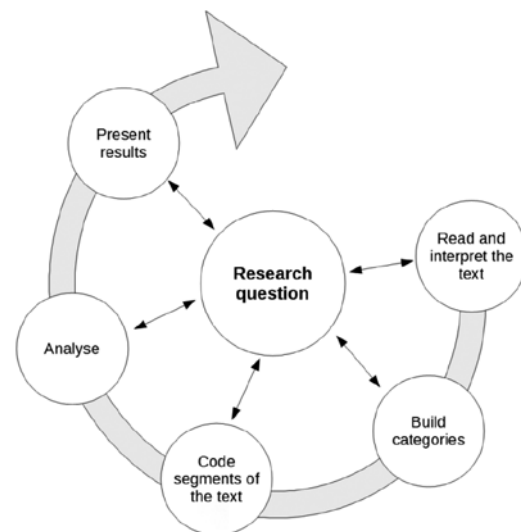
# Methods

Quantitative: multinomial logistic regression analysis



- WP1: Parental investment and educational success at the end of compulsory school (TREE2 end of compulsory school: t0)  
WP2: Parental investment and success at the second transition (TREE2 4 years later: t4)

Qualitative: structured content analysis, Inductive coding / thematic analysis (Maxqda)

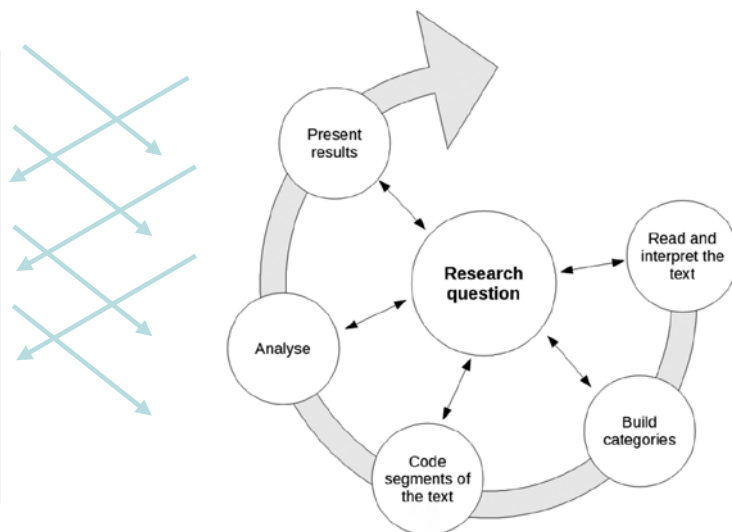
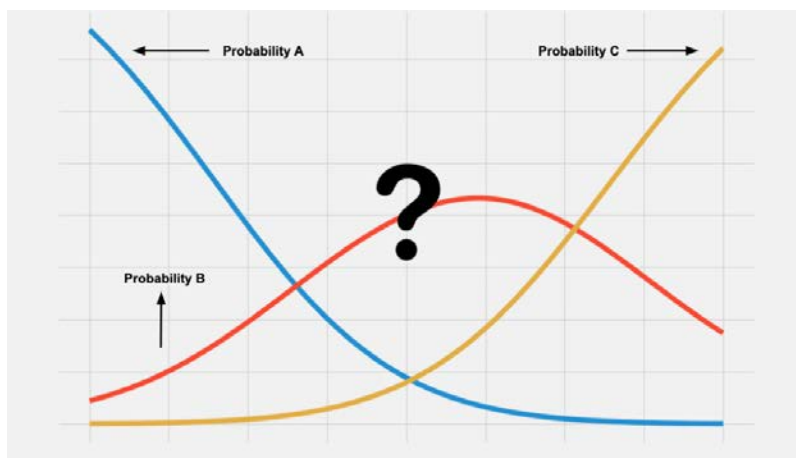


- WP3: Parental strategies and their adaptations during the time between the end of compulsory school and the second transition (from their own perspective as well as from their childrens perspective).

# Mixing Methods

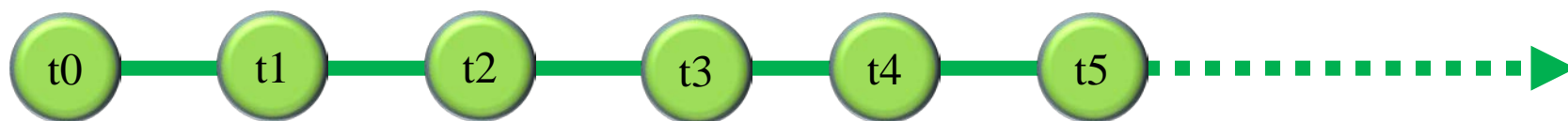
Quantitative: multinomial logistic regression analysis

Qualitative: structured content analysis, Inductive coding / thematic analysis (Maxqda)



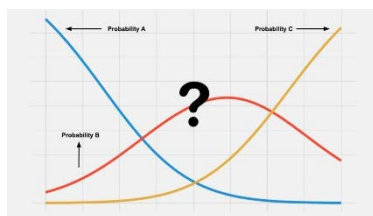
=> How to mix the methods?

# Mixing Methods



Quantative WP1 (success at t0)

Quantative WP2 (success t4)



Qualitative WP (t4/5)

Early conceptualization about MM-WP, steady discussion of results.....

...late start of MM-WP because qualitative data needs to be gathered, transcribed and anonymized

## Purposes of Mixed Methods Research (Greene et al 1889)

- Triangulation seeks convergence, corroboration, correspondence of results from different methods;
- Complementarity seeks elaboration, enhancement, illustration, clarification of the results from one method with the results from the other method;
- Development seeks to use the results from one method to help develop or inform the other method, where development is broadly construed to include sampling and implementation, as well as measurement decisions;
- Initiation seeks the discovery of paradox and contradiction, new perspectives of frameworks, the recasting of questions or results from one method with questions or results from the other method;
- Expansion seeks to extend the breadth and range of inquiry by using different methods for different inquiry components.

## Purposes of Mixed Methods Research (Greene et al 1889)

- Triangulation seeks convergence,
- Complementarity seeks illustration, clarification;
- Development => sampling(!)
- Initiation seeks paradox and contradiction;
- Expansion seeks to extend ... by using different methods for different inquiry components.

		t0	t4	t5
Parents	aspiration	0	(quant reported by YA) / qual	qual
	resources	quant	qual	qual
	strategies	0	qual & quant	qual
	success	0	qual	qual
young adults	aspiration	quant	qual	quant
	resources	quant	qual	quant
	strategies	0	qual	
	success	quant	qual & quant	quant

# Purposes of Mixed Methods Research (Greene et al 1889)

- **Triangulation** seeks convergence
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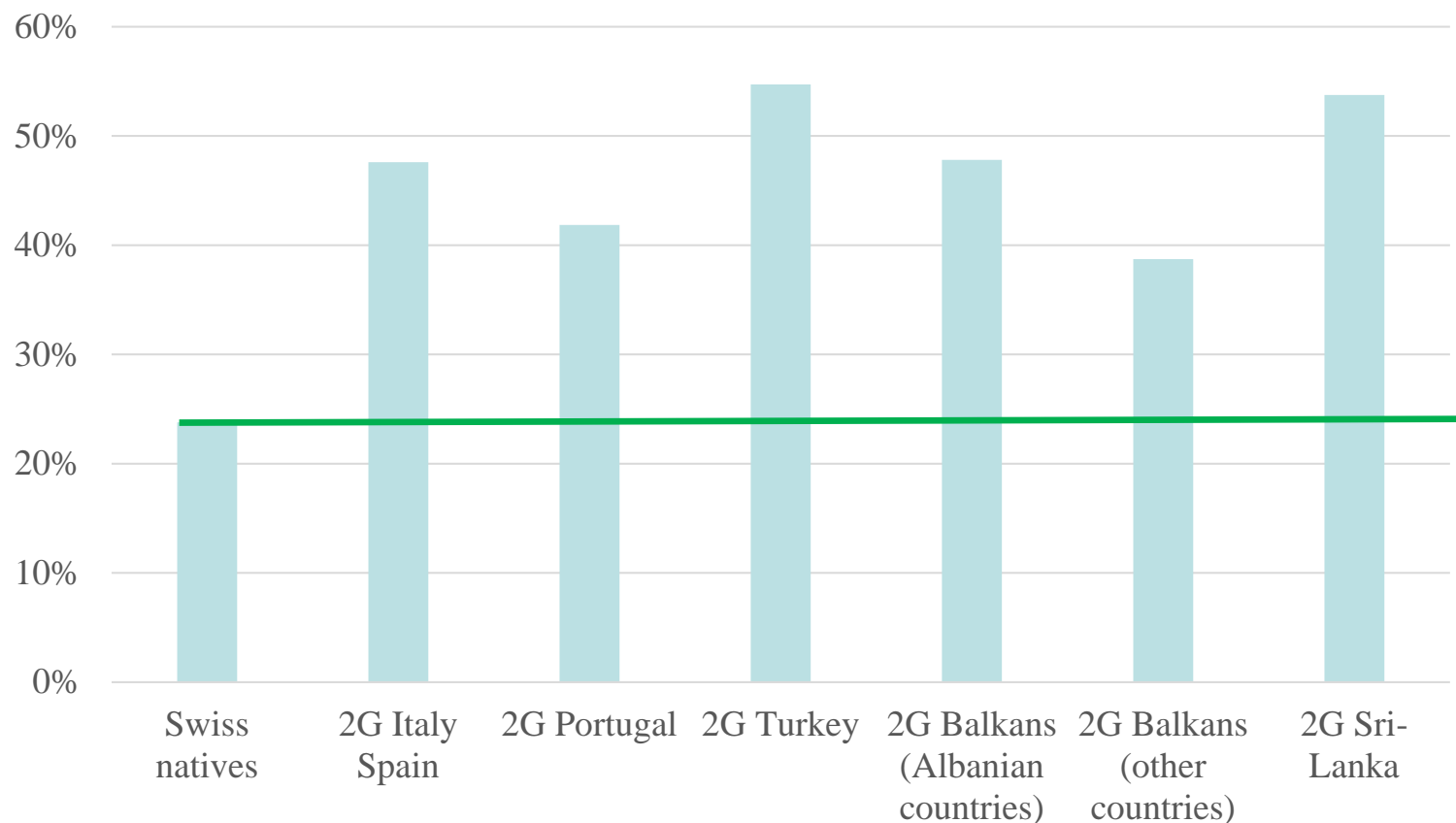
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	resources	quant	qual	qual
	strategies	0	qual & quant	qual
	success	0	qual	qual
young adults	aspiration	quant	qual & quant	quant
	resources	quant	qual	quant
	strategies	0	qual	
	success	quant	qual & quant	quant



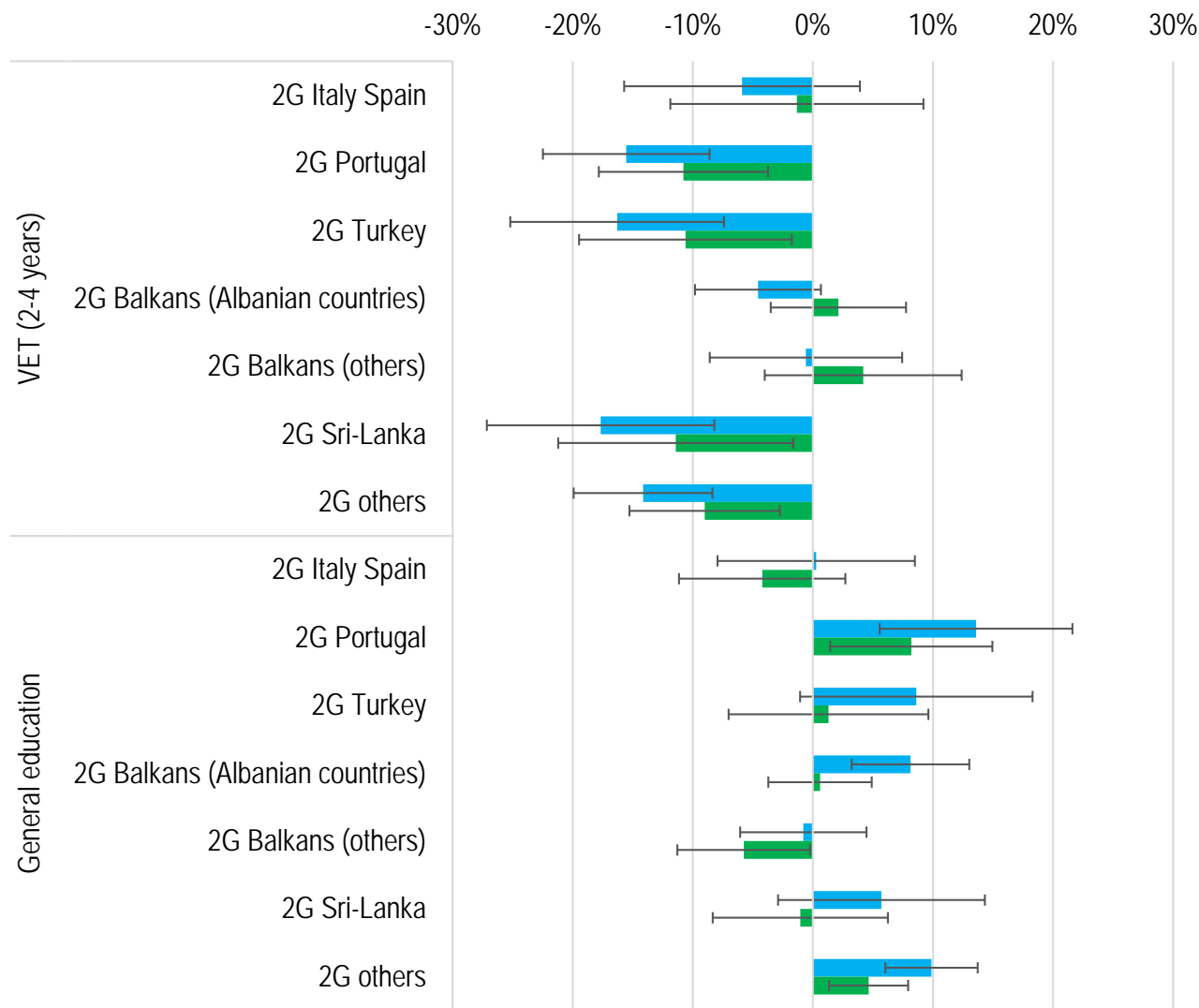
# Results WP1: Parental aspirations by ethnic groups

Positive response to the item: «my parents want me to go to university»



(2G= Second generation, parental aspiration reported by the young adult at the end of lower secondary level)

# Explain educational attendance in first post-compulsory year



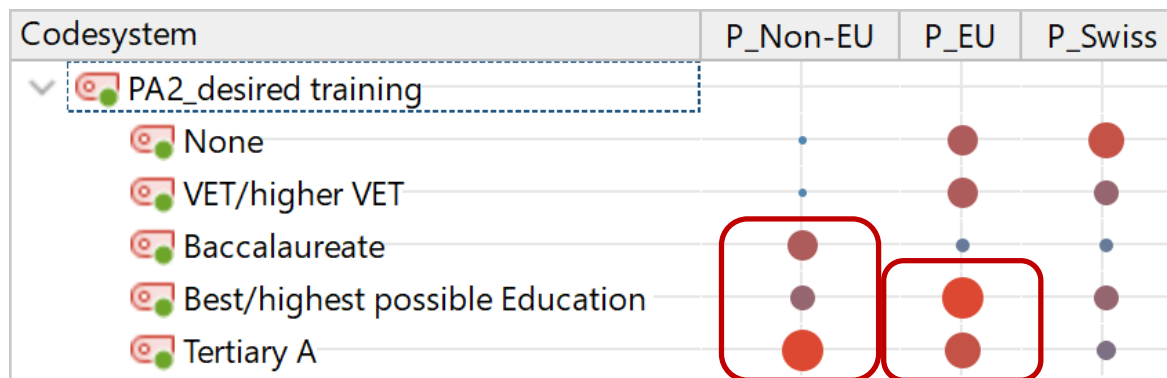
Average marginal effects and confidence intervals [5%] of upper secondary education attendance by students' migration background (reference: Swiss native)

All independent variables are measured at the end of compulsory education

■ Model 1: control for sex, language region, lower secondary track, math competences, parental SES and education

■ Model 2: (same as model 1) + parental aspiration

# Results WP3: Parental Investment – High Aspirations

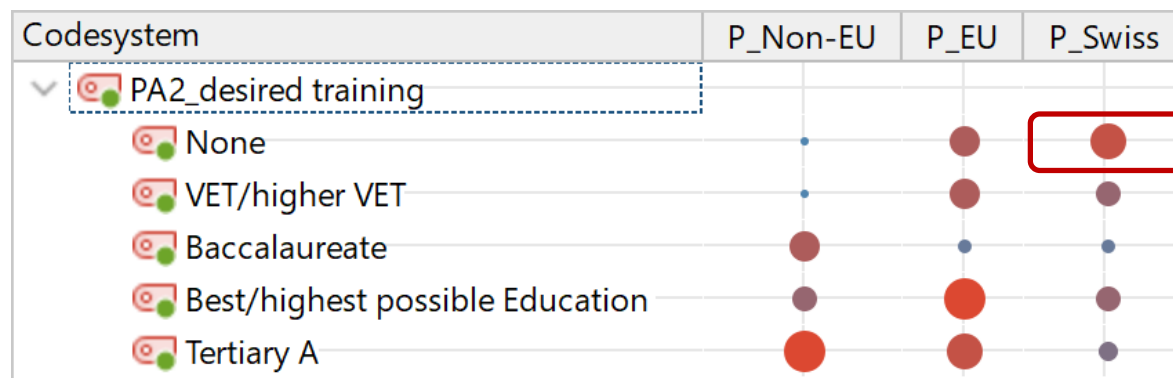


- Migrant parents: high aspiration levels

"My mother always wants that we achieve the highest of the highest. That's just the way it is. She just wants the best for us [...]. If it were up to my mother, we would all be in the Federal Government. (Saniye, young woman, Turkish family)

- Give to the child the educational and professional opportunities that parents missed / did not achieved (a wish of intergenerational social mobility)
- Parents show trust for tertiary education / lack of information on VET / labour market outcomes after VET

## Results WP3: Parental Investment

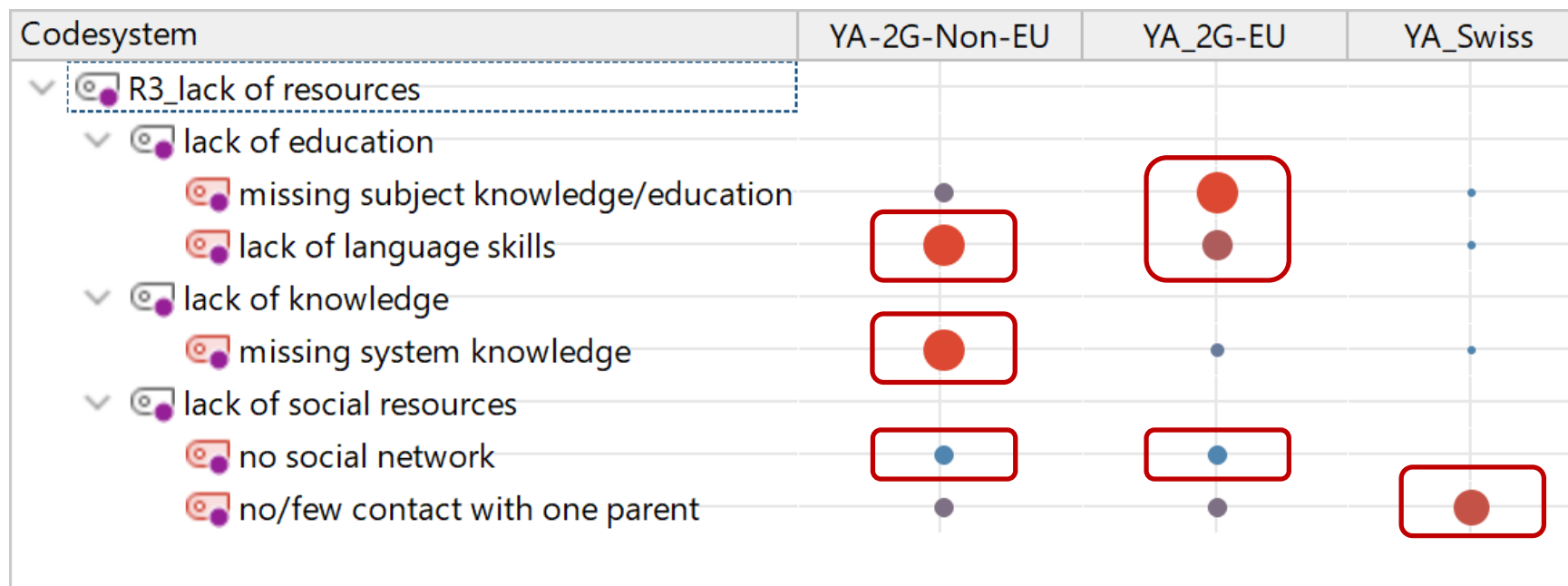


- A general definition of success more related to «achieve your own goals» and «job satisfaction»
- Parents show trust in the (VET) education system / labour market
- Swiss parents: no specific educational aspiration – let the children choose

“Well, my parents really said: “You can do anything you want. You can also do a two-year VET or anything. It doesn't really matter to us. What's important is that you do what suits you.” (Christian, young man, Swiss family)

“[My parents say] “as long as you enjoy what you do and there are opportunities to achieve it, well...” For them, they always respected every choice their children made.” (Corinne, young woman, Swiss family)

# Results WP3: Parental Investment - Lack of Resources



# Results WP3: First Attempt of a Typology of Parental Investment

	Non-EU parents	EU parents	Swiss parents
<b>Aspirations</b>	University / baccalaureate	Best / highest education	Freedom of choice
<b>Lack of resources</b>	Language skills System knowledge	Educational background	Educational background Family structure
<b>Strategies</b>	Compensatory and pushy	Pro-active and compensatory	Available if needed

# Conclusions

- Aspiration do matter – but not only...
- Multiplicity of parental strategies (pro-active, reactive, compensation of lack of resources)
- Many differences in parental investment between migrant and Swiss families
- Better understanding of single results thanks to mixed methods design
- Limitations – further developments:
  - Explore differences by gender and by countries of origin
  - Account for the relationship between young adults educational paths and parental investment
  - Compare more systematically children's and parents' evaluations of parental investment
  - Longitudinal analysis of parental investment between t4 and t5

# Thank you for your attention!



TREE: Rolf Becker, Barbara Müller, Christina von Rotz, Sandra Hupka, Ben Jann, Belinda Heldner; Mitte: Andrés Gomensoro, Marc Dojtschinov, Maarten Koomen, Stefan Ilic; unten: David Baumann, Thomas Meyer, Stefan Sacchi, Melina Heiniger, Barbara Wilhelmi, Dominique Oesch



PICE: Andres Gomensoro, Jakob Schnell, Chantal Kamm, Sandra Hupka-Brunner, Ben Jann, Laura Bernardi, Marieke Heers



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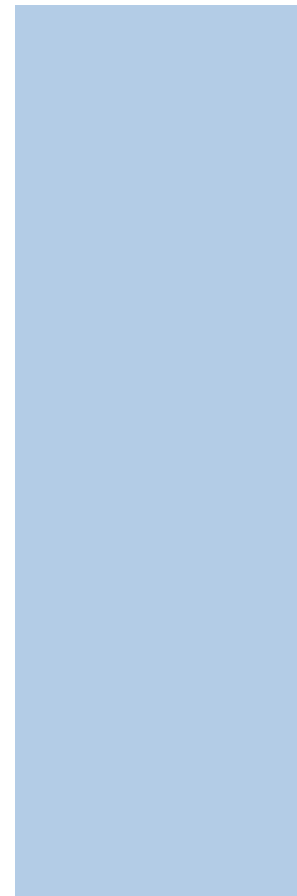


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# Literature



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