



# seriss

SYNERGIES FOR EUROPE'S  
RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES  
IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

## Fieldwork Management System (FMS)

Building on the success of SHARE's existing sample management system, the FMS provides survey researchers with access to accurate, comprehensive and standardized information on fieldwork progress in real time.

Under SERISS, the FMS has been developed as a mobile app (CASE CTRL) for interviewers to use in the field to manage their case load and record information on contact attempts.

### Why do social researchers need an FMS?

Monitoring fieldwork is essential for any survey. The problem for cross-national surveys is that researchers are often quite far removed from the fieldwork process and trying to monitor fieldwork across multiple countries, often with very different fieldwork contact and different local technology set-ups for fieldwork monitoring. All too often, researchers rely on fieldwork updates that are incomplete, out-of-date, and inconsistent across countries.

### How does the FMS solve the problem?

CASE CTRL syncs automatically with a centralized case management system [www.SERISS.eu](http://www.SERISS.eu)

This project has received funding from the *European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme* under grant agreement No 654221.



which is available both to the survey agency for day-to-day fieldwork management and to the central survey team. This gives study teams access to data and summary progress statistics about all countries in the field at the same time.

### How can researchers use the FMS?

CASE CTRL is currently in use by SHARE and ESS. It can run on multiple devices and was designed to work for contact registration with phones or small tablets, or laptops for longer interviews. Interviewers can record the outcome of contact attempts, conduct interviews and update respondent contact information (e.g. phone numbers and e-mails).

National fieldwork agencies can allocate sample units to interviewers, track interviewer performance, view data from complete interviews, and track the progress and current status of individual sample units.

At the cross-national-level this tool helps researchers to monitor and compare how countries are progressing with their fieldwork using input-harmonized data and a common set of fieldwork indicators.

### Where to find out more about the FMS

If you are interested in using the FMS to manage your survey's fieldwork, contact: [centerdata@uvt.nl](mailto:centerdata@uvt.nl).

## Project Summary

Synergies for Europe's Research Infrastructures in the Social Sciences (SERISS) aims to equip Europe's social science data infrastructures to play a major role in addressing the key societal challenges facing Europe today and ensure that national and European policymaking is built on a solid base of the highest quality socio-economic evidence. SERISS involves the three leading European Research Infrastructures in the social sciences – the European Social Survey (ESS ERIC), the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE ERIC) and the Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives (CESSDA ERIC) – together with organizations representing the Generations and Gender Programme (GGP), European Values Study (EVS) and WageIndicator.

Undertaking collaborative research and creating tools to assist future data collection, SERISS has exploited potential synergies among these infrastructures and fostered inter-operability, harmonization and innovation in three key ways:

- Addressing key challenges for cross-national data collection including how best to represent the views and behavior of the population and how to achieve equivalence of meaning across countries via high-quality translation
- Breaking down barriers between infrastructures by developing common technological platforms and creating shared online tools and resources
- Embracing the future of the social sciences by exploring new forms of data and new modes of data collection

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## SERISS Tools

SERISS has developed a suite of online tools to support different stages of the data lifecycle from design to collection to analysis. The tools are designed to support higher quality and cost effective data collection and ensure that data are Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable (FAIR). They are available to be used by national and international research infrastructures.

### Find out more about SERISS Tools

- Questionnaire Design and Documentation Tool (QDDT)  
<https://github.com/DASISH/qddt-client/wiki> or contact [surveytools@nsd.no](mailto:surveytools@nsd.no)
- Translation Management Tool (TMT)  
<https://seriss.centerdata.nl/> or contact [centerdata@uvt.nl](mailto:centerdata@uvt.nl)
- Question Variable Database (QVDB)  
<https://colectica.nsd.no/> or contact [surveytools@nsd.no](mailto:surveytools@nsd.no)
- Fieldwork Management System (FMS)  
<https://seriss.centerdata.nl/page2.php> or contact [centerdata@uvt.nl](mailto:centerdata@uvt.nl)
- SMaP/myEVS  
<https://www.gesis.org/en/research/applied-computer-science/labs/#c78056> or contact [myevs.support@gesis.org](mailto:myevs.support@gesis.org).
- Surveycodings.org  
[www.surveycodings.org](http://www.surveycodings.org)
- Variable Harmonization HUB (VHH)  
<https://harmonization.gesis.org/#!Home>