Questionnaire Variable Database (QVDB)

The QVDB, based on Colectica as its technical platform, documents the relationships between questionnaires, survey questions, the resulting variables and changes to these over time.

The DDI Lifecycle is the conceptual framework used to structure and document the relationship between questions, variables and questionnaires.

Why do social researchers need the QVDB?

The ESS is a cross-national survey that has been conducted every two years since 2001. A challenge for researchers is that not only have questions and variables changed over time, but it can also be hard to find the detailed information about those changes in the survey documentation using current software solutions.

How does the QVDB solve the problem?

The QVDB is a system for storage and retrieval of metadata components. Such components can be questions, variables, data files and also information about the survey and the single studies, data collections, that is to say, the information that is connected to the survey. Interoperability is facilitated as the tool is based on recognised metadata standards.

How can researchers use the QVDB?

Researchers can study ESS metadata components in the tool. Documentation about the relationships between the components and changes over time is available to users at **https://colectica.nsd.no/***

The QVDB database is also highly configurable to meet the needs of other surveys and their related metadata. As an administrator** you can decide which elements you would like to show to users as well as relationships and changes over time.

Administrators of the QVDB can add data files, show variable distributions as well as variable code lists and other information important to understand the concordance.

Where to find out more about the QVDB

Visit **https://colectica.nsd.no/** or contact surveytools@nsd.no

*Access for end users under NSD's Colectica license

**Access for administrators subject to Colectica licensing agreements

www.SERISS.eu

Project Summary

SERISS Tools

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

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

- Translation Management Tool (TMT)
  https://seriss.centerdata.nl/ or contact centerdata@uvt.nl

- Question Variable Database (QVDB)
  https://colectica.nsd.no/ or contact surveytools@nsd.no

- Fieldwork Management System (FMS)
  https://seriss.centerdata.nl/page2.php or contact centerdata@uvt.nl

- SMaP/myEVS
  https://www.gesis.org/en/research/applied-computer-science/labs/#c78056 or contact myevs.support@gesis.org.

- Surveycodings.org
  www.surveycodings.org

- Variable Harmonization HUB (VHH)
  https://harmonization.gesis.org/#!Home

www.SERISS.eu