

Translation Management Tool (TMT)

The Translation Management Tool is a central hub where information on questionnaire translations is generated, stored, and can be reviewed and shared between individuals before being exported back into survey software.

Why do social researchers need the TMT?

High-quality translation is essential for any cross-cultural survey, ensuring that concepts and questions are understood in a comparable way by respondents from different language groups.

Successful translation often involves multiple stages and several different experts working together. Careful management and documentation of this complex process is essential to ensure that the desired consistency and comparability across languages is achieved.

How does the TMT solve the problem?

The Translation Management Tool can help researchers to keep track of the translation process. In earlier versions of

the TMT, the process assumed only one instance of the translation per language which needed to be translated, viewed, reviewed and checked. The innovation in the SERISS project has been to make the tool modular and to accommodate the TRAPD approach to translation.

How can researchers use the TMT?

The advantage of modularization is that separate versions of the translations can be used next to each other. One researcher can interact with a questionnaire module that someone else has worked on, or two researchers can work on the same translation at the same time; in both cases the system will produce two versions of the same translation. Later the two versions can undergo review and adjudication and be merged into one.

Modularization gives researchers a more flexible workflow and allows them to better divide the translation tasks between different individuals and experts.

Where to find out more about the TMT

If you are fielding a survey in multiple languages and you want to translate it in a comparable way, contact:

centerdata@uvt.nl

www.SERISS.eu

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



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
- 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>