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*Deliverable 3.5 Report on the state of the art-obstacles, models
and roadmaps for widening the data perimeter*



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Findings for reflections

- Main objectives of the Deliverable:
- to survey current state of play of data services, researchers' needs in four domains, academia, health, official statistics and history, agreements for broadening data perimeter, relevant national and international policies.



An overview of each domain by summing up the types of data used and produced by researchers, experiences and best practices are presented since CESSDA needs also to address new data sources and new actors.



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Academia domain: actions that should be taken

- Set up adequate infrastructure in order to handle with all types of quantitative data.
- Facilitate the acquisition of qualitative data collections along four lines:
 - Identify demand for qualitative data
 - Target research on specialised tools and services for qualitative data;
 - Enhancing provision of qualitative data collections by campaigning the advantages of archiving them;
 - Establish long term collaborations with other actors specialising in collecting handling qualitative data.



Health Data

- Establish agreements with relevant key actors and organisations outside CESSDA for hosting health data. Moreover, as health data come from different scientific fields, CESSDA could provide services such as classification standards, metadata, or documentation standards in infrastructures dealing with health issues.
- Collaborate with governmental and other agencies involved in the development of a legal framework protecting personal information and enabling, as possible, research.



Official statistics

- The increasing use of web data or transactional data, as well as the development of administrative data use are important to consider for social sciences and researchers' needs.
- Dealing with Big Data in social sciences mean also dealing, at a great extent, with people's perceptions, life histories etc.
- Future: combination of social sciences analysis and techniques and computational sciences to further develop and promote data content for policy driven implications , CESSDA and SPs can be actively involved.

CESSDA can capitalise past experience (DwB project etc.,), long expertise on data, protection and procedures, as well as best practices at country level (France, Nordic countries cooperations) in order to meet increasing researchers' needs on different types of OS data.



Historical Data

SPs should take into account the recent developments in the field and establish agreements with other institutions- data producers in order to keep up with researchers' needs, which change over time

The types of historical datasets set issues of sustainability, meaning not only to keep data alive, but also to enable the exploitation of advances in technology, as well to enable connections between resources that could lead to new discoveries and broader impact.

- Emphasise on the collection, curation and dissemination of time series.
- Produce metadata descriptions and follow up technological advances in order to increase sustainability and allow better insights into historical datasets.



Moving ahead

- CESSDA has become a mature network, able to capitalise knowledge, expertise needed to deal with archiving and managing of data produced/provided at national, European/international level.
- The data landscape has been widened in terms of volume and plurality due to the emergence of technological advances, new types of data and new actors appeared at the European and international scene.



Two main broad areas of interest came up, namely the increasing and widening of data collection provided on the one hand, and the improvement of the existing or the development of new tools regarding data curation, elaboration and dissemination on the other hand.

They are not contradictory, as many SPs, especially the biggest ones, are involved in both areas. However those strategies are not equally feasible for the smaller SPs, which have to take into account financial and human resources limitations.



At the same time, researchers' needs are increasing across Europe (and the globe). Thus, the need of achieving economies of scale through networking, cooperation and exchange of expertise amongst the SPs, as well as with other actors outside CESSDA, seems meaningful in order to ensure further development and sustainability.



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- With regard to the specific data domains:
- future strategies should include the promotion of long term collaborations with actors eg. other RIs or organisations within European era that collect or provide data that are of interest to CESSDA. These agreements or collaborations should take into account both constant development of technological advances as well as research progress in order for CESSDA to meet users 'needs. Cine qua no



- CESSDA's maintenance at the forefront presupposes that SPs should make bridges with actors at the national level seeking networking for ensuring data flow from various sources. Bridges that fill gaps and strengthen CESSDA position further more. In particular, the assets of CESSDA' SPs regarding the content of the data collections and data management can even lead to a new sharing of labour among main stake- holders in the field.



- Openness to the wider environment can be an important component of CESSDA strategic plan in the years to come. CESSDA and SPs operate within the broader European ecosystem and they have to maintain links and build bridges with important key actors.



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Cooperation would also allow collective and more effective work in many issues arising during the exploration of the specific data domains of this report, such as legal and ethical aspects regarding the handling of sensitive data, the development of more coherent metadata descriptions or the elaboration of classification and documentation standards.



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Key issues for an Action Plan (source EC Working document)

European Ris should ensure
scientific excellence,
the right people in the right place and the right time..

- CESSDA can pass the test!
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Thank you!

