The Data Documentation Initiative (DDI): Enhancements to the Standard

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CSDI
DDI

Emerging standard for documentation of data from social, behavioral, and economic science

eXtended Markup Language (XML)

DDI 3
  ◦ Modularized schemas
  ◦ Allows extensions to meet unique documentation requirements
  ◦ Richer documentation of instruments
More recent enhancements
- Richer metadata for documentation of instruments
- Metadata documentation throughout the study lifecycle

Figure: Combined Life Cycle Model
Two proposed extensions for documenting survey lifecycle

- Questionnaire design
  - Documentation of iterative developmental activities in the development of questionnaires
    - cognitive interviews, focus groups, translation, expert reviews
- Sampling
  - Documentation of sampling procedures
    - Sampling frames, sample selection, stages of selection
- Available in 18 months
- Future extensions
Controlled Vocabularies Working Group

- Standardized vocabularies (code frames) for elements
  - Semantics – meaning
  - Content – what and how values assigned to elements

- E.g., ContentType
  - Instrument
  - Question
  - Section
  - ShowCard
  - Invitation
2008 Workshop on Best Practices Across the Data Life Cycle

- Work Flows – Data Discovery and Dissemination: User Perspective
- Work Flows for Metadata Creation Regarding Recoding, Aggregation and Other Data Processing Activities
- Work Flows – Archival Ingest and Metadata Enhancement
- Controlled Vocabularies
- Versioning and Publication
2009 Workshop on Development of DDI Use Cases

- Grouping Data Series
- Comparison across studies
- Documentation of the European Social Survey (ESS)
- Questionnaire Management
- Extracting Metadata from the Data Analysis Workflow
Beyond Survey Data: Using DDI to Document a Wider Variety of Data

Enabling Longitudinal Data Comparison Using DDI

Metadata for the Longitudinal Data Life Cycle: The Role and Benefit of Metadata Management and Reuse

Metadata-Driven Delivery of Longitudinal Data Using DDI
Comparison and reuse

- Study units
- Groups and subgroups
  - Time
  - Instrument
  - Panel
  - Geography
  - Dataset
  - Language translation
- Comparison module
- Resource packages
Comparison across study units