

New tools for complex surveys: the DASISH Questionnaire Design Documentation Tool (QDDT) and Question Variable Data Base (QVDB)

Yvette Prestage (City University London)
Knut Kalgraff Skjåk (NSD, Norweigian Social Science Data Services, Norway)
Rory Fitzgerald (City University London)





Background

- Questionnaire design can often be a lengthy process
- Can involve multiple stages, such as expert review, multiple pre-testing stages, advance translation and pilot(s).
- All this needs to be documented for internal (and sometimes external users).
- On the ESS Questionnaire design takes 20 months, and is currently documented in multiple Word templates.



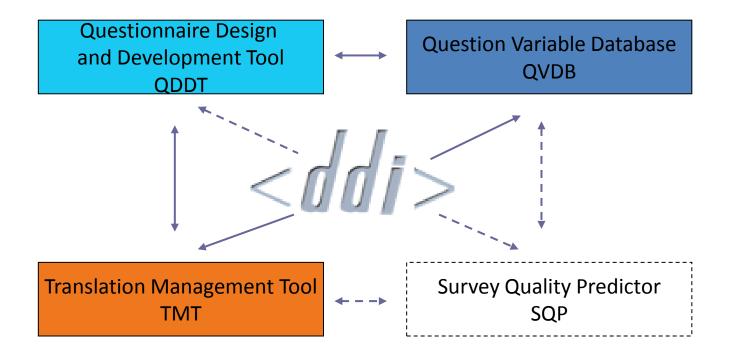
Aims of task:

- Create a multi-language questionnaire development tool – to develop, translate and document the concepts & questions used in cross-national surveys
- Produce searchable meta data for the whole question design process
- Three compatible databanks:
 - Question Design and Documentation Tool (QDDT)
 - Translation Management Tool (TMT)
 - Question Variable Data Bank (QVDB)





DASISH task 3.2 tools



- Interoperability between the three tools QDDT, TMT and QVDB is the key
- Possibilities for interoperability with SQP to be explored





The Tools:

- The QDDT will save time and effort during the design process
 - converting the Word template into an online database
 - producing outputs that can be used during the design process
- Data will feed directly into the TMT and QVDB, enabling users to search for concepts or specific questions across tools
- Users can find information about design, pre-testing, translation and question quality in one place
- ESS is the use-case, but needs of other cross-national surveys (e.g. SHARE, ISSP) are also considered





QDDT – Objectives and success criteria

- Database can handle differing amounts of information at different times
- Internal users can use the tool to document the questionnaire design process, whilst external users can use it to understand how each item and concept was developed
- Different levels of access rights can be awarded to different users
- Information can be permanently stored in the database for future use/reference





The Question Variable Data Base (QVDB)

Aim

- Searchable database
- User access to survey questions in original languages, concepts and variables etc.

Possible users (same as for the QDDT):

- ESS is the usecase
- Other DASISH survey projects
- Projects outside DASISH
- Researchers and students





The QVDB contd.

- The QVDB can also be used in the archive processes, including:
 - creation of new variables
 - creating data protocols
 - variable specifications for statistical packages
- Questions and translations will be imported into the QVDB from the QDDT and the TMT
- Future development: to include functionality to support further business steps, most importantly data curation





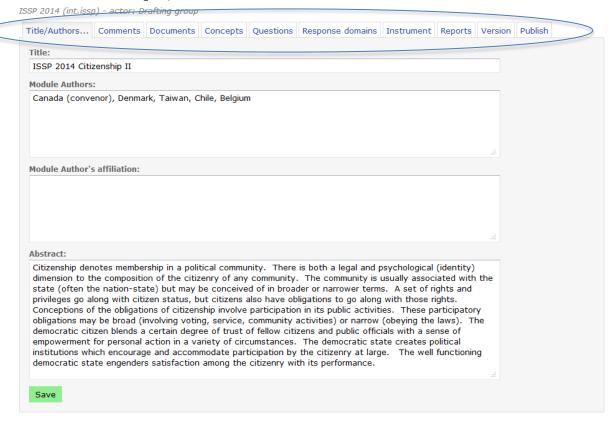
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DASISH QDDT

Questionnaire Design and Development Tool

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Module: Citizenship II, ISSP 2014 module





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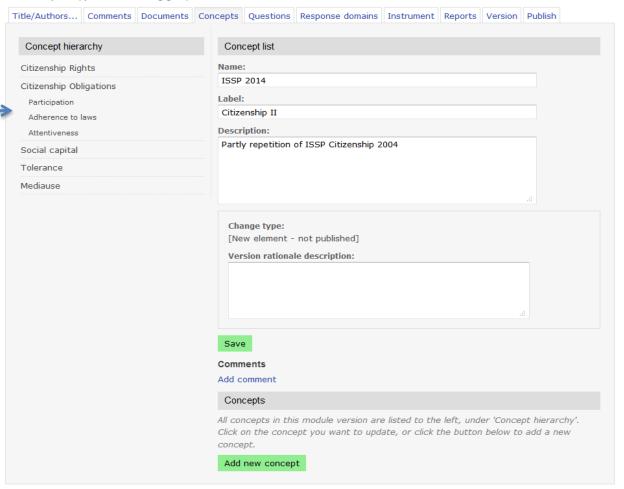
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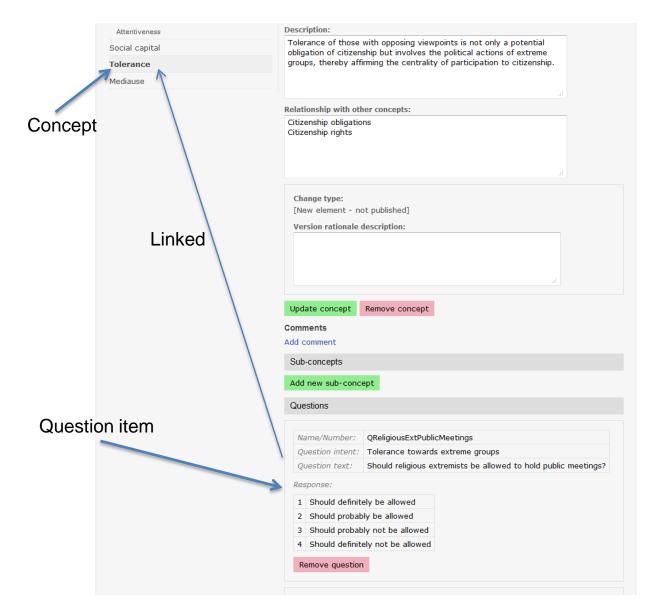
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ISSP 2014 (int.issp) - actor: Drafting group





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- Sally Widdop (formally of ESS ERIC HQ, UK)

