The French Socio-Political Data Center (CDSP): Open Data since 2005

Alina DANCIU
Open Science in France – Data Policy can make a difference
CLOSER online webinar, 19 March 2025

20 years of open science

One of the French Socio-Political Data Center's (CDSP) main missions is to serve the French and international social sciences and humanities (SSH) communities by **facilitating the reuse of surveys and data, both quantitative and qualitative, in the fields of sociology and political science**, since 2005.

A **support and research unit** (UAR 828) set up in 2005 by Sciences Po and the French National Research Center (CNRS)

A team of 25 developers, data managers, panel managers and survey specialists

OUTLINE

NATIONAL FRAME : French Plan for Open Science

NATIONAL ECOSYSTEM : Skills and Training College & RechercheDataGouv Portal & network

FUNDING : Research on open science practices and stakes (Réso 2024 bid)

Second French Plan for Open Science

We will encourage practices that favor research data reuse

Path Two

Structuring, sharing and opening up research data

The Skills and Training College

Skills and training

The work of this College is part of the National Plan for Open Science's fourth commitment which aims to transform practices by developing and enhancing open science skills throughout the careers of students and research professionals.

Guides published by the college
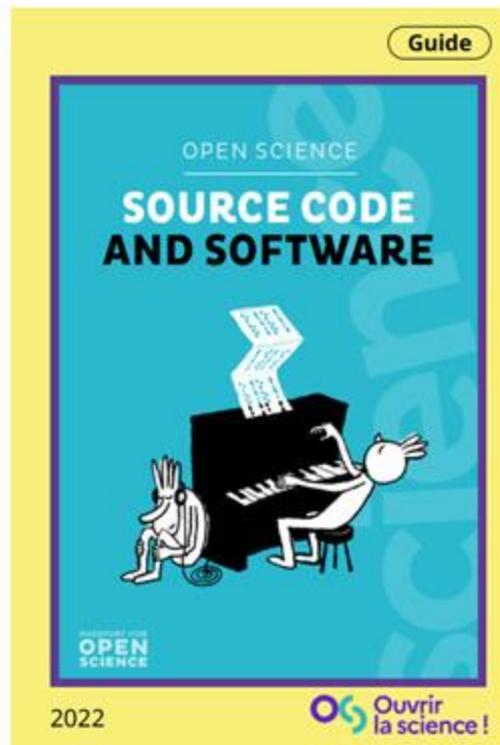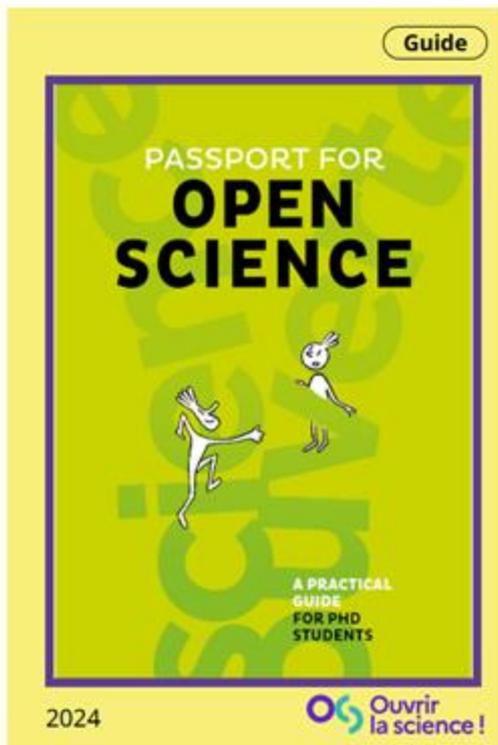
Research on open science practices and stakes

In order to identify the needs and interest of the scientific communities regarding open science practices and stakes within research practices, the French National Research Agency launched a call for expressions of interest in April 2023, which led to a major mobilisation of communities. The analysis of these proposals has highlighted the diversity of expectations and needs. Therefore, the ANR is launching a specific call for proposals open to all scientific communities, on the practices and stakes of open science.

ETAPSS	Etudier le Travail d'Anonymisation des Publications en Sciences Sociales	GARCIA Guillaume
FAIRwDDI	Implémentation des principes FAIR avec le standard des métadonnées Data Documentation Initiative (DDI)	DANCIU Alina
OPEN IT	Ouvrir les Publications pour une Edition Nouvelle, Inclusive et Transparente	MADDI Abdelghani
OSYR	Open Science for Young Researchers (OSYR)	LEON Y BARELLA Alicia
PaRéDo SHS	Partage et Réutilisation des Données en SHS	DUMAS-PRIMBAULT Simon
ROR²	Recherche Ouverte et Responsable X Research on Research	BOUKACEM Cherifa
SODIO	Appliquer la Science Ouverte aux Données Issues de projets supportés par des appels d'Offres nationaux à enjeux sociétaux	SCHMIDT Sabine
Soch	Science ouverte pour les Sciences Humaines et Sociales	DELACOUR Hélène

FAIRwDDI project

PI: Alina Danciu

Many efforts have been made in recent years to put the FAIR principles into practice. If the first three FAIR criteria are now widely explored, the R, which is supposed to result from them, is much less so.

Why FAIRwDDI?

Many efforts have been made in recent years to put the FAIR principles into practice. If the first three FAIR criteria are now widely explored, the R, which is supposed to result from them, is much less so.

Three main objectives

- Empirically validate formal criteria on the "Reusable" criterion of the FAIR principles (quali/quanti survey on the reuse of data)

- Create online tutorials on a standard that has proven its impact on reusability aspects, the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI)

- Establish a protocol for curation of questionnaire survey metadata using AI & a question bank

WP1: The R of FAIR

Come up with formal criteria to study aspects linked to the Reusable criterion of the FAIR principles

27 months work package

FAIR assessment tools, established for example by European initiatives such as GO FAIR, mainly explore metadata issues and very little the data itself

Main questions

REUSABILITY aspects
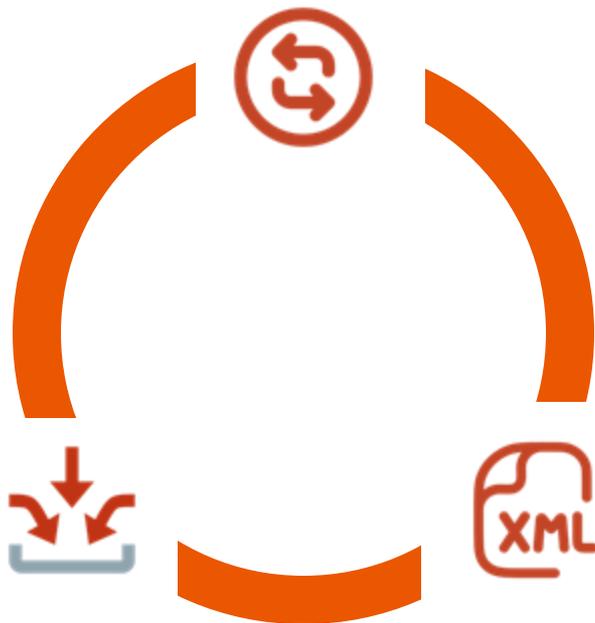
Data quality and provenance

Metadata standards that have proven their role when it come to data reusability like DDI in SSH

Better implementation of FAIR principles

How can we better implement the FAIR principles when it comes to data reuse?

How to account for replicability and reusability and the objective criteria for defining what constitutes a replicable and reusable dataset?

Research protocol to better understand the French social scientists' data reuse behaviour

Qualitative survey
- 8 to 10 interviews with the secondary users
- Heterogeneous sample of datasets to be explored

Main questions
- Reusers' criteria when choosing a specific dataset
- Obstacles and burdens that then lead researchers to drop a specific dataset

Quantitative survey
- Distribution of questionnaires to the French community of secondary data users via several mailing lists

Main questions
- Most important elements concerning the data reusability
- Different data citation or non-citation behaviour

WP1 deliverables

- Recommendations to improve the implementation of the R of FAIR
- Research paper
- Data collected in the project will be shared with the community

In collaboration with HUN REN | Centre for Social Sciences **Hungary**

WP2: DDI training materials for beginners

Build user-friendly training materials for complete beginners

Working plan:

      Half-day meeting CDSP/CLOSER in February

One week sprint CDSP/CLOSER mid May

Once slide deck is written and training material edited, translation in French

WP3: Upscaling metadata using AI

AI-assisted metadata curation protocol using a SSH thesaurus (a lighter version of ELSST)

36 months work package

Centre for socio-political data & partners (FSD and INSERM)

Deliverable: an open-source question bank tool

Conclusions

- Written policy that gives an official frame and direction
- A more dynamic and visible open science community
- Funding for open science research (open data)
- Standards like the Data Documentation Initiative that became more visible and important
- French community is more visible internationally

Credits

The FAIRwDDI slides were initially published in the project's online kickoff présentation from 7 February 2014. Alina DANCIU, Jieun JEONG, Lucie MARIE.

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