

The CESSDA Expert Tour Guide General information

Background

The Expert Tour Guide on Data Management (avail

able via CESSDA.eu/DMGuide) by [CESSDA ERIC](https://CESSDA.ERIC) is an online training module aimed to put social scientists at the heart of making their research data findable, understandable, sustainably accessible and reusable. The module was developed in 2017 by several CESSDA archives (ADP, AUSSDA, CSDA, DANS, FORS, FSD, GESIS, NSD, SND, So.Da.Net and UKDS) and illustrated and edited by Verbeeldingskr8.

During a one-year project, the CESSDA archives combined all the knowledge and expertise on research data management (RDM) that was available locally within one comprehensive online training. The module is designed to cover all aspects of RDM and includes best practices, as well as practical tips, and information about European diversity in data management.

Target audience

The Expert Tour Guide is designed for (early career) social sciences researchers who want to learn more about RDM. It was created in collaboration with young researchers who provided feedback on the structure and the content of the module at two points in time during the development process. Next to being a stand-alone self-study module, the Expert Tour Guide can also be used by trainers as a basis for interactive workshops and courses.

Structure of the module

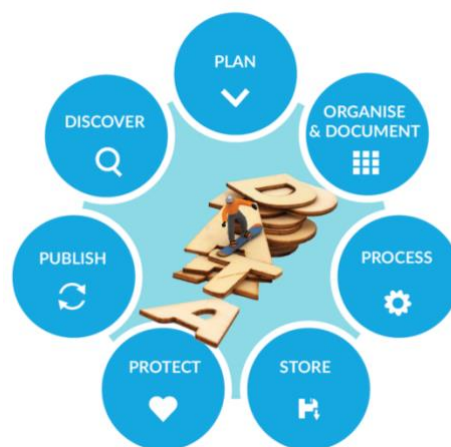
The Expert Tour Guide follows the Research Data Life Cycle and is divided into seven chapters that deal with the different aspects of a (typical) research project.



Product statement of the Expert Tour Guide defining - amongst others- the target audience of the module.

To establish a common look and feel for the module across the different chapters, a professional designer created images and elements visualizing the module content. In addition, four recurring elements were used throughout the module:

- » **Expert Tips.** Each chapter contains tips that provide the reader with food for thought and practical how-to information.
- » **European diversity.** Where applicable, differences between European countries are discussed in the chapters.
- » **Qualitative vs. Quantitative data.** This module contains in-depth tips on how to deal with specific type (i.e. qualitative or quantitative) of data
- » **Adapt your DMP.** The final section of every chapter summarizes a couple of questions that researchers should consider when preparing a data management plan (DMP). We have designed a list of all DMP-questions that can be answered using the insights from this Expert tour guide on Data Management and it can [be viewed and downloaded](#) at the beginning of the module.



The Research Data Life Cycle used in the Expert Tour Guide. Please note that the Discover Chapter will be added at the end of 2018.

How the module can be used

Self-study by researchers

The Expert Tour Guide can be used as a stand-alone self-study module for researchers. It contains between 15 to 20 hours of materials that should give (young) scientists a solid basis of the most important aspects of data management.

Building block for interactive training

In addition, the Expert Tour Guide can also be used by trainers or data stewards in (social sciences) research institutes to provide workshops on data management. We have developed a train-the-trainer package that contains different materials which trainers can use in such workshops. More information on this package can be requested via training@cessda.eu

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