KonsortSWD

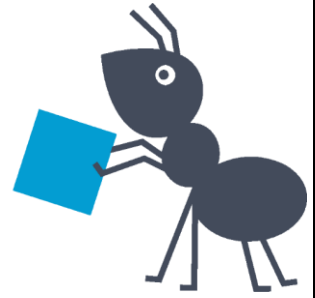## Progress Report Part 1

National Research Data Infrastructure (NFDI)

1   General Information

Name of the consortium

Consortium for the Social, Behavioural, Educational, and Economic Sciences (KonsortSWD)

Research domains or research methods addressed by the consortium

111 Social Science, 112 Economics, 110 Psychology, 109 Educational Research, 205 Public Health, Health Services Research, Social Medicine, 106 Social and Cultural Anthropology, Non-European Cultures, Jewish Studies and Religious Studies

URL of the consortium website and repositories used for publishing output

- https://konsortswd.de
- https://zenodo.org/communities/konsortswd/
- https://zis.gesis.org/

2   Summary

KonsortSWD supports Research Data Management (RDM) in a range of related disciplines. The social, behavioural, educational and economic sciences study how our societies work and contributes to our understanding of them. The data that enable this research are precious because they come from many different sources and often reflect the state of individual people (e.g. health, wealth), how they think, feel, behave. Their confidential nature characterizes much of the data KonsortSWD deals with as sensitive. Against this backdrop, we build on the established system of Research Data Centers (RDCs), accredited by the German Data Forum (Rat für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsdaten, RatSWD) and organised in the "Standing Committee for Research Data Infrastructure" (Ständiger Ausschuss Forschungsdateninfrastruktur, FDI Committee). RDCs offer access to and help with a large variety of sensitive data, ranging from statistical data to recorded videos of interviews.

Being part of NFDI has enabled KonsortSWD to *S*trengthen, *W*iden and *D*eepen the network of RDCs and the services, tools and data they offer to researchers. At this point, there are the following main results and corresponding benefits:

RDC's **accreditation** by RatSWD continues to assure standards for findability and transparent access to high quality data. It is thus a major benefit to our communities as well as for other disciplines where their data are used. Accreditation is effective in enforcing standards, as evidenced by both the refusal of permanent accreditation and the withdrawal of RDC-status in several cases. The Federal Government's Data Strategy underscores the benefit of the **RDC**

model of Data Trustees:[1] [2] it aims to establish further RDCs for official data from various data domains.[3] [4] The RDC model, as operated by KonsortSWD, thereby opens up hitherto unused data treasures to research.

Moreover, KonsortSWD enables RDCs to make **professional RDM services** available to more researchers. This shows, exemplarily, in QualidataNet which is set to launch QualidataNet in early 2024 and provide – amongst other services – a search portal for qualitative data collections and a coordinated core set of metadata to establish FAIRness. On a broader scale researchers already benefit from the Standardised Data Management Plan (Stamp) which structures writing of Data Management Plans (DMPs) and provides guidance in a field where few researchers have expertise.[5] Stamp is provided by VerbundFDB (German Network of Educational Research Data), was originally funded outside, but in close cooperation with KonsortSWD, and is now part of our portfolio. Benefits from connecting processes and unifying infrastructure also manifest in Forum4MICA. Since its launch this year, Forum4MICA already counts 332 registered users **sharing their knowledge** and helping to make data more easily accessible, analysable and reusable. The public forum enables the search for and exchange of expertise among data users and substantially reduces the time (vis-à-vis email before) for researchers to access the RDC's expert knowledge. Research with sensitive data is becoming much easier thanks to RDCnet, due to be launched in 2024. Data that can currently only be accessed at one RDC (due to privacy / legal regulations) will be **accessible** at several locations, **much closer** to researchers. While **ethical considerations** are often not regarded central to RDM, our website with a collection of best practices in research ethics has clearly filled a vacuum. Its benefit to researchers and data managers is evident in over **2,800** unique visits since June 2022.[6]

KonsortSWD also has developed services aimed primarily at RDC which generate indirect benefits for the communities we serve. Highly **qualified data curators** are at the core of an effective RDM. The certificate course developed as part of KonsortSWD's compilation of RDM training materials – RDM Compas[7] – is laying groundwork that has been proposed to be part of

---

[1] Gehring, P. & Girshgorn, M. (2023). "Daten.Forschung.Zukunft" - The European Data Trustee: Neue Wege zur Datennutzung für Forschungszwecke. Statistisches Bundesamt - Session B.2: Zukunft gestalten - best practice Forschungsdatenzentrum. https://www.destatis.de/DE/Ueber-uns/Kolloquien-Tagungen/Kolloquien/2023/Archiv/b2-gehring_girshgorn-praesentation.pdf?__blob=publicationFile

[2] Data Trustees – They Do Work! The Example of Research Data Centers.
Conference Proceedings. 1st Conference on Research Data Infrastructure (CoRDI) - Connecting Communities. https://www.tib-op.org/ojs/index.php/CoRDI/article/view/241/491

[3] Presse- und Informationsamt der Bundesregierung. (2021). Data Strategy of the Federal German Government: An innovation strategy for social progress and sustainable growth. https://www.bundesregierung.de/resource/blob/992814/1950610/bf3dac46be741dfd4616cb56ff4e5f20/datenstrategie-der-bundesregierung-englisch-download-bpa-data.pdf?download=1

[4] Buck, D., Croisier, J., Eder, C., Hoffstätter, U., Jansen, M., Meyermann, A., & Siegers, P. (2022). Handreichung: Forschungsdatenzentren gründen. RatSWD Working Paper 280/2022. RatSWD - Rat für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsdaten. https://doi.org/10.17620/02671.70

[5] DDP-Bildung & Verbund Forschungsdaten Bildung (2023). Stamp – Standardisierter Datenmanagementplan. Version 0.9. Frankfurt am Main: DIPF | Leibniz-Institut für Bildungsforschung und Bildungsinformation.https://www.forschungsdaten-bildung.de/stamp-nutzen

[6] https://konsortswd.de/themen/best-practice-forschungsethik/

[7] https://rdm-compas.org/

an NFDI Basic Service, submitted by section EduTrain and currently under evaluation, helping to secure the quality of RDM services at RDCs but also beyond at other research institutions. A further benefit for RDCs are **PIDs** below the level of datasets, currently being tested by several partners in KonsortSWD. They will make concepts and single items findable, citable and therefore more re-usable enabling better research. Eventually, PIDs at the level of concepts and variables will make this level of data machine actionable and support linking of large numbers of datasets. Summing up: The main benefits of KonsortSWD aimed directly at researchers are a) quality-controlled data provision through accreditation of RDCs, b) spread of RDM services, creating communities and sharing knowledge around datasets, c) bringing sensitive data closer to users and d) sharing ethical best practices. Furthermore, KonsortSWD supports RDCs and thereby generates indirect benefits for researchers by e) enhancing the qualifications of data curators and f) increasing the accessibility of data by PIDs on level of variables and concepts.

KonsortSWD develops services by involving researchers from the community and draws on the expertise of its advisory board. The board's members come from RatSWD which continues to make substantial and timely contributions to the ongoing political debates on data. This is part of improving the value of our infrastructure and making more relevant data accessible to research. To this end, RatSWD provides widely valued expertise and promotes the necessary changes in Germany's and Europe's **legal framework** to law and decision makers.

We consider RatSWD's and the FDI Committee's continued contribution to the data landscape a success made possible through KonsortSWD. KonsortSWD enhances the cooperation of long-time partners within NFDI. KonsortSWD increased the sustainability of RDCs by providing impulses for closer cooperation and additional standardised processes supported by tools and services. We are excited to further deepen our network with new partners and new activities, starting in the fall of 2023. Taking up the positive experiences of other consortia, KonsortSWD will begin to introduce a **helpdesk** as a first contact point for data users by October 1st, 2023.

Challenges still to be addressed are plentiful despite successes: with more data types being used in our disciplines, KonsortSWD must be alert to the most user-friendly ways of providing access and assuring reusability, also for new groups of users.[8] NFDI's basic services will complement our efforts (e.g., through authentication of researchers) even though their roll-out in a landscape of independent institutions will be a substantial challenge in itself. We also look forward to developing use cases for cross-consortial data and the processes that can be developed to streamline and improve such uses. KonsortSWD will contribute to the joint architecture of NFDI services. Furthermore, KonsortSWD is monitoring similar developments across Europe and has started a dialogue with social science infrastructure initiatives in several countries. ▪

---

[8] NFDI-Expertengremium. 2023. Zweite Stellungnahme des NFDI-Expertengremiums zum Aufbau der NFDI. Bonn, 30. September 2020. https://www.dfg.de/download/pdf/foerderung/programme/nfdi/stellungnahme_nfdi_201112_de.pdf

3 Composition of the consortium

Applicant institution

Applicant institution	Location	Duration
GESIS – Leibniz-Institut für Sozialwissenschaften • Forschungsdatenzentrum Wahlen bei GESIS (FDZ Wahlen) • Forschungsdatenzentrum PIAAC bei GESIS (FDZ PIAAC) • Forschungsdatenzentrum Internationale Umfrageprogramme bei GESIS • Forschungsdatenzentrum German Microdata Lab bei GESIS (FDZ GML) • Forschungsdatenzentrum ALLBUS bei GESIS (FDZ ALLBUS)	Mannheim	10/2020 -

Spokesperson

Spokesperson	Institution, location	Duration
Christof Wolf (0000-0002-9364-9524)	GESIS, Mannheim	10/2020 -

Co-applicant institutions

Co-applicant institutions	Location	Duration
DIPF – Leibniz-Institut für Bildungsforschung und Bildungsinformation • Forschungsdatenzentrum Bildung am DIPF (FDZ Bildung)	Frankfurt am Main	10/2020 –
DZHW – Deutsches Zentrum für Hochschul- und Wissenschaftsforschung • Forschungsdatenzentrum für Hochschul- und Wissenschaftsforschung (FDZ-DZHW)	Hannover	10/2020 –
Freie Universität Berlin	Berlin	12/2023 –
ifo Institut – Leibniz-Institut für Wirtschafts-	München	10/2023 –

forschung an der Universität München • Economics & Business Data Center		
KIT – Karlsruhe Institute of Technology	Karlsruhe	10/2023 –
LIfBi – Leibniz-Institut für Bildungsverläufe • Forschungsdatenzentrum des LIfBi (FDZ-LIfBi)	Bamberg	10/2020 –
RWI - Leibniz-Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung • Forschungsdatenzentrum Ruhr am RWI (FDZ Ruhr am RWI)	Essen	10/2023 –
DIW Berlin – Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung • Forschungsdatenzentrum des Sozioökonomischen Panels am DIW Berlin (FDZ SOEP) • Forschungsdatenzentrum Betriebs- und Organisationsdaten am DIW Berlin (FDZ-BO)	Berlin	10/2020 –
SOFI – Soziologisches Forschungsinstitut Göttingen an der Georg-August-Universität	Göttingen	10/2020 –
Universität Bremen • Forschungsdatenzentrum Qualiservice • Forschungsdatenzentrum des Forschungsinstitut Gesellschaftlicher Zusammenhalt (FDZ-FGZ)	Bremen	10/2020 –
Universität Duisburg-Essen – Professur für Public Policy und Landespolitik	Duisburg	10/2020 –
WZB – Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung	Berlin	10/2020 –
ZBW – Leibniz-Informationszentrum Wirtschaft	Kiel	10/2020 –
ZPID – Leibniz-Institut für Psychologie • Forschungsdatenzentrum am ZPID (FDZ am ZPID; vormals PsychData)	Trier	10/2020 –

Co-spokespersons

Co-spokesperson	Institution, location	Task area(s)	Duration
Marc Rittberger (0000-0003-4641-3049)	DIPF, Frankfurt am Main	TA5 Technical Solutions, TA 3 Data Production	10/2020 –
Monika Jungbauer-Gans (0000-0003-0511-8895)	DZHW, Hannover	TA3 Data Production	10/2020 –
Sebastian Wichert (0000-0002-0719-1925)	ifo, München	TA2 Data Access	10/2023 –
Katja Klemm (0000-0002-8491-2247)	KIT, Karlsruhe	TA2 Data Access	10/2023 –
Claudia Niessner (0000-0003-2094-0836)	KIT, Karlsruhe	TA2 Data Access	10/2023 –
Christian Aßmann (0000-0002-4827-3150)	LIfBi, Bamberg	TA2 Data Access	10/2020 –
Philipp Breidenbach (0000-0002-1506-7350)	RWI, Essen	TA2 Data Access	10/2023 –
Sandra Schaffner (0000-0002-4941-4058)	RWI, Essen	TA2 Data Access	10/2023 –
Jürgen Schupp (0000-0001-5273-643X)	SOEP am DIW Berlin	TA3 Data Production	10/2020 – 11/2020
Stefan Liebig (0000-0002-9977-6874)	SOEP am DIW Berlin FU Berlin	TA3 Data Production TA3 Data Production	11/2020 – 10/2022 12/2023 –
Jan Goebel (0000-0002-3243-1935)	SOEP am DIW Berlin	TA3 Data Production	11/2022 –
Betina Hollstein (0000-0003-0219-6265)	Universität Bremen	TA2 Data Access, TA3 Data Production	10/2020 –

Andreas Blätte	Universität Duisburg-Essen	TA3 Data Production	10/2020 –
Heike Solga (0000-0002-1589-4380)	WZB, Berlin	TA1 Community Participation	10/2020 –
Klaus Tochtermann (0000-0003-2471-2697)	ZBW, Kiel	TA5 Technical Solutions	10/2020 –
Katarina Blask (0000-0003-2062-4059)	ZPID, Trier	TA2 Data Access	01/2022 –
Michael Bosnjak (0000-0002-1431-8461)	ZPID, Trier	TA2 Data Access	10/2020 – 12/2021

Participants

Participating institutions	Location	Duration
Bundesagentur für Arbeit (BA) • Forschungsdatenzentrum der Bundesagentur für Arbeit im IAB (FDZ BA im IAB)	Nürnberg	10/2020 –
Bundesamt für Migration und Flüchtlinge (BAMF) • Forschungsdatenzentrum am BAMF (BAMF-FDZ)	Nürnberg	10/2020 –
Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin (BAuA) • Forschungsdatenzentrum BAuA (FDZ-BAuA)	Berlin	10/2020 –
Bundesinstitut für Berufsbildung (BIBB) • Forschungsdatenzentrum im BIBB (BIBB-FDZ)	Bonn	10/2020 –
Bundeszentrale für gesundheitliche Aufklärung (BZgA) • Forschungsdatenzentrum der BZgA (FDZ BZgA)	Köln	10/2020 –
Deutsches Jugendinstitut (DJI) • Forschungsdatenzentrum des DJI (FDZ-DJI)	München	10/2020 –

Deutsches Zentrum für Altersfragen (DZA) • Forschungsdatenzentrum des DZA (FDZ-DZA)	Berlin	10/2020 –
Deutsches Zentrum für Integration und Migration (DeZIM) • Forschungsdatenzentrum Deutsches Zentrum für Integration und Migration (DeZIM.fdz)	Berlin	10/2020 –
eLabour e.V. • Forschungsdatenzentrum eLabour (FDZ eLabour)	Göttingen	10/2020 –
Forschungsinstitut zur Zukunft der Arbeit GmbH (IZA) • Internationales Forschungsdatenzentrum des IZA (FDZ IZA, IDSC)	Bonn	10/2020 –
Gesellschaft für wissenschaftliche Datenverarbeitung mbH Göttingen (GWDG)	Göttingen	10/2023 –
Hans-Böckler-Stiftung • Forschungsdatenzentrum der Hans-Böckler Stiftung am WSI (FDZ WSI)	Düsseldorf	10/2020 –
Institut zur Qualitätsentwicklung im Bildungswesen (IQB) • Forschungsdatenzentrum am IQB (FDZ IQB)	Berlin	10/2020 –
Leibniz-Institut für Deutsche Sprache (IDS) • Forschungsdatenzentrum Archiv für Gesprochenes Deutsch am IDS (FDZ AGD)	Mannheim	10/2020 –
Leibniz-Institut für Finanzmarktforschung SAFE • Forschungsdatenzentrum des Leibniz-Institut für Finanzmarktforschung SAFE	Frankfurt am Main	10/2020 –
Leibniz-Institut für ökologische Raumentwicklung e.V. (IÖR) • Forschungsdatenzentrum am IÖR (IÖR-FDZ)	Dresden	10/2020 –
Leibniz-Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (IWH) • Forschungsdatenzentrum des IWH (FDZ-IWH)	Halle (Saale)	10/2020 –

Leibniz-Zentrum für Europäische Wirtschaftsforschung GmbH (ZEW) • Forschungsdatenzentrum des ZEW (ZEW-FDZ)	Mannheim	10/2020 –
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (LMU) • Economics & Business Data Center (EBDC)	München	10/2020 –
Max-Planck Institut für Sozialrecht und Sozialpolitik • Forschungsdatenzentrum des Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (FDZ-SHARE)	München, Berlin	10/2020 –
Robert-Koch-Institut (RKI) • Forschungsdatenzentrum des RKI (FDZ RKI)	Berlin	10/2020 –
Statistische Ämter der Länder • Forschungsdatenzentrum der Statistischen Ämter der Länder (FDZ-Länder)	Düsseldorf	10/2020 –
Statistisches Bundesamt • Forschungsdatenzentrum des Statistischen Bundesamtes (FDZ-Bund)	Wiesbaden	10/2020 –
Stifterverband • Forschungsdatenzentrum Wissenschaftsstatistik des Stifterverbandes (FDZ Wissenschaftsstatistik)	Essen	10/2020 –
Universität Mannheim • Forschungsdatenzentrum der Universitätsbibliothek Mannheim (FDZ UB Mannheim)	Mannheim	10/2020 –
Universität zu Köln • Forschungsdatenzentrum des Beziehungs- und Familienpanels (FDZ-pairfam)	Köln	10/2020 –

Participating individuals	Institution, location	Duration
Regina T. Riphahn,	Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-	10/2020–12/2020

former Chairperson of RatSWD (0000-0003-4633-7728)	Nürnberg, Nürnberg	
Kerstin Schneider, Deputy Chairperson of RatSWD (0000-0002-8292-3348)	Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Wuppertal	10/2020 –