A two-year pilot project, funded by the National Science Foundation (Grant no. SES-1229957), to provide enhanced access to two seminal social science data resources, the American National Election Studies (ANES) and General Social Survey (GSS). A combined library of structured, machine-actionable metadata will be the foundation for a demonstration portal populated with new tools for data discovery and analysis. An evaluation of the current workflows will generate recommendations for transitioning to metadata-driven processes to streamline data production and guard against metadata loss across the data lifecycle.

**Metadata: Legacy to DDI**

Creating a consolidated library of information-rich, machine-actionable metadata for the ANES and the GSS collections, based on the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI) XML standard.

- A complete inventory, analysis, and comparison of existing data and metadata content and formats, including non-archived materials
- Strategies for metadata standardization and handling at-risk content
- All existing ANES and GSS public-use documentation made compliant with the DDI-Codebook standard

**New and Improved Production Workflows**

Building new workflows predicated on metadata-driven survey design and production, to leverage the rich metadata that accumulates over the life course of the survey process:

- Improved workflows to integrate metadata capture and re-use in all of the stages of the data lifecycle
- Best-practice recommendations to increase process efficiencies and prevent information loss
- Clear versioning policy to ensure that data remain synchronized across dissemination points
- Use of persistent identifiers to ensure consistent versions across partner sites and enable access to earlier versions of the data
- ANES/GSS workflow process survey and workshop

- Review and evaluate current processes across the data lifecycle
- Identify existing similarities and differences
- Outline possibilities to integrate new and improved practices, such as the Generic Statistical Business Model (GSBPBM)

**Web Services and DDI-Based Tools**

Developing a Web services-based infrastructure to support the discovery, mining, and retrieval of ANES and GSS metadata for documentation, visualization, processing, automation, and other purposes.

- Data/Metadata repository to store and manage the DDI-XML metadata, maintain copies of the master datasets and documentation files and enable sub-setting
- Web portal to access the data/metadata repository and showcase a variety of DDI-based data and metadata management tools
  - Metadata catalogs
  - Metadata library
  - Data mining/comparison applications
  - Question, classification, or variable banks
- Script and conversion tools
- Codebook generator
- Subscription/Notification services
- Collaboration services
- Metadata exchange services

NORC is pleased to link its capacity with that of ICPSR to provide the social science community with new and innovative products to facilitate the use of the GSS and ANES.

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