



Research and Innovation Action

CESSDA Strengthening and Widening

Project Number: 674939 Start Date of Project: 01/08/2015 Duration: 27 months

Deliverable 2.6 - Final Dissemination Event Report

Dissemination Level	PU
Due Date of Deliverable	31/10/2017
Actual Submission Date	16/11/2017
Work Package	WP 2
Task	D2.6
Type	Report
EC Approval Status	20 November 2017
Version	v 1.2
Number of Pages	p.1 – p.20
<p>Abstract: This report provides information on the CESSDA SaW Final Conference “Strengthening and Widening of the European infrastructure for Social Science data archives” aimed at presenting the outcomes of the two-year project, which has helped to increase the consortium membership and strengthen CESSDA members and aspiring members. The event was held in Dublin, Ireland, on the 19th of October 2017. Event summarised the results on strengthening and widening of European infrastructure of social science data archives during the project and highlighted the financial, scientific and societal benefits of establishing national data services.</p>	
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Project funded by the EU Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under the agreement No.674939



History

Version	Date	Reason	Revised by
1.0	07/11/2017	1st draft by the Task Leader	Federico Zemborain
1.1	09/11/2017	2nd draft by the WP leader – WP	Ivana Ilijasic Versic
1.1	16/11/2017	Review by the Chair of the Delivery Committee	Jindrich Krejci
1.2	16/11/2017	Submission by the Project Coordinator	Ivana Ilijasic Versic

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Time Schedule before Delivery

Next Action	Deadline	Care of
1st Draft version finalised	07/11/2017	CNRS-Progedo
2nd draft finalised	09/11/2017	CESSDA AS
Review by the Chair of the Delivery Committee	16/11/2017	CSDA
Approval and Submission by the Project Coordinator to the European Commission	16/11/2017	CESSDA AS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The CESSDA-SaW project, funded by the H2020 Framework Programme, aims at achieving full European coverage of CESSDA, in order to strengthen the current CESSDA network and widened network. The Final Conference was organised to present the outcomes of the two-year project, focusing on consolidating the membership of CESSDA.

This deliverable reports on the process of the organisation and the outcomes of the Final CESSDA SaW Conference “Strengthening and Widening of the European infrastructure for Social Science data archives”. The conference was hosted by ISSDA (Irish Social Science Data Archive, University College Dublin) and co-organised by CNRS from France and the Coordinator, CESSDA ERIC.

The conference took place in Dublin, Ireland, on the 19th of October 2017. It aimed mainly at presenting the outcomes of the two-year project, which has helped to increase the consortium membership and strengthen CESSDA members and aspiring members. The conference highlighted the benefits of establishing national data services in potential CESSDA member countries (in this case, Ireland).

In total, 27 countries were represented. Plenary speeches provided information about the widening efforts, the importance of social sciences within the research infrastructures’ landscape, and how to improve the development of CESSDA ERIC. The conference confirmed that different members (Beneficiaries and Linked Third Parties) of the SaW project successfully improved and tighten their mutual relationships in the course of the project, making “strengthening” part a success.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADP	Slovenian Social Science Data Archives
ADS	Polish Social Data Archive
AuSSDA	The Austrian Social Science Data Archive
CESSDA ERIC	CESSDA European Research Infrastructure Consortium
CNRS-PROGEDO	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique-PROduction et GEstion des données
CSDA	Czech Social Science Data Archive
DANS	DANS / Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen
DDA	Danish National Archive - Danish Data Archive
DG	Directorate-General
DoA	Description of Action
DoW	Description of Work
EKKE	Ethniko Kentro Koinonikon Erevnon
ERA	European Research Area
ERIC	European Research Infrastructure Consortium
ESFRI	European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures
ESSDA	Estonian Social Sciences Data Archives
FFZG	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (Sveuciliste u Zagrebu Filozofski Fakultet)
FORS	Swiss Foundation for Research in the Social Sciences
FSD	Finnish Social Science Data Archive
GESIS	GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences
HSE	National Research University Higher School of Economics, Russia
ICS ULISBOA	Instituto De Ciencias Da Universidade De Lisboa
IEN	Institut Ekonomskih Nauka
IRC	Irish Research of Council
ISSDA	Irish Social Science Data Archive, University College Dublin
NLL	National Library of Latvia
NSD	Norsk samfunnsvitenskapelig datatjeneste AS
RI	Research Infrastructure
RODA	Arhiva Română de Date Sociale
SASD	Slovak Archive of Social Data
SEEDS	South-Eastern European Data Services
SERISS	Synergies for Europe's Research Infrastructures in the Social Sciences
SND	University of Gothenburg - Swedish National Data Service
SP	Service Provider
TARKI	Tarki Foundation
UniData	Centre UniData – Bicocca Data Archive
WP	Work Package

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1. INTRODUCTION

The aim of task 2.3, as defined by the Description of Action (DoA) of the Grant Agreement (GA), was to communicate the core messages of the project in the way best suited to the target audiences identified at the start. It also aimed to inform the progress of tasks directly targeted at strengthening the current consortium members and supporting of the potential members and Service Providers during the project duration.

Three workshops were organised to achieve these aims in the course of the project. The first two workshops, held in The Hague (June 2016, D2.3) and in Zagreb (March 2017, D2.5), aimed at strengthening the current network. The 3rd Workshop of the CESSDA SaW project entitled “Widening the European infrastructure of social science data archives” was initially planned to be held in Budapest in October 2016 (M15), but it was cancelled and postponed taking into account the high level of political uncertainty in several potential member countries in the last quarter of 2016. It was finally held in Lisbon on 3-4 May 2017 (M22) and hosted by ICS, University of Lisbon (ICS ULisboa).

The Final Conference of CESSDA-SaW entitled “Strengthening and Widening of the European infrastructure of social science data archives” was held in Dublin on the 19th October 2017. It aimed at presenting the outcomes of the two-year EU project, which has helped to increase and strengthen the CESSDA members consortium, as well as widen the network by including several aspiring members into the consortium. As the target audience included potential partner countries, CESSDA SaW concluded that after the two-year project, there is a common ground to built upon, and strengthening of new contacts with those partners should be followed up beyond the project itself.

This document reports on the organisational process behind the Final Conference in terms of target audiences (profile, show-up rate, level of staff, number of attendees, gender balance, etc.), outreach (member countries and potential member countries coverage, person per institution, etc.) and its outputs, by briefly describing the aim and topics presented through the conference.

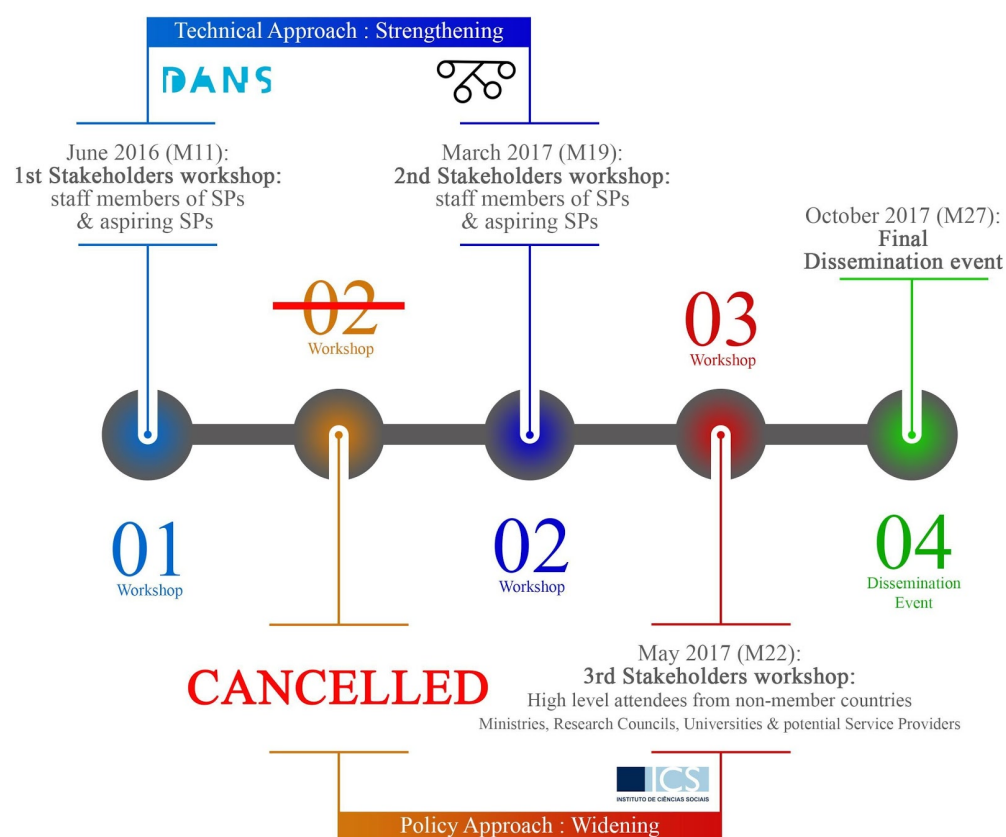
2. FINAL CONFERENCE - STRENGTHENING AND WIDENING OF THE EUROPEAN INFRASTRUCTURE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE DATA ARCHIVES

2.1 AIM OF THE CONFERENCE

The Final Conference aimed at presenting the outcomes of the SaW project and consolidating the informal collaborative network of current and potential CESSDA members to widen the cooperation among the countries of the ERA. Using the information of the Deliverables already published and other internal reports, the Conference was focused on the results of the project, the needs of future cooperation with the members and potential members, and future plans with the widened network of CESSDA ERIC.

The main principle for grouping dissemination activities into events was to have two workshops aiming at strengthening the current consortium, and two workshops aiming at widening the consortium by the outreach towards the potential member countries and/or potential Service Providers. Since the first widening workshop (planned for Budapest) had to be significantly postponed, it the 4 the workshop couldn't be realised as planned, and it was replaced by the Final conference, held in the very end of the project in Dublin, Ireland. The final layout of the SaW events is presented in Picture 1.

Picture 1: Workshops and Final dissemination event plan



2.2 ORGANISATION OF THE CONFERENCE

The organisation team followed the same online collaborative tools used in the previous events, the three workshops organised in The Hague, The Netherlands, in Zagreb, Croatia, and in Lisbon, Portugal. The Final Conference required inviting stakeholders' representatives at different levels (SPs representatives, contacts at ministerial/research councils' level) in both CESSDA members and non-members.

The forms (registration forms, travel forms, etc.) were designed based on experience with the organisation of the previous workshops, in order to ensure an accurate way of documenting organisation processes and achieving deliverable objectives (see Picture 2 below).

Picture 2: Online Registration form – Snapshot

The image shows a snapshot of a web registration form. At the top, the logos for 'cessda' and 'saw' are displayed. Below the logos, the title of the conference is 'Final CESSDA SaW conference "Strengthening and Widening of the European infrastructure of social science data archives"'. The date and location are '19 October 2017, Dublin, Ireland'. A disclaimer states 'Please note that the information you will provide will not be disclosed.' A red asterisk indicates required fields. A link is provided to check the CESSDA-SaW webpage for more information. The form includes input fields for 'First name *', 'Surname *', 'E-mail address *', and 'Organisation *'. Below these is a section for 'Indicate your role in your institution *' with several radio button options: 'Management of the Service Provider', 'Policy adviser', 'Representative of Ministry', 'Representative of Research Council', and 'EC Representative'.

In order for attendees to have access to a centralised platform with all the information related to the event, the CESSDA SaW website hosted the page about the conference, containing information on the aim of the event, the programme, the registration process, travel & accommodation, and the location of the event (see Picture 3). The webpage is accessible here: <http://cessdasaw.eu/2017/09/25/invitation-to-the-final-conference-191017-dublin-ireland/>

Picture 3: CESSDA SaW Website - Workshop Webpage – Snapshot

Invitation to the Final Conference 19/10/17 Dublin, Ireland

Posted on September 25, 2017 by JB M



On behalf of the Consortium of Social Science Data Archives, CESSDA ERIC, I am pleased to invite you to the conference on Strengthening and Widening the infrastructure of social science data archives in the European Research Area.

This conference is part of the Horizon 2020 "Strengthening and Widening" project funded by the European Commission.

The project aligns with CESSDA's mission to provide a distributed and sustainable research infrastructure that enables the research community to conduct high-quality research in the social sciences. CESSDA aims to achieve full European coverage by strengthening and widening the European infrastructure of social science data archives.

In the past two years, the efforts have been to expand the participation in CESSDA and to establish the conditions for a network of national social science data archive services for Europe.

CESSDA has received its ERIC status in 2017 and has been on the ESFRI Roadmap since 2006, and in 2016 it has been pronounced an ESFRI Landmark institution, marking its successful transition from a project into an operational infrastructure.

Presently 15 European countries are members of CESSDA ERIC, with several countries in the process of becoming a member.

To contribute in building and expanding the network of data archiving services, we invite representatives from potential partner countries (ministries/research councils and/or service providers) to the conference:

"Strengthening and Widening of the European infrastructure of social science data archives"

Thursday 19 October 2017

Dublin, Ireland

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION - 30/09/2017

PROGRAMME: [Click Here!](#)REGISTRATION OPENED: [Click Here!](#)

The conference (including lunch and dinner) is free of charge. Costs for travel and accommodation can be reimbursed upon request. Please note that the number of attendees is limited, and therefore the principle of first come - first served will be applied. Registration is compulsory.

Kind regards,

Ron Dekker

Director of CESSDA ERIC

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Related

[CESSDA SaW Final Conference in Dublin](#)
October 24, 2017
In "Event"

[Press Release - CESSDA SaW](#)
October 21, 2015
In "Press Release"

[CESSDA will become an ERIC - 14th of June 2017](#)
May 29, 2017
In "Update"

The primary ambition of the CESSDA SaW (Consortium of European Social Science Data Archive - Strengthening and widening) project is to establish the conditions for, and initiate the movement towards, a seamless social science data archive service for the whole of the European Research Area (ERA), which is capable of supporting the research needs of the next generation of social scientists wherever in Europe they may be, or beyond. The overarching impact of the project will be to initiate the transformation of the user experience of social science data in the ERA, resulting in a transformation of the evidence and insight available to those tackling the social and economic issues of Europe.

RECENT POSTS



[CESSDA SaW Final Conference in Dublin](#)
- 24 Oct , 2017



[CESSDA SaW 4th Consortium Meeting](#)
- 24 Oct , 2017



[Invitation to the Final Conference 19/10/17 Dublin, Ireland](#)
- 25 Sep , 2017



[CESSDA will become an ERIC - 14th of June 2017](#)
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[Success of the CESSDA SaW 3rd Workshop - "Widening the European infrastructure of social science data archives"](#)
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Disclaimer:

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement number 674939

2.3 TARGET AUDIENCE

Taking into consideration the efforts made within CESSDA SaW's Task 3.3 *National planning for data archive services in the ERA*, the database of all potential contacts across non-member countries within Europe (ERA) and beyond was produced. As it happened in the 3rd Workshop held in Lisbon in May 2017, the Final CESSDA SaW conference intended to bring together high-level representatives from the CESSDA SaW beneficiaries (non-member countries), non-member aspiring archives, and CESSDA Service Providers, in order to promote CESSDA membership and to undertake actions to develop the global outreach.

In total 140 invitations for the Final CESSDA SaW Conference were sent to 44 countries. 27 countries were represented at the conference:

Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom.

The categories of the invited countries were:

CESSDA members (16): Austria, Belgium (absent), Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom.

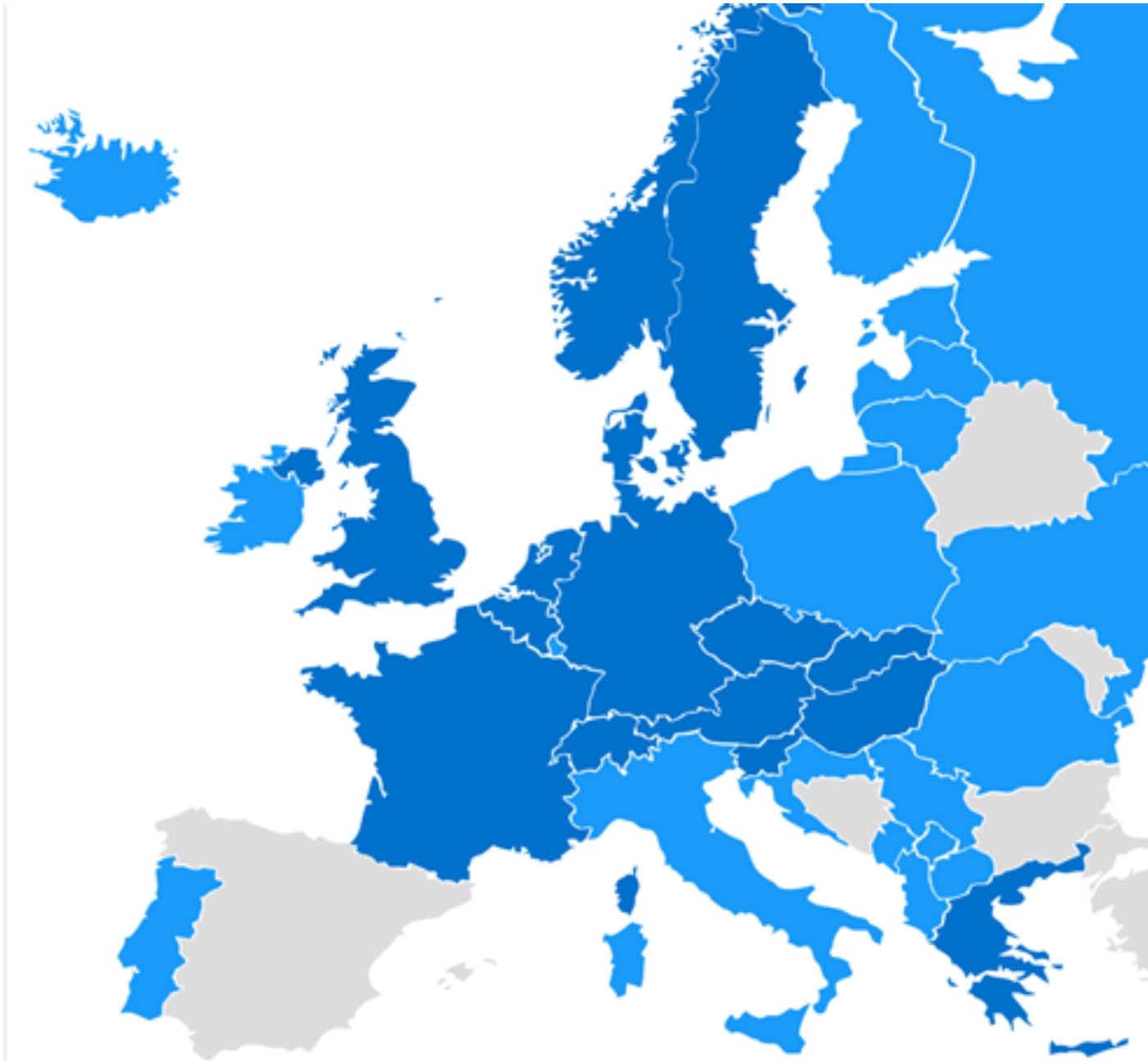
CESSDA non-members (18): Albania (absent), Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo (absent), Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg (absent), Republic of Macedonia (absent), Montenegro (absent), Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Ukraine (absent).

Other possible partner countries invited but not represented (10): Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Faroe Islands, Israel, Malta, Moldova, Spain, Turkey.

59 participants registered for the event, and 56 participants attended the Final CESSDA SAW Conference in Dublin, Ireland.

The picture below shows the map of the CESSDA member countries and non-member, partner countries, covered by invitations. The colour reflects the different status of the CESSDA membership: dark blue marks CESSDA members, while light blue marks non-member countries connected to CESSDA by participation in joint projects (i.e., CESSDA SAW, SEEDS, SERISS, etc.), or being part of the old, informal CESSDA network.

Picture 4: Map of CESSDA members and partners



The number of participants per institution is shown below.. 34 institutions attended; all of them sent between one and two representatives.

Table 1: Number of Attendees per country and institution represented

		People per institution		
Country	Institution	1	2	3
Host country				
Ireland	ISSDA			
Ireland	Health Research Board, IRC			
Ireland	University College Dublin			
CESSDA member countries				
Austria	AuSSDA			
Croatia	FFZG			
Czech Republic	CSDA			
Denmark	DDA			
France	CNRS - PROGEDO			
Germany	GESIS			
Greece	EKKE			
Norway	NSD			
Norway	CESSDA ERIC			
Portugal	Municipality of Cascais			
Slovakia	SASD			
Slovenia	ADP			
Hungary	TARKI			
The Netherlands	DANS			
Sweden	SND			
Switzerland	FORS			
UK	Charles Beagrie Ltd			
UK	UK Data Service			
Potential CESSDA members (partner countries)				
Estonia	ESSDA			
Finland	FSD			
Iceland	University of Iceland			
Italy	UniData			
Latvia	NLL			
Latvia	University of Latvia			
Lithuania	Lithuanian Research Council			
Poland	ADS			
Romania	RODA			
Russia	HSE			
Serbia	IEN			
Other				
European Commission	EC			

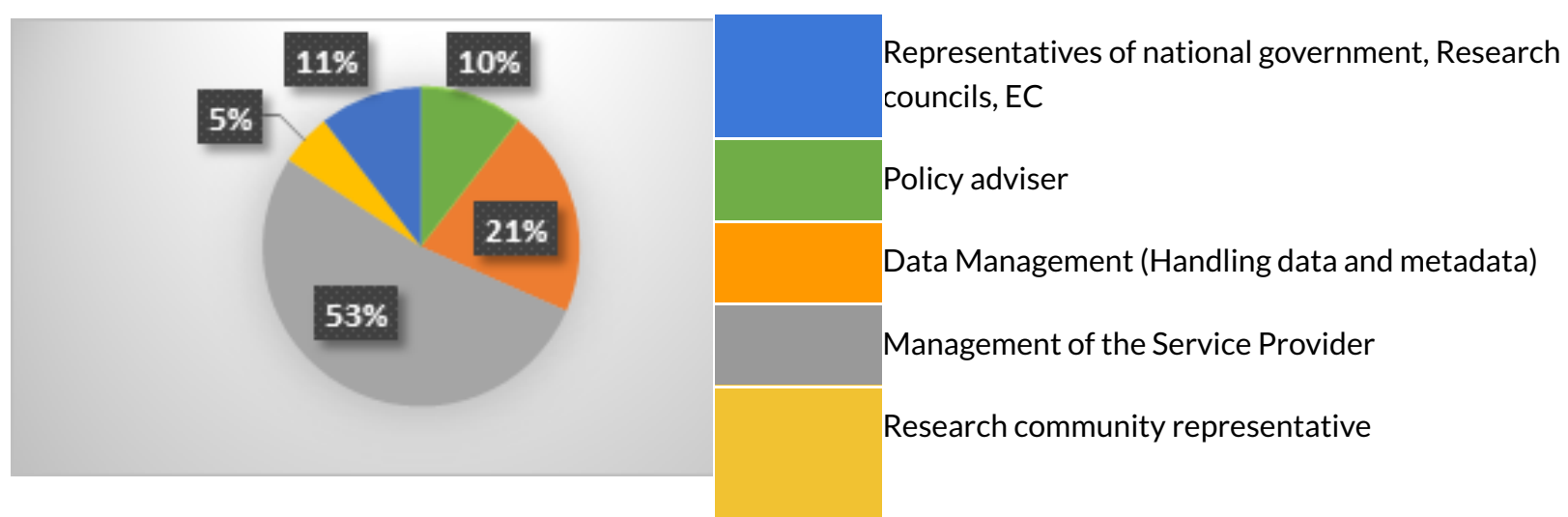
There were different roles of the attendees: 1) CESSDA high-level representatives and members of SPs contributing to the programme; 2) representatives from potential SPs and observers.

2.3.1. PARTICIPANTS PER ROLE AND GENDER

The table below enables comparison of attendees' profiles originally enrolled to attend the event. Within the registration form, people registering were asked to specify what type of position they held in their institution.

The variety of positions represented amongst attendees is reflected in the diagram below. Relative variations amongst attendees can be noticed regarding the positions they hold within their infrastructure, showing that technical staff category was the least represented category. Beyond the representatives of national governments and national research agencies (11% of the attendees), the managers of the Service Providers were those who were the most represented within the workshop (53%), followed by people handling data and metadata (21%).

Figure 1: Variety of positions represented amongst attend



This figure is relative depending on the size of particular archives where staff is limited and the same person may occupy several positions. Attendees were able to declare several positions, so the occupation of different roles can affect the final results up to some extent. The category “Management of the Service Provider” also includes participants who play other roles in this dynamic overview. In reality, it was decided that in case someone occupied several positions in an organisation or unit, such as a technical one, data manager or policy adviser, the category “Management of the Service Provider” was to be kept, since they were representatives of their institution during the conference.

Guidelines push forward the need to respect gender balance when organising activities within EU projects, and that is demonstrated in the table below. A disbalance was demonstrated in favour of men regardless of their role within infrastructures (30 over 56 participants).

Figure 2: Participants' gender balance per role

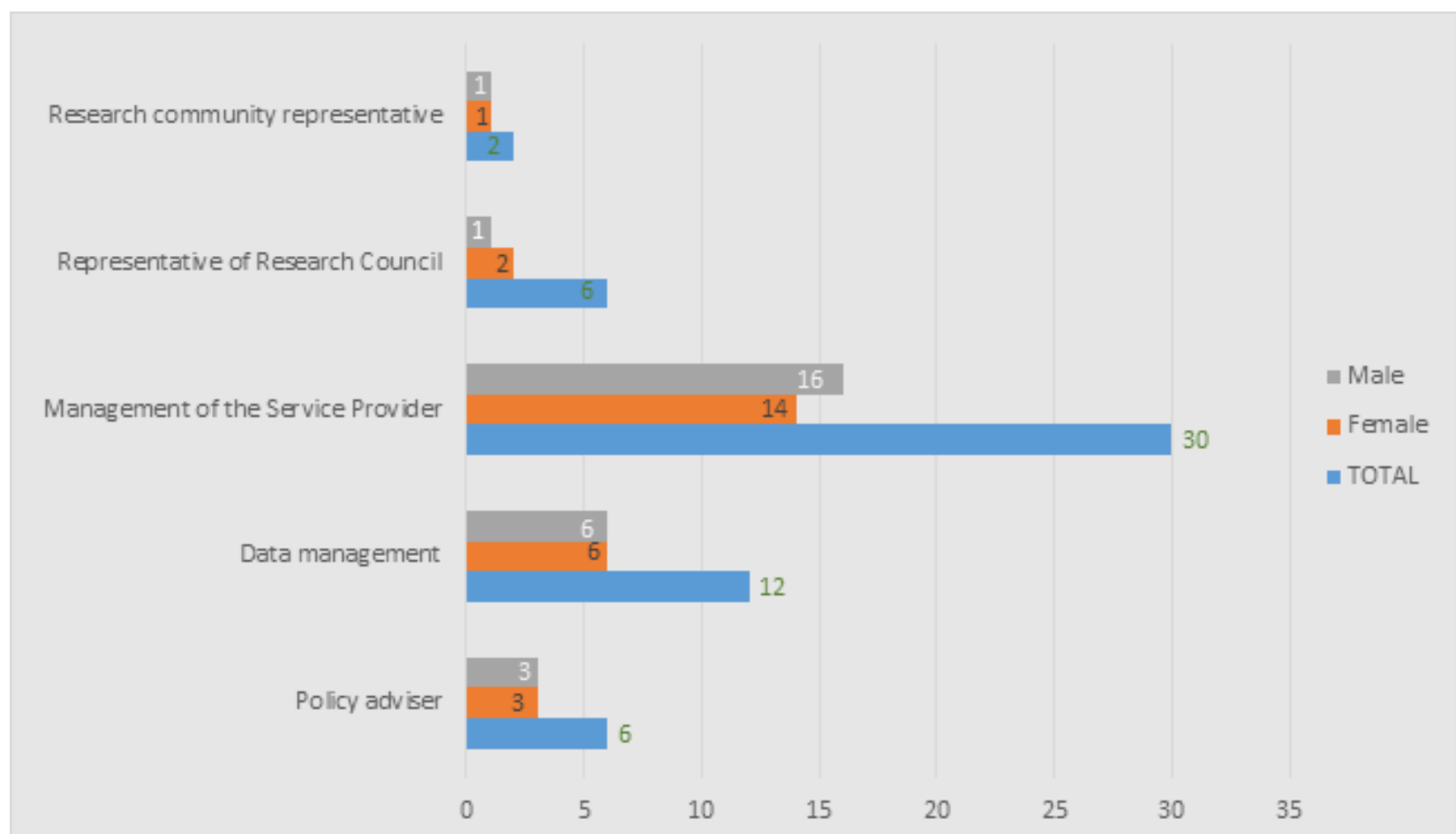


Table 2: Participants' gender balance in CESSDA members and non-members

Cessda member	Male participants	Female participants	Male %	Female %
No	12	11	52%	48%
Yes	18	15	55%	45%
TOTAL	30	26	54%	46%

This table shows the difference between CESSDA member countries and non-members. We can see that gender balance is almost equal in CESSDA non-members (12 men/11 women), and with a discrepancy among CESSDA members (18/15).

2.4 FINAL CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

The Final CESSDA SaW Conference was developed by the working team composed of members of different tasks and the Saw project management team. The programme is available on the CESSDA SaW project [website](#):

09.30 – 12.30 The SaW project and its relevance to European Infrastructure

Moderator: John Howard, University College Dublin, ISSDA

09.30 – 09.35 Welcome to ISSDA

John Howard, University College Dublin, ISSDA

09.35 – 09.45 Impact Study

Jenny O’Neil, University College Dublin, ISSDA

09.45 – 10.15 Ireland and CESSDA ERIC: challenges on the road to membership

Peter Brown, Research Council of Ireland

10.15 – 10.45 European Open Science Cloud

Harry Tuinder, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission

10.45 – 11.15 Coffee break

11.15 – 11.45 From Vision to Action: CESSDA Strategy

Ron Dekker, CESSDA ERIC

11.45 – 12.30 CESSDA SAW project: The state of Data Archive Services

Vigdis Kvalheim, NSD, SaW project WP3 Leader

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30 – 16.30 CESSDA SaW and beyond

Moderator: Ron Dekker, CESSDA ERIC

13.30 – 13.45 Future plans and prospects

Ivana Versic, CESSDA ERIC

13.45 – 14.30 Widening efforts: CESSDA Work Plan 2018 – relevance and value added

Jindřich Krejčí, CSDA, Miloslav Bahna, SASD, Adrian Duşa, RODA

14.30 – 15.00 Coffee break

15.00 – 16:00 Closed session: Brainstorm for a new EU project proposal

18.00 – 21.30 Evening: conference/consortium dinner

2.4.1 TOPICS

The Final Conference was organised around plenary speeches that took place over the course of the 19th of October. The next day the 4th Consortium meeting took place in the same room. The main focus of these meetings was to present the results of the CESSDA SaW project and the perspectives of future plans following the CESSDA ERIC Strategy.

The following topics were discussed:

1. The SaW project and its relevance to European Infrastructure

The Final Conference kicked-off with four plenary speeches tackling the relevance of CESSDA ERIC within the European Research Area, the importance of Ireland joining CESSDA ERIC in the near future, and the perspectives of the European Open Science Cloud.

Professor John Howard (Irish Social Science Data Archive, University College Dublin) emphasised the relevance of the SaW project and CESSDA ERIC among the European infrastructures. Jenny O’Neil presented the Impact Study conducted by the Service Provider ISSDA in Ireland, showing the value of this institution for the research community and landscape at the national level.

The Director of the Irish Research Council (IRC), Peter Brown, underlined the Irish engagement with European open access policies and the support of IRC to the entry of Ireland into CESSDA ERIC community.

Harry Tuinder (European Commission, Unit B4, DG Research & Innovation) presented the new document on mapping the challenges and future steps in securing the long-term sustainability of European research infrastructures. He also stressed the importance of the EOSC (European Open Science Cloud) for the ESFRI landmarks, with the overall objective enabling European researchers to deposit, access and analyse European scientific data by 2020.

2. CESSDA Strategy

The director of CESSDA ERIC, Ron Dekker, presented the process of the new CESSDA strategy development, highlighting the principles which will guide the consortium through the next 5-year period. Using a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats), he identified the current standpoint of CESSDA ERIC, empowered with many useful tools to be implemented by the Consortium. He also stressed the imbalance between SPs within the CESSDA Work Plan 2018, the importance of Data Clusters connected to social sciences, and the strategic partnerships of CESSDA with other RIs, projects, European institutions, and initiatives (such as EGI, RDA, EUDAT, EUROSTAT, LERU, CESAER).

3. CESSDA SAW project: The state of Data Archive Services

Vigdis Kvalheim (NSD), leader of the SaW project WP3, presented the state of data archive services derived from a CESSDA Capability Model (CDM) application; developed and used during the CESSDA SaW project. Using this model, 44 countries (37 full reports) contributed to the Audit of the current status of Data archive services (DAS) in each ERA country (reported about in D3.2 “*Country report on development potentials*”). This self-assessment report emerged as one of the biggest survey of archives in Europe at the moment. A comprehensive set of conditions were explored in each national setting. Some results of this study were highlighted:

the importance of the organization (some DAS hire only one full-time employee); of the size of the DAS (the quality of the services can be high even in small data archives); only a few countries provided the funding. The main conclusion of this audit is the need of support from national ministries, as well as development of a common strategy. How the national strategies will implement the actions, and the importance of developing a business model were also discussed.

4. CESSDA SaW and beyond

Ivana Ilijasic Versic, Chief Operations Officer of CESSDA ERIC and Project Coordinator of CESSDA SaW, presented the plans and prospects focusing on the continuation of the project and its activities. The main results of the project were underlined: the strengthening of the CESSDA ERIC from the outputs produced during the two-year duration of project, and the widening of the Consortium with more connections and new members. The build-up relationships with other SSH-related infrastructures and ERICS in general, and the possible contacts with other countries beyond Europe were also shown.

Moreover, the TRUST group, created during this project's lifetime, will continue its work as a official working group of CESSDA ERIC from 2018 on.

Jindřich Krejčí, director of the Czech data archive (CSDA), talked about the widening efforts featured in the Work plan 2018, followed by presentations of case studies in acquiring CESSDA membership from Miloslav Bahna (SASD, Slovakia) and Adrian Duşa (RODA, Romania).

To conclude the conference, all attendees participated in a brainstorming session for a new EU project proposal. There are four EC calls, which could be of interest for the consortium:

3. CONCLUSION

This deliverable reported on the organisation process and main features of the Final CESSDA SaW Conference, held in Dublin in October 2017. The conference aimed at presenting the outcomes of the SaW project and providing a use case for the Irish membership in CESSDA ERIC. The main conclusions of the conference were that the CESSDA SaW project has helped to increase the consortium membership so far, and did strengthen CESSDA members and aspiring members.

As far as the second objective of the project is concerned, the conference confirmed that the different members (Beneficiaries and Linked Third Parties) have strengthened their mutual relationships and collaborations in the course of the project. One of the examples given is the Audit of the current status of Data archive services (DAS) in each ERA country. This Audit was presented as one of the most prominent studies at the moment in Europe, due to the size and detail level of self-assessment reports (44 countries, 37 full reports).

Other example of the strengthening of the Consortium is the progress and achievements of the Trust support working group, created during the project in order to support CESSDA SPS and potential SPs in obtaining the Data seal of Approval (DSA) certification. This group will continue as a formal CESSDA ERIC working group from 2018.

Plenary speeches provided information about the widening efforts, the importance of social sciences within the RI landscape, and ideas and plans how to improve the development of CESSDA ERIC.

The partnerships between CESSDA members and potential members have increased during the project duration. An informal collaborative network between current CESSDA members and potential member countries had already started during the first workshop in The Hague in June 2016, and has been further elaborated during the 3rd workshop in Lisbon, in May 2017. Some SP, which are on the path to become CESSDA ERIC full members, or are acting as observers, could contribute to support countries such as Iceland, Ireland, Serbia or Macedonia by providing insight on how to join widened CESSDA ERIC in the future, continuing the widening of CESSDA ERIC beyond the CESSDA SaW project.

As witnessed during the previous SaW events, participants engaged in developing the already established connections, and to further foster collaboration between the current CESSDA members and non-members. From the widening perspective, the challenge of developing new partnerships with countries beyond Europe (i.e. Japan, South-Korea, Latin-America, Russia, and South Africa) was also discussed. The Final conference contributed to take a step further in that process.

APPENDIX

Official letter of invitation

On behalf of the Consortium of Social Science Data Archives, CESSDA ERIC, I am pleased to invite you to the conference on Strengthening and Widening the infrastructure of social science data archives in the European Research Area.

This conference is part of the Horizon 2020 “Strengthening and Widening” project funded by the European Commission.

The project aligns with CESSDA’s mission to provide a distributed and sustainable research infrastructure that enables the research community to conduct high-quality research in the social sciences. CESSDA aims to achieve full European coverage by strengthening and widening the European infrastructure of social science data archives.

In the past two years, the efforts have been to expand the participation in CESSDA and to establish the conditions for a network of national social science data archive services for Europe.

CESSDA has received its ERIC status in 2017 and has been on the ESFRI Roadmap since 2006, and in 2016 it has been pronounced an ESFRI Landmark institution, marking its successful transition from a project into an operational infrastructure.

Presently 15 European countries are members of CESSDA ERIC, with several countries in the process of becoming a member.

To contribute in building and expanding the network of data archiving services, we invite representatives from potential partner countries (ministries/research councils and/or service providers) to the conference:

**“Strengthening and Widening of the European infrastructure
of social science data archives”
Thursday 19 October 2017
Dublin, Ireland**

PLEASE, SAVE THE DATE!

More information on registration and further details about the programme will be communicated soon.

The conference (including lunch and dinner) is free of charge. Costs for travel and accommodation can be reimbursed upon request. Please note that the number of attendees is limited, and therefore the principle of first come – first served will be applied. Registration is compulsory.

Kind regards,

Ron Dekker
Director of CESSDA ERIC

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