

Annual Report 2012

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At a Glance

- Threefold FORS rationale: combine forces – grow competences – create synergies (*p. 4-6*)
- Swiss Household Panel introduces weights for children (*p. 11*)
- SHARE biomarker pretest study successful (*p. 15-16*)
- SELECTS first results report published in three languages (*p. 16-18*)
- Continued growth of the number of datasets disseminated by FORS data services DARIS (*p. 18*)
- Research task force formed to enhance and coordinate FORS research activities (*p. 29-30*)
- Social Report 2012 published with excellent media coverage (*p. 30-32*)
- Successful acquisition of third party funding for projects and mandates (*p. 33-34*)
- Two doctoral dissertations and two masters theses by collaborators accomplished (*p. 37-38*)
- FORS actively involved in two FP 7 funded projects and two COST Actions (*p. 41-43*)
- Performance indicators show a continuous development on several dimensions (*p. 44-54*)

1 Guiding Principles

1.1 FORS Rationale

FORS is based upon three principles: combine forces – grow competences – create synergies.

1.1.1 Combine Forces

The infrastructural part of FORS combines specific scholarly know-how and experience that existed before in a rather dispersed and isolated way:

- **Data production:** High quality state of the art surveys like the Swiss Household Panel, the Swiss Election Study, the Swiss ESS, MOSAiCH/ISSP, and European Values Survey EVS are run within the same institution now. This facilitates considerably regular formal and informal exchange on scholarly, organisational, and resource related matters. Negotiations with survey agencies profit from the accumulation of know-how and from the fact of being an important client.
- **Data documentation, access, and distribution:** Standard documentation profiles can be more easily designed, implemented, and suited to the data producers' and users' needs if production happens inside the same organisation. The same applies to accessing and distributing data, whether they are at the FORS data service or physically deposited elsewhere, for example at the Federal Statistical Office or in data banks abroad.
- **Research information:** The collection and structuring of information on social science empirical research in Switzerland is essential for researchers in order to be able to check for colleagues working on the same or similar research questions. Several thousands of project descriptions are at disposal that give an encompassing overview of topics, methods, and researchers nationwide. This registry is linked to similar registries in Switzerland and abroad, and is updated at regular intervals.

FORS has created organisational units and groups that perform these tasks (see sections 2.1-2.3). They are combined under the labels of SURVEYS, DARIS (Data and Research Information Services), and COMPASS (Communication Portal for Accessing Social Statistics).

1.1.2 Grow Competences

FORS' infrastructural services rely strongly on their own research and publications. An important focus is on research methodology.

- **Methodological research:** Three topics have been identified that are of central importance to FORS surveys and that are at the same time widely discussed in the international scientific community: the mixing of interview modes (e.g., combining face-to-face and web interviewing) that might allow respondents to choose their preferred mode; issues in language, translation, and measurement equivalence, especially salient in a multilingual context where the majority language is actually not written (the Swiss-German dialects); and the analysis of non-response, which is paramount in a country that systematically shows low response rates as compared to countries of similar size and socio-economic structure.
- **Research projects:** Substantive research at FORS concentrates on questions of social dynamics, social change, and social inequalities. Other topics are linked to research mandated by federal or cantonal government agencies. All research projects are acquired competitively from national and/or international funding bodies. In preparing and realising research projects FORS actively seeks collaboration with university institutes and other academic research institutions.
- **Publications:** Scholarly publications include articles in peer-reviewed journals and edited books. Additionally, FORS informs the non-academic interested public on the results of its work. Good relations to media have been established and are actively maintained.

FORS research is directed by senior scientists in all organisational units and groups. This guarantees for a continuing transfer of knowledge between research and infrastructures and for attractive possibilities to acquire a proven research record. The Research Task Force coordinates research activities and pools human resources for research.

1.1.3 Create Synergies

Synergies can be found in many aspects of FORS activities. Some of the important ones are the following:

- **Social Report:** This publication assembles in regular four-year intervals 75 indicators in the fields of economy, politics, social change, culture, and environment. The indicators are drawn from FORS' own data-bases and from other sources like the Federal Statistical Office. The indicators are presented in graphics with a short commentary. Additionally there are analytic chapters on each of the thematic fields authored by distinguished scholars. This is an innovative combination of data presentation and illustration with scientific analysis unique to the Social Report. It is produced in three languages (German, French, English).
- **Research partnerships:** Such partnerships exist with the colleagues of the Social Sciences Faculty at the host University of Lausanne, especially with the unit LINES

(Life Course and Inequality Research Centre), which was created by merging with earlier research groups in 2010. The National Centre of Competence in Research "*Overcoming Vulnerability – Life Course Perspectives LIVES*", also hosted by the University of Lausanne, strengthens collaborative relationships. There are research partnerships with other institutes in Switzerland and abroad as well.

- **Lugano Summer School on Methods:** The scientific director of the Summer School is a member of the FORS Scientific Board. In this way discussions in the Board can directly feed into the planning of the courses and vice-versa. FORS senior researchers teach at the Summer School, and Summer School courses profit from FORS databases like the Household Panel, which is used to train participants in the analysis of longitudinal data.
- **Conferences, workshops:** FORS researchers do of course contribute to scholarly exchange internationally. But FORS is also actively creating synergies by inviting scholars to Lausanne for focused workshops such as the Nonresponse group in 2009, the Comparative Survey Design and Implementation workshop CSDI and the Swiss-German-Austrian joint workshop on election research in 2010, the EVS workshop in 2012, or for large-scale conferences like those of the World Association for Public Opinion Research WAPOR in 2009 and the 2011 European Survey Research Association ESRA conference.
- **Networking:** Participating in different multilateral networks and institutions from the rather informal (e.g., CSDI) to the highly formalised (e.g., ERIC), and from science driven (e.g., ESS Scientific Advisory Board) to policy driven (e.g., COST Actions), creates active involvement in international developments, relationships based on personal commitment and, last but not least, experience and know-how in how to engage in international collaboration.

All these synergies are closely related to the topic of **outreach**. The more forces are combined to allow for growing competences, the more synergies will have a positive effect on national and international, scholarly and generalised outreach – and the better FORS can approach what is described in the following section as its strategic goals.

1.2 Strategic Goals

Data production, data documentation and diffusion, data user consulting, and research form a unity of strongly interdependent scientific activities: Only data of the highest achievable quality that are fully documented according to state of the art standards and that are accessible in a convenient way will properly serve cutting edge work in the social sciences; to guarantee for this, active involvement in sound methodological research is essential.

This was, is, and will be the guiding framework behind FORS and all its activities. Moreover, while FORS is **supplying data** for scholarly and public debate, it is also **extracting meaning** from data: substantive research and scholarly as well as general interest publications – like for example the Social Report – are at the core of FORS.

Substantive research is acquired competitively from national and/or international funding bodies. FORS collaborates actively with university social science research institutes or with other academic research institutions like for example the NCCR “*Overcoming Vulnerabilities – Life Course Perspectives*” (LIVES) by stimulating, preparing, and conducting research projects, as well as by producing joint scholarly publications.

The outreach of FORS is primarily aimed at the scientific community: enhancing methods in empirical social research, improving the quality standard and usability of empirical data, encouraging the use of existing data by researchers (secondary analysis), and participating in scholarly debates are key issues. But FORS can not and does not limit itself to academia alone. Its voice has to be heard by decision makers, media, and the interested public when it comes to reflecting, analysing, and explaining social conditions and change.

While public funding of an institution like FORS raises legitimate expectations with regard to public outreach, this must not lead to the misunderstanding that FORS takes an active political role. Its function is rather that of an objective expert for those questions for which empirical social science research evidence can be useful. Given the broad scope of the data and analyses produced and documented by FORS, this is a considerable task in itself.

The goals to be reached for FORS are multi-faceted:

- To be a recognised centre of expertise in **secondary data analysis**: by producing and making available empirical – quantitative *and* qualitative – data; by providing user-friendly data access; by actively fostering the use of existing data sets in research and teaching; by doing state of the art substantive research and publishing research results.
- To be a recognised centre of expertise in cutting edge **methodological research and innovation**: by actively taking part in scholarly debates; by doing and presenting methodological research and experiments; by implementing innovative ways of practical empirical research; by aspiring to the highest possible quality standards.
- To be a recognised centre of expertise in **national and international networks**: by initiating and maintaining collaborative partnerships with similar social scientific institutes and institutions all over Switzerland and abroad; by actively participating in research policy developments touching social science and infrastructural topics; by contributing to the development of coordinated and technically as well as organisationally advanced forms of data access in Europe and worldwide.
- To be a recognised centre of expertise in **evidence-based consultation and advice**: by supporting researchers in the use of complex data; by counseling decision makers when it comes to making productive use of social science evidence in policy making; by partnering with media in publishing research results relevant for a wider audience.

There are some basic guidelines to be followed when working toward the goals; these are presented in the next section.

1.3 Basic Guidelines

The European Conferences on Research Infrastructures ECRI have always pointed out that stable institutional and funding bases are at the core of any infrastructure that serves its goals successfully. In the case of FORS we might add four more elements that are crucial to realising the perspective set out in the preceding chapter.

1. **Find an optimal balance of research and service functions:** Research and service functions – the latter including the production of new data for use by the research community – are mutually dependent. The quality of service functions benefits from the results of research. Further, research is based on and can refer to practical experience gained in running surveys, documenting and distributing data, and advising scientists.

To find the optimal balance, it is essential that research and service functions are integrated to the highest possible degree. Maintaining the day to day functions as a service provider must not inhibit research activity that requires dedicated time and energy. Work conditions and resources have to be shaped and maintained to allow for this.

2. **Keep pace with the development of European data infrastructures:** In the years to come, secondary analysis of data will certainly gain importance as a mode of maximizing the value of existing datasets and saving on funds to be spent gathering new data. Thus the production, documentation, and accessibility of high quality datasets will be confronted with a growing demand from the side of researchers.

Consequently there will be a growing need for infrastructural support for data sharing. This need will foster the development of new standards and technologies of documentation and access on the international level that will have to be implemented by FORS in order not to isolate Swiss researchers from international networks of data use and scientific cooperation. FORS must have sufficient IT and human resources to address these important international developments.

3. **Maintain and enlarge scientific networks:** FORS as such is well networked nationally and internationally. However, networks rely more on persons and on personal relations than on institutions. Networks must not be dependent on a few individuals inside FORS only. All FORS scientific collaborators are encouraged to build and maintain their networks with fellow scholars worldwide. This means being actively present at meetings and conferences, co-authoring and co-editing scientific publications, and hosting scholarly events at FORS.

On the national level, networks not only cover the scientific community but also an interested public outside academia. Regular contacts with media, public administrations, civil society organisations and – to a lesser degree – private companies are to be established and maintained. Again, the commitment of individual collaborators is a crucial factor for success.

4. **Attract highly qualified and motivated scientific staff:** Staff recruitment at FORS has always been and will continue to be centered on hiring trained social scientists with university degrees at the PhD or MA level. This results in a staff that is able and willing to conduct research projects and to publish accordingly. About one third of the FORS staff holds a PhD degree, and many are therefore eligible to submit their own research proposals to funding institutions.

Staff members are expected to communicate with researchers inside and outside of academia and therefore must understand their concerns and ways of working. This is the base needed to accomplish the service and consulting functions that are an essential part of FORS and that contribute largely to FORS staying rooted in the social science community.

The rationale, goals, and guidelines described above underpin the whole range of FORS activities presented in the following chapters. First, we will deal with the core activities like surveys, data services, methodological research, etc. (chapter 2). Then we will give an account of our scientific collaborations (chapter 3). Finally, we will present performance indicators and compare them to those of 2011 (chapter 4).

2 FORS Core Activities

2.1 Surveys

One of the missions of FORS is to provide empirical data at the micro-level suiting the needs of social researchers. The three groups of the FORS Surveys unit carry out several surveys.

The collaborators of the Surveys unit lead the different steps of each project, from the beginning to the end. Survey design, sample definition, questionnaire construction (when not imposed by an international project), translation, questionnaire control (cognitive tests, pilot study, etc.), fieldwork follow-up, data checking and cleaning, are all conducted in-house at FORS. However, face to face (CAPI) and telephone (CATI) data collection is outsourced to independent private institutes, which reduces costs without compromising the scientific quality. The only exception concerns written and online surveys, which are carried out at FORS, given the fact that no costly infrastructure is needed, and that cheap and efficient software is available on the market.

Eligible FORS surveys can profit from the possibility of using the register based sampling frame of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office. This adds considerably to the quality of the samples and helps save on costs for contact procedures.

Data collections led at FORS constitute important parts of the Swiss survey landscape. Most of them are integrated into international programmes. Different survey designs, with diversified topical focus, allow researchers to answer questions that would not be possible to address with other data sources:

- The Swiss Household Panel SHP is designed as a panel, which interviews annually a sample of the general resident population drawn in 1999 (including 2004 for a first refresher sample, and 2013 for a second refresher sample). The questionnaire covers a wide range of topics from various disciplines of the social sciences, allowing pluridisciplinary longitudinal research.
- The European Social Survey ESS, the European Values Study EVS and MOSAiCH, designed as cross-sectional repeated surveys, are mainly dedicated to the study of values and attitudes. They allow international comparisons with other countries or regions, but are also dedicated to studying aggregated change across years.
- The SHARE data collection, mainly devoted to health and ageing, is designed as a cohort study that follows persons 50 and over, allowing the study of important transitions (active life to retirement, 2nd to 3rd age, 3rd to 4th age, institutionalization, etc.) at the individual level.
- The SELECTS post-electoral survey has a repeated cross-sectional design, which enables the study of political behaviour at each federal election, but it completes a political time series initiated in 1971 as well.

The following sections present 2012 activities for these surveys.

2.1.1 Swiss Household Panel SHP

The survey: Five principal tasks were achieved during the year 2012:

1. The fieldwork for waves 13 and 8 respectively was completed in February 2012. With regard to these waves, work related to data cleaning and preparation, variable construction, and documentation were realised from March to October 2012 in order to prepare for data diffusion. The dissemination of these waves took place end of October 2012.
2. The fieldwork for waves 14 and 9 was prepared between February and August – mainly questionnaires (including two revised modules: religion and psychological scales), qualitative and quantitative pre-tests, communication to participating households, training of interviewers, implementation of incentives – and started in late August.
3. A revised version of the SHP data waves 1 to 13 (with a codebook) was provided to the Cross-National Equivalent File (CNEF) in November 2012.
4. The SHP_III pilot study started by mid October, and is planned to run until March 2013. This study mainly tests (1) two versions of a biographical questionnaire (life calendar), and (2) the combination of the different modes of contact and data collection.
5. With respect to weighting schemes, we have mainly developed weights for children less than 14 years old. This development will help researchers conduct studies on the young.

Publications / Conferences / Teaching (see respective lists in the Appendix for details): SHP staff published six working papers (in different series), five book chapters, and about ten articles (in, for example, *Fields Methods*, the *European Sociological Review*, and *International Sociology*). Members of the SHP also edited the special issue of the *Swiss Journal of Sociology* (38/2) devoted to “Persistent Social Inequalities”. In addition, the SHP scientific report 2011 was submitted to the Swiss national science foundation in June 2012. Further, the second SHP Methodological Workshop took place on June 4-7 at the University of Lausanne (22 participants attended the workshop), and two members of the SHP team contributed to the 2012 Swiss Summer School (see section 2.7). Finally, SHP staff presented around 20 conference papers and gave 10 presentations in master courses or seminars.

2.1.2 International Surveys

According to the grant decisions by the SNSF, MOSAiCH can continue to be fielded as a full face to face survey. Additional human resources (1.3 FTE) have been granted for the ESS and MOSAiCH. As a consequence, two new collaborators could be hired for the International Surveys Team in April 2012: Kerstin Duemmler, a social scientist who finished her PhD on immigration topics in October 2012 (Duemmler 2012) on an 80%

basis, and Dorian Kessler, who holds a Master in economics and just started a Master in social sciences on a 50% basis.

However, SHARE has to face a reduction of human resources as compared to the submitted budget by 1.0 FTE on the side of the IEMS. To compensate, at least partially, for this severe cut, FORS devotes from its own funds a 20% share of one of its scientific collaborators to SHARE.

2.1.2.1 European Social Survey ESS

2012 was the year of the 6th Round of the ESS. After finalisation of the source questionnaire, in which our team has been strongly involved, the questionnaire was translated following the TRAPD procedure. The rotating parts concern the repeated module *Personal and social well-being*, fielded for the first time in 2006, and the new module *Understanding of democracy*.

In addition to the well-developed briefing, lasting a whole day for each interviewer, the interviewer training has been improved on two dimensions. First, we insisted more on the standardization of the interview, testing the interviewers in a mock interview with difficult respondents' attitudes. And second, we confronted each interviewer, even the most experienced ones, with individual and concrete situations of contact at the doorstep.

Fieldwork for the ESS started September 1, 2012, and should be finished by February 2013, with some 1'500 interviews. We aim at a response rate equivalent to the former 53% of the round 5 edition. The sample is based again on the register sampling frame of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office SFSO, with which we had a positive experience in the previous round. The major lessons learned from the analysis of sampling procedures were presented at the FORS-SFSO workshop in June (see Borrat-Besson et al., 2012).

In order to improve the detected response bias (namely on nationality and possession of a listed landline phone number), we implemented two smaller experiments in the ESS fieldwork. First, half of the non-Swiss sample received a targeted contact letter, motivating them to participate. The other half received the usual contact letter with general arguments. Second, 1/3 of the sample received a 10 CHF cash unconditional incentive, the remaining 2/3 the usual 30 CHF conditional incentive. Former incentive experiments showed a better contactability with unconditional incentives, an important aspect for people without a listed landline phone. The data will be analysed after fieldwork has been finished.

The interviewer questionnaire was revised, taking into account some developments elaborated by Blom and Korbmacher¹, and made available online for the first time. The link will be communicated to the interviewers in early 2013.

¹ "Measuring Interviewer Characteristics Pertinent to Social Surveys: A Conceptual Framework." To be published in *Survey Methods: Insights from the Field*.

During 10 weeks, starting one week before the start of fieldwork, media claims were recorded by our team, based on five newspapers of the three Swiss linguistic regions. These context data will be made available via the ESS data archive at NSD in Bergen, Norway.

The ESS data archive published the following data during 2012: edition 2.0 of the international ESS 2010 data and documentation, the ESS rounds 1-5 cumulative file, the ESS 2010 contact data, and the ESS rounds 1-5 event data. Finally, the ESS Multilevel Data resource, partly funded by the Descartes Research Prize awarded to the ESS, was launched mid-September.

The Swiss ESS 2010 data and documentation in German and French were published by DARIS on the FORS NESSTAR Server in early 2012.

In January 2012 the annual meeting of the ESS National Coordinators (NC) took place in Mannheim. Subsequently, an "expert group on balanced response rates" was formed, which aimed at delivering a report on how to focus survey quality not only on an overall response rate, but also on non-response bias in a feasible way. The group was headed by Ineke Stoop (SCP, the Netherlands) with the participation of experts such as Frauke Kreuter, Geert Loosveldt, Lars Lyberg, Barry Schouten, and colleagues from the ESS Core Scientific Team (Achim Koch, Verena Halbherr and Lizzy Gatrell). The Swiss NC, head of the FORS International Surveys Group Dr. Michèle Ernst Stähli, was a member of this group. It had two meetings, in April and December respectively.

FORS director Prof. Peter Farago participated at the ESS SAB meetings held in Berlin on June 28-29 and in London on December 17-18. On behalf of the SER he also represents Switzerland in the ESS ERIC Steering Committee, which met in London on October 24 (see section 3.3). Furthermore he served as a member to the Scientific Board of the successful ESS conference in Cyprus on November 23-25, where ESS senior researcher Dr. Kerstin Duemmler presented a paper.

An important step in stabilizing the central operation of the ESS was the nomination of Rory Fitzgerald to become Director of the European Social Survey, succeeding the late Sir Roger Jowell.

The call for the modules for Round 7 (ESS 2014) was published in February with a deadline early May. The winning teams are the new module on "Social inequalities in health and their determinants", proposed by Prof. T.A. Eikemo and four European colleagues, and the partly repeated module on "Attitudes towards immigration and their antecedents", proposed by Prof. A. Heath and four European colleagues, among them two Swiss (Eva Green, University of Lausanne, and Eldad Davidov, University of Zurich). FORS Director Prof. Peter Farago served as a member of the preparatory proposal review group, which made suggestions to the ESS Scientific Advisory Board on the ranking of the proposals.

The Swiss proposal for the ESS mixed mode programme was not funded by the ESS central team, mainly because of lacking financial support by the SNFS. Funded by the NCCR LIVES IP-15 group, a reworked and somewhat reduced mixed mode experiment (WEB, PAPER, CATI and a follow-up by CAPI) could, however, be launched in November. It is mainly based on the ESS 2012 core and well-being modules.

2.1.2.2 MOSAiCH / ISSP

The non-response survey for MOSAiCH 2011, launched in December 2011, was completed in February 2012. All 895 non respondents (non-contacts and refusals) and a random selection of 200 respondents were recontacted by mail by means of a two pages A4 paper questionnaire. The response rate among non-contacts was the lowest (49%), followed by the refusals (56%). The CAPI respondents were 91% to answer.

The full dataset of MOSAiCH 2011 labelled in French and in German was made available on the FORS NESSTAR Server in February.

Following the Swiss National Science Foundation's decision to fund the next MOSAiCH 2013 edition basically following our proposal, during 2012 this survey was prepared as a face-to-face survey integrating an open call for questions.

The team published this call on the FORS Website and by mail to the FORS partners and scholars interested in MOSAiCH on March 1, with an application deadline of May 1. The proposals were to be linked to the topics of the actual survey (namely "family and changing gender roles" (ISSP 2012), "national identity" (ISSP 2013), and attitudes toward Swiss and European political and social institutions). Besides some declarations of intent, we received six formal proposals from all over Switzerland (Universities of Bern, Geneva, Lausanne, Lucerne, and Zurich), covering both ISSP topics. As there were similarities between several proposals, showing a real lack in the ISSP modules compared to current interests of Swiss researchers, and as far as the length of the survey permitted, it was decided to integrate some questions directly in the interview (namely questions about real contacts with immigrants). For the paper drop-off, a module about family networks was selected. This raised some challenging methodological questions, as self-administered network questionnaires are not common. The details of the questionnaire were developed jointly with the proposing researchers, and thoroughly tested with cognitive interviews by our team.

To fit the two ISSP modules and the questions of the call into a smooth interview, the structure of the questionnaire was redesigned. The ISSP modules and the new questions of the call were translated, so that the questionnaire was ready to be programmed by the mandated survey organization in December. The fieldwork of MOSAiCH 2013 will start in February 2013.

In April 2012, Prof. Dominique Joye and FORS researcher Marlène Sapin participated in the ISSP General Assembly in Cavtat (Croatia), where the representatives of 40 countries were present. The items of the module 2013 "National Identity" were discussed and finalized, and the priorities of the topics for the 2014 module "Citizenship" were defined. The revision of the sociodemographic variables was done by voting for two new mandatory variables on ethnicity. The method group on Demography, of which Switzerland is a member, can concentrate on the evaluation of the realized modifications subsequently. Being a member of the method groups "Nonresponse" and "Modes" as well, Switzerland was mandated, together with Norway, to finalize an online questionnaire about the different survey practices and strategies of the participating ISSP countries, including mixed-mode usage and survey climate. This questionnaire has been addressed to all ISSP members. Finally, the method group on Translation, less

active for some time due to the passing away of its key leader Janet Harkness, could be reanimated by a joint effort of FORS and GESIS on this topic.

The next ISSP modules will be on Citizenship II (2014) and Work Orientations (2015).

2.1.2.3 European Values Study EVS

During 2012 the EVS continued developing a new viable structure for its international functioning. At the EVS workshop held in Lausanne on November 16-17, a draft constitution was submitted to all participating partners of the last wave (2008), and around twenty scientific contributions with EVS data were presented.

Prof. Dominique Joye participated in the two meetings of the executive committee (in Cologne in February and June).

FORS is a formal member of the European Values Study Foundation, represented in the Foundation Board by the FORS Director (see www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu). Prof. Dominique Joye is a member of the EVS Executive Committee.

2.1.2.4 Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe SHARE

SHARE is a multi-disciplinary, cross-sectional and longitudinal biennial survey measuring the combined health, economic, and social living conditions of people aged 50 and over and their partners. SHARE started in 2004 with eleven countries, including Switzerland, and has expanded to 18 EU member states plus associated Switzerland and Israel in wave 4. It is coordinated centrally at the Munich Research Institute for the Economics of Ageing MEA and harmonized with the U.S. Health and Retirement Study HRS and the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing ELSA.

In Switzerland, SHARE is run in partnership between the Institute of Health Economics and Management of the University of Lausanne (IEMS, main applicant Prof. Jurgen Maurer, country team leader Prof. Alberto Holly) and FORS (co-applicant: Prof. Peter Farago).

2012 was principally dedicated to the cleaning of the data of the fourth wave and the preparation of the fifth wave of SHARE.

The fifth wave of SHARE started with a pilot study, which was conducted in February and March 2012 and during which the questionnaire was tested internally. The pretest took place in June 2012 and was run by the survey agency LINK. 127 interviews were carried out. The questionnaire was improved based on the feedback of the country team and the interviewers.

For the pretest, Switzerland participated in the so-called DBSS – Dried Blood Spot Sample – experiment. SHARE plans to collect DBSS from respondents in future waves. However, the introduction of such a biomarker in a normal large-scale survey includes a certain number of challenges (e.g., logistic organization, standardization of the collection across countries). During the wave 5 pretest, DBSS collection was tested on a small sample of respondents. This allowed us to acquire useful knowledge on how to implement such an experiment in a standard survey. We learned that the submission

procedure to get approval from the ethics committee is quite complicated and takes some time. However, the new law on research on human beings (i.e., loi relative à la recherche sur l'être humain LRH) should simplify the procedure in future. We hope that we will benefit from this simplification when implementing DBSS collection on a larger scale.

The DBSS experiment was very successful: interviewers enjoyed doing it and gave us a lot of valuable feedback for improvement; 82% of participants (N=34) who were asked accepted to be pricked and finally the entire team and especially the survey agency were relieved to see that the DBSS collection went without any difficulty. A report on the DBSS experiment in Switzerland was written by the country team.

One representative of the Swiss country team participated in the three training sessions which were organized by the international team before each phase (i.e., pilot, pretest, main field). We also attended the post-pilot and post-pretest meetings.

The SHARE main fieldwork will start in early 2013. About 3'500 panel participants will be contacted again for a face-to-face interview. At the end of 2012, the usual material was updated. A new flyer has been printed, and the Swiss website for SHARE has been updated.

FORS collaborators wrote an article for the First Results Book, which will be published in 2013 and presented along with the official release of the SHARE wave 4 data. Also, a paper was published in collaboration with the ESS and SELECTS teams on the use of the new sampling frame of the SFSO.

The Swiss SHARE team participated in the following conferences with posters or oral presentations: the annual congress of the Swiss Society of Gerontology; the AISLF's 2012 Congress (i.e., Association internationale des sociologues de langue française); and the Gerontological Society of America's 2012 Annual Scientific Meeting.

2.1.3 Swiss Electoral Studies SELECTS

After the national elections which took place in October 2011, SELECTS was mainly concerned with the preparation and release of the data in the first half of 2012. The data files from the following surveys were prepared, documented, and published:

- The SELECTS Post-Election telephone survey with 4'391 respondents, of which 3'260 were also asked to participate in an additional paper/online survey. Of the 2'489 respondents who were willing to do so, 1'786 eventually completed the additional questionnaire. This survey included the module IV of the Comparative Study of Electoral Systems (CSES) which is also running in more than 40 post-election studies.
- In addition to the post-election survey, a Rolling Cross-Section survey (RCS) was conducted prior to the elections to learn more about the influence of campaign dynamics on voting behaviour. SELECTS was the first project to use this survey method in Switzerland. During the 41 days before the elections, a total of 4'002 interviews

were completed, with an average of around 100 interviews per day. In addition, a panel component was included, where respondents who had not yet participated in the elections at the time of the first interview were also asked to participate in a short post-election interview to inquire about their actual voting behaviour. Out of the 3'260 respondents who qualified, 2'434 participated in the second interview (75%).

- For the first time in Switzerland, an online survey among the Swiss living abroad, with 1'629 interviews, was conducted. This was possible thanks to the collaboration of the Swiss Department of Foreign Affairs. The questionnaire was based on the Post-Electoral survey and adapted for individuals living abroad. Questions of particular interest for their specific situation were also added.
- As in 2007, SELECTS conducted a survey among all the candidates for the National Council and the Council of States. Of a total of 3'548 candidates, 1'496 completed an online or paper questionnaire. This survey is part of the Comparative Candidate Survey project (CCS).
- Finally, SELECTS carried out an experimental online survey using the same questionnaire as with the telephone survey based on a separate sample of 1'500 addresses to gain knowledge about this mode. This was done in anticipation of likely needs to change the interview mode or to run a mixed mode surveys in future SELECTS studies. In addition to experimenting with mode, an incentive experiment was also included. About 1/3 of the sample received an unconditional incentive in form of a postal cheque, whereas the rest did not receive any incentive.

All datasets have been made publicly available online through the Nesstar server managed by FORS Data and Research Information Services (DARIS), with the exception of the Candidate Survey which is archived at DARIS and has to be requested separately. The data have had a high number of downloads and have already been used in at least three research seminars on Swiss elections at different Swiss universities.

A publication, *“Eidgenössische Wahlen 2011. Wahlteilnahme und Wahlentscheid”* – published in the three national languages (German, French, and Italian) - with first results, was presented at a press conference in Bern in May 2012 and received very broad media coverage in Switzerland. The publication was also sent to all members of the national parliament, the national party offices, and made available to download. As in previous SELECTS waves, this publication has been an important instrument to improve the visibility of SELECTS in Switzerland beyond the academic circles.

Various methodologically oriented research activities took place to learn more about coverage and nonresponse issues, taking advantage of the information on non-respondents we gain from the new sampling frame established by the Swiss Federal Statistical Office (SFSO), which was used for the first time in the framework of SELECTS. FORS also organized a workshop in June 2012 together with the SFSO to have an exchange about the experience with this new register. Several of the presentations made use of data collected in the SELECTS.

The effort to exchange experiences and information with other election studies continued in 2012. A third conference of the network of the Swiss, German, and Austrian

election studies with about 30 participants – among them the entire SELECTS team – took place in Vienna in November 2012. A number of presentations focused on methodological issues and solutions for data collection in the context of election studies.

SELECTS is also a member of the COST Action "The True European Voter" (see section 3.3).

2.2 Data and Research Information Services DARIS

2.2.1 Data Service

Usage and workflow: Usage statistics reveal that the number of datasets disseminated across years has increased steadily since the beginning of FORS in 2008, culminating in 2012 with 2'196 datasets downloaded from our FORS Nesstar server or from dedicated webpages (i.e., for PISA, SELECTS cumulative file, and Vox), or ordered directly from our data service. Data on our Nesstar server continued to be quite popular, especially for teaching purposes at Swiss Universities, and there was a very large increase in the number of datasets ordered from our data service (531). It is not surprising that the number of downloaded SELECTS datasets rose steeply in 2012 – this due to the publication in April 2012 of the SELECTS 2011 data (see section 2.1.3).

Dataset count Group	Year				
	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Vox, Vox-it, Vox-cumulative	812	857	597	339	252
Eurobarometer/MOSAiCH/ESS	479	473	535	140	101
SELECTS	374	177	174	159	204
Other studies ordered from the data service	531	394	147	158	71
Total	2'196	1'901	1'453	796	628

New datasets and special projects: During 2012, DARIS archived and published the following datasets produced by research teams in Switzerland:

- PISA.ch - Schweizer Erhebung zur internationalen OECD PISA Befragung 2003:
 - Mesure des compétences et enquête auprès des élèves de 9ème année en Suisse – 2003
 - Enquête auprès des écoles avec des élèves de 9ème année en Suisse – 2003
- PISA.ch - Schweizer Erhebung zur internationalen OECD PISA Befragung 2006:
 - Mesure des compétences et enquête auprès des élèves de 9ème année en Suisse – 2006
 - Enquête auprès des écoles avec des élèves de 9ème année en Suisse – 2006

- PISA.ch - Schweizer Erhebung zur internationalen OECD PISA Befragung 2009:
 - Mesure des compétences et enquête auprès des élèves de 9ème année en Suisse – 2009
 - Enquête auprès des écoles avec des élèves de 9ème année en Suisse – 2009
- TREE – Swiss Youth Longitudinal Study wave 8 – 2010
- Sicherheit 2011. Aussen-, sicherheits- und verteidigungspolitische Meinungsbildung im Trend

Further, the following datasets were published on our Nesstar server (each in both French and German):

- Sicherheit 2011
- SELECTS 2011
- SELECTS 2011: Rolling cross section
- SELECTS 2011: Swiss Abroad
- SELECTS 2011: Online Experiment
- MOSAiCH 2011
- VOXIT datafiles for the 2011 federal votes

In a significant development for the data service, the Swiss Federal Statistical Office no longer conducts the Swiss part of the study PISA, and transferred in 2012 all of its Swiss PISA data to DARIS. In addition, the research consortium henceforth responsible for PISA in Switzerland agreed that the data will be archived at DARIS. This means that all Swiss PISA data (past and future), beginning from the 2000 wave, will be available from a single provider at FORS.

In another development, the NCCR LIVES has agreed to require deposit at FORS of all the data produced by its projects, after an embargo. FORS will work closely with LIVES to ensure that the data are well-documented and prepared for preservation and dissemination.

2.2.2 Research Inventory

The annual survey 2011/12 for the research inventory was successful (480 new entries, 169 updates). During 2012, we continued to apply a more personalized and proactive approach to getting relevant research information from the researchers.

We continue to use our Internet-based Strategic Watch System to monitor the personnel and research activities of hundreds of research institutes in Switzerland. By this means we are permanently updated on the evolution of the dynamic research environ-

ment in the country. Also, this allowed us to add over 1'300 persons to our researcher database in 2012.

The already existing data sharing agreements with the Swiss Federal Administration ARAMIS, the Swiss Centre for Special Education, and the Swiss Coordination Centre for Research in Education SCCRE have continued. Other data sharing agreements with university research databases are being discussed. FORS has also consolidated its position as a major player among Swiss research information institutions by means of networking and presentations at the major conferences in Switzerland in this domain.

Also during 2012, FORS further increased its presence on the Internet by regularly diffusing relevant research information (new datasets, events, calls for papers, etc.) to a larger audience by means of Facebook (+61% followers), ResearchGate, and Twitter.

2.2.3 Other Activities

FORSbase: The IT project FORSbase (see section 2.9) focused in 2012 on developing the foundation of the interactive online system that will be expanded in 2013 and beyond. The work of DARIS staff during this period involved putting into place all functions needed to provide personalised workspaces to researchers, and to describe, register, and search for individual project descriptions. Staff also conducted planning for version 2 of FORSbase, which will establish all data archiving functions.

Promotion: As part of its on-going promotional activities, DARIS issued its "FORS Data Bulletin" in March, September, and December. Each edition included information on recently released data and other DARIS/FORS activities and events of potential interest to the research community. The FORS Data Bulletin is sent by email each time to over 8,000 social science researchers in Switzerland, in German/English or French/English versions.

DARIS staff members gave presentations on our services at several Swiss universities and research institutions during 2012, including:

- "FORSbase" presentation at the opendata.ch 2012 conference, Zürich, June 28, 2012.
- "Access to Swiss PISA data", University of Bern, PISA Workshop, 2012 October 31.
- "Utilisation des données FORS", University of Lausanne, Atelier des mémorants des masters en sciences sociales et sciences et pratiques de l'éducation, 2012 November 12.
- "Recherche de données sur FORS Nesstar." Presentation at the Séminaire "Méthodes quantitatives en sciences politique", University of Lausanne, October 22.
- "FORSbase." Presentation at the Swiss Research Information Day, Bern, November 23, 2012.

Also in 2012, DARIS conducted a national online survey of social science researchers who produce or use qualitative data in Switzerland, in order to obtain information on their research practices as they relate to data sharing and re-use. Over 1'400 researchers completed the survey, and the results were described in a brief report published on the DARIS website in December 2012.² In addition, DARIS began within a series of meetings the process of organising the next Swiss Methods Festival. The Festival will take place at the University of Fribourg in June 2013, in conjunction with the 2013 *IVème congrès international du Réseau international francophone de la recherche qualitative* (RiFreq).

International collaboration: In 2012, DARIS worked on specific tasks related to accreditation for access to official micro-data for the European FP7 project Data without Boundaries (see section 3.3). Staff attended project meetings in Romania and Athens, and hosted a meeting in Lausanne in November.

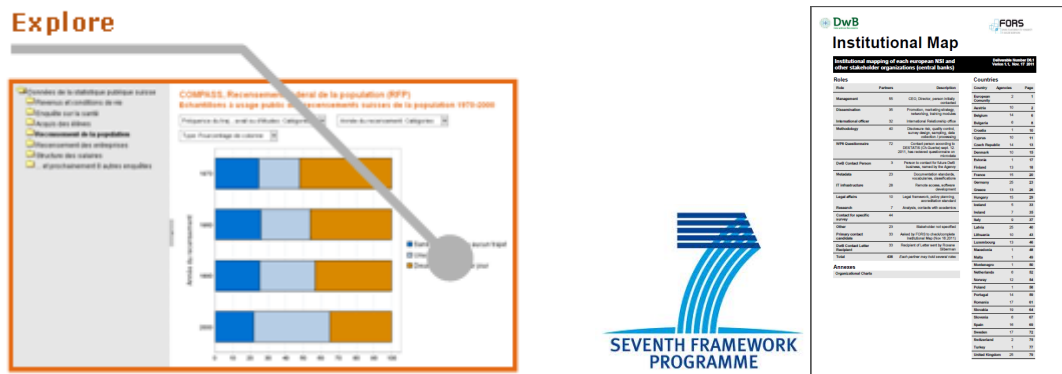
DARIS began participation in early 2012 in a second FP7 project called SERSCIDA, whose goal is to establish social science data archives in the western Balkan countries Bosnia, Serbia, and Croatia (see section 3.3). A kickoff meeting was held in February in Sarajevo, data collection was carried out over the summer, and reports were submitted to the European Commission in October. A second meeting was held in Belgrade in late November.

DARIS was active internationally in 2012 on other fronts as well:

- In March, a staff member attended the 1st European Data Access Forum (EDAF) in Luxembourg.
- In April, a staff member participated in the CESSDA General Assembly meeting in Gothenburg, Sweden.
- In June, a staff member attended the IASSIST conference in Washington, D.C., and then the 50th anniversary celebration of the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- In September, October, and December, a staff member served on an expert committee to evaluate the long-term strategic plan of the research institution CEPS in Luxembourg (see section 2.8).
- In early October, one staff member attended the CESSDA expert seminar in Tampere, Finland.
- In mid-October, two staff members presented a paper at the German Data Forum (RatSWD) workshop on qualitative data infrastructures in Berlin.

² Download: www2.unil.ch/daris/spip.php?rubrique137

2.3 Communication Portal for Accessing Social Statistics COMPASS



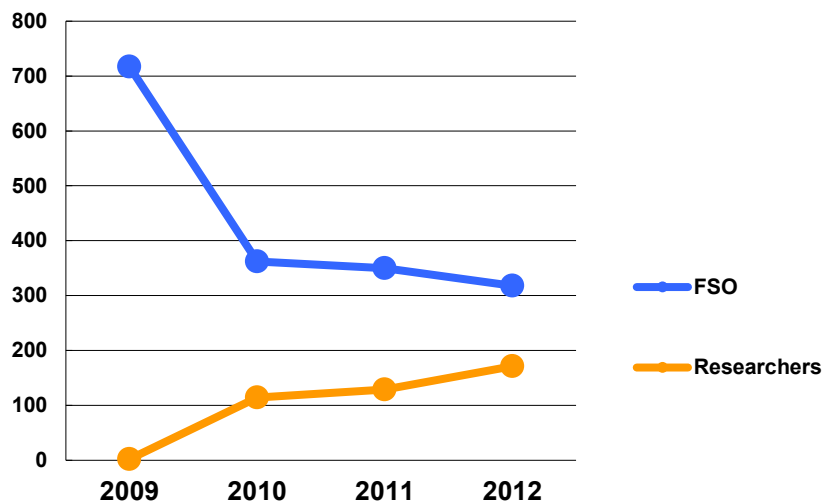
The COMPASS catalogue (extended in 2011 at the variable level) is now fully implemented for most surveys that have data available as scientific files. Since the information follows the widely used “Nesstar 4” standard, the Swiss public statistic metadata promoted by FORS can from now on be harvested by other archives around the world.

While extracting relevant information from printed questionnaires the team has developed a set of simple techniques to bridge the gap between a spreadsheet and a properly formatted xml file. These were showcased in June at the IASSIST conference in Washington DC.

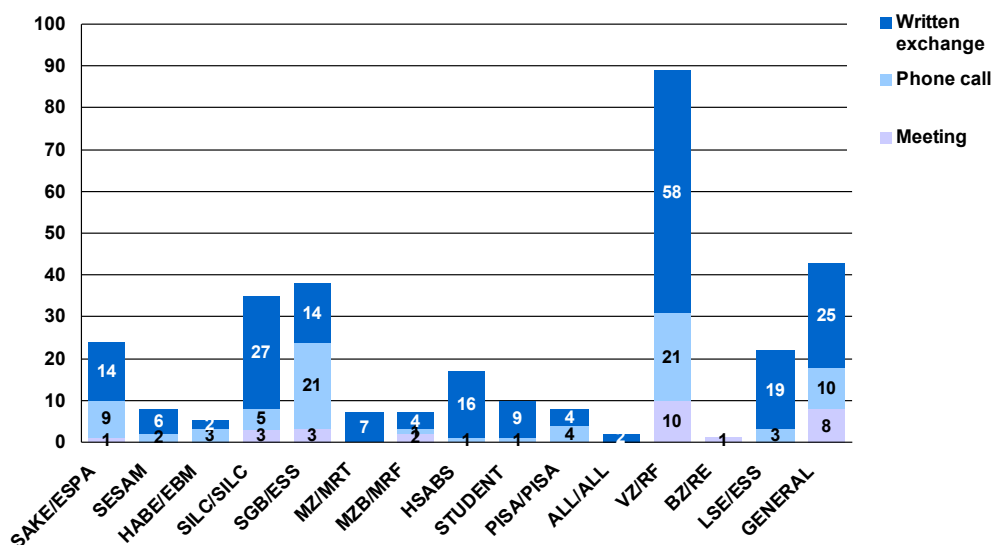
As a way to optimize the making of prospective public use samples, COMPASS established a procedure that will provide, once adopted by the management of the SFSO, guidelines to the production of new public use samples at the person level.

A retrospective analysis of the 2009-2012 information system shows that after the initial intensive collaboration with SFSO partners in 2009, mostly to do with the harvesting of metadata of surveys, COMPASS dedicated an increasing proportion of its activity serving researchers directly, hence becoming an effective centre of expertise in the field of official microdata.

Recorded contacts



Recorded FSO contacts in 2012, by project



The monitoring of the contacts with researchers shows that 52 researchers (35 in 2011) appealed to COMPASS 171 times (130 in 2011). Exchanges resulted in the conclusion of 29 data protection contracts (12 in 2011).

The COMPASS website has seen the number of its single visitors increase by 60% within a year.

Following the strategic plan elaborated in 2011, which stressed the importance of promotion activities, in-depth interviews were conducted with researchers at various Swiss universities and universities of applied sciences. Out of the nine interviews that were conducted in 2012, seven involved FORS contact points (see section 3.2.2). These face-to-face meetings provided an opportunity to assess the needs and practices of the research community, as well as FORS current practices and future developments. In-

interviewees stressed the importance of variable-level documentation of SFSO datasets, and were particularly enthusiastic about the intention to develop teaching and training activities. This led, together with DARIS, to the development of a workshop on data management, which will be run in 2013. In-depth interviews will be pursued in 2013 on a continuous basis.

In November, a member of the COMPASS team acted as external examiner for a Bachelor dissertation on the New Federal Population Census in Switzerland. The same month, COMPASS also contributed to a dissertation workshop for master students of the faculty of social and political sciences at the University of Lausanne.

In June COMPASS was present in Neuchâtel both at the University to follow a seminar on income inequality measurement and at the SFSO to discuss the use of the Swiss household survey sampling base.

At the international level, COMPASS participated in several conferences, setting up and reinforcing links with researchers and sister institutions. Papers were presented in March at the European Data Access Forum (Luxembourg); in April at the European Social Science History Conference (Glasgow); in June at the IASSIST Conference (Washington) and in August at the International Geographical Congress in Cologne. Contributions both concerned COMPASS activities – for instance the tools and techniques used for the development of codebooks – and the data promoted by COMPASS. A paper on the new Federal Population Census was presented in Cologne in a session looking at the consequences of the move from traditional decennial censuses to population register and targeted surveys.

Set up in 2010, the EU FP 7 project “Data without Boundaries” (see section 3.3) involves FORS in three work packages. COMPASS attended meetings in Paris, Mannheim and Ljubljana. The “institutional map” of national statistical institutes throughout Europe was amended in six consecutive versions.

The COMPASS steering committee met in June and October 2012. Both sessions were chaired by FORS director Prof. Peter Farago. Mr Marco Buscher represented the statistical office. The question of a delegate of the SFSO management is still unresolved.

Swiss Federal Statistical Office surveys in the COMPASS portfolio:

SAKE/ESPA	Swiss Labour Force Survey (SLFS)
HABE/EBM	Household Budget Survey (HBS)
SILC/SILC	Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC)
SGB/ESS	Swiss Health Survey
MZ/MRT	Microcensus on Travel Behaviour
HSABS	Swiss Higher Education Graduates Survey
STUDENT	Social and Economic Conditions of Student Life
PISA/PISA	Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)
ALL/ALL	Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey (ALL)
VZ/RF	Federal Population Census
PETRA	Foreign Population Statistics (PETRA)
BEVNAT	Vital Statistics (BEVNAT)
BZ/RE	Business Census
LSE/ESS	Swiss Structure of Earnings Survey

2.4 Methodological Research

In 2012 one major methodological research focus at FORS was to analyse effects from using the new harmonized register of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office (SFSO) as a sampling frame. Various FORS surveys (ESS 2010, MOSAiCH 2011, SELECTS 2011, SHARE 2010) drew their samples from this frame for the first time. In addition to this, a number of mixed-mode experiments were designed and tested. This concerned particularly the biographical questionnaire (life calendar) in the SHP, to be fielded in 2013 (see section 2.1.1), and the mixed mode experiment funded by LIVES, to be fielded in parallel to the regular ESS 2012. In addition, beyond using the response rate as the sole measure of survey quality, efforts were invested to find measures to more adequately assess response bias.

Common work related to the three methodological research programme modules of FORS (non-response, mixed mode interviewing, translation and equivalence issues, see section 1.1.2) was continued, and a number of peer-reviewed papers, book chapters, and working papers in the methodological domain were published during the year (see list of publications in the Appendix). In addition, FORS staff gave numerous scientific presentations, and reviewed papers on methodology that had been submitted to peer-reviewed scientific journals such as *Survey Research Methods*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Methoden-Daten-Analysen*, *Journal of Official Statistics*, as well as to the FORS and SHP working paper series. Overlapping research across the modules, especially non-response and mixed modes, are mentioned in the non-response section only.

2.4.1 Analysis of Non-response

To have a closer exchange with the SFSO about effects from using the new harmonized register as a sampling frame, a common workshop was held at the SFSO in Neuchâtel in June. A number of presentations were given by members from both FORS and the SFSO, using FORS and SFSO surveys with samples drawn from this new sampling frame. The main finding was that for telephone surveys matching rates that result from an automatic matching of names and addresses from the register with fixed line telephone numbers from the SFSO owned telephone register are rather low and suffer from undercoverage bias. This concerns surveys from both the SFSO and especially from FORS. For SFSO surveys, the main reason is that an increasing number of households do not possess a fixed line telephone. Non-SFSO surveys are in addition not allowed to use unlisted telephone numbers. Remedies to overcome undercoverage bias were discussed; amongst others a postcard sent to the unmatched households with the request to provide a telephone number or another contact information seems promising. A presentation using recent FORS international surveys found that across different modes there are no systematically different contactability effects. There are however sample composition effects according to sampling frame used: compared with the individual register, there are less young and more old people in the sample if the telephone frame is used.

A number of papers, book sections, and presentations are related to the non-response module. Lipps (2012) was invited from the journal *Methoden-Daten-Analysen* to discuss a published doctoral dissertation, which put into question the commonly used available socio-demographic variables to explain non-response and attrition. Also related to attrition, Rothenbühler and Voorpostel (2012) gave a presentation on attrition patterns among young adults and vulnerable groups in the SHP at the LIVES international workshop “Methodological and substantive challenges in measuring vulnerability across the life course” in June. At the same workshop, Widmer, Aeby and Sapin (2012) presented their paper “Collecting family networks”. Roberts and Joye (2012) presented an introductory paper focusing on methodological challenges in surveying vulnerability in Switzerland. This and other papers from the conference will be published in 2013 as part of the Springer series on “Life Course Research and Social Policies” (co-edited by Oris, Joye, Roberts, and Ernst Stähli).

Three book chapters on challenges and options for telephone surveys in Switzerland were published in a book “Telephone Surveys in Europe: Research and Practice” (eds. Michael Häder, Sabine Häder, Mike Kühne). The first (Ernst Stähli 2012) discusses past and current developments of telephone samples in Switzerland. A second contribution by Joye, Pollien, Sapin, and Ernst Stähli (2012) investigates bias induced by telephone surveys, mainly based on fixed telephone lines, and discusses the (limited) possibilities to weight for bias that is caused by the use of a phone directory. The third (Lipps and Kissau 2012) examines new analysis possibilities in terms of coverage and non-response bias when the new register sampling frame is used for general population surveys.

Related to the Lipps and Kissau paper, Lipps, Pekari and Roberts use data from the Selects 2011 CATI survey to investigate telephone matching rates and to compare coverage bias with non-response bias. Based on variables available from the register sampling frame, telephone matching rates range between 71% (the divorced) and 93% (those aged 73 or over). Non-response bias in turn mitigates coverage bias: older people, for whom telephone numbers were more easily matched, were less likely to respond. These results will be published in a FORS working paper soon. Lutz, Borat-Besson, Ernst Stähli, and Wernli (2012) published a paper that investigates the question “Who is accessible on the telephone today” in the yearbook of the Swiss Association of Social and Market Research (vsms). They mainly confirm the findings from the SELECTS data, but – due to the inclusion of foreigners in their data – are able to prove that in addition to young and singles foreigners are concerned by undercoverage in telephone surveys as well.

A paper using SHP data to analyse reasons for refusal given by individuals in panel surveys was published in *Methoden-Daten-Analysen* (Lipps 2012). Another paper, also using data from the SHP and published in *Field Methods* (Lipps 2012), uses within-household variation across waves to examine successful times that lead to contacts, without annoying people at undesired times and ultimately causing them to refuse.

Pollien and Joye (2012) presented analyses of contact patterns in surveys with a focus on computing methods at LACOSA (Lausanne conference on sequence analysis) in June. A similar topic was considered in a presentation by Pollien, Joye, Ernst Stähli

and Sapin (2012) on an analysis of contact sequences at the 7th “Colloque francophone sur les sondages” ENSAI in Rennes, in November. At the same colloquium, Pollien, Joye, Ernst Stähli and Sapin (2012) presented their paper on “Répondants et non-répondants dans les enquêtes”.

On the non-response workshop in Ottawa in September, Joye, Ernst Stähli, Pollien, Sapin and Vandenplas (2012) presented a paper entitled “What about incentives? A Swiss perspective”. The paper deals with the fact that to increase response rates, pre-paid incentives are more efficient than promised and that, in such a case, there are only small differences between 10 CHF and more. Thus giving 10 CHF seems to be the best solution from a cost-benefit perspective. However, incentives are also seen as intrusive and as waste of public money. A solution can be to broaden the discussion about the use of incentives.

Two FORS papers were presented at the International Workshop on Total Survey Error (IWTSE) in Santpoort, The Netherlands, in September. The first, authored by Vandenplas, Roberts and Ernst Stähli (2012) was entitled “Evaluating the extent of non-response and non-coverage bias in the Swiss ESS”. The new sampling frame was employed to assess the efficiency of different fieldwork methods designated to increase response. The results show that while increases in response rate help to reduce the Maximal Absolute Bias (MAB), there are only relatively small improvements to sample representativity.

As in previous years, FORS implemented non-response surveys as follow-ups to the main international surveys in order to check for non-response bias and to evaluate possible ways of correction. A paper entitled “Non-response follow-up surveys in Switzerland: What is the impact of mixed mode effects on their usability?” was given at the FORS lunch seminar in October (Vandenplas 2012). Based on data from ESS 2006, 2010, EVS 2008, and MOSAiCH 2011, the main finding was that due to the different format (e.g., mode, length, time frame), data collected with follow-up surveys are not directly comparable with the corresponding main survey. A variant of this paper, which supplements the data by the most current ESS round entitled “The impact of mode effect on non-response survey usability” (Vandenplas, Joye, and Ernst Stähli 2012) was presented on the IWTSE. This paper concludes with the difficulty of disentangling the true difference between respondents and non-respondents due to the change in design.

2.4.2 Mixed Mode Interviewing

The combined mode–incentive effect experiment conducted for SELECTS 2011 was analysed in detail in 2012. The mode experiment consisted in a web survey run in parallel to the usual CATI survey. The incentive experiment consisted in randomizing the web sample into a group receiving a 20 CHF prepaid incentive and a control group without incentive. All samples were drawn from the individual register and used the same questionnaire. First results show that while response rates are comparable in the telephone and the web with incentive designs, web response rates without incentive are much smaller. Incentives increase the response rate of young people, but not so much that of older people. While young people are underrepresented in the telephone

survey, and overrepresented in both web designs, old people are underrepresented in all surveys, in particular those using the web mode. Interestingly, web with incentives costs about twice, and telephone as much as eight times as much as web without incentives. These results will soon be available as a FORS working paper.

In autumn, Joye, Roberts and Ernst Stähli launched a large-scale mixed mode survey experiment.³ Financed by NCCR-LIVES IP-15, their interest is to know more about mode effects on coverage, non-response, and measurement error for both the general population and for specific vulnerable populations. The design of the experiment is mainly based on the ESS 2012 web experiment (see section 2.1.2). The questionnaire uses most of the ESS core questions, the main part of the regular ESS 2012 well-being module, and a substantive part of the socio-demographic questions. In addition, it includes some important questions from the different LIVES questionnaires. The questionnaire of the experiment will take on average 25-30 minutes, compared to the 50-60 minutes of the full ESS 2012. The sample consists of adult residents in the French-speaking part of Switzerland. The ESS 2012 benchmark CAPI survey started in September 2012 and will end in January 2013. The mixed mode experiment is fielded in parallel to the ESS. The design of the experiment was presented at the 4th WEBDATANET Meeting in Ljubljana, Slovenia, in November (Ernst Stähli and Roberts 2012).

Mick Couper, an eminent scholar and expert on web and mixed-mode surveys, visited FORS on March 13-14. His lecture on "Designing Web Surveys" as well as the three workshops with him gave us important inputs for our own methodological work and research strategy. During Mick's visit, Rothenbühler (2012) presented the experiences made with a non-probabilistic sample in a web survey, which she used to investigate the political participation of young people in Switzerland in the CH@YOUART project (see section 2.8). Ernst Stähli (2012) gave a talk on "Mixing interview modes in general social surveys in Switzerland: Why and how?", and Sapin (2012) presented a paper on "A mixed mode experience with an ISSP pilot survey", co-authored by Pollien, Joye, and Ernst Stähli.

Roberts, together with Lessof and Nicolaas (NatCen, UK), Calderwood (University of London), and Lynn (University of Essex), were awarded a UK grant for a project on "The how, why and when of web surveys for the general population", which was launched in October.

2.4.3 Language, Translation, and Measurement Equivalence

FORS continued to study the survey data quality of foreign minority respondents in social science surveys (cross-sectional analysis), and started to investigate the question of intrapersonal learning effects (longitudinal analysis). One working paper (Kleiner, Lipps, and Ferrez 2012) resulted from the cross-sectional research. This paper was presented at the 10th international Workshop on Comparative Survey Design and Implementation (CSDI) in Washington, D.C., in March, and the Institute for Employment

³ Fieldname: "Bien-être et mal-être en Suisse romande".

Research, Nuremberg, in July. Finally it was submitted to the Journal of Official Statistics. An article on considerations of dialect in survey research was submitted to the Bulletin of Sociological Methodology (BMS) in autumn 2012 and accepted for publication.

FORS pursued analyses on the equivalence of different answer scales and translation issues. Results from the translation tests and retests performed in the ESS 2010, entitled “Test, Retest, and Translation” were presented at the CSDI workshop in Washington (Ernst Stähli, Joye, Pollien, and Sapin 2012). Using a multidimensional model, the variations across translations were found to be smaller than expected.

2.4.4 Other Methodological and Collaborative Studies

Roberts (2012) was invited to participate in a special panel session on “Critical reflections on the future of comparative social research”, organised by the International Social Science Council (ISSC) at the 65th Annual Conference of the World Association for Public Opinion Research WAPOR in Hong Kong (in June). Her presentation focused on future data collection strategies in the ESS and the problem of equivalence. Also at WAPOR, Roberts, Gilbert and Allum presented further findings from their systematic review of research into survey measurement errors in a paper titled “Methods of measuring response effects in surveys and implications for understanding their causes”.

Roberts, together with Sturgis and Smith (2012), published a paper on “Middle alternatives revisited: How the neither/nor response acts as a face-saving way of saying I don’t know.” in Sociological Methods and Research (published online on 27 September 2012). Rothenbühler (2012) completed her master thesis on how to weight children cross-sectionally in the SHP. She gave a related presentation entitled “Crossing the age borders in the Swiss Household Panel” at the “Journées Suisses de la Statistique” in Vaduz/Liechtenstein in September.

Ernst Stähli, Wernli, and Pekari (2012) presented a paper on “L’événement dans les enquêtes quantitatives: analyses et perspectives ouvertes par les microdonnées” at the *Colloque international* of the department of religion, University of Lausanne. The question was to define events in the FORS large social surveys, and how to measure them.

2.4.5 Institutional Issues

FORS and GESIS will co-edit a new open access online-only journal aimed at innovations and experiences in survey methods: “Survey Methods: Insights from the Field”. The new journal is oriented towards the knowledge of fieldwork and practical experience. Articles submitted before the end of September 2012 will be published in the very first issue to be released together with the official announcement of the journal early 2013.

In December a task force “FORS Research Enhancement”, consisting of seven senior researchers at FORS plus one professor of the Institute for Social Sciences (ISS) at the University of Lausanne, was established. The tasks of this group are to set up a common FORS research programme as well as to stimulate and coordinate research activi-

ties at FORS. Important goals are to increase the impact of the research activities for the quality of the FORS surveys, and to enhance the image and visibility of FORS not only as a data service organisation, but also as an institution that conducts high level research. In addition to methodological research, substantive research will be encouraged.

2.5 Cross-National Data Center in Luxembourg LIS

LIS is a comparative micro-database on income, wealth, and employment. Its income database includes nearly 200 data sets covering 40 countries around the world over a period going back as far as 1968. Until 2011, LIS was known as the Luxembourg Income Study.

The fully documented databases are accessible via a specially developed remote access system called LISSY, which allows users to receive results of statistical analyses within minutes after submission, directly to their computer wherever they are located. Password protected access is free of charge for users from contributing countries.

FORS is the Swiss partner to LIS. The FORS director is member of the Board of the “LIS asbl”, an NPO according to Luxembourg law. The annual membership fees paid by FORS open for Swiss researchers free access to the complete LIS databases. The FORS website includes a short description of LIS and a link to the LIS homepage. LIS is systematically included in the promotional activities of FORS, especially at the level of university departments and institutes that might be interested (mainly sociology, political science, and economics).

In summer of 2012, FORS sponsored three doctoral students to participate in the week-long LIS summer workshop in Luxembourg. The purpose of the workshop was to introduce researchers to the LIS database, to provide hands-on training in using the data, and to encourage international collaboration. The stipends included tuition, room and board, and travel expenses. The three participants gave very positive feedback on their experiences of the workshop.

2.6 Social Report

The Social Report was published as planned in 2012. However, due to the nomination of the former project manager, Felix Bühlmann, to a professorship at the University of Lausanne, a slight delay occurred in the preparation of the Report. His successor, Céline Schmid Botkine, started working at FORS and on the Social Report in January, 2012. Prof. Bühlmann stayed closely linked to the project by contributing to the strategic governance as a member of the Pilot Group. With this arrangement an important continuity could be preserved over the whole multi-year preparation phase.

The Pilot Group, consisting of Prof. Felix Bühlmann (University of Lausanne), Prof. Peter Farago (FORS), Prof. François Höpflinger (University of Zürich), Prof. Dominique Joye (University of Lausanne), Prof. René Levy (University of Lausanne), Prof.

Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello (University of Bern), Prof. Christian Suter (University of Neuchâtel), and Céline Schmid Botkine (FORS) met on five occasions in 2012:

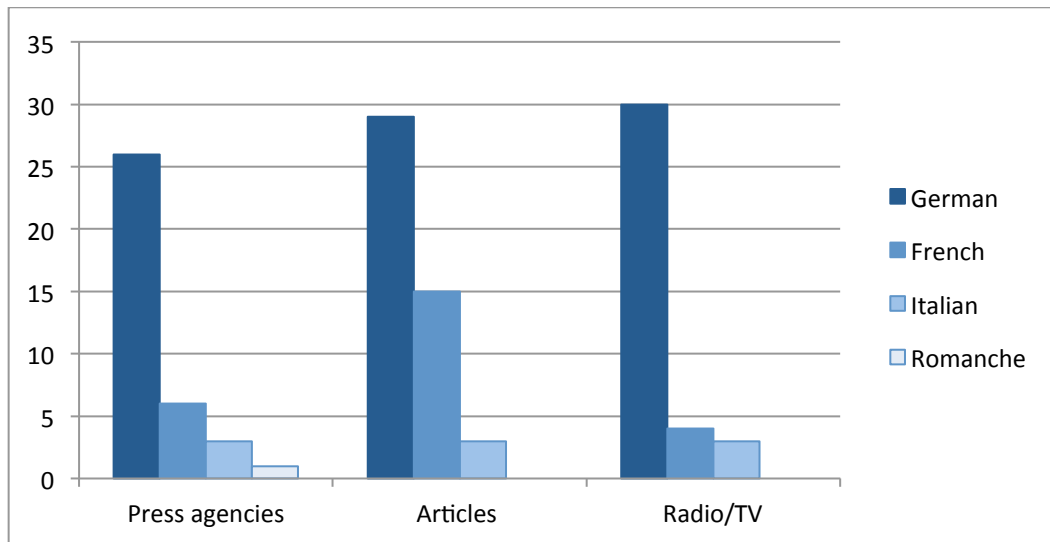
- January 31: Four of five essays were examined by the Pilot Group. One was validated and sent to translation, three others were to be amended by the authors, one was in a preliminary stage at that time. All indicators of chapters 1 to 3 were complete, but around twenty indicators of chapters 4 “Political Reshaping” and 5 “Society and environment” were still missing.
- April 12: The indicators of chapters 1 to 3 and three of five essays were in translation (FR/GE). A few indicators were missing due to unavailability of data at that moment in time. The introductory text was validated, and the title was chosen in French and German: “Rapport social 2012: Générations en jeu” and “Sozialbericht 2012: Fokus Generationen”. Further, the Pilot Group decided that the English version should be identical to the French and the German editions (the English version of the 2008 Swiss Social Report contained the 75 indicators only, without the essays). The English version would probably have to be published some months later. The Pilot Group talked about the synthesis chapter of the book and proposed that Prof. Bühlmann would author it.
- May 18: The Pilot Group validated the indicators of chapters 1 to 3 in French and German. It also validated the indicators of chapters 4 and 5 in German and the French/German translations of four essays. The Synthesis was discussed and approved. The Pilot Group decided to organize the media conference for the presentation of the volume in collaboration with the Swiss National Science Foundation.
- June 20: The Pilot Group was shown all graphics and texts of the indicators of chapters 1 to 5. The last modifications were done in the French and German versions.
- September 26: The group prepared the media conference by choosing the topics to be presented and the speakers.

The publication of the German and French versions of the Swiss Social Report 2012 happened at a well attended media conference in Berne on October 23. The collaboration with the communication department of the SNSF facilitated the task of preparing the conference and added the necessary professionalism.

The conference had an excellent response with regard to quantity and quality in newspapers (47 articles) as well as in electronic media (37 interviews and reports) in all parts of the country. Thus, the Social Report was another showcase of excellence for FORS, just as the SELECTS report had been several months before (see section 2.1.3).

The English version of the Swiss Social Report 2012 and the website will be available in early 2013.

**Articles, reports, and interviews by language following the media release
(absolute figures)**



2.7 Swiss Summer School on Methods in the Social Sciences

The 17th Swiss Summer School on Methods in the Social Sciences was held from August 17-31, 2012, at the Università della Svizzera Italiana in Lugano.

This year we increased the offer from six to eight full-week workshops; due to availability reasons of an instructor five courses were held in the first week, and three in the second. The following courses were offered:

First week:

- Prof. Jörg Blasius: Correspondence Analysis and Related Methods (7 participants)
- Prof. Kelvyn Jones: Multilevel models: Practical applications (11)
- Prof. Michael Gibbert : Case Studies: Design, Methods, and Reporting (10)
- Profs. Peter Schmidt/Eldad Davidov: Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) I (21)
- Prof. Véronique Mottier: Qualitative Data Analysis: Interpretive Research Strategies (21)

and during the second week:

- Dr. Oliver Lipps/Dr. Ursina Kuhn (FORS) : Introduction to Panel Data Analysis (15 participants)
- Prof. Max Bergman: Qualitative Interviewing (21)
- Profs. Peter Schmidt/Eldad Davidov: Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) II (16)

Due to a frequent demand, this year Profs. Schmidt and Davidov taught an advanced SEM II class during the second week, in addition to their traditional SEM I course.

16% of the 106 participants attended two courses. The optional two day preparatory/refresh workshop (Horber) preceding the Summer School had 16 participants this year.

87% of the participants were PhD Students. The largest group of this year's participants are working in the field of Business Studies (21%), followed by Education (19%), Sociology (13%), and Psychology (11%). 16% of the participants are studying at foreign universities (Austria, Belgium, Germany, Israel, Italy, Korea, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, and Russia).

2.8 Third Party Funded Projects

FORS was a partner in a pioneering interdisciplinary study on “Open Government Data in Switzerland”, led by the University of Applied Sciences Berne. Other partners included psychologists, economists, IT scientists, as well as business and IT consultants. FORS was responsible for the module on “social impacts” of Open Government Data. The study was funded by the Gebert R f Foundation. The report was published in June 2012 and is freely accessible, also on the FORS website.

FORS continued a mandated project called “Backstopping for Election Support” for the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) together with the Swiss Peace Foundation (swisspeace). The mandate includes applied research and contributions to policy definition and implementation as well as consulting on concrete electoral support activities. Major activities in this mandate included a working paper “What makes for peaceful post-conflict elections?”, which analyses experience of previous election support missions, a report on democracy assistance activities by the Human Security Division in 2011, and a field mission in June 2012 to Burundi to analyse the political, legal and logistical challenges ahead of the next election 2015 in the country. The project ended in December 2012.

Another third party funded project that was hosted by FORS is “Political Participation of Young Adults in Switzerland” (CH@YOUPART). Funded by the education division of the State Secretariat for Education and Research SER, this project examined how and why young Swiss engage in politics. The study included the age group of 18- to 25-year olds in Switzerland. The final report was published by the State Secretariat for Education and Research in spring 2012. Some results have been published as part of a contribution in the Social Report 2012 as well (see section 2.6). Both publications had a wide media response all over Switzerland (among many others: NZZ, Luzerner Zeitung, Tagesschau, Radio DRS; Tribune de Gen ve, Le Temps, 24 heures, Le Matin; Ticino online).

The Swiss part of the research project “Childbearing within cohabitation”, led by Prof. Brienna Perelli-Harris from the University of Southampton and financed by the Universities of Southampton and Lausanne, is hosted by FORS as well. Using focus group interviews, this qualitative project analyses the perception of marriage, cohabitation and the development of nonmarital childbearing and family change more generally. The aim of this project is the understanding of the meaning of cohabitation and marriage across European countries in addition to Russia and Australia. Results will be presented in international congress and in peer reviewed journals. FORS senior researcher Dr. Val rie-Anne Ryser is responsible for this project on our side.

FORS received a research mandate from the Fondazione Ticino Cuore (FTC), which is in charge of a project aiming at reducing mortality in case of cardiac arrest in the southern part of Switzerland. In 2012, FORS made available to the FTC its expertise in data handling (cleaning, organization, analysis, archiving) for the numerous indicators collected by the project (numbers of cardiac arrests, of defibrillators installed, of rescued persons, of intervening rescue persons, etc.). The set-up and consolidation of historical series allowed for instance the FTC to better monitor and illustrate the effects induced by the project.

Furthermore, FORS was given the task by the Canton Vaud to organize a consultation about the urbanization master plan developed by its urbanization service for the Lausanne-Morges area (PALM 2012, or Plan d'Agglomération Lausanne Morges). FORS set up an online survey aiming at collecting remarks and opinions contained in the master plan, and presented a preliminary analysis of the consultation process results to Cantonal authorities.

The head of DARIS was a member of an international expert committee mandated to evaluate the long-term strategic plan of the research and infrastructure institution CEPS in Luxembourg.

As for every year, FORS was invited by the University of Lausanne to organize a survey among visitors during its open door days ("Mystères de l'UNIL", May 31 to June 3, 2012). The questionnaire, programmed on LimeSurvey, was administered to visitors chosen at random by students led and trained by FORS staff.

Apart from these projects there was the participation of FORS in two EU funded international cooperative projects: DwB and SERSCIDA (see section 3.3).

FORS will continue to acquire a reasonable share of mandates in the future.

2.9 IT / FORSbase

The development of the new integrated FORS IT (project FORSbase) made good progress in 2012.

During January 2012, the IT group concentrated on technical updates. Within the same period, the DARIS group developed the set of functional needs for the system and delivered this by the end of the month.

In March, a web designer was consulted in order to advise us about the layout and presentation of FORSbase. The project team also met with Edy Ceppi, a visual designer at the University of Lausanne communications department. Their advice and comments were very helpful. They were taken into consideration for the first version of the software.

The current state and mid-term development of the project was presented to the FORS Foundation Board at their March meeting (see section 2.10.1).

In April, a two-day visit by Arofan Gregory, an international IT specialist in documentation standards and database construction, gave us more insight into international deve-

lopments in the field. His assessment of the conception and development work of FORSbase was very positive, and his suggestions were well taken.

The first version of the FORSbase software (research project inventory) is scheduled to be released in spring 2013.

2.10 Governing Bodies and Management

2.10.1 Foundation Board

The Foundation Board is FORS' ultimate governing body. It is chaired by a representative of the host university who acts as a President to the Foundation. The Deed of Foundation conveys to the Foundation Board the highest authority and the widest powers; the Deed can be downloaded from the FORS website. Currently, the Board consists of eight full members representing the key stakeholders (universities, the Federal Statistical Office, and the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences), as well as two observers from the most important funding bodies (the State Secretariat for Education and Research and the Swiss National Science Foundation). The list of the members of the Board as of December 31, 2012 is attached to this report (see Appendix).

In 2012 the Foundation Board met twice. One meeting was back to back to a joint meeting with the FORS Scientific Board.

During the first meeting on *March 16, 2012*, the Board audited the accounts and the Annual Report 2011. Apart from these recurring issues, the current state and next steps of the IT development project FORSbase were presented to the Board (see section 2.9). The Board noted that the project is in line with the milestones and the budget. It is planned to go online in spring 2013.

The second Foundation Board meeting of the year was held on *November 6, 2012*, during which the Board approved of the FORS budget for 2013. The Board was informed about the Scientific Board evaluation site visit in early November (see section 2.10.2). The main topic of this Foundation Board meeting, however, was the changes in the funding schemes of the SER and the SNSF, respectively. As a result of several meetings with these funders and the host university it was decided that for the period 2013-2016 the SER will fund service and administrative costs of the SNSF infrastructures projects (SHP, international surveys, Social Report, and LIS); the SNSF, in turn, will reduce their contributions to these projects by the same amounts. This agreement brings no new or additional funds to FORS but it adds transparency to the division of responsibilities between the funders. The discussion will have to be continued in view of the funding arrangements for 2017 and beyond.

Based on this agreement the SER decided on the FORS subsidy for 2013-2016 in December 2012. The subsidy amounts to 10m CHF for the four-year-period.

The *joint meeting* of the Boards, chaired by the FORS President, on March 16, 2012, was dedicated to two topics: the evaluation procedure set up by the Scientific Board (see section 2.10.2), and the midterm development perspectives of DARIS and

COMPASS, more specifically the integration of COMPASS into the DARIS unit and its partial reorientation (see sections 2.2 and 2.3).

There were two changes in the composition of the Board in the course of 2012: The new Dean of the Faculty for Social and Political Sciences of the host university, Prof. Fabien Ohl, took over this mandate from his predecessor, Prof. René Knusel. Due to her retirement from the university, Prof. Margrit Stamm left the Board; the Rector's conference of the Swiss Universities nominated Prof. Rainer Diaz-Bone from the University of Lucerne as her successor. Both nominations were unanimously approved by the Board.

The President thanked the departing members of the Board for their commitment and welcomed the new members at the November 6 meeting.

2.10.2 Scientific Board

Apart from the joint meeting with the Foundation Board (see section 2.10.1), the Scientific Board had a two-day meeting on *March 15 and 16, 2012*.

As usual, the Director presented the Annual Report for the preceding year. Several issues were raised by members of the Board, among others the balance between research and service activities of FORS staff, the concept of a FORS research strategy, national and international networking activities, and the interpretation of the quantitative performance indicators. In conclusion, the Scientific Board endorsed the Annual Report 2011.

Other topics discussed in the meeting included the collaboration between the SHP and the NCCR LIVES (see sections 2.1. and 3.2), the activity report of the University research unit MISC, and two new publication projects by FORS: an edited volume on Social Science Research Infrastructures titled „Understanding Research Infrastructures in the Social Sciences“ and the plan to edit a new online journal called „Survey Methods: Insights from the Field“ together with GESIS (see section 3.3).

An important part of the meeting was dedicated to a discussion on FORS methodological research, which was introduced by a presentation by FORS senior researcher Dr. Michèle Ernst Stähli. The debate focused mainly on programmatic questions on planning and implementing a research strategy at FORS.

Last but not least the Board decided on the modalities of the evaluation that was foreseen to be done in 2012. The Board nominated its chair, Prof. Kaase, and two other members, Prof. Armingeon and Prof. Atkinson, to form a group that would draft an evaluation report to be input for the Board meeting in 2013. The report was to be based on a site visit by the group at FORS in autumn 2012. This site visit took place on November 1 and 2.

Starting the meeting, the Board remembered the late Sir Roger Jowell, distinguished member of the Board since its beginning. Prof. Tom W. Smith (University of Chicago) accepted to succeed Sir Roger on the Board. Another new member to the Board nominated in 2012 is Prof. Laura Bernardi (University of Lausanne), who as a co-director of the NCCR LIVES will allow the Board to liaise directly with this important new centre on

life course research, which has several collaborative links to FORS (see section 3.1). The current list of members of the Scientific Board can be found in the Appendix to this report.

2.10.3 Management

The FORS Executive Board is chaired by the Director and comprises the heads of the units Surveys (Dr. Boris Wernli), Data and Research Information Services (Dr. Brian Kleiner), and Support (Ms. Corine Bolle). The Executive Board meets regularly. Decisions are minuted, and the minutes are sent to the Presidents of the Foundation and the Scientific Boards to keep them posted on current affairs.

To discuss general topics on the current state and perspectives of FORS, the Executive Board met for a two-day retreat in La-Tour-de-Peilz near Vevey on June 26-27. The main issues were as follows:

- The development of the cooperation with the host university and specifically with the Social Sciences faculty (see section 3.1). At the core of the discussion were possibilities of topical scientific collaborations, be it in specific teams or by jointly supervising doctoral dissertations.
- The midterm development perspectives of DARIS and COMPASS, more specifically the integration of COMPASS into the DARIS unit and its partial reorientation (see sections 2.2 and 2.3).
- The negotiations with the funders on possible improvements of the funding schemes and their budgetary implications (see section 2.10.1).

A major event was the move of the FORS offices into the new spacious building “Geopolis” on the university campus in October 2012. FORS shares the top floor of the building with the institutes for social sciences and for sports sciences; other institutes of the social and political sciences faculty are situated in the same building, as is the Dean’s office. Formal as well as spontaneous informal exchanges are facilitated considerably by the fact that all related colleagues are united in one place now. The university’s facility management did a great job mastering the complicated logistics of the move. FORS enjoys more room than before and is again able to host foreign scholars for shorter or longer stays, as used to be the case in the early days at the old location.

The collaboration with the University’s central services, especially human resources and IT, continued to run smoothly and facilitated FORS daily operations considerably.

There were 35 permanent staff employed at FORS by the end of 2012. Apart from one mathematician, two office clerks, and three IT specialists, all staff members have accomplished studies in different social science disciplines; 40% have doctoral/Ph.D. degrees (see table attached in the Appendix). Two doctoral dissertations and two masters theses were accomplished in 2012, and several others are under way. One

additional staff member worked within FORS but was employed by the Social and Political Sciences Faculty of the University of Lausanne; her task was to coordinate the preparation of the new inter-university master's programme on "Public Opinion and Survey Research" (see section 3.2).

As compared to 2011, there were no major changes in the number or the composition of staff in 2012. However, it is worth noting that FORS has a majority of female staff – a remarkable contrast to its early days in 2008 when two-thirds of staff were men. Women are present in the scientific, the IT, and the administrative staff, on all hierarchical levels, and they hold different degrees of formation. One researcher left FORS to become a scientific collaborator at the statistical service of the education department of the Canton of Berne.

Staff members originate from eight different nationalities and are native speakers of nine languages plus several Swiss-German dialects. A multinational and multilingual working environment is an essential part of the stimulating intellectual atmosphere FORS aspires to offer to its collaborators. Consequently, FORS communicates internally and externally in three languages: English, French, and German. All scientific collaborators are expected to understand these languages and to be able to communicate actively in at least two of them.

To foster scholarly exchange between FORS researchers and to profit from their diverse scientific and cultural backgrounds, the series of monthly lunch seminars for presentation and discussion of current research projects continued in 2012. The seminar was well attended, mostly by collaborators of FORS, but also by interested researchers of university institutes. The seminars were organised by FORS senior researcher Dr. Carmen Borrat-Besson (see Appendix for the complete list of seminars held in 2012).

A half-day staff excursion, followed by a dinner, took place on September 7. A Christmas party was held on December 20.

2.11 Communication

In 2012 communication activities for FORS were continued and enhanced. The newsletter was published again twice, in May and December. For each edition, close to 4'000 researchers and several hundred institutions received information about quantitative and also qualitative data developments in Switzerland. The newsletter was dedicated in May to the Swiss electoral study Selects (see section 2.1.3), and in December to the Social Report, which is published every four years and for the fourth time in October 2012 (see section 2.6). There were two media conferences, and various groups within FORS produced new flyers, or updated leaflets destined to the scientific community as well as to survey respondents and households. For the second time, an electronic season's greetings card was crafted, and widely distributed.

Oral presentations continued also in 2012 with the aim of providing information about FORS data sets, and sharing knowledge and know how on survey research and methods. FORS staff members are more and more contacted for presentations on specific

issues, sometimes at the suggestion of the local contact points. And the staff is by now very much used to integrating some introductory information in their talks about the aims of the institution. Thus, FORS services are communicated on various occasions and in different contexts – methods courses, summer schools, conferences, etc. – and to national as well as international audiences.

The FORS Working Paper Series publishes papers related to survey research, from both methodological and substantive viewpoints. The FORS Working Paper Series accepts manuscripts for consideration from scholars within and from outside of FORS. This series is intended to provide an early and relatively quick means of publication prior to further development of the work. In 2012, the FORS Working Paper Series received several submissions. Three of these submissions were reviewed, revised and published. In total thirteen papers have been published in the FORS Working Paper Series so far.

The news bulletin “Inside FORS”, which was set up to improve the internal flow of information, was continued. The bulletin informs staff regularly with news concerning all fields of activity of FORS. It is distributed electronically to all collaborators, the Chair and members of the Foundation Board, and the Chair of the Scientific Board. It is much appreciated by the staff, as it contains detailed information about the activities and projects of different groups, and useful links.

3 Scientific Collaborations

3.1 Host University

The collaboration with the host university is based on a scientific and an administrative contractual agreement, both signed for four years, tacitly prolonged for another four year period. From the administrative side several central services are involved, mainly the Human Resources and IT departments as well as the facility management.

Additionally an agreement with the neighbouring faculty for social and political sciences has been concluded, which covers scientific, institutional, organisational, and financial topics. This agreement defines an explicit framework for the collaboration with important units like “Life Course and Inequalities” (LINES) or the Institute for Social Sciences as well as with the NCCR LIVES, which is hosted by this faculty. Among others, it states that there will be regular biannual meetings of the Dean and the FORS director and that several collaborators of the faculty, including two professors and four senior assistants, will devote a share of their working time to scientific collaboration with FORS researchers.

Collaborative scientific projects between FORS and faculty members have been continued in 2012 (see section 2.4).

An important continuing collaboration is the Methods and Research Meetings, a joint seminar series of FORS and LINES, organized by Oliver Lipps (FORS), Caroline Vandenplas (FORS/LINES), André Berchtold (ISS), Jacques-Antoine Gauthier (LINES), and Eva Green (LINES). The meetings constitute a monthly platform where members of these and other units of the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences as well as guest speakers present their research. The talks cover substantive research raising interesting methodological questions (quantitative or qualitative), research focusing on methodological issues, or discussions on new methodological approaches. The meetings provide a possibility to discuss methodological problems related to one’s own research. The events are open to all interested in research methods (sociology, psychology, economics, political science, etc.). See the Appendix for a list of themes and presenters in 2012.

The invitational programme sponsored by the University of Lausanne continued to fund one postdoctoral fellow, who has been involved in joint research activities with FORS and LINES. Additionally a number of colleagues from Europe and overseas visited FORS for scholarly exchanges, among them Mick Couper (University of Michigan) and Arofan Gregory (Metadata Technology Inc.),

3.2 National Partners

3.2.1 Master of Arts in Public Opinion and Survey Methodology

FORS continued to facilitate and monitor the establishment of a new interuniversity MA in public opinion and survey research. This programme presents a milestone in methodological training since as yet no similar course of study existed in Switzerland. The

new joint degree will be hosted by the universities of Lausanne, Lucerne, and Neuchâtel and will provide students with an interdisciplinary curriculum that aims at developing a thorough methodological, analytical, and theoretical understanding of survey research and opinion formation.

In 2012 important steps towards the formal institutionalization of the MA programme were made successfully: The contract between the participating universities was signed and the study regulation adopted by the three faculties concerned. FORS is formally a partner with the direction of the programme, which is chaired by FORS senior researcher Prof. Georg Lutz. Prof. Lutz has been one of the driving forces behind this endeavour, which he initiated three years ago.

FORS as well as the Swiss Federal Statistical Office and the vsms-asms (Verband Schweizer Markt- und Sozialforschung/Association suisse de recherches de marché et sociales, representing the privately run survey agencies) will contribute to the development of the programme and provide internships for future students. It is foreseen to start courses in autumn 2013.

3.2.2 Contact Points

The network of contact points that includes nearly thirty representatives of institutes, faculties, universities, and universities of applied sciences from various social science disciplines (see complete list of contact points in the Appendix) was only slightly changed in 2012. Notably, Dr. Luc Gauthier from the University of Geneva was replaced by a colleague of his institute, Ivan De Carlo.

The most important function of the contact points remains to provide information about modifications that researchers or students would like to introduce to FORS services, and to provide information to students and researchers about FORS datasets. FORS therefore informs the contact points on a regular basis by e-mail on new data releases, conferences, and other relevant events.

To learn more about the needs of the community, FORS started to conduct in-depth interviews with the contact points (see section 2.3). These exchanges revealed that our know-how on methodological aspects of survey data is needed and appreciated. This can also be seen if we look at the increasing number of requests for advice on methodological issues addressed to staff members by e-mail or telephone (see chapter 4, indicator 3.1). The exchanges also revealed that there are several suggestions for improvements of FORS' visibility and services that we will study and try to implement. The interviews that allowed collecting these valuable ideas will be continued in 2013, with the contact points and other representatives of the community.

3.3 International Commitments

In 2012, FORS continued its involvement in the development of European research infrastructures:

- FORS is actively involved in the development of the three ESFRI Roadmap social science initiatives (CESSDA, ESS, SHARE) to acquire the legal status of European Research Infrastructure Consortia ERIC. The very first infrastructure having been awarded this status was SHARE in 2011, and ESS and CESSDA are expected to follow suit in 2013.
- Data without Boundaries (DwB) is a 4-year European FP7 project with 27 consortium partners that aims to facilitate research access to official statistical data. In 2012, FORS participated in various aspects of the project, including parts on researcher accreditation, documenting official micro-data according to international standards, and building an institutional map of National Statistical Institutes (NSIs) and similar organisations.
- SERSCIDA is another FP7 project, the purpose of which is to lay the groundwork for establishing social science data archives in the western Balkan countries of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, and Croatia. FORS was involved in various initial phases of the project in 2012, including mapping the landscape of infrastructures, research, and funding institutions by way of different data collections, as well as in the analysis and reporting of the data and results.

International scholarly collaboration was also promoted by attendance of FORS researchers at a number of conferences (see the complete list in the respective section in the publications list in the Appendix), or hosting international conferences and workshops at FORS (see the complete list in chapter 4, indicator 6.2).

FORS director Prof. Peter Farago served as a member to the Scientific Board at the ESS conference in Cyprus in November (see section 2.1.2.1).

FORS senior staff members Dr. Brian Kleiner, Dr. Isabelle Renschler, and Dr. Boris Wernli, together with Profs. Dominique Joye and Peter Farago, edited a volume on “Understanding Research Infrastructures in the Social Sciences”, to be published in early 2013. The volume includes contributions by 17 international scholars as well as theoretical considerations and an outlook on future challenges by the editors. It originated from an international symposium on the topic organized by FORS in 2011.

Finally, FORS participated in two COST Actions in 2012:

- The Cost Action “The True European Voter” continued to work on the ex-post integration of data from National election studies across Europe. A first trial data set composed of the Swiss election studies from 1971 to 2011 was established in 2012. A meeting of the management committee in Vilnius in October 2012 discussed remaining issues on data harmonization as well as common publication activities in the framework of this cost action. The common data file should be available by the end of 2013.
- FORS is a member of the COST Action “WEBDATANET – web-based data collection: methodological challenges, solutions, and implementations”. WEBDATANET promotes web-based data usage by supplying web-based teaching and discussion

platforms, disseminating findings, and organizing conferences, working groups, and research exchanges. It contributes to the theoretical foundation of web-based data collection, stimulates its integration into the entire research process, and enhances its credibility in the name of public interest. FORS senior researcher Dr. Michèle Ernst Stähli is representing FORS in the Management Committee of the Action. In 2012 there were two plenary meetings held. FORS and NSD (Norway) formed a task force on “Web surveys and mixed modes in representative samples”.

4 Performance Indicators

The FORS internal performance monitoring system is based on a conceptual framework that links overall FORS **objectives** to key **activities**, and then to specific **indicators**. It can be used to assess progress toward institutional objectives over time. The two primary objectives are directly related to the FORS mandate:

- **Objective 1:** Support, enhance, and contribute to social science research in Switzerland
- **Objective 2:** Strengthen the social sciences in Switzerland by creating linkages and facilitating synergies between researchers and institutions within the country and internationally

The activities within the monitoring system represent the full range of FORS projects and services. The first five correspond to objective 1, while the sixth corresponds to the second objective. Indicators were selected based on their capacity to measure the extent to which FORS is carrying out its activities toward achieving its objectives over time. The summary table below shows all activities and indicators.

Activity and Indicator Summary Table

N°	Indicator
	Activity 1: Produce and make available data
1.1	Number of datasets produced by FORS surveys that are distributed to researchers
1.2	Number of publications using datasets produced by FORS surveys
1.3	Number of teachers using FORS data for teaching purposes
	Activity 2: Prepare, document, and provide data
2.1	Number of datasets distributed to or downloaded by researchers (<i>Daris</i>)
2.2	Number of new research project descriptions in the research inventory (<i>Daris</i>)
2.3	Number of visits to Daris and Compass webpages
	Activity 3: Advise researchers
3.1	Number of cases of help and advice provided to users or to others requesting information or expertise
	Activity 4: Acquire and conduct funded research projects
4.1	Total funding for third-party financed projects in progress

	Activity 5: Contribute actively to substantive and methodological scientific debate
5.1	Number of publications by FORS staff
5.2	Number of presentations by FORS staff
	Activity 6: Establish collaborative links and stimulate scientific exchange
6.1	Number of collaborative research projects and scientific activities with outside organisations and individuals
6.2	Workshops, seminars, and conferences organised and conducted by FORS
6.3	Number of hours devoted to teaching by FORS staff
6.4	Number of Lugano summer school course enrollments
6.5	Number of copies of the Social Report sold or distributed

Objective 1: Support, enhance, and contribute to social science research in Switzerland

Activity 1: Produce and make available data that can advance and deepen understanding of Swiss society

Indicators:

1.1 Number of datasets produced by FORS surveys that are distributed to researchers

This indicator assesses the extent to which the data from studies conducted by FORS are being used by researchers for secondary analysis.

A total of 1'140 FORS produced-datasets were distributed by FORS to researchers in Switzerland in 2012. The figure for SELECTS increased significantly in 2012 after the last wave was made available to researchers in April. The figures for the ESS and MOSAiCH-ISSP show fluctuations that we might expect across years, given that data are published at different intervals and that the number of NESSTAR downloads of these data varies widely depending on how they are used for teaching purposes in courses.

As for the Swiss Household Panel, due to the accelerated release of the SHP data in 2010, wave 11 was already accessible in November 2010. Therefore, two waves were accessible within one year, which gives the impression that the researchers were more active in 2010 than in 2011 (see table). We see an increase again for 2012 for the same reason – wave 12 became available during this year. However, the downloads per wave are perfectly comparable, but with an increase in 2012: up until now (30.01.2013) wave 12 has been downloaded 300 times, whereas wave 11 was downloaded 235 times, and wave 10 was downloaded 260 times.

Study Datasets	2012	2011	2010
MOSAiCH-ISSP	396	295	119
Swiss Household Panel (SHP)	307	243	348
Swiss Electoral Studies (SELECTS)	374	177	174
European Social Survey (ESS)	63	63	306
Total	1'140	778	947

In addition to the distribution by FORS, the Swiss parts of the ESS and ISSP data can also be downloaded from the international websites of these projects. The data for the European Values Study (EVS) and the Survey of Health, Aging, and Retirement in Europe (SHARE), both conducted by FORS, are only available in this way.

As information provided by the institutions responsible for these studies did not allow us to get a consistent picture of the use of Swiss data in the context of these studies, *international distribution is not included in the indicator*. It is however important to keep in mind that the indicator underestimates the use of international survey data for this reason.

1.2 Number of publications using datasets produced by FORS surveys

The impact of data from studies conducted by FORS on the scientific process is measured here by the number of publications making use of them. To qualify for this indicator, a publication using international survey data needed to include Switzerland in its analysis.

We were able to identify **167** publications in 2012 that made use of data from studies conducted by FORS, including the ESS, MOSAiCH/ISSP, SHP, SELECTS, SHARE, and EVS. Over half (54%) of these were articles in peer-reviewed journals, while 26 percent were working papers. The remainder were books (5%), book chapters (7%), or conference papers (7%). While most of the publications were substantive, 11 percent of all publications concentrated on methodological issues. There were very similar numbers of publications in 2012 across the different surveys: ESS: 36; SHARE: 34; SHP: 31; SELECTS: 33; ISSP/MOSAiCH: 30. Three doctoral dissertations based on FORS data were published in 2012.

While the figure of 167 publications is far less than that of 2011 (271), we hesitate to draw any conclusions from this, primarily because we expect the number of publications based on specific surveys to fluctuate considerably from year to year, especially since data are only released at certain intervals (e.g., SELECTS data every four years). It should be noted that for any given year not all relevant publications can be identified.

1.3 Number of teachers using FORS data for teaching purposes

This indicator allows evaluation of the use of data from FORS surveys for education in the social sciences. It is limited to university instruction in Switzerland.

During 2012, 27 teachers/professors used FORS data for teaching purposes in seminars and courses. Twenty-two teachers/professors used Nesstar datasets (directly downloadable), and six teachers/professors signed an agreement in order to distribute Swiss Household Panel data to registered students. These results are a slight increase compared to those from 2011, where 22 teachers/professors used FORS data for teaching.

The classes/seminars took place at the universities of Berne, Geneva, Lausanne, Lucerne, Neuchâtel, and Zurich, as well as the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland FHNW and the Zurich University of Applied Sciences. Outside of Switzerland, FORS Nesstar data were used for teaching purposes at the University of Salzburg (Austria) and Sciences Po Bordeaux (France).

Activity 2: Prepare, document, and provide data, such as are needed to conduct studies and secondary analysis in the social sciences

Indicators:

2.1 Number of datasets distributed to or downloaded by researchers (*Daris*)

This indicator assesses the intensity of use of secondary data acquired by way of the FORS data service. The measure is a composite of datasets distributed either by FTP, by the Nesstar server, or by way of dedicated webpages (e.g., for the studies PISA, SELECTS, and VoxIt).

In 2012, 2'196 datasets held within the FORS data service were either downloaded or distributed by FTP. This continues an upward trend that began in 2008 at the beginning of FORS. There was a steep increase in the downloading of SELECTS data, due to the publication in April of the 2011 SELECTS datasets on Nesstar. Also, once again the number of datasets ordered from our data service increased sharply, from 394 in 2011 to 531 in 2012.

The data users were almost exclusively researchers and students affiliated with a university or university of applied science, and the vast majority were from within Switzerland. At the international level, the datasets were acquired principally from Germany and the United States, but also from Austria, Brazil, Canada, Croatia, France, Israel, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, and UK.

Group	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Vox, Vox-it, Vox-cumulative	812	857	597	339	252
Eurobarometer/MOSAiCH/ESS	479	473	535	140	101
SELECTS	374	177	150	159	204
Other studies ordered from the data service	531	394	147	158	71
Total	2'196	1'901	1'429	796	628

2.2 Number of new research project descriptions in the research inventory (Daris)

This indicator assesses our success in tracking social science research projects in Switzerland and capturing their descriptions. This measure may fluctuate over time, due to occasional influxes of project descriptions from the databases of partner institutions with which FORS is developing new data exchange agreements.

During the annual survey 2011/2012, **433** new project descriptions were added to the research inventory, compared to 410 during 2010/11. Additionally, **163** project descriptions were updated in 2011/2012, compared to 213 in 2010/2011. Of the new projects, 88% were being carried out by research groups affiliated with universities and universities of applied science. Most of these research projects are situated in five core disciplines (sociology, education science, political science, economics, and psychology).

2.3 Number of visits to Daris and Compass webpages

This indicator is an indirect measure of researcher interest in and use of Daris and Compass services.

In 2012, there were 12'900 visits to the Daris and Compass websites, compared to 10'403 in 2011. As in 2011, just less than 80 percent of the visits were from within Switzerland (79%). As in previous years, much of the foreign web traffic was from the neighboring countries of Germany (769), France (499), Austria (91), and Italy (65), but many visits were also from the United States (198), and the United Kingdom (148).

As was the case in 2010 and 2011, the most visited pages for Daris in 2012 were the annual survey for the research inventory and the data access pages. Also, in 2012, there were many visits to the Daris qualitative data information and resources web page (over 1'500). For Compass the vast majority of visitors accessed the statistical services catalogue.

Activity 3: Advise researchers and other interested parties on the collection and use of data and other methodological issues

Indicator:

3.1 Number of cases of help and advice provided to users or to others requesting information or expertise

FORS regularly provides consultation, information, and advice in response to calls and contacts from researchers and other external parties seeking help or expertise. This indicator measures the overall level of this activity (which has been documented throughout the year using an online software), and provides details according to caller characteristics.

During 2012, FORS staff members documented 574 cases of providing help or advice to individuals contacting us from outside, compared to 348 in 2011. In 2012, there were 21 FORS collaborators who provided at least one case of help or advice (compared to 24 in 2011), with an average of 27 calls per person. It should be noted that while the calls were fairly evenly distributed, some staff had more than others. For example, one person documented almost 150 calls, and another had over 80.

Those contacting us fell into different categories, such as research faculty (17 percent), PhD student (10 percent), and student (14 percent). Most of the people contacting us for advice were from universities (58 percent), and most contacted us from within Switzerland (89 percent).

The time devoted by FORS staff varied, with most cases requiring less than a half hour (56 percent), although 26 percent of the cases took more than an hour to address. There were different purposes for the contacts, including interest in accessing data (26 percent), getting subject expertise (23 percent), conducting data analysis (15 percent), and getting advice on survey design and implementation (9 percent).

The following table shows all distributions for 2012 and 2011. Besides the overall increase in cases of help and advice in 2012, most of the percentages were roughly similar across years.

FORS consultations, by caller and call features				
	2012		2011	
	N	%	N	%
Total	574	100	348	100
Type of caller				
PhD student	58	10	61	18
Faculty (research)	97	17	60	17
Student	82	14	54	16
Faculty (teaching)	118	21	52	15
Other researcher	34	6	52	15
Other types (e.g., administrator, journalist, post doc)	185	32	69	19
Institutional type				
University	335	58	252	72
Public administration	49	9	24	7
Private	66	11	20	6
Haute école	35	6	20	6
Research institute	11	2	19	5
Other	78	14	13	4
Region				
French-speaking Switzerland	290	51	160	46
German-speaking Switzerland	208	36	114	33
Italian speaking Switzerland	9	2	7	2
Other Country	67	12	67	19

Time devoted				
<15 minutes	118	21	78	22
15-30 minutes	201	35	128	37
30 min - 1 hour	105	18	62	18
More than 1 hour	150	26	80	23
Purpose				
Data access	147	26	108	31
Data analysis	85	15	60	17
Survey design and implementation	54	9	43	12
Documentation	39	7	36	10
Subject expertise	134	23	28	8
Methodology	26	5	27	8
Other purposes	89	16	46	13

Note: percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Activity 4: Acquire and conduct funded research projects

Indicator:

4.1 Total funding for third-party financed projects in progress

All externally mandated and funded projects are counted in this indicator. However, FORS ongoing infrastructure projects are excluded (i.e., ESS, EVS MOSAiCH, SELECTS, SHARE, SHP, the Social Report, and LIS). The sums reported might fluctuate over time depending on duration and funding schemes of individual projects.

In 2012, there was a total of **382'324 CHF** in funding for third-party financed projects (compared with 270'572 CHF in 2011). This is well above the average 250'000 CHF per year predicted in the mid-term planning estimate. In addition to FORS participation in the European Commission FP7 projects Data without Boundaries and SERSCIDA (see section 3.3) there were several mandated projects and activities (see section 2.8).

Activity 5: Contribute actively to substantive and methodological scientific debate

Indicators:

5.1 Number of publications by FORS staff

Publications are a reflection of active and successful participation in international scientific debate.

In 2012, FORS staff members had a total of **40** publications, including 14 articles in peer-reviewed journals, such as Field Methods, Representation, and the European Sociological Review, among others.

Type of publication	2012	2011	2010
Peer-reviewed articles	14	14	22
Working papers	8	13	11
Book sections	12	10	5
Edited books	6	0	4
Total	40	37	42

Out of these publications, 7 treated methodological issues in survey research, with 2 of these in peer-reviewed journals. Taking the number of eligible scientific collaborators into account (30 with Masters degree or above), it appears that on the average three out of four scientific collaborators published a scholarly text this year, as was the case in 2011. However, there is still potential for an even better performance across collaborators, and FORS will continue to motivate all scientific collaborators to publish regularly in scholarly media. See Appendix for a complete list of publications by FORS staff.

5.2 Number of presentations by FORS staff

This serves as an indication of active commitments to diffuse findings and engage colleagues in scholarly discussion.

The results of research projects conducted at FORS were the subject of 41 presentations at national and international scientific conferences and workshops, such as the Workshop on Comparative Survey Design and Implementation (CSDI) in Washington, DC, and the Swiss Society of Gerontology Congress, in Fribourg. Nineteen (46%) of the presentations at scientific conferences and workshops were focused on methodological issues. See Appendix for a complete list of presentations by FORS staff.

Type	2012	2011	2010
Scientific Conferences	41	41	46
Other Presentations	27	17	13
Total	68	58	59

Objective 2: Strengthen the social sciences in Switzerland by creating linkages and facilitating synergies between researchers and institutions within the country and internationally

Activity 6: Establish collaborative links and stimulate debate and scientific exchange with and between researchers and institutions that pursue similar objectives, both within Switzerland and abroad.

Indicators:

6.1 Number of collaborative research projects and scientific activities with outside organisations and individuals

Developing and maintaining linkages and synergies between FORS staff and the outside research community is a key activity for FORS. This indicator addresses collaborative links with researchers in Switzerland and abroad.

In 2012, **22** FORS staff members were involved in **78** collaborative projects with outside organizations. Thus, around three quarters of eligible FORS staff were involved in collaborative projects with researchers from other institutions.

The following table shows the number of collaborations with researchers in the French- and German-speaking regions of Switzerland and in different countries. Note that a given project might have partners in different countries, and so these would be counted more than once. About three quarters of the research collaborations were with individuals from the French-speaking part of Switzerland. This is due in particular to the close ties of some collaborators with other institutions in Lausanne and Geneva (in particular LINES/LIVES and MISC). Many of the collaborations with foreign institutions involved Germany. In the future, such collaborations should be regionally more diversified, in Switzerland as well as abroad.

Region / Country	Collaborations
French-speaking part of Switzerland	58
German-speaking part of Switzerland	10
Germany	9
The Netherlands	2
Australia	2
New Zealand	2
Belgium	1
North America	1
Total	85

Note: Projects with multiple collaborations are counted several times, so the number of collaborations is higher than the number of projects.

6.2 Workshops, seminars, and conferences organised and conducted by FORS

The indicator gives a sense of FORS efforts in establishing, maintaining, and developing scientific networks nationally and internationally.

FORS organised and conducted 5 different workshops and seminars in 2012. Two of these were international in character with regard to the speakers and/or the participants. This figure is less than for 2011 and 2010 (13 and 7, respectively). In addition, the FORS/LINES research and methods series and the FORS lunch seminars hosted a wide range of speakers, both domestic and international.

Events 2011	Month
Workshop with Mick Couper, University of Michigan, on web surveys	January
Workshop with SFSO: experience with the new sampling frame	June
1-day workshop "Linear models for clustered (multilevel models) and panel (fixed effects) data with an OLS recap" at the Obsan (Swiss Health Observatory, Switzerland, Neuchâtel)	June
Workshop: Structural equation modeling with Panel data	June
European Values Study workshop	November
FORS/LINES research and methods seminar series	Continuous
FORS lunch seminars	Continuous

6.3 Number of hours devoted to teaching by FORS staff

Sharing knowledge and shaping future researchers through teaching is an important task of FORS.

In total, 8 FORS staff members taught in 2012. They gave 198 teaching hours in 14 different courses at all academic levels (bachelor, master, and PhD), as well as in the context of continuing education (see list in Appendix). The topics covered concerned predominantly data analysis and data management, but also survey methodology. Around two thirds (68%) of the teaching hours were provided in the French-speaking part of Switzerland, one seventh (14%) in the German-speaking part, and 18% at the Lugano summer school. Around one quarter of eligible FORS staff were involved in teaching activities. FORS will continue to make a contribution to the training of young scientists according to its possibilities and resources.

6.4 Number of Lugano summer school course enrollments

The Swiss Summer School on Methods in the Social Sciences held in Lugano every year brings together young researchers to focus on current issues in empirical research methodology. This indicator measures the level of participation in this event.

The 2012 FORS summer school in Lugano had 138 course enrollments, compared to 145 in 2011. Among the 106 participants, 84% came from Switzerland and the remaining 16% were from Austria, Belgium, Germany, Israel, Italy, Korea, Liechtenstein, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Poland, and Russia. Of the participants from Switzerland, 58% were from the German-speaking region, 28% from the French-speaking region, and 14% from the Italian-speaking region. All courses, except one, were fully booked. 87% of the participants were PhD students from universities or universities of applied science. The largest shares in terms of scientific discipline: Business Studies (21%), Education (19%), Sociology (13%), and Psychology (11%).

6.5 Number of copies of the Social Report sold or distributed

This indicator reports the number of copies of the Social Report sold or distributed as a measure of our effectiveness in disseminating important results on Swiss society. The number is separated into copies sold and distributed, and by language.

As the Social Report appears every four years only, and since most of the copies are sold shortly after publication, the total number of copies sold and distributed since the publication of the Social Report 2008 is provided in the table below. Of the **722** copies that were distributed, 509 (70%) were sold. Two hundred copies of the English version were distributed by the publisher in return for the FORS contribution to printing costs; 16 copies of the English version of the Social Report 2008 were sold.

The Social Report 2012 was released in late 2012, and 114 copies have so far been distributed. So soon after publication, the sales figures are not yet available from the publisher. We anticipate that many more copies of the Social Report 2012 will be sold and distributed in 2013, and we will report the results in the next FORS annual report.

Language	Sold	Distributed	Total delivered
German	332	107	439
French	177	106	283
Total	509	213	722

Appendix: Facts and Figures

Publications

Peer Reviewed Articles

- Giger, Nathalie, Jan **Rosset**, and Julian Bernauer. 2012. "The Poor Political Representation of the Poor in a Comparative Perspective." *Representation* 48, no. 1: 47–61.
- Henchoz, Caroline, and Boris **Wernli**. 2012. "Ist die Jugendverschuldung in der Schweiz höher als jene der Erwachsenen?" *Die Volkswirtschaft* no. 1: 53–56.
- Henchoz, Caroline, and Boris **Wernli**. 2012. "L'endettement des jeunes est-il supérieur à celui des adultes en Suisse?" *La Vie Economique* no. 1: 53–56.
- Kissau**, Kathrin, Georg **Lutz**, and Jan **Rosset**. 2012. "Unequal Representation of Age Groups in Switzerland." *Representation* 48, no. 1: 63–81.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2012. "A Note on Improving Contact Times in Panel Surveys." *Field Methods* 24, no. 1: 95–111.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2012. "Book Review to Sigrid Haunberger (2011): Teilnahmeverweigerung in Panelstudien." *Methoden – Daten – Analysen* 6, no. 1: 49–53.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2012. "Using Information from Telephone Panel Surveys to Predict Reasons for Refusal." *Methoden – Daten – Analysen* 6, no. 1: 3–20.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2012. "The 2011 Swiss Federal Elections: Right-wing Defeat and Increased Fractionalisation." *West European Politics* 35, no. 3: 682–693.
- Müller, Nicolas S., Marlène **Sapin**, Jacques-Antoine Gauthier, Alina Orita, and Eric D. Widmer. 2012. "Pluralized Life Courses? An Exploration of the Life Trajectories of Individuals with Psychiatric Disorders." *International Journal of Social Psychiatry* 58, no. 3: 266–277.
- Oesch, Daniel, and Oliver **Lipps**. 2012. "Does Unemployment Hurt Less If There Is More of It Around? A Panel Analysis of Life Satisfaction in Germany and Switzerland." *European Sociological Review*. doi:10.1093/esr/jcs071.
- Tillmann**, Robin, and Marieke **Voorpostel**. 2012. "Persistent social inequalities: Introduction to the special issue." *Swiss Journal of Sociology* 38, no. 2: 145–151.
- Voorpostel**, Marieke and Hilde Coffé. 2012. "Transitions in partnership and parental status, gender, and political and civic participation." *European Sociological Review* 28(1): 28–42.
- Voorpostel**, Marieke, Tanja Van der Lippe, and Henk Flap. 2012. "For better or worse: Negative life events and sibling relationships." *International Sociology* 27(3): 329–346.

Edited Books

- Bühlmann**, Felix, Céline **Schmid Botkine**, Peter **Farago**, François Höpflinger, Dominique **Joye**, René Levy, Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello, and Christian Suter (éd.). 2012. *Rapport social 2012: Générations en jeu*. Zürich: Seismo.
- Bühlmann**, Felix, Céline **Schmid Botkine**, Peter **Farago**, François Höpflinger, Dominique **Joye**, René Levy, Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello, and Christian Suter (Hrsg.). 2012. *Sozialbericht 2012: Fokus Generationen*. Zürich: Seismo.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2012. *Eidgenössische Wahlen 2011. Wahlteilnahme Und Wahlentscheid*. Lausanne: FORS.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2012. *Élections Fédérales 2011 Participation Et Choix Électoral*. Lausanne: FORS.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2012. *Elezioni Federali 2011. Partecipazione e Decisione Di Voto*. Losanna: FORS.
- Tillmann**, Robin, and Marieke **Voorpostel**. 2012. *Persistent Social Inequalities*. Swiss Journal of Sociology 38, no. 2.

Book Sections

- Borrat-Besson**, Carmen, Michèle **Ernst Stähli**, Georg **Lutz**, and Boris **Wernli**. 2012. Wer ist denn noch am Festnetzanschluss erreichbar? In *vsms Verband Schweizer Markt- und Sozialforschung Jahrbuch 2012*: 24–26.
- Ernst Stähli**, Michèle. 2012. Spotlight Switzerland. In *Telephone Surveys in Europe: Research and Practice*, ed. Michael Häder, Sabine Häder, Mike Kühne, 25–36. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer.
- Gauthier, Jacques-Antoine, Nguyen Vi Cao, Marlène **Sapin**, Emmanuel Fragniere, and Eric D. Widmer. 2012. Is There a Magic Formula? Mate Selection and the Optimization of the Marriage Market.” In *Marriage: Psychological Implications, Social Expectations, and Role of Sexuality*, ed. P. R. Esposito and C. I. Lombardi, 147–174. Series on Social Issues, Justice and Status: Family Issues in the 21st Century. Hauppauge, New York: Nova Science Publishers, Inc.
- Joye**, Dominique, Alexandre **Pollien**, Marlène **Sapin**, and Michèle **Ernst Stähli**. 2012. Who can be contacted by phone? Lessons from Switzerland. In *Telephone Surveys in Europe: Research and Practice*, ed. Michael Häder, Sabine Häder, Mike Kühne, 85–102. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer.
- Joye**, Dominique, and Robin **Tillmann**. 2012. La Pauvreté en Suisse entre 1999 et 2009: quelle évolution? In *Regards croisés sur la pauvreté*, 45–60. Lausanne: Editions EESP.
- Levy, René, Valérie-Anne **Ryser**, and Jean-Marie Le Goff. 2012. Vater werden: Ein zentraler Statusübergang im systematischen Vergleich von Lebensläufen. In *Das Väter-Handbuch: Theorie, Forschung, Praxis*, ed. Heinz Walter und Andreas Eickhorst, 491– 510. Giessen: Psychosozial-Verlag.

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- Lutz**, Georg. 2012. Switzerland: Citizens' Initiatives as a Measure to Control the Political Agenda. In *Citizens' Initiatives in Europe. Procedures and Consequences of Agenda-Setting by Citizens*, ed. Maija Setälä and Theo Schiller, 17–35. Houndsmills: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Lutz**, Georg, and Simon Geissbühler. 2012. Inicjatywa Obwatelska Jako Meoda Control Politycznej w Szwajcarii." In *Demokracja Bezpośrednia*. Wydawnictwo: Semp-er, 2012.
- Rothenbühler**, Martina, and Kathrin **Kissau**. 2012. Junge Erwachsene in der Schweiz - engagiert oder apolitisch? In *Sozialbericht 2012*, ed. Felix Bühlmann and Céline Schmid Botkine. Zurich: Seismo.
- Voorpostel**, Marieke. 2012. The importance of discretionary and fictive kin relationships for older adults. In *Handbook of Families and Aging*, ed. R. Blieszner and V. H. Bedford. Santa Barbara: Praeger.
- Voorpostel**, Marieke and Tanja Van der Lippe. 2012. Sociaal kapitaal in partner relaties: Sociale en politieke participatie [Social capital in partner relationships: Social and political participation]. In *Over gaten, bruggen en witte paters - sociaal kapitaal in sociologisch onderzoek*, ed. B. Volker, 295-307. Utrecht: Universiteit Utrecht.

Working Papers / Reports

- Hanappi, Doris, Valérie-Anne **Ryser**, Laura Bernardi, and Jean-Marie Le Goff. 2012. Precarious Work and Fertility Intentions: An Analysis Based on the Swiss Household Panel Data Article scientifique. Lives Working Paper. Lausanne: LIVES.
- Kleiner**, Brian, and Andreas **Perret**. 2012. Proposal for a Reorganization of the DARIS Unit (COMPASS Take-over). Lausanne: FORS, September 29.
- Perret**, Andreas. 2012. Institutional Map, Updates 2-7. Lausanne, Data without Boundaries, December.
- Rothenbühler**, Martina, Franziska Ehrler, and Kathrin **Kissau**. 2012. CH@YOUPART. Politische Partizipation junger Erwachsener in der Schweiz. Berne: State Secretariat for Education and Research SER.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne. 2012. Synthèse des outils psychologiques disponibles dans le PSM de 1999 à 2011. Swiss Household Panel Working Paper 2_12. Lausanne: FORS, August.
- Voorpostel**, Marieke, Robin **Tillmann**, et al. 2012. Swiss Household Panel User Guide (1999-2011), Wave 13, October 2012. Lausanne, FORS.

Widmer, Eric D., Manuela Schicka, Michèle **Ernst Stähli**, Jean-Marie Le Goff, and René Levy. 2012. I wouldn't have stopped working if I had known our couple turned that way. A Biographical Account of Labour Force Participation and Conjugal Love. Research Paper. LIVES Working Paper. Lausanne: LIVES.

Doctoral and Masters Theses

Duemmler, Kerstin. 2012. "Ja die müssen sich halt integrieren": Grenzziehungen um Ethnizität und Religion unter jungen Erwachsenen. Doctoral Thesis. University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

Rothenhühler, Martina. 2012. Cross-sectional weighting systems of the children in the Swiss Household Panel. Masters thesis. University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

Schmid, Flurina. 2012. The Evolution of the Gender Wage Gap. Masters thesis. University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland.

Tillmann, Robin. 2012. Vers une société sans classes? Une évaluation des thèses du déclin des classes sociales: Le cas de la société suisse contemporaine (1970-2008). Doctoral thesis. University of Fribourg, Switzerland.

Presentations

Scientific conferences

Borrat-Besson, Carmen. 2012. SHARE - A Multidisciplinary Survey on Actual Life Conditions and Life Histories of the 50+ in Europe. Poster presented at the Swiss Society of Gerontology Congress, Fribourg, Switzerland, February 2.

Borrat-Besson, Carmen, Michèle **Ernst Stähli**, and Boris **Wernli**. 2012. Biais de contactabilité selon le mode et la procédure de contact - Une analyse avec le cadre d'échantillonnage SRPH dans les enquêtes ESS, MOSAiCH, Selects et SHARE. Paper presented at the Workshop FORS-OFS, Neuchâtel, Switzerland, June 21.

Duemmler, Kerstin. 2012. The Link Between Symbolic and Social Boundaries Against Immigrants and Their Discrimination: Evidences from 17 European Countries. Paper presented at the European Social Survey Congress, European University Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus, November 23.

Ernst Stähli, Michèle. 2012. Amour et travail: l'effet des interruptions de l'activité professionnelle sur les couples. Paper presented at the Atelier LIVES IP-6, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland, December 3.

- Ernst Stähli**, Michèle. 2012. L'événement dans les enquêtes quantitatives: analyses et perspectives ouvertes par les microdonnées. Paper presented at the Colloque international du DIHSR: L'événement en religion, Université de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland, October 18.
- Ernst Stähli**, Michèle. 2012. Towards an integrated survey management tool. Paper presented at the 1st DASISH Quantitative Workshop: Digital resources in international survey research, Mannheim, Germany, December 12.
- Hewitt, Belinda, and Marieke **Voorpostel**, et al. 2012. Relationship dissolution and self-rated health: A longitudinal analysis of transitions from cohabitation and marriage in Australia and Switzerland. Paper presented at the Work and Family Research Network Conference in New York, USA, June 14-16.
- Joye**, Dominique, **Ernst Stähli**, Michèle, Alexandre **Pollien**, and Marlène **Sapin**. Test, Retest and Translation. Paper presented at the CSDI Workshop 2012 (International Workshop on Comparative Survey Design and Implementation), Washington, D.C., USA, March 22.
- Joye**, Dominique. 2012. What about incentives? A Swiss perspective. Paper presented at the 23rd International Workshop on Household Survey Nonresponse, Ontario, Canada, September 6.
- Kleiner**, Brian, and Sybil **Kruegel**. 2012. Making Infrastructure Work: Qualitative Data Archiving and the Case of Switzerland. Paper presented at the German Data Forum (RatSWD) Workshop "Forschungsinfrastrukturen für die qualitative Sozialforschung", Berlin, Germany, October 11-12.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2012. Linguistic Minorities and Data Quality in Survey Responding. Paper presented at the 10th international Workshop on Comparative Survey Design and Implementation (CSDI), Washington, March 22, 2012.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2012. Repräsentativität und Aufwand bei Selects 2011. Paper presented at the Workshop FORS-OFS, Neuchâtel, Switzerland, June 21.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2012. The Swiss Household Panel - Design, Methods, Potential. Paper presented at the National Educational Panel Study meeting, University of Bamberg, Bamberg, Germany, February 16.
- Perret**, Andreas. 2012. Making the best of existing tools for enhancing documentation. Paper presented at the IASSIST 2012 Meeting, Washington, D.C., USA, June 6.
- Perret**, Andreas. 2012. Pretty, Pretty Understandable? Paper presented at the European Association for the Study of Science and Technology Conference, Copenhagen, Denmark, December 8.
- Pollien**, Alexandre, Dominique **Joye**, Michèle **Ernst Stähli**, and Marlène **Sapin**. 2012. Répondants et non-répondants dans les enquêtes. Paper presented at the 7ème colloque francophone sur les sondages, Rennes, France, November 6.
- Roberts**, Caroline. 2012. Evaluating the Extent of Non-Response and Non-Coverage Bias in the Swiss European Social Survey. Paper presented at the International Total Survey Error Workshop, Sanpoort, Netherlands, September 2.

- Roberts**, Caroline. 2012. What Is the Impact of Mode Effect on Non-response Survey Usability? Paper presented at the International Total Survey Error Workshop, Sanpoort, Netherlands, September 2.
- Rosset**, Jan. 2012. Do Parties Represent the Preferences of Their Richer Voters Better? Evidence from Swiss Cantons. Presentation at the conference "Voters, Parties and Public Policies in European Multi-level Systems", MZES, Mannheim, Germany, March 23.
- Rothenhühler**, Martina, and Marieke **Voorpostel**. 2012. Attrition Patterns Among Young Adults and Vulnerable Groups in the Swiss Household Panel. Paper presented at the LIVES International Workshop on Methodological and Substantive Challenges in Measuring Vulnerability across the Life Course, Lausanne, June 18.
- Rothenhühler**, Martina. 2012. Crossing the Age Borders in the Swiss Household Panel. Paper presented at the Swiss Days of Official Statistics, Vaduz, Liechtenstein, September 21.
- Rothenhühler**, Martina, and Franziska Ehrler. 2012. Politische Partizipation von Jugendlichen in der Schweiz. Engagement zwischen Moderne und Tradition. Paper presented at the 20. Jugendparlamentskonferenz, Solothurn, Switzerland, October 26-28.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne, Carmen **Borrat-Besson**, and Boris **Wernli**. 2012. Transitions Between Frailty States, Subjective Well-being and Psychological Regulation Processes. Paper presented at the Gerontological Society of America 65th Annual Scientific Meeting, San Diego, USA, November 17.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne. 2012. Dynamic of Marital Status Changes: How the Entry into Marriage Shapes Family Organization. Paper presented at the European Society on Family Relations 6th Congress, Lillehammer, Norway, October 27.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne. 2012. Effects of Laws on the Decision to Get Married or Not in Switzerland: Preliminary Results of a Qualitative Approach. Paper presented at the RCN Workshop, UCLA Los Angeles, USA, August 27.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne. 2012. Impact of Age and Retirement Proximity on the Relationship Between Subjective Well-being (SWB) and Self-efficacy. Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America 65th Annual Scientific Meeting, San Diego, USA, November 14.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne. 2012. Organisation and moderation of the symposium: Cohabitation Patterns in Europeans Countries: A Dynamic Between Family Policies and Family Practices. European Society on Family Relations 6th Congress, Lillehammer, Norway, October 26.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne. 2012. Organisation and moderation of the symposium: The Multidimensional Nature of the Trajectories of Subjective Well-Being (SWB) in Later Life. Gerontological Society of America 65th Annual Scientific Meeting, San Diego, USA, November 17.

- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne. 2012. Transition Between Frailty States, Subjective Well-Being and Psychological Regulation Processes. Paper presented at the Gerontological Society of America 65th Annual Scientific Meeting, San Diego, USA, November 17.
- Van der Lippe, Tanja, and Marieke **Voorpostel**, et al. 2012. Disagreements among cohabiting and married couples in 23 European countries. Paper presented at the Work and Family Research Network Conference in New York, USA, June 14-16.
- Vandenplas**, Caroline. 2012. Evaluating the extent of non-response and non-coverage bias in the Swiss European Social Survey. Paper presented at the 6th International Total Survey Error Workshop, Duin en Kruidberg, Santpoort, The Netherlands, September 2.
- Vandenplas**, Caroline. 2012. What is the impact of mode effect on non-response survey usability? Paper presented at the 6th International Total Survey Error Workshop, Duin en Kruidberg, Santpoort, The Netherlands, September 2.
- Voorpostel**, Marieke, and Belinda Hewitt, et al. 2012. Relationship dissolution and self-rated health: A longitudinal analysis of transitions from cohabitation and marriage in Australia and Switzerland. Paper presented at the 4th RelationsCrossNations Network meeting in Los Angeles, USA, August 27-28.
- Wernli**, Boris. 2012. Fin de l'union conjugale, genre et tâches ménagères en Suisse: les effets du départ du conjoint et des enfants sur la distribution du travail ménager, auprès de 3 cohortes." Paper presented at the colloque IP6 - LIVES, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland, March 12.
- Wernli**, Boris. 2012. Qualité, cycles et événements de vie en Suisse. Paper presented at the XIXème congrès AISLF, Ecole d'ingénieurs Mohammadia, Rabat, Morocco, June 7.
- Wernli**, Boris. 2012. Travaux ménagers en Suisse: Une répartition inégale mais jugée satisfaisante. Paper presented at the XIXème congrès AISLF, Ecole d'ingénieurs Mohammadia, Rabat, Morocco, June 7.
- Widmer, Eric D., Gaëlle Aeby, and Marlène **Sapin**. 2012. Collecting Family Networks. Paper presented at the LIVES International Workshop on Methodological and Substantive Challenges in Measuring Vulnerability across the Life Course, Lausanne, June 19.

Other Presentations

- Borrat-Besson**, Carmen, Michèle **Ernst Stähli**, and Georg **Lutz**. 2012. Who Picks up the Phone or Opens the Door? - Theoretical and Effective Contactability of Surveys with the New FSO Sample Frame SRPH. Presentation, Lausanne, Switzerland, May 5.
- Buerli**, Stefan, and Ralph Schibli. 2012. FORSbase. Presentation at the Swiss Research Information Day, November 23, Bern, Switzerland.

- Ernst Stähli**, Michèle. 2012. Mixing Interview Modes in general social surveys in Switzerland: Why and How? Presentation at the Workshop with Mick Couper on “Web and Mixed Mode surveys”, March 13, FORS, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Ferrez**, Eliane. 2012. Access to Swiss PISA Data. Paper presented at the PISA Workshop, October 31, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland.
- Ferrez**, Eliane, and Alexandra **Stam**. 2012. Utilisation des données FORS. Paper presented at the Atelier des mémorants des master en sciences sociales et sciences et pratiques de l'éducation, November 12, University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2012. Antwortqualität von sprachlichen Minoritäten bei Erhebungen. Presentation at the Institute for Employment Research, December 7, Nürnberg, Germany.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2012. Interviewereffekte auf Kooperation und Datenqualität bei zentralen Telefonpanels. Presentation at the University of Munich, April 7, Munich, Germany.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2012. L'exception suisse : le financement des partis dans les démocraties occidentales. Presentation at Recontres Suisses - Nouvelle Société Helvétique, February 29, Geneva, Switzerland.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2012. Wahlsysteme und Wahlkreise. Welches Wahlverfahren garantiert die beste Legitimation eines Parlaments? Presentation at the Jahresversammlung of the Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Parlamentsfragen, September 22, Neuchâtel, Switzerland.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2012. Wer geht denn noch ans Telefon? Presentation at vsms-asms, Lucerne.
- Perret**, Andreas. 2012. Report on FORS/COMPASS Contributions to the DwB-WP5 Project. Presentation at the Data without Boundaries, WP5 meeting, May 21, Mannheim, Germany.
- Perret**, Andreas. 2012. Report on the DwB Institutional Map. Presentation in Paris, France, May 12.
- Rosset**, Jan. 2012. La représentation politique en Suisse: démocratique ou ploutocratique? Presentation at the University of Lausanne, April 5, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Rothenbühler**, Martina. 2012. Experience Using a Non-probabilistic Sample in a Web Survey: CH@YOUPART. Presentation at the FORS Workshop with Mick Couper on “Web and Mixed Mode surveys”, March 13, FORS, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Ryser**, Valérie-Anne, and Florence **Lebert**. 2012. Introduction to the SHP and the Amos Software. Workshop presented at the SHP Workshop, April 6, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Sapin**, Marlène. 2012. A Mixed Mode experience with an ISSP pilot survey. Presentation at the FORS Workshop with Mick Couper on “Web and Mixed Mode surveys”, March 14, FORS, Lausanne, Switzerland.

- Sapin**, Marlène, Dominique **Joye**, Alexandre **Pollien**, and Michèle **Ernst Stähli**. 2012. The Pilot Study of the ISSP 2011 Module on Health: An Experience of Offering the Choice of an Online Completion Option in a Paper Survey. Presentation at the Workshop on Mixed mode and online survey.
- Schibli, Ralph, and Stefan **Buerli**. FORSbase. Presentation at the opendata.ch 2012 conference, June 28, Zurich, Switzerland.
- Tillmann**, Robin. 2012. The Swiss Household Panel (SHP): Current State and 2012-2013 Development. Presentation at the FORS Scientific Board, March 15, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Tillmann**, Robin. 2012. The Swiss Household Panel (SHP): Current State and 2012-2013 Development. Presentation at the Scientific Board Evaluation Committee, November 1, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Voorpostel**, Marieke. 2012. Civic participation in Switzerland: The role of the family. Invited presentation at the Soziologisches Institut, April 3, University of Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland.
- Voorpostel**, Marieke. 2012. Invited expert at kick-off workshop for the doctoral program Social Problems and Welfare (PROWEL), December 7-8, Murten, Switzerland.
- Wernli**, Boris. 2012. Le Panel suisse de ménages: Un élargissement des perspectives analytiques dans l'étude de la santé au travail." Presentation at the séminaire du département, May 6, IST, Institut romand de santé au travail, Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Wernli**, Boris. 2012. Le Panel suisse de ménages: Un élargissement des perspectives analytiques pour la recherche sociologique. Presentation at the séminaire du département, October 5, Université de Fribourg, Domaine Sciences des sociétés, des cultures et des religions Département des sciences sociales, Fribourg, Switzerland.
- Wernli**, Boris. 2012. Le Panel suisse de ménages: Un élargissement des perspectives analytiques dans le domaine de l'étude des migrations. Presentation at the conférence du forum, January 24, Forum des Migrations, Neuchâtel, Switzerland.
- Wernli**, Boris. 2012. Online Surveying in the Academic Community Practice and Experiences at FORS and UNIL. Presentation at the FORS Workshop with Mick Couper on "Web and Mixed Mode surveys, March 14, FORS, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Other Media (selection)

- Farago**, Peter. 2012. Umfragen als „Forschung am Menschen?“ Neue Zürcher Zeitung November 29, p. 21.
- Lipps**, Oliver. 2012. Die Zeit heilt keine Wunden. Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung online, September 20.
- Lutz**, Georg. 2012. E-voting bei den Wahlen 2011. Schweizer Revue 4 / 2012.

Lutz, Georg. 2012. MAFO-Studium - Ein Meilenstein in der Methodenausbildung. Demoscope - News 1 - 2012.

Lutz, Georg. 2012. Wahlsysteme: Proportionalität ist nicht alles. Mitteilungsblatt der Schweizerischen Gesellschaft für Parlamentsfragen 3 – 2012.

Schmid, Flurina. 2012. Où et comment les personnes vivant en Suisse passent-elles leurs vacances? ValeurS, OFS.

FORS Working Paper Series

Assi, Jenny. 2012. Travail atypique et accès au troisième pilier en Suisse. FORS Working Paper, 2012-3. Lausanne: FORS.

Kleiner, Brian, Oliver **Lipps**, and Eliane **Ferrez**. 2012. Satisficing and language proficiency. FORS Working Paper, 2012-1. Lausanne: FORS.

Pollien, Alexandre, and Lorenzo Bonoli. 2012. Parcours de formation: Analyse des trajectoires de formation des personnes résident en Suisse. FORS Working Paper, 2012-2. Lausanne: FORS.

Teaching

Duemmier, Kerstin. 9 May 2012. "Introduction à ATLAS.ti". Seminar 'Methodes qualitatives' (Prof. Janine Dahinden), BA students, University of Neuchâtel, Maison d'analyse des processus sociaux.

Ferrez, Eliane and Alexandra **Stam**. 12 November 2012. "Utilisation des données FORS". University of Lausanne, faculty of social and political sciences, dissertation workshop.

Lebert, Florence. 6 April 2012. "Introduction to the Amos software". FORS, SHP Workshop for advanced researchers and doctoral students.

Lipps, Oliver. Winter semester 2012. Seminar "Ereignisanalyse". Institute for Sociology at the University of Basel, Switzerland (master level).

Lipps, Oliver. 15 May 2012. „AusländerInnen in schweizerischen Befragungen - Repräsentativität und Antwortqualität“. Habilitationsvorlesung an der Historisch-Philosophischen Universität Basel.

Lipps, Oliver. 26 June 2012. Workshop "Linear models for clustered (multilevel models) and panel (fixed effects) data with an OLS recap". Obsan (Swiss Health Observatory, Switzerland, Neuchâtel (master level).

Lipps, Oliver and Ursina **Kuhn**. 27-31 August 2012. "Introduction to the Swiss Household Panel (SHP) and to panel data analysis". Swiss Summer School 2012, Lugano (1 week).

Lutz, Georg. Spring semester 2012. "Elections et votations en Suisse: Analyse de données d'enquête". University of Lausanne, IEPI, bachelor level course (with Lionel Marquis).

Lutz, Georg. Autumn semester 2012. "Elections et votations en Suisse : Analyse de données d'enquête". University of Lausanne, IEPI, bachelor level course (with Lionel Marquis).

Lutz, Georg. 27 August 2012. "Elections and Conflict." Swisspeace, continuing, education lecture.

Ryser, Valérie-Anne. 4 June 2012. "Introduction to the Swiss Household-Panel (SHP)". FORS, SHP workshop for advanced researchers and doctoral students.

Ryser, Valérie-Anne. 26 June 2012. "Utilisation des commandes boucles et vecteurs avec SPSS". FORS, full day internal seminar (organized with Jean-Marie Le Goff, LINES)

Ryser, Valérie-Anne. 31 July 2012. "Successful Aging". University of Lausanne, bachelor level course for the Summer school ASU, students of the Arizona State University.

Wernli, Boris. Spring semester 2012. "Grandes enquêtes – analyses empiriques." University of Lausanne, faculty SSP, bachelor level course.

Methods and Research Meetings

January 24: Matthias Studer (*Institute for Demographic and Life Course Studies, University of Geneva*)

Analyse de dispersion de séquences d'états: analyser les liens entre trajectoires et variables explicatives

February 28: John Antonakis (*Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Lausanne*)

Endogeneity: An overlooked threat to validity of cross-sectional research

March 27: Beat Hulliger (*Institute for Competitiveness and Communication, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland*)

Quality of Online-Panels: An Experiment with Propensity Score Adjustments

April 24: Claudia Vorheyer (*Institute of Sociology, University of Zurich*)

Transnationalism and cosmopolitanism explored through the autobiographical narrative interview methodology

May 29: Rolf Becker (*Institute of Educational Science, University of Bern*)

Effects of prepaid monetary incentives on mail survey response rates and on self-reporting about delinquency – Empirical findings

June 5: Benoît Rihoux (*Institut de sciences politiques, Université catholique de Louvain*)

L'analyse QCA: principes, applications et potentiel en sciences sociales

September 25: Gilles Celeux (*Inria Saclay-Île-de-France, Université Paris-Sud*)

Model-based Clustering and Classification; presentation of the Mixmod software

October 30: Caroline Roberts and Caroline Vandenplas (*Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lausanne and FORS, Lausanne*)

The R-indexes as a complementary measure of data quality? Application to the Swiss ESS 2010 data

November 27: Emmanuel Rousseaux (*Institute for Demographic and Life Course Studies, University of Geneva*)

First steps towards a software framework for handling life course survey data in R

December 11: Philippe Gottraux (*Institut d'études politiques et internationales, Université de Lausanne*)

Etudier l'engagement militant à l'aide de récits de vie. Quelques réflexions tirées d'une recherche sur l'UDC

Lunch Seminars

January 18: Jan Rosset (*FORS*)

Unequal representation of income groups in Switzerland: the role of political parties

March 21: Alexandra Stam (*FORS*)

'The heart has its reasons that reason does not know' – Really? Exploring migration decision-making using the biographical approach

April 18: Jan Rosset (*FORS*)

Successful Post-Conflict Elections

Mai 21: Michèle Ernst Stähli, Georg Lutz, and Carmen Borrat-Besson (*FORS*)

Who picks up the phone or opens the door? Theoretical and effective contactability of surveys with the new SFSO sample frame SRPH

June 20: Doris Hanappi (*NCCR LIVES*)

Minding the downside of market flexibilization: Do precarious work and gender-egalitarianism affect short-term fertility intentions in Switzerland?

October 17: Caroline Vandenplas (*FORS*)

Non-response follow-up surveys in Switzerland: What is the impact of mixed mode effects on their usability?

November 14: Kerstin Duemmler (*FORS*)

The link between symbolic and social boundaries against immigrants and their discrimination: Evidence from 17 European countries

December 18: Céline Schmid Botkine (*FORS*)

Rapport social 2012 – Quelques indicateurs

Contact Points

Universities:

Prof. Max Bergman, Christina von Rotz, *Universität Basel, Institut für Soziologie*
 Prof. Kurt Schmidheiny, *Universität Basel, Wirtschaftswissenschaftliches Zentrum*
 Dr. Michelle Beyeler, *Universität Bern, Institut für Politikwissenschaft*
 Prof. Ben Jann, *Universität Bern, Institut für Soziologie*
 Prof. Rolf Becker, *Universität Bern, Institut für Erziehungswissenschaft*
 Maurizia Masia, *Université de Fribourg, Département Travail social et politiques sociales*
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 Grégoire Métral, *Université de Genève, Centre interfacultaire de gérontologie*
 Prof. Florence Passy, *Université de Lausanne, IEPI*
 Dr. Katharina Manderscheid, *Universität Luzern, Soziologisches Seminar*
 Dr. Eric Crettaz, *Université de Neuchâtel, Chaire études sociales et transnationales*
 Dr. Stephan Egger, *Universität St. Gallen, Soziologisches Seminar*
 Dr. Rudi Palmieri, *Università della Svizzera Italiana, Institute of Argumentation, Linguistics, and Semiotics*
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 Prof. Daniel Kübler, *Universität Zürich, Institut für Politikwissenschaft*
 Prof. Rainer Winkelmann, *Universität Zürich, Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Fakultät*
 Prof. Werner Wirth, *Universität Zürich, Institute of Mass Communication and Media Research*
 Dr. Andrée Helming, *Universität Zürich, Psychologisches Institut, Sozialpsychologie*

Universities of Applied Sciences (Fachhochschulen, Hautes écoles spécialisées):

Silvana Kappeler, *Pädagogische Hochschule Aarau, Institut Forschung und Entwicklung, FHNW*
 Prof. Christian Marazzi, *Scuola Universitaria Professionale della Svizzera Italiana (SUPSI)*
 Prof. Jachen Curdin Nett, *Berner Fachhochschule, Soziale Arbeit*
 Prof. Pascal Eric Gaberel, *Haute école de travail social et de la santé EESP*
 Dr. Susanna Niehaus, *Hochschule Luzern, Soziale Arbeit*
 Prof. Dorothea Chris, *Pädagogische Hochschule Thurgau, Abteilung Forschung*
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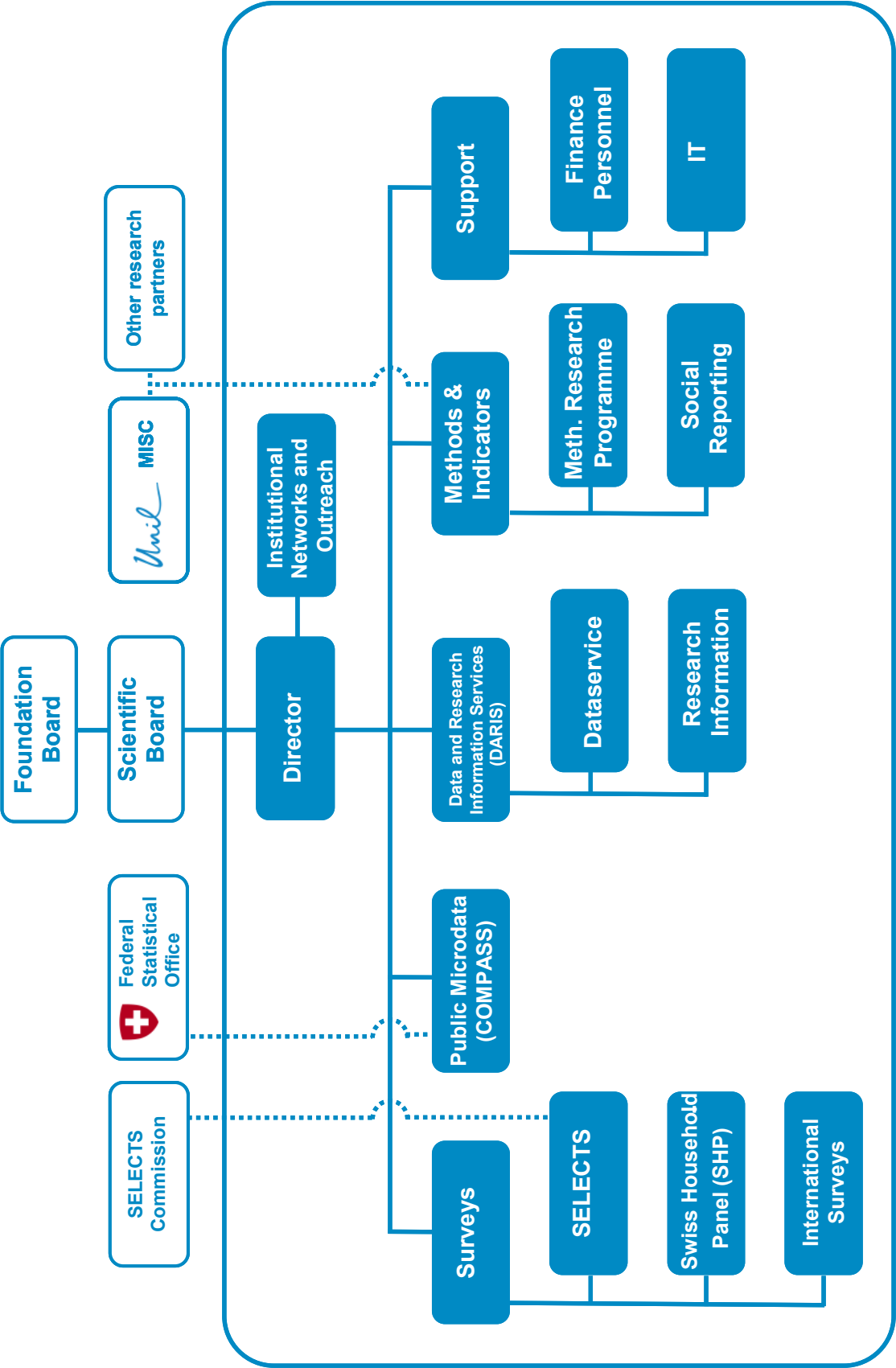
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Staff Statistics

	31.12.12		01.01.12		01.01.08	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
<i>Permanent Employees</i>	35	100	35	100	19	100
<u>1. Sex</u>						
Male	16	46	17	49	13	68
Female	19	54	18	51	6	32
<u>2. Nationality</u>						
CH	28	80	28	80	16	84
other (B,D,F,I,NL,SB,USA)	7	20	7	20	3	16
<u>3. Mother language</u>						
Swiss-German	9	26	10	29	5	26
French	13	37	12	34	9	48
Bilingual (incl. FIN,HU,I,PL)	7	20	7	20	4	21
other (E,G,NL,SB)	6	17	6	17	1	5
<u>4. Degrees received</u>						
Professional formation	2	6	2	6	2	11
BA/MA/Lic./Diploma	19	54	21	60	13	68
Dr. / Ph.D.	14	40	12	34	4	21
<u>5. Disciplines</u>						
Sociology	11	31	10	28	5	26
Political Science	7	20	7	20	4	21
(Social) Psychology	5	15	5	15	4	21
other social sciences	6	17	5	15	0	0
Mathematics	1	3	3	8	1	5
IT	3	8	3	8	3	16
Clerk	2	6	2	6	2	11
<u>6. Degree of Employment</u>						
Full time	10	29	10	29	7	37
Part time (50%-90%)	25	71	25	71	12	63

Organizational Chart
as of Dec. 31, 2012



Poster (English version)

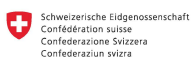


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FORS is a national centre of expertise in the social sciences. Its primary activities consist of:

- production** of survey data, including national and international surveys
- dissemination** of data for use in secondary analysis
- research** in empirical social sciences, with focus on survey methodology
- consulting** services for researchers in Switzerland and abroad

FORS is supported by



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List of Abbreviations

CESSDA	Council of European Social Science Data Archives
CNEF	Cross-National Equivalent File
COMPASS	Communication Portal for Accessing Social Statistics
COST	European Cooperation in Science and Technology
CSDI	Comparative Survey Design and Implementation
DARIS	Data and Research Information Services
DwB	Data without Boundaries
ERIC	European Research Infrastructure Consortium
ESFRI	European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures
ESRA	European Survey Research Association
ESS	European Social Survey
EVS	European Values Study
ICPSR	Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research
IEMS	Institute of Health Economics and Management, U Lausanne
ISSP	International Social Survey Programme
IWTSE	International Workshop on Total Survey Error
LINES	Life Course and Inequality Research Centre (University of Lausanne)
LIS	Cross-national Data Center in Luxembourg
LIVES	NCCR Overcoming Vulnerability – Life Course Perspectives
MEA	Munich Center for the Economics of Aging
MOSAICH	Measurement and Observation of Social Attitudes in Switzerland
NCCR	National Centre of Competence in Research
NSD	Norwegian Social Science Data Services
PISA	Programme for International Student Assessment, OECD
SELECTS	Swiss Electoral Studies
SER	State Secretariate for Education and Research
SERSCIDA	Support for the Establishment of National/Regional Social Science Data Archives
SFSO	Swiss Federal Statistical Office
SHARE	Survey on Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe
SHP	Swiss Household Panel
SNSF	Swiss National Science Foundation
TREE	Transitions from Education to Employment
vsms	Verband Schweizer Markt- und Sozialforschung (Association of Swiss Social and Market Research)
WAPOR	World Association for Public Opinion Research