Projects Using DDI

- California Digital Library's "Counting California" Project countingcalifornia.cdlib.org

- Center for Comparative European Survey Data www.ccesd.ac.uk/Body.aspx

- Census Bureau's DataFerrett dataferrett.census.gov/TheDataWeb/index.html

- Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Services (CMS) Denominator File Project — www.resdac.umn.edu

- CESSDA Integrated Catalog

- Cultural Policy and the Arts National Data Archive (CPANDA) — www.cpanda.org

- DAIS Nesstar System at Health Canada www.hc-sc.gc.ca

- Data Liberation Initiative Metadata Collection at Statistics Canada — www.statcan.ca/english/Dli/dli.htm

- DevInfo

- Documenting the Survey Lifecycle Using DDI – Canada Research Data Centres and GSS

- Harvard-MIT Virtual Data Center — www.thedata.org

- ICPSR Data Catalog — www.icpsr.umich.edu

- ICPSR Social Science Variables Database (SSVD) www.icpsr.umich.edu/ssvd/index.html

- National Historical Geographic Information System www.nhgis.org

- National Survey of Family Growth, Wave VI www.cdc.gov/nchs/nsfg.htm

- Nesstar Ltd. — www.nesstar.com

- Social Science Research Services (SSRS) and Social Science Libraries & Information Services (SSLIS) at Yale University — ssrs.yale.edu www.library.yale.edu/socsci

- Survey Documentation and Analysis — sda.berkeley.edu

- Vision of Britain — www.VisionOfBritain.org.uk

- World Bank International Household Survey Network (IHSN) and Survey Data Dissemination Toolkit www.internationalsurveynetwork.org/home

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Data Documentation Initiative
www.ddialliance.org
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   ICPSR/DDI Secretariat
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2006 Annual Report of the Data Documentation Initiative

New Life Cycle Approach

Version 3.0 of the DDI specification is modular in structure and is intended to reflect points along the life cycle of research data. Version 3.0 also provides new features and functionality including stricter data typing, elimination of redundancies, and new opportunities for documenting data characteristics for purposes of comparison.

The Data Documentation Initiative (DDI) is an effort to develop an international XML standard for social science metadata. The effort is sponsored by the DDI Alliance, a group of organizations representing the data archive, data producer, and data user communities.

Fiscal year 2006 was a busy year for the Alliance, with a great deal of activity focused on the creation of Version 3.0 of the specification. Below are highlights of the year.

Meetings Held

Expert Committee. The full Expert Committee of the Alliance met in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in May 2006 as part of the annual IASSIST conference. Topics of discussion included reports of the Working Groups and the timetable to publication of Version 3.0 of the specification.

"Birds of a Feather" Tools Meeting. Over 40 interested IASSIST attendees participated in this meeting, also held in Ann Arbor, to outline a list of needed tools for use with the DDI Version 3.0. The group generated a comprehensive list of tools that will facilitate visualization of the new XML schemas and the browsing and creation of DDI instances.

Membership and Finances

Closing out its third year of operation, the DDI Alliance had 29 paid memberships, providing a funding stream to support the administrative structure, some meeting costs, and XML consultants. The balance sheet of the Alliance shows that expenditures for the year slightly exceeded revenues, due in large part to work and meetings related to the new Version 3.0. The ending fund balance for 2006 (July 1, 2005-June 30, 2006) was $48,496.

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Alliance Members

- University of Alberta, Canada
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, San Diego
- California Digital Library
- Centro de Investigaciones Sociologicas, Spain
- CEPS/INSTEAD, Luxembourg
- University of Connecticut, Roper Center
- Danish Data Archive
- Data Archiving and Networking Services, The Netherlands
- Emory University
- Finnish Social Science Data Archive
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- Harvard University
- University of Michigan, ICPSR
- University of Minnesota
- University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Carolina Population Center
- Norwegian Social Science Data Services (NSD)
- Princeton University Library
- Socio-Economic Panel Study, Germany
- Stanford University
- University of Surrey
- Swedish Social Science Data Service (SSD)
- Swiss Data Archive for the Social Sciences (SIDOS)
- United Kingdom Data Archive
- University of Wisconsin, Madison
- World Bank, Africa Household Survey Databank
- Yale University
- Zentralarchiv für Empirische Sozialforschung
- Zentrum für Umfragen, Methoden und Analysen (ZUMA)

Statement of Revenue and Expenses Fiscal Years 2004 – 2006

	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006
Total Revenue	$62,456	$64,913	$64,906
Total Expenses	$36,509	$38,395	$68,875
Revenue Over/ (Under) Expenses	$25,947	$26,518	($3,969)
Ending Fund Balance	$25,947	$52,465	$48,496

Why Join the Aliance?

This DDI is a standard developed by and for the social science research community. Through membership in the Alliance, you and your organization can influence the development and the direction of this important social science standard. Membership means that you have the opportunity to participate with colleagues in shaping the format, content, and delivery of social science information. Representatives from the member institutions lend their unique talents and expertise to the Working Groups, ensuring that the standard meets the needs and expectations of the community.

Become a Member

To join the Alliance, complete a membership form (online at www. ddialliance.org, "About the DDI Alliance") and obtain appropriate signatures at your institution. Send the form to the DDI Secretariat:

ICPSR/DDI Secretariat
P.O. Box 1248
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248
Fax: 734.647.8200

After the form is received, your institution will receive an annual invoice.

Benefits of Using the DDI

- **Interoperability.** Documentation marked up using the DDI specification can be exchanged and transported seamlessly.

- **Richer content.** The DDI encourages the use of a comprehensive set of elements to describe social science datasets as completely and as thoroughly as possible.

- **Single document — multiple purposes.** DDI documentaion contains all of the information necessary to produce several different types of output, including, for example, a traditional social science codebook, a bibliographic record, or SAS/SPSS/Stata data definition statements. Thus, the document may be repurposed for different needs and applications. Changes made to the core document will be passed along to any output generated.

- **Online subsetting and analysis.** Because the DDI markup extends down to the variable level and provides a standard uniform structure and content for variables, DDI documents are easily imported into online analysis systems and other applications.

- **Precision in searching.** Since each of the elements in DDI-compliant documentaion is tagged in a specific way, field-specific searches across documents and studies are enabled.

- **Preservation.** XML documents are nonproprietary and optional for long-term preservation.