CALL FOR INVITED PAPERS

International Conference on Survey Methods in Multinational, Multiregional, & Multicultural Contexts (3MC)

June 25–29, 2008, Berlin, Germany

As part of an ongoing effort to promote quality in multipopulation surveys and to raise the level of methodological expertise in various applied fields of comparative survey research, an International Conference on Survey Methods in Multinational, Multiregional and Multicultural Contexts will be held June 25–29, 2008 in Berlin, Germany.

This conference will bring together researchers and survey practitioners concerned with survey methodology and practice in comparative contexts. It will provide a unique opportunity to discuss and present research that contributes to our understanding of survey needs and methods in cross-cultural, cross-national contexts. Conference contributions will help document current best practices and stimulate new ideas for further research and development.

We invite all interested researchers and practitioners to submit abstracts to be considered for Invited Papers. An accompanying edited volume presenting state-of-the-art research and practice will be published with John Wiley & Sons. The expectation is that Invited Papers become chapters in the edited volume.

Abstracts should be between 700–1000 words. The deadline for submitting abstracts is Friday, 2 March, 2007. They can be submitted at the CSDI website (http://www.csdi-workshop.org); there you will a link to the 2008 3MC conference under EVENTS.

If you have questions relating to submitting an abstract please contact Janet Harkness at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, jharkness2@unl.edu and copy to eu-centre@zuma-mannheim.de.

Unless advised otherwise, we will pass on abstracts which cannot be accepted as Invited Papers to have them considered as Contributed Papers at the conference. The first individual call for Contributed Papers at the conference will follow in late spring, 2007.

CSDI is the acronym for the International Workshop for Comparative Survey Design and Implementation, which heads the initiative for this conference. CSDI meets every year for an annual workshop. More information is available on the CSDI website (see above).
PRELIMINARY OUTLINE OF CONFERENCE SESSIONS

The following is a list of possible topics under large headings planned for the conference sessions and the monograph. These may be expanded and re-organized, depending on submissions. Some overlap of sub-themes at this preliminary stage is intentional. Those submitting abstracts are not required to indicate where they think their abstract might “fit.”

**Theory and Methodology for Comparative Studies**
- Theories of comparability
- Evidence-based approaches to comparability

**Models of Study Designs, Organizations, and Goals**
- social surveys: values, opinions, behaviors
- establishment surveys
- cohort studies & panels
- labor force surveys
- short term economic indicators
- marketing surveys
- social indicators
- aggregation of regional data
- human capital & competencies
- health surveys
- cognition, education & personality instruments
- international web studies
- mandatory surveys

**Multilingual, Multicultural Issues**
- global measurement & local cultures
- institutions, gatekeepers, respondents
- communication across & between cultures
- language & measurement
- instrument comparability
- forms of instrument adaptation
- written & oral forms of instrument translation
- developing & testing multilingual instruments
- monitoring translation quality
- official version approval

**Instrument Design**
- instrument design models
- instrument development & pretesting strategies
- accommodating language & culture in questionnaire design
  - question content & format,
  - question meaning & context
  - response processes; response, disclosure & culture
  - data collection modes & design
  - visualization, navigation & presentation
Study Implementation, Quality & Improvement
- quality assurance & quality control
- survey operations & error structures (process data)
- infrastructures and management issues
- external & internal design tensions
- standardization & local realizations (what can vary & what cannot)
- input & output harmonization procedures
- assessing survey measurement capability
- sampling
- expertise & standards
- applications of ISO standard on market opinion & social research
- resources & funding (studies, monitoring, & methods)
- data capture & data processing
  - coding
  - estimation & weighting
  - editing & imputation

Knowledge Management & Dissemination
- knowledge management in surveys
- documentation as design & process quality tool
- classifications
- survey process data
- metadata, paradata, context data
- archives & databases
  - dissemination
  - public use data files

Analysis & Validation
- measurement strategies
- measurement difficulties
- measurement models
- units of analysis
- bias and error
- house effects (countries & houses)
- response conversion
- secondary analysis & analysts
- meta-analysis

Data Collection in Complex Comparative Contexts
- organizing & building fielding structures
- ethics
- recruiting, assigning, & training interviewers
- sample management
- collecting data
  - nomadic populations
  - rural populations
  - undocumented populations & accommodations
  - conflict-torn & fragile states
  - ethnic minority populations
  - populations on reservations, in refugee camps, etc.
Data Collection Programs & Surveys & Data Access in Developing Countries

- data access
- capacity-building
- educational indicators
- health indicators
- economic indicators
- social indicators

- epidemiological studies
- governance indicators
- political indicators
- attitudinal indicators
- price comparison indicators
- using informational databases

CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Siobhan Carey
Department for International Development,
London, UK

Lars Lyberg
Statistics Sweden
Stockholm, Sweden

Brad Edwards
Westat, Inc.
Rockville, USA

Peter Ph Mohler
ZUMA
Mannheim, Germany

Janet Harkness (Chair)
University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, USA
and ZUMA, Mannheim, Germany

Beth-Ellen Pennell
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, USA

Timothy Johnson
University of Illinois at Chicago,
Chicago, USA

Tom W. Smith
National Opinion Research Center at the
University of Chicago
Chicago, USA

Denise Lievesley
Health and Social Care Information Centre
UK Department of Health
Leeds, UK

Fons van de Vijver
Tilburg University
Tilburg, Netherlands