Preservation and management of research data at the Swedish National Data Service

Research data are preserved and managed with the aim of being usable now and in the future. Below is a brief description of the measures taken to ensure this.

Data integrity and long-term preservation

At SND digital objects are managed in a secure way to ensure future reusability. This includes:

- Virus scan of all files submitted to the repository
- Checksums at file level to guarantee data integrity
- Original files kept in their original file formats, as well as saved in formats suitable for long-term preservation (conversion if needed)
- All versions of data are preserved and new versions are automatically assigned a new digital object identifier (DOI)
- Continuous backup (stored in two independent locations)
- Monitoring of file formats to secure that accepted and preferred file formats are suitable for long-term preservation (migration when necessary)

Metadata and documentation

In order to understand and correctly reuse data, it is important to have access to all relevant information. Data and metadata are submitted via SND's information system DORIS, which enables a structured description of data. Different domains require different metadata, and in DORIS researchers can choose between several domain-specific metadata profiles and a general one. In addition to these metadata, it is important to attach other pertinent documentation generated during the research process. This could include, for example, variable lists, code books, questionnaires, publications, study reports and technical reports.

To make data visible and searchable, a metadata record is published in SND's catalogue. This information can be harvested by other relevant information platforms, which increases visibility.

SND is certified as a Trusted Digital Repository, follows the OAIS Reference Model, and uses established standards and best practices in managing and preserving research data.