

Advancing CAPI technology with Survey Solutions

Survey Solutions is a free CAPI software developed by the World Bank which offers a cost-effective, sustainable solution for conducting complex, large-scale surveys.

The software combines rich data capture functionality on tablets with powerful tools for survey management and data aggregation, reducing the time lag between data collection and data analysis, dramatically improving data quality, and reducing survey costs. The ability to integrate household survey data with GPS coordinates, sensor data, time stamps, audio/video recordings and more opens up new and greater possibilities of tackling innovative, policy-relevant questions.

Survey Solutions also collects massive amounts of auxiliary data (known as paradata) on the interview process, such as time spent on each question, changes in interview assignments, and verification logs. This paradata can improve data quality by introducing Responsive Survey Design and Adaptive Survey Design techniques. To date, Survey Solutions has proved itself to be a robust instrument for data collection in all regions of the world.



Survey Solutions at a glance

- ➤ Free Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) software platform
- Out-of-the-box functionality for the complete value chain of survey data collection
- Rich data capture and the capacity to handle large multitopic surveys and panel surveys
- ➤ Flexible data aggregation engine
- Powerful ability to manage large numbers of survey teams
- Cost-effective, sustainable solution for developing country institutions involved in data collection
- Fully compliant with local data privacy and confidentiality laws via hosting on local servers



Flexible, configurable, scalable

Survey Solutions components work online and offline, allowing for the best use of available infrastructure. The interviewer application runs on widely available and cheap Android™ based tablets. Data is periodically synchronized to a local or cloud-based remote server as soon as a connection becomes available.

The system is highly scalable: no matter the size of your survey, Survey Solutions can handle it. Whether you are relying on a handful of interviewers, or administering a nationwide survey with hundreds of teams, Survey Solutions provides functionality to monitor and visualize survey progression, team performance and survey coverage.

The flow of information is fully controllable by the survey planner and multiple levels of approvals ensure the highest data quality. Furthermore, the equipment is shareable and reusable for multiple surveys: the same teams of interviewers can collect multiple surveys at the same time using the same server for data accumulation and storage.

Design questionnaires with ease

The Survey Solutions online questionnaire designer offers a collaborative platform for multiple users to develop and review questionnaires in any Unicode language. Innovative question options capture information that goes beyond pen and paper: the GPS location of the interview, a barcode, or the image of a house, person, document or product. Furthermore, it has never been easier to implement complex agricultural surveys with questions on multiple plots and crops than with the nested rosters available in Survey Solutions!

Automatic and manual validations allow for the implementation of data integrity checks of arbitrary complexity, from simple range checks to consistency checks involving complex combinations of multiple questions. C# syntax for validation and enablement conditions is supported by readily available and free documentation, training resources and an international community of millions of C# programmers.

Users can generate a PDF version of the Survey Solutions questionnaire with the click of a mouse in the designer application, as well as preview the questionnaire on a tablet with the Survey Solutions Tester app available in Google™ Play.

User-friendly interviewer app and data export

The Survey Solutions interviewer application is responsive, easy to navigate and user-friendly, even for interviewers with little or no prior computer experience.

Data prefill and automatic creation of interview assignments simplifies the process of data collection for large surveys, and particularly for panel surveys.

Users of Survey Solutions appreciate the convenience of an open data export format, compatible with any major statistical package, spreadsheet or database application. Direct export to Stata,™ SPSS,™and other binary formats simplifies the analysis of collected data.

Security and support

Survey Solutions defends your data from unauthorized access. As the administrator of your own server, you decide when and how others can access your data.

Instant data downloads and scheduled backups assure the safety and preservation of the collected data. Logging information on the progress of the survey and interview actions are exported and available for inspection in real time.

Remote assistance is available and Survey Solutions can be set up, configured and serviced over a remote desktop connection. Hosting the server in the cloud allows developers to automatically backup and maintain the installation.

Survey Solutions is supported by a team of experts located in different time zones, ensuring faster and more responsive assistance. Our expert consultants are available for feasibility and suitability analysis, estimation of timeline and resources, project setup and servicing consultations.

Survey Solutions contacts

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