

## SOEP Innovation Sample (SOEP-IS)— Deadline December 31, 2018 for 2019 survey

Use SOEP-IS for new research questions

SOEP users are invited to submit proposals for the next round of the SOEP Innovation Sample (SOEP-IS). For those not yet familiar with SOEP-IS, this unique innovation sample offers great potential as a source of household micro-data, particularly for researchers seeking information that is not available in SOEP-Core—for example, specific information on households or on people’s opinions. SOEP-IS can accommodate not only short-term experiments but also longer-term survey modules that are not suitable for SOEP-Core, whether because the survey instruments are still relatively new or because of the specific issues dealt with in the research. Up to now, the SOEP-IS has included (complex) economic behavioral experiments, Implicit Association Tests (IAT), and complex procedures to measure time use (Day Reconstruction Method, DRM).

The SOEP-IS was launched in 2011, and each year since then, researchers at universities and research institutes worldwide have been invited to submit proposals for inclusion in the subsequent year’s survey. A competitive referee process is conducted to select the “best” research questions and operationalizations for implementation in the SOEP-IS. The SOEP Research Data Center distributes the SOEP-IS data to external users as an independent dataset.

Data from SOEP-IS modules are provided exclusively to the researchers who submitted the respective proposals for an initial 12-month period. After this embargo has ended, the data are released to the entire SOEP user community for secondary analysis. An overview of all SOEP-IS modules to date can be found at our website [www.diw.de/soep-is](http://www.diw.de/soep-is).

In 2015, almost 5,500 people in nearly 3,500 households participated in the SOEP-IS. Many of these women and men have been answering SOEP-Core questions since 1998 as part of a SOEP-Core boost sample, while others joined in 2009. These individuals provide a wealth of longitudinal data to the SOEP-IS.

As a new technical feature, the 2014 SOEP-IS premiered the use of 111 smart phones for data collection using the Experience Sampling Method (ESM). If you have an idea for using ESM in the SOEP-IS, please contact us for details.

### General information about SOEP-IS

Information about SOEP-IS in general is published in

- Richter, David, and Jürgen Schupp. 2015. The SOEP Innovation Sample (SOEP IS). *Schmollers Jahrbuch* 135 (3), 389-399 (doi: 10.3790/schm.135.3.389)

or

- David Richter, Jürgen Schupp. 2012. SOEP Innovation Sample (SOEP-IS) - Description, Structure and Documentation. SOEPpaper 463. Berlin: DIW Berlin

All information including those about data access and documentation, field work reports and questionnaires, sample sizes and the later, you will find on our website <http://www.diw.de/soep-is>.

## Deadlines

Researchers interested in submitting questions should contact SOEP Survey Management by November 30, 2018, to present their proposal. If the project is determined to be viable from a survey methodology perspective, an official application procedure will follow. The official application must be received by December 31, 2018. Send us your proposal!

Applications should be submitted in English to [soep-surveymanagement@diw.de](mailto:soep-surveymanagement@diw.de).

## Evaluation

A subcommittee of the SOEP Survey Committee will then evaluate and rate the relevance and significance of the proposed questions. If the proposed project already has funding from the DFG or other funding agencies, this step of external evaluation will be skipped. Since projects funded by the DFG and other organizations providing research funding also require a guarantee of survey methodological feasibility, interested researchers should contact SOEP Survey Management before submitting an application for funding.

## Contact

If you have any questions, please contact David Richter ([drichter@diw.de](mailto:drichter@diw.de)).

## Top-up funding from the German Research Foundation (DFG) for SOEP-IS proposals

For those interested in submitting a proposal for SOEP-IS: Please note that the German Research Foundation (DFG) welcomes funding applications that include planned data collection in the SOEP-IS framework. The DFG has several requirements for such applications. First, any project funding it provides may be used only to cover the additional work created by the project (not to cover the basic costs of SOEP-IS data collection). Second, the DFG only funds projects for which the funding preconditions have been met by the time of the funding decision. To meet these preconditions, applications involving SOEP-IS must contain the following information:

- A general description of the SOEP Innovation Sample and the project selection process.
- A commitment from DIW Berlin that if the DFG approves project funding, the data for the project will be collected as described in the application.
- A binding commitment for the specific date that the data will be provided to the DFG project for analysis.

As a rule, the DFG does not provide funding for data collection in SOEP-IS because this is already covered by the survey's core funding. Exceptions to this rule may be made if applicants demonstrate that the inclusion of additional survey modules in SOEP-IS creates additional work. This would result, for example, from the inclusion of behavioral experiments or other non-survey elements (e.g., collection of biomarkers). Funding applications to the DFG that include data collection in the SOEP-IS must therefore include the following additional information:

- A transparent calculation of costs that clearly distinguishes between the additional work required as part of the planned DFG-funded project and the survey work covered by the survey's core funding.

It is in the interest of applicants that they submit all of the required materials, which are crucial in providing a basis for evaluation.