SwissDAcS(181-010)

Swiss Data Acquisition Service

Following the initial success of the MedRED project mandated by swissuniversities, HES-SO Valais-Wallis has launched its Data Acquisition Unit (DAUnit), providing support and infrastructure for scientific data management, especially (but not limited) to health-related projects. The availability of this service for the HES-SO researchers in all of French-speaking Switzerland, has sparked interest from researchers of other Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS), and even launched collaborations with Clinical Trial Units, such as the CTU Bern.

This interest and the growing demand for such a service makes it necessary to extend the support provided by the DAUnit to the entire UAS network of researchers in Switzerland. Furthermore, and aligning with the current trends in data acquisition and citizen science, this extension will also require support for personal data management, and data acquisition from heterogeneous sources including monitoring devices.

This project extends the scope of the DAUnit in two main axes: First, it will extend the activities of the DAUnit to all UAS in Switzerland, providing the existing services for data acquisition, REDCap support, Data Management Plan, training, etc. Second, thanks to the collaboration on educational and research level and the integration in the consortium of the Berner Fachhochschule BFH, another bilingual UAS already involved in Patient Reported Outcome projects with university hospitals, it will integrate into its service support for the MIDATA platform, targeting personal data management and interfaces for different types of source (e.g. wearables, sensors, and other types of sources commonly used in data acquisition protocols). The proposed service, named SwissDAcS, will aim at simplifying data management tasks for UAS researchers, while taking care of security and privacy aspects, storage and preservation, data validation, etc. The service is expected to be self-sustainable after the end of the project, following the experience of the MedRED project and the DAUnit. The project incorporates the expertise on the health domain, by including the Health Institute of HES-SO Valais-Wallis, and the Haute Ecole de Santé HES-SO Fribourg.