



SWISS OPEN RESEARCH DATA HACKATHON

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#12 – Facilitating data citation

An app to import metadata in reference management software

Christina Bornatici, Stefan Buerli, Yassine Gafaiti, Roberto Genesi

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Why this idea?

Problem

Research data are often **not correctly cited** in texts and omitted in the bibliographic section, resulting in:

- Limited tracking
- Limited acknowledgement for the data creators
- Less incentive to archive and share their data

Goal

Facilitating and improving data citation practice by making the data citation process identical to the citing process of other sources (e.g., book chapters, articles, website).

How

Creating an **app to import all needed metadata in reference management software** that could be included as a plugin in data archives' catalogues

Definition of a minimum viable product

- Use of **RIS format** which is compatible with commonly used reference management software (e.g., Zenodo, Mendeley, Endnote)
- Selection of **mandatory and extra metadata fields**
Based on prior analysis of data citation recommendations at different institutions (e.g., data archives and repositories, university libraries, specialised organisations, journals)

Mandatory fields	Extra fields
Reference type	Dataset Number
Authors/creators	URL (based on DOI)
Publication year	Place Published
Title	Access Date
Data type	
Publisher/distributor	
Version	
DOI	

Using FORSbase as a test case


The screenshot shows the FORSbase website homepage. At the top left is the FORSbase logo. At the top right are language options (FR EN DE) and navigation buttons for 'Catalogue' and 'Home'. Below the navigation are 'Sign up' and 'Login' links. The main content area features a large 'WELCOME TO FORSBASE' heading with a database icon, followed by the tagline 'Your research information and data access portal in Switzerland.' and a paragraph describing the platform's purpose. A 'Useful Resources' sidebar lists various guides and documents. Below this is a search bar for 'FORS' and a search prompt. At the bottom, four main action buttons are displayed: 'Explore the catalogue', 'Get data', 'Publish your study', and 'Deposit your data', each with a brief description of the service.

FORSbase FR EN DE

Catalogue Home

Sign up
Login

WELCOME TO FORSBASE




Your research information and data access portal in Switzerland.

FORSbase is an online platform that enables you to access data and obtain information about social science studies in Switzerland. You can register your own research projects, as well as store and share your own data.

Select one of the options below or first discover FORSbase's different functionalities in our guide **FORSbase: overview**.

Useful Resources

- Quantitative data preparation for depositing
- Qualitative data preparation for depositing
- List of accepted file formats
- Data documentation glossary
- Deposit contract
- User contract
- FAQs
- Contact

FORS 

Search for variables on De Visu

Explore the catalogue

Our collection includes over 10'000 social science research projects and is constantly updated. Discover the catalogue and liaise with the

Get data

Discover and instantly download for free hundreds of datasets for your own research projects. Start your analyses right away.

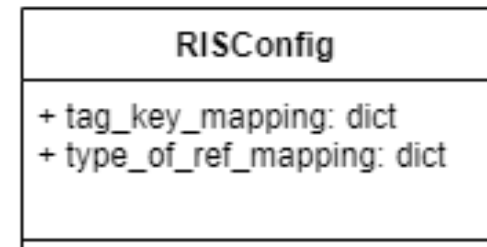
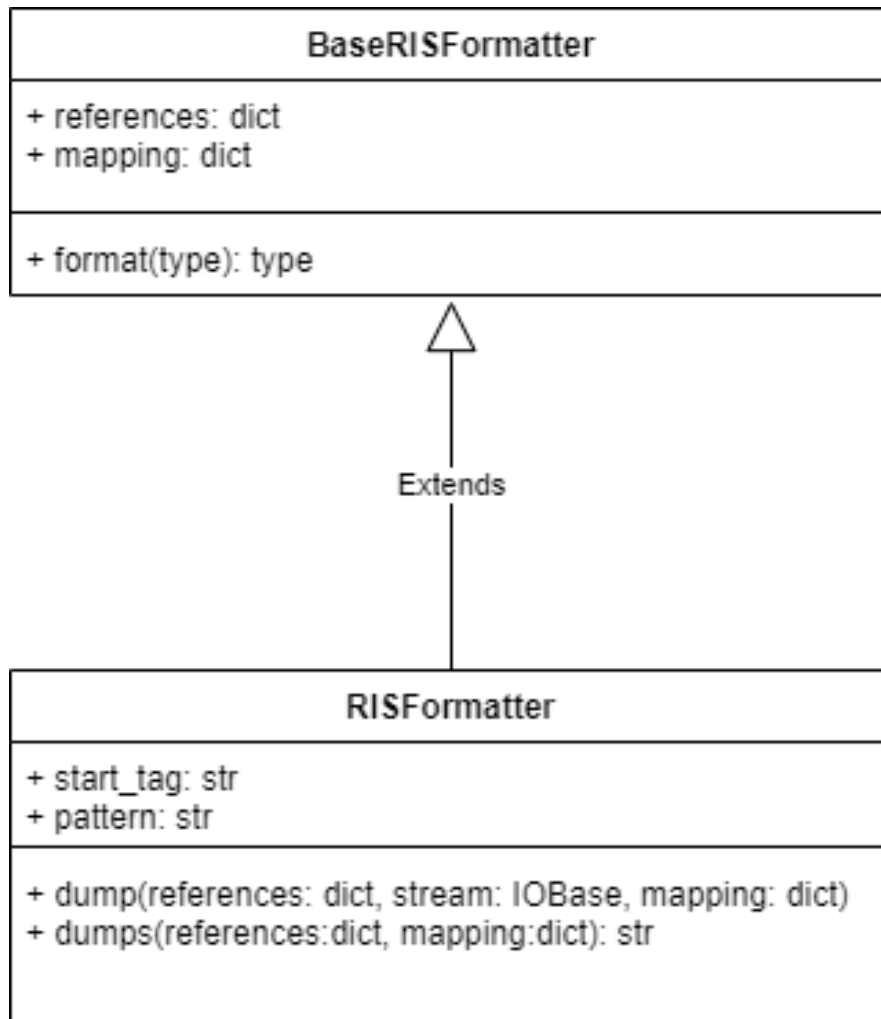
Publish your study

Register your research project in our database to gain visibility, expand your network, and develop new collaborations.

Deposit your data

Share your data and ensure their long-term preservation while meeting funder and/or journal requirements and increasing citations of your research.

UML



Achievements

- **Export from an existing system** – FORSbase in our case – of the mandatory and extra metadata fields used for data citation in a RIS format
 - The resulting module could be adapted for other systems.
- **Import the created RIS file in a reference management software**
 - Tests done in Endnote and Zotero

→ **Successful result!**

Next features

- Extend the module to **other formats** than RIS
- Apply the solution to **SWISSUbase** (<https://info.swissubase.ch/fr/>)

SD DEMO time!