Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

RUAF

CITY REGION FOOD SYSTEM TOOLKIT

Assessing and planning resilient and sustainable city region food systems

Tool: Qualitative analysis software

Brief description	The document provides a (non exhaustive) list of qualitative data analysis software tools, which may help the project team to organise and analyse large amounts of raw data from various sources.
Expected outcome	Project teams know some of the software tools that are available to them, as well as the core features of each, and follow links to explore their functionality in more detail.
Expected output	
Scale of application	Project level
Expertise required	Research
Examples of application	
Year of development	2022
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Relevant CRFS Handbook modules; related tools, examples and activities	In-depth assessment module

Full description and justification

The document provides a (non exhaustive) list of five qualitative data analysis software tools, which may help the project team to organise and analyse large amounts of raw data from various sources: Taguette, Quirkos, MAXQDA, NVivo, Atlas.Ti, and describes the main features and functionalities of each.

Qualitative data analysis software can be helpful because large amounts of data from multiple sources including interview and focus group transcripts, can be hard to manage. Software may help them to organise and code the data making it easier to analyse and identify patterns.

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1 Data analysis software options

There are a number of different qualitative data analysis software options on the market, ranging from simple, free, option-source tools for manual coding to more complex and expensive tools that use artificial intelligence to help the user analyze and visualize data quickly and efficiently.

The following is a sample of options (with varying functionality and cost) that the project team may explore.

1.1 Taguette

Taguette is a free, open source software that allows for data to be tagged and exported for analysis. It is available in both online and local versions, but it does not support images or video, and has no automated functions.

For more information, see www.taguette.org

1.2 Quirkos

Popular in the education sector, Quirkos is a simple tool based around 'drag and drop' text functions. Data is coded manually, and multiple team members can collaborate in real-time.

For more information, see http://quirkos.com

1.3 MAXQDA

MAXQDA is a long-established tool for qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods data analysis that allows for data unput from a range of sources (e.g. surveys, interviews and focus groups). Data can be highlighted, tagged and categorized for analysis.

For more information, see https://www.maxqda.com.

1.4 NVivo

NVivo is commonly used by researchers and academics. Word documents, PDFs, audio, images and video are imported into the software, then tagged or coded and organized to facilitate analysis. The interface is highly intuitive, and recent versions offer automated transcription and coding.

For more information, see https://www.qsrinternational.com/nvivo-qualitative-data-analysis-software/home

1.5 ATLAS.ti

Atlas.ti is a powerful tool commonly used by academics, research organisations and the private sector, that supports large volumes of text, graphic audio and video data. New versions incorporate artificial intelligence technology, with features including autocoding and sentiment analysis. Collaboration between multiple team members is easier than with other tools.

For more information, see https://atlasti.com.

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