EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON QUALITY IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS
2024 ESTORIL - PORTUGAL

Optimization of Accessibility and Quality of Metadata for Researchers: an Example of Collaboration Between INSEE and CASD

- *National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE)*
- *Secure Data Access Center (CASD)*

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Outline

- Presentation of the two organizations
  - INSEE and the RMéS Metadata Repository
  - CASD French secure data hub
  - Previous Works Between INSEE and CASD
- Experimentation
  - Mapping Between INSEE and CASD Model with DDI
  - Current Process for Disseminating Data and Metadata
  - Experimented Workflow and Beyond
  - Expected Gains
- Conclusion & Next step

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Two Organizations: a Data Producer (INSEE) and a Data Disseminator (CASD)

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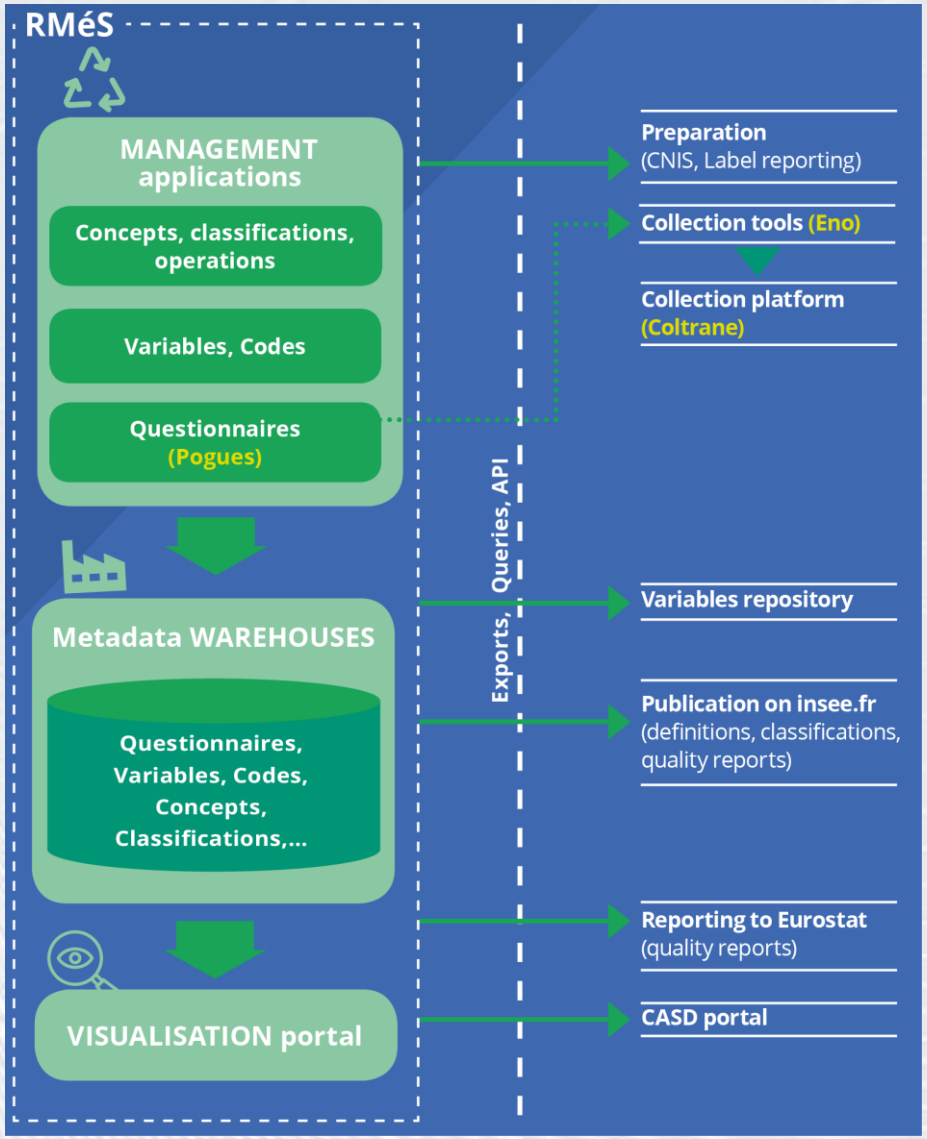
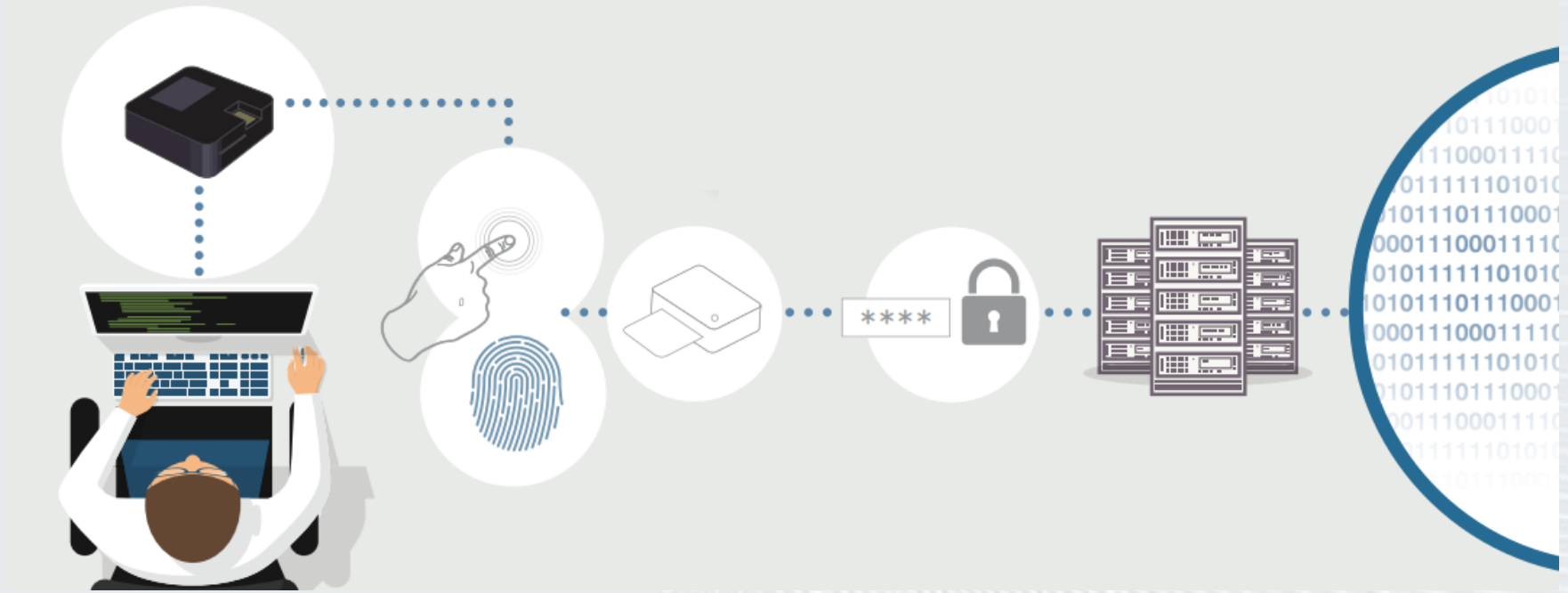
The RMéS Metadata Repository

Statistical metadata are essential to understanding the statistical output that they describe. By standardising metadata, they can be accessed and reused easily. The producer of a single statistical operation need not look any further. But for an organisation such as INSEE, which handles a large number of statistical operations, centralisation is necessary. It ensures uniformity in the representation of cross-functional metadata and the consistency of information provided, using identification rules.

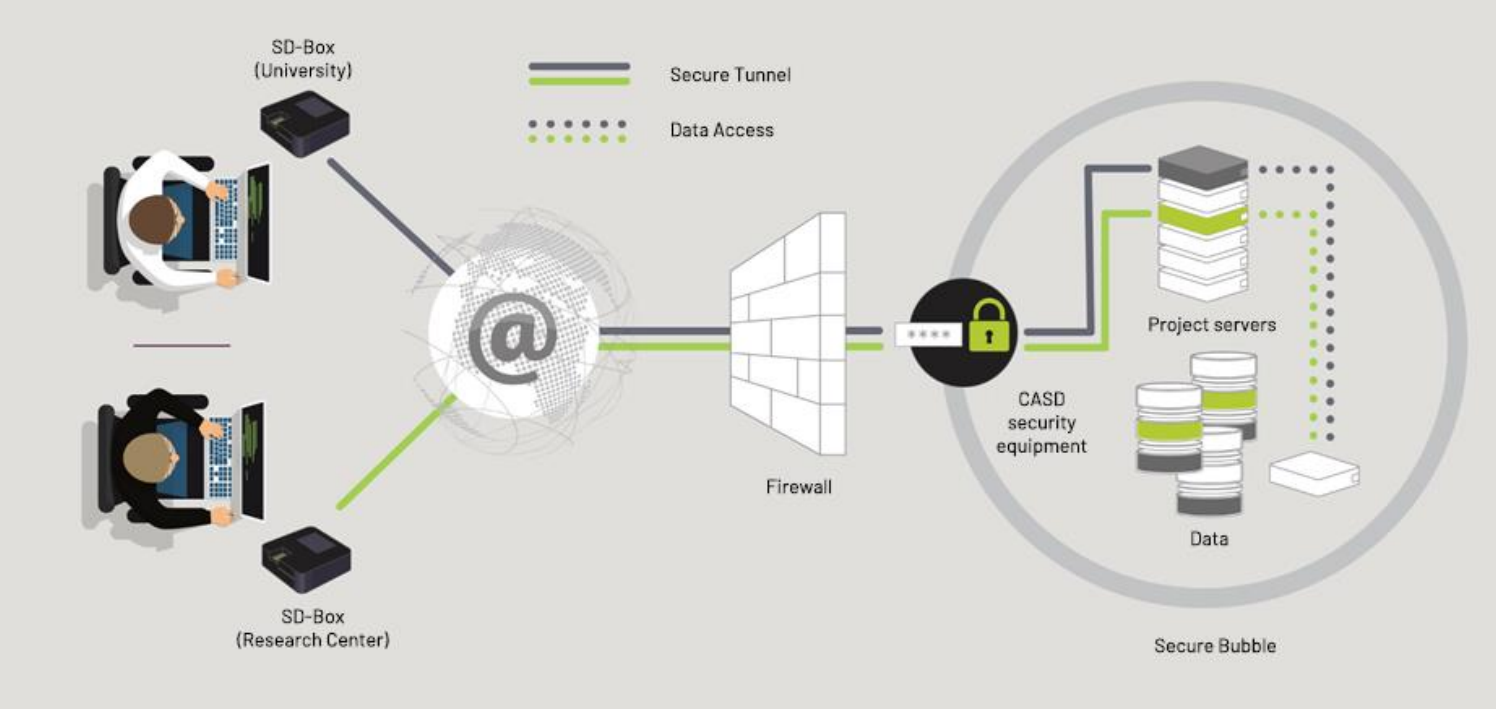


The French Secure Data Access Center (CASD)

- Organize and set up services of secure access to confidential data for users pursuing non-profitable research, study, evaluation or innovation purposes
- Secure terminal called an SD- Box
- Individual access smartcard and biometric authentication



- The SDBOX is linked by a secure tunnel to the user's project work environment
- Each secure bubble is isolated from all the other bubbles
- No file can be retrieved directly by the user or inserted in the work environment (no copy/paste, no printing, no USB key, no internet connection...)



➢ Key Figures

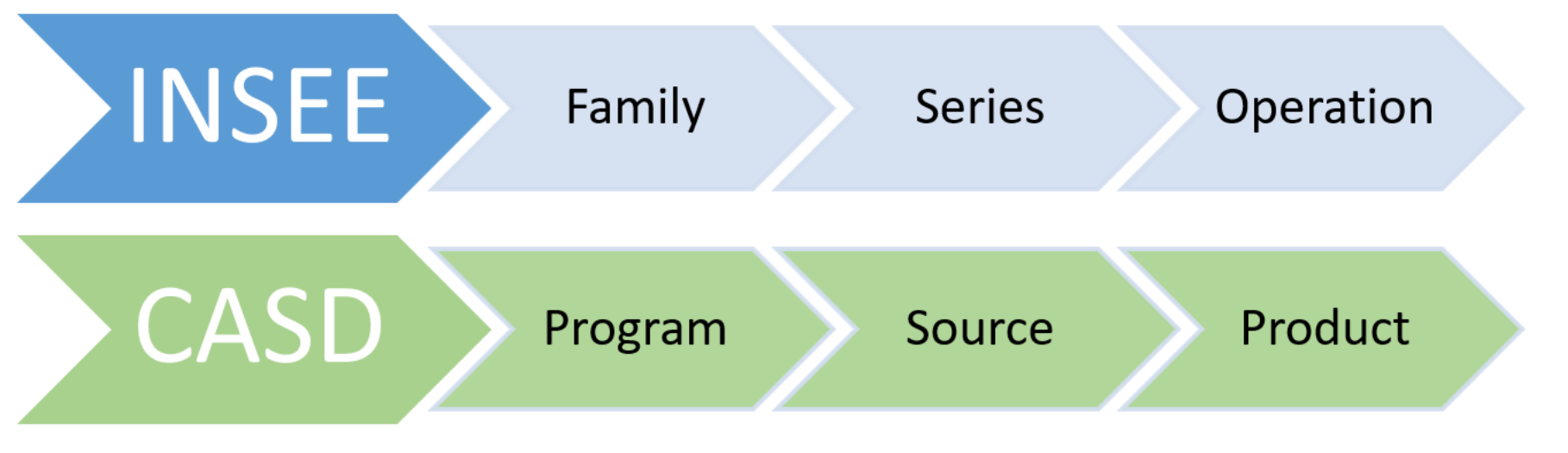
518	1542	1010	5460	+400
sources de données mises à disposition de façon sécurisée (voir la liste complète des sources disponibles)	**projets gérés et hébergés**	**institutions utilisatrices**	**utilisateurs de données sécurisées** depuis son lancement	**publications et communications référencées** (articles, chapitres d'ouvrages, ouvrages, thèses, rapports, conference papers, etc.)

➢Documentation

- Data Documentation Initiative standard (DDI Lifecycle)
- Colectica Software
- Access to data sources https://www.casd.eu/en/data-used-at-casd/

Previous Works Between INSEE and CASD

- Mapping Between INSEE and CASD Model



Experimentation

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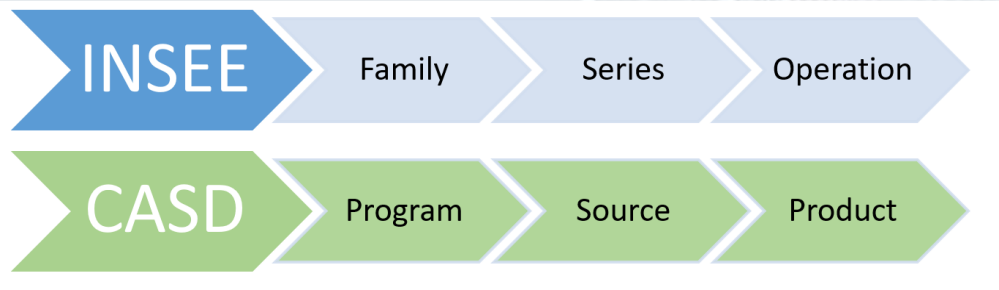
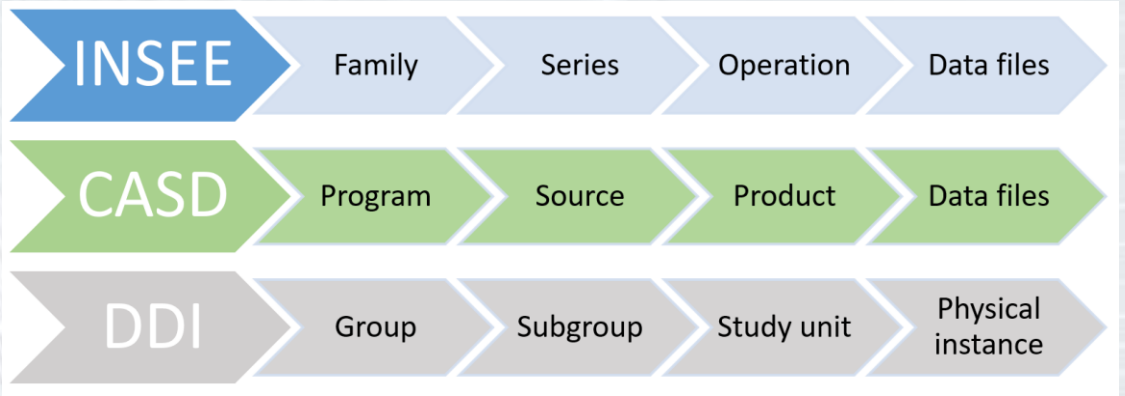
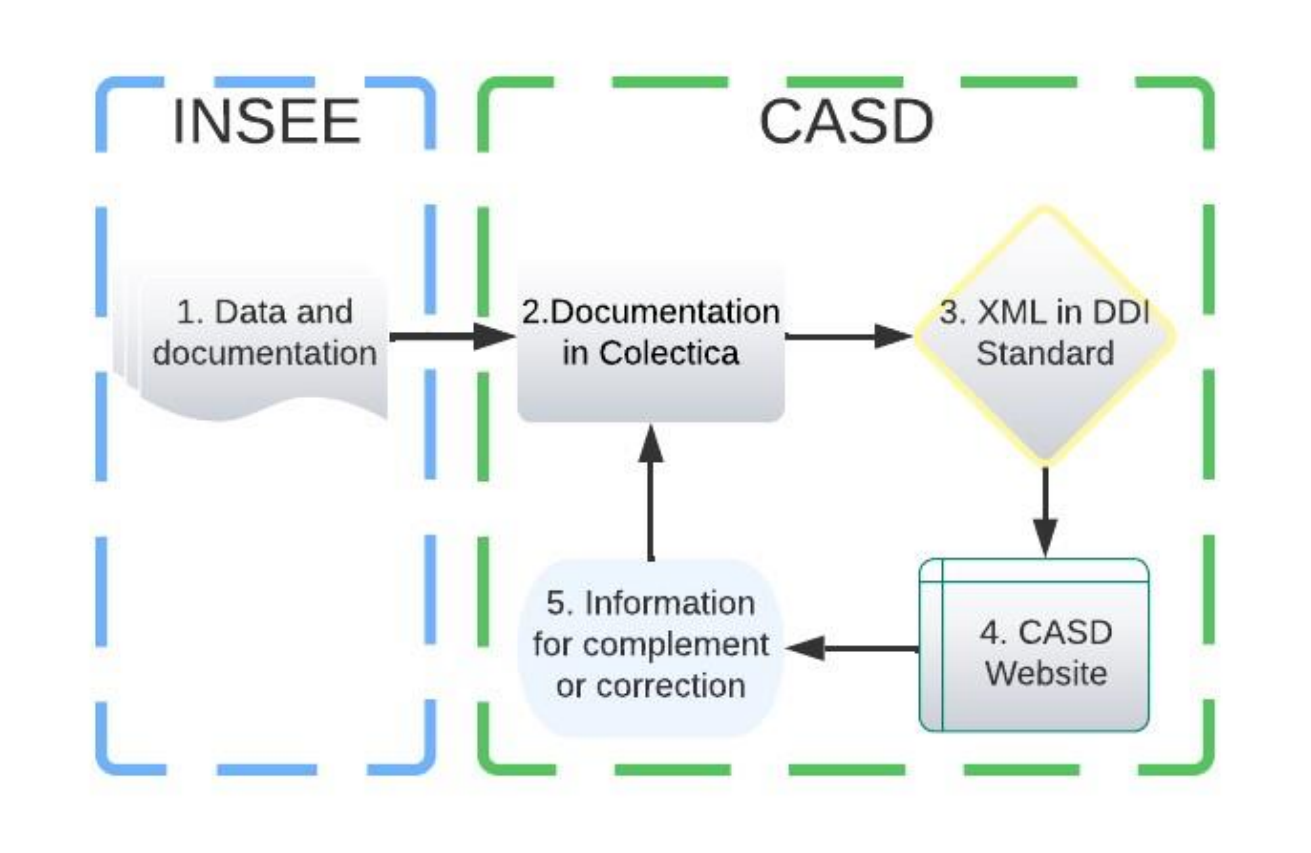
Mapping Between INSEE and CASD Model with DDI

- Matching the documentation's architecture of INSEE and CASD with DDI standard enables the exchange of XML files
- Experimentation focused on metadata at the lowest level: Physical instance



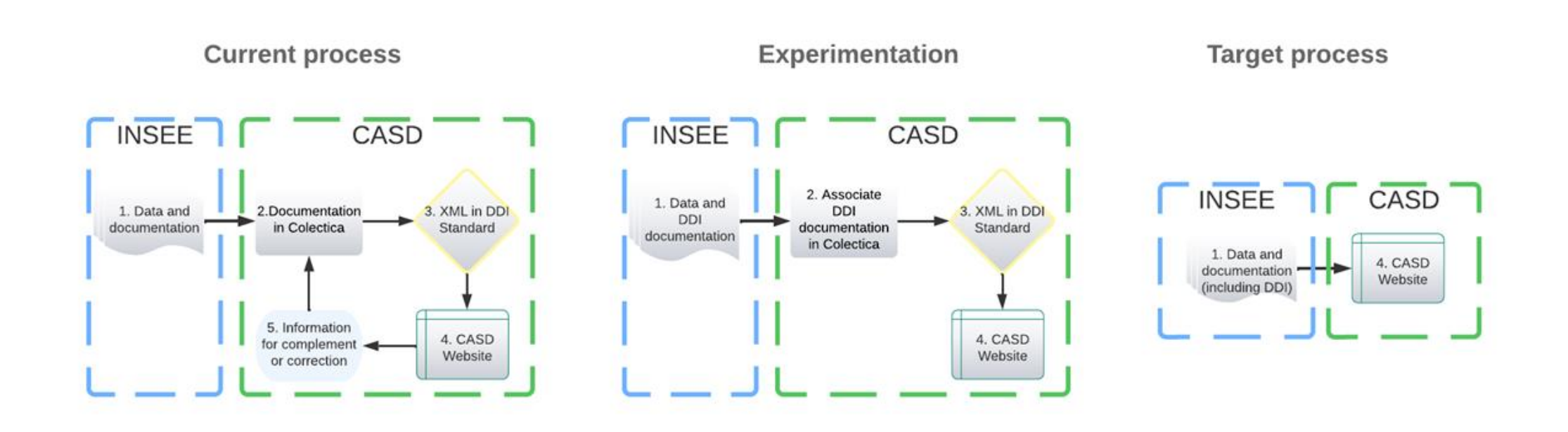


Current Process for Disseminating Data and Metadata



Process of Disseminating Data and Metadata

- CASD website requires documentation at study unit level: manipulation via the Colectica software
- Experimentation on “All employees databases - job position data 2019”



Expected Gains

- on workload
- on timeliness
- on reliability
- on relevance
- on accessibility and clarity of the information
- on coherence

Conclusion

Conclusion

- Main purpose:
  - Provide users with an overview of the confidential data available in the secure area
  - Description of the variables and modalities
- The benefits of sharing the same standard:
  - Facilitates reusability
  - Speeds up documentation display
  - Reduction of the reinterpretation of the meaning of variables

What's next?

- Ongoing work
  - INSEE has retrieved 163 metadata files in XML format
  - Re-use to back-document their data files in the RMéS repository
- Next steps
  - Consolidate this process and encourage its generalization within the other producers from the French Official Statistical System
  - At this point in time none of the other producers providing the data through CASD use the DDI standard

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Thank you for your attention

CASD website: https://www.casd.eu

CASD

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