

# **Implementing a Field Survey Management System for PIAAC using Blaise**

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## ***Abstract***

This paper will describe the Blaise developments undertaken to facilitate the Central Statistics Office (CSO) participation in the Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC). PIAAC is a collaborative project between governments and an international consortium to assess cognitive skills, IT literacy and formal educational attainment. The study is taking place across twenty-five OECD and partner countries in 2011 with results available in 2013.

The PIAAC consortium provided a “black-box” assessment instrument that was designed to maximise cross-cultural, cross-national and cross-language validity. All countries must adhere to common technical standards when implementing the survey but they are responsible for their own survey and case management functionality.

CSO’s IT requirements for the survey included the following:-

- Facility to capture the household constituents and randomly select one eligible person to complete the PIAAC assessment
- Paradata capture
- Laptop GUI for interviewers to manage their workload, this also needs to interact with the PIAAC “black-box” to display assessment status and manage the transfer of updated cases to the office
- Data management and administration including management of data transfer from the field to the office
- Field supervisor GUI and reports
- Office GUI and reports.

A pilot field test was conducted in 2010 and the key lesson learned from the pilot was that the field applications required much tighter integration with the PIAAC “black-box”. The solution was developed almost exclusively in Blaise using a combination of Manipulus and Manipulas scripts. The full paper will outline the design approach, describe the functionality available in the various GUIs and the data management features.