Background Information on the Evaluation of the DFG-sponsored Program "Fachinformationsdienste für die Wissenschaft" (FID)

The program "Fachinformationsdienste für die Wissenschaft" (FID, which may be translated as "Specialized Information Service for Science") sponsored by the DFG was started in 2012. It replaced the sponsoring format known as "Sondersammelgebiet" ("Special Collection Field"), which had been in place for decades, in 2014. The DFG currently supports a total of 35 FIDs including the FID in Theology.

The new sponsoring format used for the FIDs is now being reviewed. The goal of this evaluation is to determine whether the program is fulfilling its purpose, which is to expand local information structures to provide a fast and direct access to specialized literature at a national and international level, and to develop further information services.
Another very important goal of the evaluation is to provide the basis for a discussion of how to finance the FID programs in the long term beyond the usual project sponsoring provided by the DFG.

In a first round, the managers of all 35 FIDs had to fill out an online survey. Afterwards, eight FIDs, including the FID in Theology, were chosen to take part in more detailed case studies. The goal of these case studies is not to review the FIDs themselves, but to review the whole sponsoring system of the FIDs by looking at concrete examples.

Evaluation Concept

Combination of quantitative and qualitative methods

1. Survey of FIDs
   a. Online survey of FIDs, assessment
   b. In-depth case studies with qualitative investigations on special themes and questions
2. Survey of users from the scientific community
   a. Online survey and interviews of users from the scientific community on their use of the services offered, their informational needs and the added value provided by the services offered
3. Survey of libraries as clients
   a. Short survey of library management
   b. Workshop with subject specialists
4. Participation of the "Kompetenzzentrum für Lizenzierung" ("Competence Center for Licensing") on the topics of access to digital media, licensing and licensing models.

Source of the evaluation concept: https://wikis.sub.uni-hamburg.de/webis/images/c/c8/2017_AG_FID_2_DFG.PDF

Further Information

1. On the evaluation and the subsequent timetable:
   https://wikis.sub.uni-hamburg.de/webis/images/c/c8/2017_AG_FID_2_DFG.PDF
2. On all the FIDs:
   https://wikis.sub.uni-hamburg.de/webis/index.php/Hauptseite
3. On the FID in Theology:
   https://ixtheo.de