Le rapport d’étape doit être rédigé en anglais (une version française pourra être jointe).

Il ne doit pas excéder 22 pages.
1. Etat d’avancement du Projet / Progress of the project

1.1 Governance

Adjustments

One of the initial goals of the project was to bring together Toulousain researchers from the humanities and social sciences to study the forms of organising social worlds. Most of the CNRS research centres targeted were involved in developing the project. However, two centres from the University of Toulouse 3 were not able to participate for various reasons (a change of management for one, the limited availability of researchers during the project development period for another). We have taken this into account and planned to finalize the list of research themes in case the proposal was successful.

In the first months of operation of SMS, adjustments were made on three levels. First, we have integrated the two centres from the University of Toulouse 3, LERASS (EA 827) and PRISSMH SOI-team (EA 4561), after a series of academic discussions with the Steering Committee. The size and scope initially targeted has thus been reached, with about 450 full-time researchers working within SMS.

Second, we sought to strengthen the interface between social sciences in SMS and the humanities (philosophy, anthropology, literature and languages), as these latter disciplines were part of another Toulouse Labex proposal that was unsuccessful (Rehma). As some of the activities organised in this group were very close to SMS’s research directions, we decided to integrate them into SMS as part of a new research group (called Humanities). Thus, scholars from the research centres ERRAPHIS (Equipe de recherche sur les rationalités philosophiques et les savoirs [Research team on philosophical rationality and knowledge, EA 3051]) and LLA-CREATIS (Lettres-Langues-Arts: Création, Recherche, Émergence, en Arts, Textes, Images, Spectacles [Letters, Languages, Arts: Creation, Research, and Emergence in Art, Texts, and Images]).

Third, we have worked to define additional research groups (whose research themes were part of the original project). This was done first to include researchers who were not able to be fully involved in project development in 2011, and second, to ensure complete coverage of the various aspects of our overall research programme. Three new research groups have thus been defined: Religious worlds, Market worlds, and Contemporary political worlds. This did not generate additional cost, however, as we had planned for the contingency of incorporating innovative projects that did not fit into the previously defined research groups, and had set aside funding for a maximum of two new research groups in 2014. Finally, one of the four methodology workshops initially planned was integrated into the programme on information technology and communication.

SMS Operations

The management team consists of a director (Michel Grossetti), four deputy directors (Michel Bertrand, Denis Eckert, Marie-Christine Jaillet, and Vincent Simoulin,) and a general secretary (Christine Ruiz-Bauza). Caroline Datchary and Johann Chaulet are responsible for the programme on information technology and communications (ComUniTic). Robert Boure is in charge of the magazine for disseminating results, Mondes Sociaux [Social Worlds] and of a writing workshop designed to help junior researchers publish articles.

The main body dealing with SMS operations is the Steering Committee, composed of the research group leaders; the list of members (currently forty people) is not fixed. It meets approximately every two months chaired by the Director of the Labex and takes decisions on recruiting doctoral and post-doctoral students, financing empirical research projects, and all...
other decisions related to SMS activities. All of the Steering Committee’s decisions and related documents are available on the intranet for Labex participants.

The **Partial Steering Committee**, composed of representatives of the CNRS research centres involved in SMS (the director, one representative from each team and 2 for the 3 largest CNRS teams) is entitled to vote alone in case of necessity.

All SMS participants gather annually at a **General Assembly** to discuss SMS activities, chaired by the Director of the Labex.

SMS includes a **Board of Directors**, composed of representatives from academic institutions and the CNRS research centres involved, and three representatives from civil society. The Board discusses the activities of the Labex annually and votes every two years on its organization. It is headed by the Director of the Labex (who does not vote). The Board of Directors met for the first time on 19 December 2012 and unanimously approved the organization of SMS. It again met on 13 December 2013, then on 16 December 2014, where it once again unanimously approved the organization of the Labex.

All SMS activities are evaluated by members of an **Academic Council** composed of 12 international experts. This council meets every two years. The first meeting was held April 7, 2014, followed by a symposium with presentations by experts and SMS members. It is chaired by one of the experts appointed by the Steering Committee, Vladimir Kolossov. The Academic Council interacts with members of the Steering Committee and draws up a report containing a number of recommendations.

**In sum, the Board of Directors mandates the Director and the Steering Committee to manage the Labex’s activities and it gives an opinion on these activities from the perspective of permanent organisations (academic institutions, CNRS research centres). The Academic Council gives advice strictly on research matters. The General Assembly provides opinions from all of the participants.**

**In practice, the functioning of research groups and workshops** is as follows. Each research group and methodological workshop has a leader and is given a certain amount of funding for the life of Labex. To start a particular project, the researchers involved in the groups must formulate projects with a maximum duration of 3 years. Each project is evaluated by two reviewers, selected by the Steering Committee from among the different member research centres. On the basis of reports and project proposals, the Steering Committee then decides to validate or reject the proposals. The Steering Committee may examine projects at each of its meetings. A project that has been refused may be proposed again at a subsequent committee meeting after making changes. An annual report enables us to track projects both academically and administratively.

### 1.2 Research

Research is conducted by full-time, tenured researchers and professors involved in the project, by research assistants (Master’s or Ph.D. students) recruited to assist them, as well as by Ph.D. students and postdocs funded by SMS. All graduate students and postdocs pursue their own, independently chosen research projects.

In 2015, the SMS includes **eleven empirical research groups**, which break down SMS’s broad research goal in order to study a variety of phenomena and social universes that social science research seeks to better document: internet and electronic communication, migration, aging, research activities, industrial worlds, rural worlds, historical contexts (Greco-Roman Empire, the Middle Ages, the Americas during Independence movements), and religious, commercial and political activities. Depending on the particular research group, studies are done either on large collections of data (on communication, aging, networks of scholars in
Antiquity), or on a more limited scale that contribute to the broader themes. We will describe each of these research groups in greater detail below. All of the groups work on producing data that enable the advancement of knowledge about social worlds.

As for the three methodological workshops, they seek to strengthen collective expertise and to innovate on computerized textual analysis, the ethnography of electronic devices, and, of course, the analysis of social networks. Each workshop regularly organizes training for all the SMS researchers and seminars to share and compare experiences.

Exchanges with colleagues from other cities or countries take the form of short stays (1 week to 1 month) of SMS researchers in outside institutions and/or of colleagues from these institutions who come to Toulouse. We also fund translations of articles or books by SMS researchers into foreign languages. Finally, we fund research grants for scholars who, after a period of working in administration and/or teaching (i.e. being Department Head, running the Master’s program, etc) need support to return to writing articles or books.

Progress

Compared to what was planned in the original project proposal and amended in 2012, the recruitment of Ph.D. students (9) and post-doctoral students (12) was in line with our expectations. The research groups also progressed according to plan, each with its own organization (more focused on large surveys or more targeted studies) and pace. As 2013 was primarily devoted to implementing the Labex, inviting visiting scholars began in 2014 with three foreign researchers (Barry Wellman, Beverly Wellman and Yves Gingras). The first translations also began in 2014. The first visits of SMS researchers as visiting scholars abroad are planned for 2015.

1.3 Education

After talking with the heads of the master’s programs associated with the CNRS centres who are part of SMS, we created a network of master’s programmes that offers specific classes (4 research seminars) and pools together over eleven existing masters degrees in the disciplines involved in SMS. In addition to the standard classes in the master’s program that students are enrolled in, they can also take six classes chosen from among the seminars offered by SMS or the other master’s programs. In its first year of operation, 2014-2015, 27 students enrolled in the network.

1.4 Dissemination of Findings

SMS strives to change the connection between researchers and civil society. Three initiatives embody this commitment. The first is a think tank, the Laboratory of Ideas (LDI), which brings together researchers and people from different social worlds (artists, journalists, activists, politicians, entrepreneurs, etc.). This SMS Think Tank has organized collective discussion seminars on three major subjects: social diversity, employment, and religion in society. We have also organized a series of short talks on issues in the news that SMS’ research can help us to understand (such as: “Questioning the common wisdom on aging in society – a cost or a resource?”; “Social-spatial segregation – does the growth of a networked society help dissolve it?”; and “The Economic crisis”). These open, introductory talks present a synthesis of information (in 15 min) that can help reframe the way these questions are asked. The talk is then followed by a long period of discussion that enables participants to further refine their understanding of the subject.
Inspired by living labs, the ComUniTIC project (Communauté d’Universitaires autour des usages des Technologies de l’Information et de la Communication [Community of Academics on the Use of Information and Computing Technologies]) believes that the social sciences and humanities are essential for understanding and analyzing the uses of ICT. ComUniTIC brings together scholars in the Toulouse area who work on these issues and initiates partnerships with the private sector. Finally, it also constitutes a place of exchange and mediation with the general public (large conferences, training classes, meetings, public debates, festivals, etc.).

Finally, SMS has established a scholarly online magazine for the general public, Mondes Sociaux [Social Worlds] (http://sms.hypotheses.org). This magazine has been online since June 2013 and has enjoyed success beyond our expectations. It publishes summaries of research by SMS scholars or others in a short and accessible format. The number of visits has continued to grow since its creation, reaching nearly 13,000 unique visitors and more than 37,000 page views (30% in foreign countries, the United States and China in particular) in January 2015.

1.5 Labex influence and dissemination

The three initiatives to foster connections between researchers and civil society mentioned in the previous section strongly contribute to the influence of SMS, which is now well-known in the French social science landscape as well as among local groups and civil society. Our research projects also contribute to this influence. For example, a cooperative survey on cultural practices and social networks of 15-25 year olds, which involved 38 economics teachers and 1,346 students from 24 high schools in the Toulouse area, has helped spread awareness of SMS research topics and methods.

2/ Impact de la labellisation et du financement associé / Label and associated funding impact

A) Description des réalisations scientifiques/Scientific achievement description

Theoretical Bases

The SMS project is organized around four themes: social networks, devices, the creation of rules, and territories. These themes define the ingredients of the ‘thickness’ of the social world, in which social interactions are understood in all their complexity. The position adopted by the SMS is that the social worlds cannot be reduced to a set of independent individuals interacting smoothly within a vast market, as traditionally understood by the term ‘social structures.’ If we depict the phenomena traditionally studied by the human and social sciences in two dimensions, corresponding to the number of people involved and the duration of the processes (see Table 1), what particularly interests us here are the central squares. These squares cover a range of phenomena that last longer than a simple interaction, and which may involve a considerable number of people, but which, for all that, does not reach the level of great masses and very long periods. This intermediate level is naturally connected to other orders of magnitude and duration, and thus research on this level can naturally be extended to more macro levels or, on the contrary, focus on more micro levels.
These concepts are regularly discussed in the seminar “L’espace des sciences sociales [The Space of the social sciences]” and were again worked on as a group during a residential Summer Institute held in September 2014 to develop and refine the theoretical framework of the SMS. The concept of timing will henceforth be added to the four ways of addressing the subject that we have previously considered.

**Implementation**

SMS research occurs in four different ways: doctoral theses (9 underway), post-docs (8 completed, 4 in progress), research groups (11 underway, with 50 projects approved) and the methodology workshops.

**Ph.D. students** are selected in two stages based on their previous work and their dissertation project (which must have the approval of a CNRS research centre that is an SMS member, along with a researcher to supervise the thesis). The first examines their application and the second is an interview with the Steering Committee to fill the three funded positions available. In 2014, for example, we reviewed 24 applications and interviewed 12 candidates. Here is the list of current Ph.D. theses underway within the SMS framework:

- “Dynamiques d’insertion d’une minorité de femmes dans une pratique ludique dominée par les hommes : l’exemple des MMORPG [The Dynamics of inserting a minority of women into a game dominated by men: the example of MMORPGs [Massively multiplayer online role-playing game]]” (Sociology)
Post-docs are selected based on their track record, their publications, and their post-doc project (which they must conduct within an SMS member research centre). They are selected in two rounds, the first based on their applications and the second consisting of an interview with the Steering Committee. In 2014, we reviewed 24 applications and interviewed 12 candidates. Here is the list of post-docs and their career after the post-doc:

- “Sur les routes de l’autorickshaw : activités marchandes transnationales et chaîne logistique industrielle [On the road of the autorickshaw: transnational market activities and the industrial supply chain]” (2013, anthropology, the postdoc subsequently continued with another postdoc and was recruited in one of the CNRS research teams affiliated with SMS).

- “Migrations transnationales et réseaux : l’exemple des Marocain(e)s [Transnational migrations and networks: the example of Moroccans]” (2013, sociology, the postdoc was recruited as an associate professor and joined one of the CNRS research centres affiliated with SMS).

- “Morts légales : Analyse comparée de la formation de trois politiques publiques aux Etats-Unis [Legally Dead: A Comparative analysis of the formation of three public policies in the United States]” (2013, political science, the researcher worked on the postdoc for a few months with SMS then obtained another postdoc with another institute).

- “L’enveloppement du monde. Les réseaux de la recherche et l’industrie spatiale [Covering the world: research networks and the space industry]” (2013, history, the researcher continued with other postdocs).
The research groups began in December 2012. The following report therefore covers two years. We know it takes on average five to six years to analyze the results and draw conclusions from a study in humanities and social sciences. Of course, this also depends on whether the study is a continuation of previous work or whether it is an entirely new project. In the first case, the results are produced more quickly. Both of these cases are found in SMS research findings.

Research Group 1, “Networks and ICT” (coordinators Emmanuel Eveno, and Michel Grossetti) plans for a series of field studies on the use of current communication methods in establishing and maintaining social relationships, and on the potential changes in personal networks. Several studies have been undertaken, particularly the development of two applications for tracking the most frequent phone calls on mobile phones and smartphones. Following up with "the Caen panel" (a longitudinal survey on personal networks conducted by colleagues from Caen and Aix-en-Provence since 1995) is scheduled for 2015. For this study, we are working with the Laboratoire d’économie et de sociologie du travail [Research centre on the Economics and sociology of work] in Aix-en-Provence, whose Director of Research is participating in the study. A literature review of the most recent work on this subject has been done and was published in the journal Réseaux [Networks].
Yet, the main survey was conducted in collaboration with teachers in Economics and Social Sciences in the Toulouse school district. 1,346 students sent 2,462 questionnaires to young people from age 15 to 25, of which 2,261 forms can be used (respondents cited 6,001 personal relationships). Among other things, this survey shows the importance of social media (77% of the people mentioned by respondents are "friends" with them in online media, mainly Facebook), but also their very generational nature (the proportion is only 25% for relations with parents). The survey also contained a question about "people with whom I can talk about important things" that enables comparisons with various international surveys using the same question. Preliminary comparisons with US data seem to confirm that French young people are less frequently isolated (no one cited).

**Research Group 2, "Mobility, migrations and networks" (coordinators Chantal Bordes-Benayoun, Olivier Pliez, and Alain Tarrius)** uses social network methods and more broadly those on social relations in studying mobility and migrations, fields in which these methods have been largely neglected. Research on migrations, which was essentially qualitative, was done before obtaining the Labex but was limited to groups of researchers working in different centres. By providing a common guiding thread to relationship approaches, we can now discuss issues with a shared common framework. The first impact of the Labex has been the creation of an interdisciplinary research cluster in Toulouse. This cluster is built around a regular seminar (4 sessions per year since 2013), for exchanging ideas and experiences among specialists of migration and of networks from several disciplines (anthropology, geography, history, sociology and, outside the Labex framework, archaeology). This is a space for scholarly dialogue as well as education, due to the presence of many Master's and Ph.D. students. The second impact has been the creation of new approaches to subjects that have long been studied in Toulouse, on transnational issues, trade, gender and religion as well as in different fields of study that have only marginally addressed these issues. These include the hardening of political approaches to illegal migration and posted work in Europe, and new insights on the sociology of health. Among the projects begun in late 2012, one research project examines posted workers in Europe, focusing on field work in France and in Portugal. Posted work in Europe, which means in principle a temporary move to another country, remains an unexplored subject within the social sciences, although public debate is just beginning. The project examines legal texts governing the phenomenon (in collaboration with legal scholars) and a series of interviews with workers. A second project concerns female migrations from outside the EU into the EU related to sex work in the French trucking milieu. This project uses field surveys and data collection on the mobility of women from the Balkans and the Caucasus to Spain. A third project is studying, in disadvantaged Toulousan neighbourhoods, the way in which the psychiatric problems of migrants and their descendants are perceived, known about, and dealt with by mental health professionals: how the culture of foreign patients or those of foreign origin is taken into account or not; what definitions people have of culture and otherness. Among the results of this study, there are indications of medical pluralism on the part of patients. This ethnographic investigation has collected considerable data on how these foreign patients use alternative therapies, although medical professionals do not seem able to identify these practices or to be able to objectify their discourse.

**Research Group 3, "Organising Scholarly Worlds" (coordinators Corinne Bonnet, Denis Eckert, and Béatrice Milard)** examines the abundant traces left by the production and circulation of knowledge, from the complementary perspectives of networks and territories. This group covers a very broad geographical and disciplinary space as well as changes over time from Antiquity to contemporary practices. For example, this group supported the completion of an ongoing study on the geography of research, based on a complete geocoding
of articles identified by the Web of Science. This group also supported new research on large-scale scientific facilities, and on networks of exchanges among scholars in Antiquity. Other projects, such as one on the networks of heterodox economists, are being developed.

Within the SMS framework, research on the geography of scholarly publications focused on the networks of co-authors from research teams in different cities. Analysis of these networks showed a densification of the global scholarly network (in the 500 cities that account for 85% of publications) and a reduction in hierarchies of centrality. In particular, one of the findings contradicts prevailing wisdom: national contexts are not weakening, since collaboration between researchers in different cities in the same country are growing as fast as those of researchers from different countries; both of these increases are occurring at the expense of publications made by one research centre. To put it another way, globalization is not doing away with national contexts (which, in fact, are getting stronger in countries such as China)—globalization is only one aspect of the growth of collaborative research.

The study on scholarly networks in Antiquity focuses on the first two centuries of the ‘Greco-Roman’ Empire as a crucial moment in the convergence of Greek culture and Roman power. The project began with a historical, anthropological, and sociological analysis of Plutarch’s banquets (bringing together just under 100 scholars) as a mediating space. This study, which resulted in a grant from the ANR [the French National Research Agency], showed that it was possible to conduct network analyses on this type of source text. The project plans to develop a digital edition of Plutarch’s "Table Talk."

Research on large-scale scientific facilities has taken the form of field surveys in several cases and a seminar for discussing the results and organising a new research approach that takes into account astronomical observatories of the seventeenth century as well as current particle accelerators. More generally, the pooling of interdisciplinary skills that has resulted from shared reflection on the structuring of scientific worlds and the tools needed to understand them over time, has resulted in an innovative article, “Les réseaux savants et leur visualisation de l’Antiquité à nos jours [Networks of scholars and the visualization of them from Antiquity to the present],” in press in the journal Histoire et informatique [History and computing], co-authored by geographers and historians. The group dynamic continues with biannual meetings to foster new research projects. For example, a project on the intertwining of academic management and the business world has just begun, and another study on heterodox economists’ networks is being developed. Another project on Academic Worlds by a member of this group has just been awarded an ANR [French National Research Agency] Young Researchers grant (the VISA project Vies Savantes [Learned Lives] by Nicolas Adell-Gombert).

Research Group 4, "Transformation of Production Worlds" (coordinators Pierre Triboulet, Danièle Galliano, Jean-Marc Olivier, Jean-Marc Zuliani, Jérôme Vicente, and Olivier Brossard), aims to better understand business clusters and networks. Studies have focused specifically on innovative companies (start-ups), agribusinesses, competitiveness clusters, and the historical changes in aviation industry networks. As for the start-ups project, this study began before the Labex, but has now been able to make significant progress thanks to the Labex. We now have over a hundred detailed histories to be able to accurately analyze embedding effects (the dependency of start-ups on the personal networks of their founders) and their changes over time. In the early stages, start-ups are highly dependent on the personal relationships of their founders. In later stages, they are only able to partially free themselves from this dependency, in particular by relying on ‘downstream’ connections (clients). Furthermore, start-ups’ development often goes through phases of crisis and reorientation that we have now documented. A book in the final stages of completion summarizes the findings.
Research on business clusters has been enriched by the study on start-ups (some of which start-ups participated in the clusters examined) and by discussions with representatives from the aerospace industry in the SMS Think Tank Laboratoire Des Idées (see below). We have thus identified changes in the main industrial cluster of Greater Toulouse including a likely decline in its design work, which threatens the cohesion of the cluster.

For the agri-food industry, SMS research has provided insight into what kinds of resources companies mobilize in order to innovate, based on studies analyzing multiple kinds of interactions among actors (such as innovative projects in competitiveness clusters and in regional organizations, spatial externalities of specialization and diversification). These studies are based on econometric quantitative approaches and on qualitative approaches to interviews, using the quantified narrations method. These approaches have enabled researchers to bring to light the specificities of companies in the agri-food sector, for whom rootedness in a given territory and the organization of sectors are important issues (link with Group 7 "Rural Worlds").

Research Group 5, "New Forms of Aging" (coordinators Michel Grossetti, Anita Meidani, and Alice Rouyer) is a longitudinal study of people over 60 that analyses their lifestyles, their relationship to aging, and their personal networks. After various workshops with specialists which enabled us to refine the method, a first wave of the study was done using a method that combines lengthy questionnaires with more qualitative and recorded parts. This survey was conducted March-July 2014 with 470 people of the greater Toulouse area and from small rural towns of the Hautes Pyrénées and Aveyron departments. The data is rich and complex and is being processed. As for respondents’ networks, they cited an average of 15 connections (from 1 to 50), and we have identified the relationships between the people cited, making a subset of four relationships on average. The data enables us to assess the density of respondents’ networks, which was shown to be higher than for other age groups (0.6 on average in our data). We plan to repeat the same survey with the same respondents in 2017.

Research Group 6, "Historical Analysis of Social Networks and their Relationship to Power" (coordinators Michel Bertrand, Christine Doussset, Florent Hautefeuille, and Claire Judde de la Larivière) includes historical studies on networks in multiple contexts. One study is underway on elites of the former Spanish colonial empire, which contributes to the collaborative database FICHOZ developed by J.P. Dedieu (Director of Research CNRS). For twenty years, this database has served as a shared tool for research carried out both in France and Spain on powerful groups in the Hispanic world of the 18th and 19th centuries. From the Notarial Archives of Puebla, scholars have been able to reconstruct the life histories and family genealogies of individuals identified as a point of entry into the world of local elites between 1770 and 1830.

Another study examines the political and practical skills and the common knowledge, expertise and agency of ordinary people, within a broad historical perspective. In particular, this project focuses on the genesis and configuration of these elements from the fourteenth to the nineteenth century, in order to show how ordinary people participated in a decisive way in the structuring of social worlds, whether they collaborated with political institutions or were excluded. Moreover, this study aims to compare these historical elements with current work by political scientists and sociologists, in order to analyze the historicity of the public action of ordinary people from the fourteenth century to today.

A final project studies the world of butchers in the 14th and 15th centuries in the cities of the Mediterranean world in order to reconstruct their ways in which they functioned as economic agents, whose importance goes far beyond strictly providing food. Given the value
of the product butchers sold, this research seeks to uncover their role as ‘financial’ agents of the first order.

Research Group 7, "Rural Worlds" (coordinators Bernard Charlery and Danielle Galliano) explores how social worlds are organized, recombine and evolve in rural and low-density areas. The purpose is to analyze the structure, diversity and change in social networks in rural areas and to identify the ways in which knowledge and understanding circulates in these low-population density areas. The group’s fundamental seminar (“Diversity and Coexistence of Agricultural Worlds”), had resulted in several collective and multidisciplinary studies. The first project, "Natural Resources," works on defining the issues common to various qualification processes and kinds of resource management (grazing resources, genetic, water etc.). The second project focuses on rural-urban relations in south-western France, with the preliminary results showing the interdependence of relationships and contrasts between these two kinds of spaces, urban and rural. A final project, Mondis, (a joint project with Group 2, Mobility) analyzes territorial dynamics in the rural areas of Tanzania, Egypt and Morocco, which are organized around the flow of illegally imported Chinese goods.

Research Group 8, "Political Worlds" (coordinators Eric Darras and Vincent Simoulin) strives to renew scholars’ analyses of political practices by connecting them more closely to media discourse, to lifestyles, and to cultural practices. A major longitudinal study was begun in 2013 with online questionnaires (over 10,000 responses collected). Other studies have explored the discourse on the economic crisis, management policies on the European border (a study on Lampedusa) and the building of Europe. The first outcome of this group has been the structuring of studies on European construction that were previously fragmented. This interdisciplinary organisation defined a working method (creating pairs of researchers from different disciplines, with considerable preparation of scholarly events upstream by these pairs). The second result of this Group has been enriching the approach towards several fields of study by combining different disciplinary analyses. For example, one project in this Group combines political science approaches and lexicometric textual analyses, in particular on discourse related to the economic crisis. Similarly, integrating the sociology of sport perspectives into political sociology has opened up new avenues for research. The third result is methodological innovation, particularly with the longitudinal survey.

Research Group 9, "Religious Worlds" (coordinator Jean-Pierre Albert), addresses forms of internal organisation of religious practices and institutions, and the socially structuring effects of religious affiliations, in light of contemporary developments in religion and the experiences of believers. The main studies in this Group have focused on the contribution of rituals, and that of specific uses of language, in constituting a religious world. This Group’s studies also intersect with those of the Group on Mobility (on the health of migrants and their use of religious cures; on the relationship between religious affiliation, mobility and trade). In particular, the constitution of a religious world has been studied in two aspects: the role of objects in the formation of religious contexts and experiences; and the role of the body in ritual interactions and in religion. These two studies, together with monthly seminars, resulted in an international one-day seminar. In addition, the question of language is discussed in an interdisciplinary seminar involving ethnolinguists, which has enabled the creation of links with researchers from other institutions and the defining of research subjects to be studied in further detail with them.

Research Group 10, "Market Worlds" (coordinator Franck Cochoy) studies the social bringing to life of markets and thereby the ways in which exchanges ‘make society;’ that
is to say, build relationships, create identities, transform cognitive schemas, create or go beyond asymmetries, arrange the spaces of exchange, and adjust ways of buying, selling, and ultimately, being together. Several empirical studies have been undertaken, both on contemporary situations (tourism, discourse on the economic crisis jointly with Group 8) as well as on earlier periods (trust in medieval trade). The first outcome follows from highlighting and bringing together studies from various humanities – history, sociology, and geography – on market questions. In addition to their diversity, these studies highlight processes that are longitudinal, relational and situated, and that ‘bring to life’ and ‘order’ economic situations, ipso facto calling into question the mechanistic and ahistorical representations of economic facts. The second result concerns the centrality of social and technical mediations in economic ordering. Studies underway deal with religion in the Middle Ages, the role of the press, and digital applications for tourist routes. The third result is a shared effort at methodological innovation, such as taking an archaeological perspective on medieval history, a lexicographical analysis of the economic press, and even an IT-sociology partnership that developed and experimentally tested a smartphone application on the sociology of the tourist market in Albi.

Research Group 11, "Humanities" (coordinators Jean-Christophe Goddard and Guillaume Sibertin-Blanc) brings together research in the field of philosophy and letters with the social sciences. Its first result is the bringing together of scholars in history, social anthropology, political philosophy, and literature and arts in Toulouse, in order to work on the memory of social and political violence, on gender and racial minorities, and indigenous, colonial and post-colonial minorities. This collective dynamic has resulted in federating several existing programs of five CNRS member research centres, such as CAPES-COFECUB Mémoires de l’esclavage [Memories of slavery] (FRAMESPA/LISST), a seminar “Littérature et philosophie [Litterature and philosophy]” (ERRAPHIS), and the management of the program at the Collège Internationale de Philosophie [International Philosophy College], into an interdisciplinary seminar. In academic terms, this convergence resulted in sharing and transposing methodologies and concepts about approaches to minority social worlds, such as the crisis of the social bond in situations of oppression, disaffiliation, and intra- and inter-community conflict. The second result is the increased interaction within a platform (CRISO) for cooperation between scholars and the socio-economic actors of the Midi-Pyrenees region, promoting action research programs at the doctoral and post-doctoral level in Letters, Arts and Philosophy such as one on hospital reception and care (CHU Toulouse) (subjects: Arts and Gerontology, Practices and Spaces of Treatment; Eating Disorders; Arts and Disability). The third result is the development of two databases (Bibliotheca Tholosana, and Géolocalisation des Données en langues régionales [Géodolar] [Geolocalisation of data in regional languages]) that work to preserve collections of Toulouse’s heritage that are scattered throughout European archives. These projects and the dissemination of their findings have resulted in, for example, research on the reconstruction of cultural networks on which the First Modernity in the region was based, and the study of the role of those cultural networks in the French and European cultural processes in this period.

Finally, a small supplementary budget has been allocated to support projects outside these eleven Research Groups.

Three methodological workshops complement these Groups by exchanging experiences and disseminating knowledge on methods within the SMS Labex.

Workshop 1, "Textual Analysis" (coordinators Pascal Marchand and Pierre Ratinaud) is dedicated to discourse analysis methods, especially those required by the large
body of data generated by today's media. The workshop regularly organizes training and workshop days. In addition, members are developing special software, Iramuteq. In addition to traditional textual analysis, this software will offer five new possibilities: tools to assist in interpreting the analyses, the implementation of new methods (application of similarity analyses on the corpus cut into text segments), adaptation to large corpora, perfecting the lemmatization phase, and internationalization (English and German corpora are in a pre-trial phase, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese will be added soon). Many of these goals have already been achieved (assistance tools, similarity analysis) and the others are under study or in progress. The set of freeware on which this tool is based (especially R) also enables the rapid incorporation of new methodologies for analysis. While these features already make Iramuteq one of the most comprehensive discourse analysis applications - and also make it very easy to use in research and in training (the software runs under Windows, Mac OS X and Linux and is completely free) - a phase of development and expansion of the software is about to begin.

Workshop 2, "Ethnography of Socio-technical Associations" (coordinators Franck Cochoy and Anne Mayère) focuses on methods integrating technical objects into analyses of social phenomena. Two approaches are privileged: the first, archaeology of the present time, means working like archaeologists without written sources, analyzing innovative sources of information to bring to light the contribution of socio-technical objects to action (photographic and video documentation, the sociobiographies of objects...). The second approach, quantitative ethnography, means using observation checklists that ask questions about the elements observed, whether human or non-human, and based on the data collected, developing specific statistical processing to account for the dynamics of human-object associations. One-day seminars are organized that privilege in-depth papers, enabling participants to dive deep into the process of making research material and analysing it, and to discuss the approach with participants. Several of these seminars were organized in various formats as well as an International Workshop in May 2015. In addition, a book publishing project in English is in progress on the workshop’s subjects. Another aspect of the workshop involves developing a set of online resources that bring together the most significant publications, methods, and tools of contemporary research on human-object associations.

Workshop 3, "Social Networks" (coordinators Grossetti Michel, Corinne Bonnet, Ainhoa de Federico and Frédéric Amblard) is the continuation of a group of Toulouse researchers working on social networks in various disciplines (sociologists, historians, geographers, economists, management science specialists, mathematicians and computer scientists). This group served as one of the original bases for the SMS project. This workshop deals with the traditional approaches to social network analysis (personal networks, complete networks) using the latest models and software, as well as innovative approaches specifically developed by the workshops’ researchers: combined methods for analyzing the chains of relationships mobilized, methods for analyzing scholarly networks from interviews about citations, and multi-agent models applied to the analysis of social networks. The workshop organized a conference on Social Networks in September 2012 and another is scheduled for September 2015. Moreover, several introductory training courses in social network analysis have been organized every year, as well as workshops on methods and software (Egonet, Venmaker PLACES, Visone, Pajek, R). The workshop also organized numerous one-day seminars. As a result of the workshop’s activities, SMS researchers have been introduced to and familiarised themselves with the analysis of social networks and doctoral students, both local and foreign, have been trained in this same approach. Thematic and disciplinary comparisons have been enriched as a result. Finally, this workshop also helps scholars keep up to date with the latest methodological innovations.
Methods are also the focus of an online collection of articles and texts, “Questions de méthode [Questions about Methodology]” (http://methode.hypotheses.org/).

The Emergence of a Community

The process social science research means that, in most cases, it takes five or six years for all the results of a Labex study to be finalized and published. However, the effects of the Labex are already visible today in the emergence of a social science community in Toulouse. Relations between scholars from different research centres within the Université fédérale Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées [United University of Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées] have grown considerably, enabling disciplines or methodologies that exist in only one of the partner institutions to be better disseminated. For example, knowledge of network analysis and textual analysis methods has spread widely. Thus, many researchers within SMS can now benefit from multidisciplinary research, either as part of SMS research groups and workshops, or as collegial initiatives among peers, such as the conference that occurred together with the meeting of the Academic Council in 2014, or the conference in Banyuls in September of the same year.

To be able to work together across disciplines, which serve to enrich the scholarly community, we must learn how to explain and the share the questions, methods, and vocabulary of our various disciplines, which is not as straightforward as it may seem, and requires serious work on dialogue and constructive confrontation. The SMS community has therefore developed gradually through joint work, at all levels, both through academic research projects, seminars, and meetings as well as through our collective governance that was implemented from its inception. Transparent, simple, and inclusive, organizational practices within the Labex SMS are designed so that everyone, at his or her level, can easily appropriate common tools. The quality of human and academic relationships has fostered fruitful exchanges and sincere collective involvement in this undertaking, and that is, in our eyes, the primary goal.

SMS has thus acquired a reputation as an innovative research organisation, whose style of working together and areas of inquiry are quite new. Consequently, the feeling of belonging to a social science community has been strengthened, as well as common habits in terms of project expertise, production and use of results. The momentum that began in the early years should continue and even intensify in the coming years, because solid foundations have been laid and interdisciplinary research has thus appeared to all involved as an authentic academic advantage.

Moreover, it seems to us that the emergence of the SMS community has been noticed in French and international academic circles. It is clear that this community is attractive to junior researchers (postdocs and candidates for competitive recruitment exams).

Education

SMS has created a master’s program network comprising 11 master’s degrees in history, geography, sociology, political science, information technology and sports science. The network awards an additional certificate to students enrolled in one of the partner master’s and in the six additional classes chosen from those of other master’s programmes or in specific courses organized by SMS. The network began operating in 2014 with support from the Idex. Twenty-seven students enrolled that year. During meetings with these students in October and January, they expressed their satisfaction with the network despite some of the usual hurdles involved in implementing an ambitious programme (such as incompatibility of some course schedules, programmes starting at different dates). The network enables these students to strengthen their research skills and opens up their horizons beyond their one original discipline.
The network development meetings were an opportunity for the heads of the various master’s programmes to discover the operations and the thematic orientations of other master’s programs, which revealed complementarities between them which had previously been misunderstood. We preferred to create a network rather than a new master’s degree because it seemed more effective for creating a multidisciplinary community, which has proved to be the case.

**B) Ressources humaines/Human resources**

SMS researchers have been working on the geographic mobility of the ‘creative classes’ and researchers, as well as the geography of academic activities; the geography of innovation is a research topic they have long pursued. Their work has convinced them of the futility of policies designed to attract and recruit high-profile researchers to their city and/or to recruit them for long periods of time. The number of well-known researchers willing to move is very limited, and the number of institutions that work to attract them is so high, that the chances of success are very low. That is why the SMS does not fund ‘chairs’ designed to attract such researchers. Moreover, these types of policies already exist within the Idex.

Therefore, we invite foreign colleagues for short stays (from 1 week to 1 month); for the moment we have not judged it useful to set up longer periods.

SMS’s HR policy is more oriented towards supporting junior researchers who are likely to become future additions to our research centres. It is for this reason that we fund doctoral dissertations and post-doctorates. The selection of candidates takes into account the opportunities for being recruited later into the French academic system, either at universities or research institutions. Advertising open positions is done through academic networks that are thematically close to SMS’s interests and the applications are available online.

Candidates for doctoral funding must obtain the approval of a dissertation advisor who is a member of one of SMS’s member research centres, which limits the number of candidates upstream. For the last two recruiting campaigns, there were around 25 (a dozen only for the first year as the SMS was getting started), and 10% to 20% of candidates were foreigners. One of the doctoral students recruited is Italian.

For post-docs, candidates must obtain the approval of a SMS member research centre, which also limits upstream the number of candidates, which were about the same number as for Ph.D. students at around 25 for the last two campaigns (only ten for the first year of SMS while starting up), and 10% to 20% of the candidates were from outside France.

Thus far, this policy has been successful, as with two cases of former postdocs who were then hired in 2013: one of them (Philippe Tastevin) was recruited at the CNRS in a highly competitive application process, and another (Fatima Qacha) as a lecturer at the University of Toulouse Jean Jaurès. These two young researchers have thus ended up reinforcing one of our research teams. Two other post-doctoral students from the first year were able to continue their careers at other universities. Of the four who have just completed their post-doctoral year at the time of writing, one (Sylvain Racaud) was recruited by a research organization outside of Toulouse, and three others obtained temporary contracts.

Regarding research assistants, mostly Ph.D. students without funding and postdocs, we associate them in the research publications that they participated in and we support their careers.

**C) Moyens financiers, effets leviers/Financial resources, leverage effect**

*Co-financement et levées de fonds, équipements, etc. permis par les financements du Labex.*

*Expliciter la cohérence avec la politique scientifique globale des laboratoires. Maximum 1 page.*
The search for co-financing was not a priority in the initial SMS project and we have seen this need arise as part of ANR [French National Research Agency] applications. However, the standard operating logic of research funding has meant that a number of ongoing studies have benefited from co-financing (see indicators).

The 10 CNRS research centres that make up the SMS are closely involved in all decisions and heavily committed to the project. All the centre directors are part of the SMS Steering Committee and the Board of Directors. SMS activities were strongly emphasized in all the academic reports that were recently drawn up as part of their evaluation reports, and Labex activities were integrated into their plans for the next five years. SMS policy is oriented towards a federation of the social sciences, which is perceived as beneficial by all the CNRS centres involved. Our goal was to foster excellence in research and education and to make this collective available and open to all researchers. SMS generates synergy that promotes everyone’s research within a collegial atmosphere (we have rarely had to resort to formal votes to decide within the Steering Committee). We are committed to fostering positive emulation rather than competition.

D) Impact du Labex sur la politique de son écosystème/ Labex Impact on its ecosystem policy

As we have previously explained, SMS creates a space for academic collaboration among the 10 member CNRS research centres involved, and beyond that with centres in philosophy and literature whose scholars are individually involved in the Labex. Two of the SMS member research centres are in the process of merging (LISST and Dynamiques Rurales [Rural Dynamics]), planned for 2016. This merger was facilitated by the academic framework offered by the Labex. The heads of the research units, as part of the Steering Committee and the Board of Directors, grew accustomed to working together and coordinating efforts. SMS has succeeded in attracting about 40% of the researchers who belong to research units involved in SMS. Scholars increasingly perceive SMS as the standard of what a shared intellectual universe can offer.

This convergence extends to the field of education with the master’s network mentioned above and which involves three universities in Toulouse.

Exchanges with other Labexes or Equipexes have remained informal for the moment, with two exceptions. The first is the Labex IAST, with whom we organized workshops for some of their visiting scholars. The second is the association with Labexes CIMI, IAST and AMIES for a project on complex systems that has just been accepted by Idex. This project, headed by one of our researchers, Bertrand Jouve, should strengthen exchange with the other Labexes in the Toulouse region. Furthermore, on a few occasions the Université fédérale de Toulouse [United University of Toulouse] has benefited from SMS researchers’ skills in scientometry for situating Toulouse within the national and global landscape.

Finally, we should mention that SMS has formed a partnership with the Laboratoire d’économie et de sociologie du travail [Laboratory of Economics and Sociology of Work] at Aix en Provence as part of Research Group 1.
**3/ IMPACT SOCIO ECONOMIQUE / SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT**

Cette partie constitue un second focus sur l’impact socio-économique du Labex. Décrire ici les principaux impacts déjà constatés du projet, en reprenant notamment la déclinaison opérationnelle des éléments spécifiés dans l’annexe dédiée de la convention (maximum 2 pages)

SMS is a social science project whose main objective is not to generate technical innovations that generate value for the business world. Its ‘social utility’ is in the understanding of social phenomena, informing citizens, and organizing collective reflection. Its researchers, however, have participated in the creation of a start-up, and in various exchanges with socio-economic worlds. However, these exchanges do not take place on a contractual basis in return for financial compensation, but rather in a free and informal manner.

**3.1 Partenariats avec les acteurs du secteur socio-économique (les entreprises, les pôles de compétitivité, les fondations...), et relations contractuelles établies ; création de start ups ; accueil d’industriels dans le Labex par exemple**

*Partnerships with social and economic actors (industrial actors, competitiveness clusters, foundations…) and established agreements; start-up creation; hosting of industrial actors in the Labex for instance…*

SMS researchers were involved in the creation of a start-up, the cooperative company Scool, which conducts sociological studies and is working on a method for studying networks (the "quantified narratives" method) developed by one of the SMS laboratories (LISST).

Moreover, in the context of debates organized by the SMS Think Tank “Laboratoire d’idées”, the Aerospace Valley competitiveness cluster was involved in a discussion on changes in the labour market for engineers.

The ComUniTic programme (coordinators Johann Chaulet and Caroline Datchary http://sms.univ-tlse2.fr/accueil-sms/comunitic/) organizes debates and experiments with ICT professionals (around twenty events per year since its inception in January 2013). This programme brings together social science researchers studying information and communication technology and has worked with many creators of online content.

Since September 2012, the Think Tank (coordinator Marie-Christine Jaillet) has organized focus groups with various representatives from associations, economics and politics. Meetings are held on average once a month. Based on the feedback and reviews of the various participants, three major themes have been identified. The first focuses on the issue of social diversity as a ‘cure’ for segregation effects. This theme has helped deconstruct a fuzzy concept, while at the same time recognizing its praxeological value. Their discussions, in which the critical stance of researchers was contrasted and compared with the pragmatic position of social actors who deal with the ‘making’ of the everyday urban fabric, led scholars to pose the relationship of social diversity and segregation in other terms. The second theme is that of religion and the question of friction related to religion and the French notion of laïcité (similar to secularism) in certain disadvantaged neighbourhoods of Toulouse. These discussions unfortunately prefigured the tragic events of Charlie Hebdo in January 2015 and revealed important research questions. The third theme is the labour market for engineers in a city where this profession is highly represented, particularly in design activities. These activities, which have driven Toulouse’s economic growth, are currently threatened by the refocusing of the local aviation industry on manufacturing and their range of aircraft that has been recently updated but with no new model design.
3.2 Relation avec la ou les SATT et le cas échéant, les IRT ou ITE ainsi qu’avec les autres dispositifs de transfert relevant des établissements d'enseignement supérieur et organismes de recherche/

*Relationship with the SATT (Tech-Transfert Societies), where possible, IRT (Technological research institutes) or ITE (Technological research institutes in the field of energy) and with other transfer systems involved in higher education and research institutions*

The Scool cooperative was created with legal support from the Department for Research Dissemination and Promotion of the University Jean Jaurès.

3.3 Relation à finalité économique avec des instituts de recherche partenariale européens, dans le cadre du PCRD, etc

*Commercial relations with European public-private partnership research institute, within the Framework Programmes, etc.*

We have not established this kind of relationship.

3.4 Actions entreprises pour la diffusion des connaissances ; leurs calendriers, leur pérennité (hors publications dans des journaux scientifiques)

*Promotion measures for knowledge dissemination ; schedule, durability of the measures (excluding publications in scientific journals)*

SMS Researchers have participated in numerous public events, as is common in the social sciences; we have not included the full list here. Other items that are more original are the academic magazine Mondes Sociaux [Social Worlds] and the collaborative research project RES1525.

SMS created the online academic magazine *Mondes Sociaux* [Social Worlds] (headed by Robert Boure, http://sms.hypotheses.org/), which began in June 2013. The purpose of this magazine is to make available to the general public the knowledge produced by SMS researchers in particular and in the social sciences in general. It takes the form of texts illustrated with drawings (some of the original drawings are done by one of our researchers, Patrick Mignard), photos, and sometimes videos and sound recordings. It is hosted by the website hypotheses.org.

It consists of five sections: "Publication," which summarizes and attractively presents research that has already been published in academic journals; "Researcher" is a synthesis of the work of a SMS scholar; "Forum" is an analysis by SMS researchers on a question debated within the scholarly community or the general public; "Two or three things about" is a review article on a research topic in the social sciences; “SMS Friends” presents studies done by researchers outside the SMS but that relate to our own research themes.

*Mondes Sociaux* [Social Worlds] gained attention fairly rapidly, and the website hypotheses.org often takes one of the magazine’s articles for its headlines section. In 2013, the number of "unique visitors" per month averaged 1,331, which is very good for this type of site. In 2014, the number of visitors increased sharply (2,381 per month on average over the year),
above all since September 2014 (3,547 visitors on average over the last 4 months of 2014). In January 2015, the number of visits was exceptional (12,801), but we cannot rejoice because half of that number was due to a tribute written for economist Bernard Maris, former director of one of the SMS research centres who was killed in the attack on the Charlie Hebdo newspaper which he worked with. This growth, however, in page views demonstrates the interest in the magazine, which is regularly updated (105 articles written by 68 different authors as of the end of February 2015) with quality articles, many of which have attracted the interest of the media (in particular the magazine Sciences Humaines which, on the basis of the magazine, then asked SMS researchers to discuss their work further) and the interest of many others.

In addition, in September 2013 and April 2014, collaborative research was conducted through a questionnaire on musical preferences, communication, and social relations of 15-25 year olds in the Toulouse school district. This survey involved a group of SMS researchers, 38 economic and social science teachers from 24 high schools in the district and their students in 10th and 11th grade (1,346 pupils). The idea was to engage students during the key stages of a social science study: design, data collection, analysis and interpretation.

The questionnaire, developed together with teachers and students between September and December 2013, was completed by students in January and February 2014. Each student had to interview 2 or 3 persons who were 15 to 25 years old, trying to vary the ages and seeking a maximum of surveys done outside his or her class. The respondents were asked to name songs they had recently enjoyed (maximum 4). If the song had been recommended to them by someone they knew, or if they themselves had recommended a song to someone, the investigator noted the name of the person. The investigator then showed the list of names and asked if there were people close to the person who were not on the list. He or she then added up to a maximum of 8 people. Finally, he/she asked the respondent to note people met online (2 maximum). More than 2,400 questionnaires were completed in class by student-investigators using an app developed by one of the teachers.

The data collected in this survey are very rich and thus will require months of work to be fully analyzed. Indeed, a number of questions were deliberately left open (without a proposed response), which involves a long process of standardization and coding. This survey will certainly need to be complemented by interviews and the survey must be extended to other age groups. However, even at this early stage we can state that this experiment has been a success. The teachers did an impressive job, and most students were involved with enthusiasm and efficiency. The data are of high quality from the point of view of researchers.

**Commentaires libres / Free comments**

*Ces commentaires libres peuvent porter sur le projet lui-même et sa trajectoire, sur les indicateurs fournis, sur les aspects financiers... (maximum 1 page)*

We have drawn up the list of publications produced within the SMS framework. The studies do not all explicitly mention the SMS Labex and the Investissements d’avenir [Investments for the Future] funding with the number that was assigned to us. The coordinating team is working to encourage researchers to include these explicit references, but French publications in the Humanities and Social Sciences (particularly in book publishing) are not used to doing this and French researchers are not used to mentioning the funding they have received. We are striving to improve this.
We do not organize research stays of more than two months but prefer shorter stays (one week to one month). Up to now, we have invited the following foreign researchers: Barry Wellman (one week), Beverly Wellman (one week), and Yves Gingras (one month). Naturally many other foreign colleagues have participated in SMS’s scholarly events or in other settings (visiting professors from different institutions, participation in seminars) and on these occasions, they have participated in SMS activities.

Ultimately, the challenge the SMS set for itself appears to have been reached. The projections about the number of researchers we expected to be involved and their participation were even slightly higher than planned, as shown in the table ETPT. Initiatives targeting civil society, such as the Mondes sociaux magazine and the Laboratoire des idées [Think Tank] have met with considerable success. All of the Research Groups planned in the SMS have been launched and their number has even grown, enabling us to enlarge our research in order to be able to study all aspects of social worlds and the ways in which they are organised. A clear feeling of community identity has emerged and the boundaries between the member research centres have been largely erased, enabling the development of truly interdisciplinary work. The mere two and half years of the SMS Labex’s existence does not yet allow us to see its full potential in terms of publications, since the time frame is not sufficient for fully exploiting all the results of it many ongoing studies. Results, however, continue to emerge and as they do, the impact of the SMS Labex will expand even further. This phase of increased dissemination is of course the main priority for the next few years and will enable us, as planned, to contribute to contemporary efforts to describe and analyze the organizing of social worlds.