



The SRA is a well established UK professional association, with the aim of advancing the conduct, development and application of social research. It has a broad based UK membership across sectors as diverse as central and local government, government agencies, universities, colleges and research institutes, private sector research companies and voluntary organisations. The SRA is less well known abroad (particularly in non-English-speaking countries) even though its activities are of considerable interest to international researchers and social research organisations. The SRA is developing a number of activities to help raise its international profile.

### **Corporate Membership;**

The SRA is now offering corporate membership of the SRA to non-UK-based social research associations, or to organisations that employ social researchers. Corporate membership costs £100(GBP) per annum and offers the following benefits:

1. 1 discounted place per organisation at any training day
2. 2 discounted places at the SRA Annual Conference
3. 4 copies of each edition of the SRA News
4. Opportunity to contribute to articles in SRA news
5. Opportunity to advertise conferences and seminars on the SRA events page
6. Opportunity to list potential vacancies on the SRA website
7. Opportunity to contribute to SRA events and to host SRA activities

Full details of individual and corporate membership is available at <http://www.the-sra.org.uk/membership.htm>

### **Training:**

As part of its commitment to continuing professional development, the SRA provides a comprehensive programme of training to support the needs of social researchers. A wide range of introductory and advanced courses are offered every year to ensure social researchers stay at the cutting edge of developments in their profession or enhance their skills in new and emerging areas. SRA training and professional development activities are of interest and relevance to social researchers no matter what sector or setting they are working in. The SRA's cross-sectoral approach provides the added benefit of learning from the experience of others. Broadly, courses are offered in the areas of Research Design & Management, Methods & Skills and Communicating & Making use of Research. Examples of courses run in the past year include: Understanding Statistics; Survey Design; Qualitative Data Analysis; Quality in Social Research.

### **In-house Training**

Do you have a group of social researchers in your organisation who all need training in a particular area? If so, you may find that a commissioned in-house course is best suited to your needs. The SRA can organise short training courses in a wide range of subject areas, tailored to your specification. Contact Maki Deguchi on +44 20 7388 2416

### **International Training Modules**

The SRA is currently developing a suite of training and support activities to raise the quality of international social research across sectors. The training will cover a number of key methodological and practical aspects, including enhancing methodological skills and knowledge in carrying out research in an international context, and in designing, conducting and managing international comparative studies. In particular, the package of training and support is intended to equip researchers with the skills and knowledge needed to engage more effectively in international research, which increasingly requires that researchers operate with multiple data sources and, in some cases, with mixed methods designs. Full details will be provided in the 2010 summer training programme.

### **Conferences and Events**

Every year the SRA runs 20 seminars in a variety of formats, including evening talks, day-long events such as workshops and a summer social event. All these cover topical issues of interest to social researchers. These events provide an excellent forum for researchers from across sectors to meet and discuss issues of mutual concern and to share good practice. The Annual Conference held every year is a major event with eminent speakers from all traditions.