RDA supporting disciplinary and organisational engagement in EOSC

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Landscape of EOSC-Related Infrastructures and Initiatives
Report from the EOSC Executive Board Working Group (WG) Landscape *Version 2*
(p. 11, European Commission. Directorate General for Research and Innovation., 2020)

"The EOSC results from two complementary movements: **community-driven** and multi-governmental".

Organisational

What are the focus areas organisations should look at to improve the engagement with the EOSC?

Disciplinary

How to best assess and improve the awareness and readiness levels of disciplinary communities in relation to EOSC?

Research communities, the RDA and the EOSC

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Ongoing study mapping the state of awareness and readiness of domains / disciplinary communities, identifying the underrepresented & successful ones and provide recommendations for future engagement.

Mapping levels of engagement

Defining a set of indicators to assess the awareness and readiness levels.

Social enablers: roadmaps / OS/ RDM policies; training & skills; consolidated domain initiatives/communities

Technical enablers: infrastructures; registries & data catalogues; standards & vocabularies

Work going forward

Look at underrepresented communities and what these should do for improved engagement.

Spotlight on the successful communities and what we can learn from them.

RDA Communities of Practice. Framework http://doi.org/10.15497/rda00060

Activities under EOSC Future

Research communities, the RDA and the EOSC

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RDA4EOSC Assessment Matrix Disciplinary Engagement

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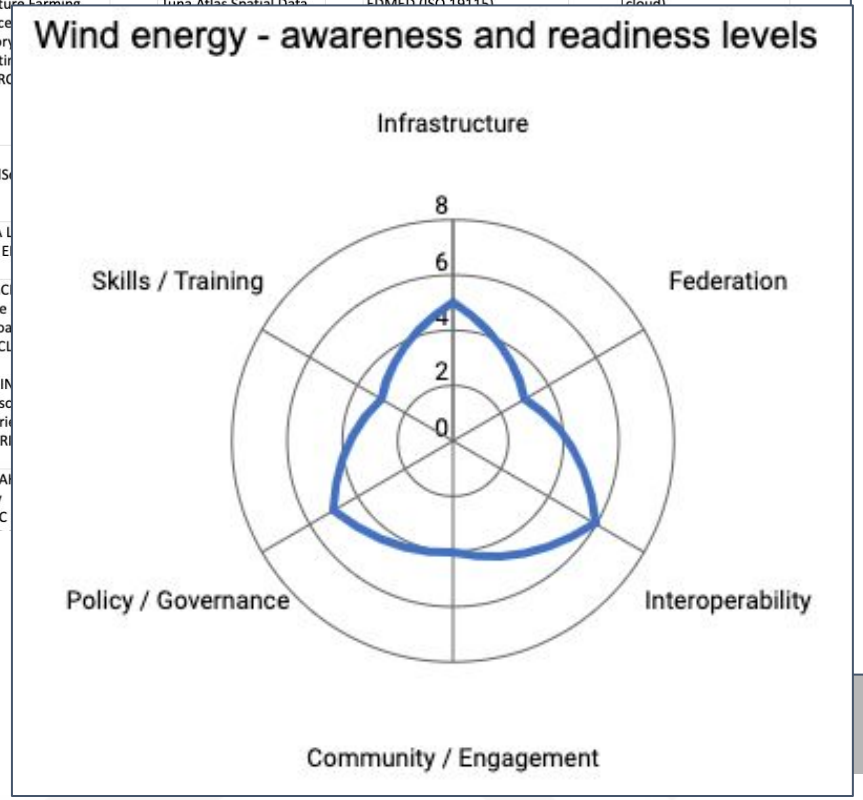
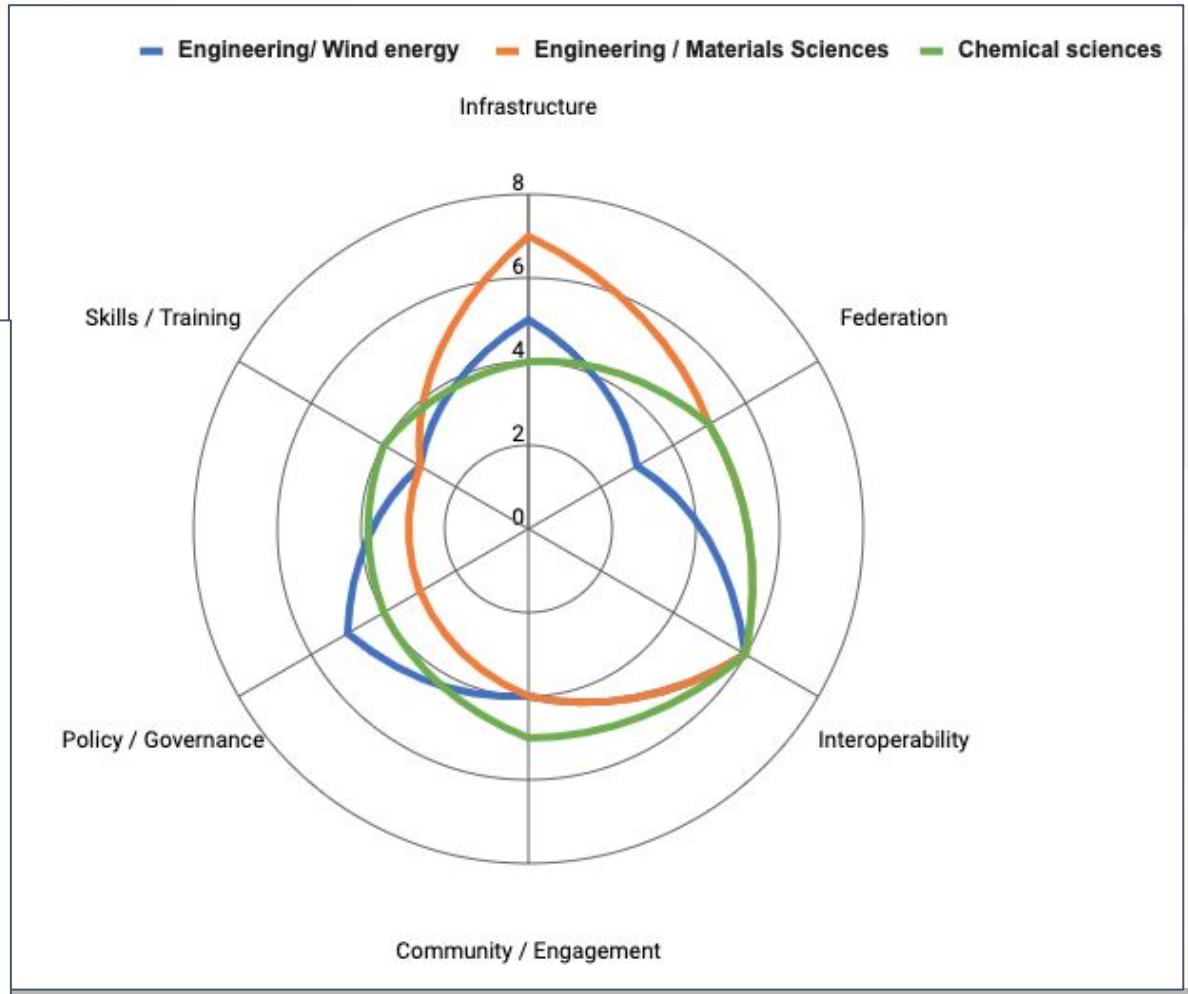
		Technical enablers (Technical indicators)						Social enablers (Social indicators)	
		Community/domain infrastructures /repositories/core services		Community / domain dataset catalogue(s) / registries / federation mechanisms in place/planned		Community/domain metadata standards and vocabularies, PIDs , other best practices and / or technical resources		Community / domain initiatives and consolidated communities;	
3	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	[1] BlueBRIDGE Aquaculture Farming D4Science Repository DOI mintir [2] EMBRC	7	[1] GeoNetwork French Tuna Atlas Spatial Data	5	[4] 2 schemas: AgMES, AGRIS, EDMED (ISO 19115)	3	[8]BlueCLOUD (thematic cloud)	2
4	Engineering/ Wind energy	[1] -- [2] WindS Project)							
5	Engineering / Materials Sciences	[1] AiiDA L [2] ESRF E ERIC							
6	Language and literature/Linguistics	[1] DataC Language Switchboa LINDAT/CL UDPipe [2] CLARIN [3] 56 disc repositori [11] CLARI							
7	Arts / Cultural heritage	[1] DARIAH Gateway [2]SSHOC							





Samples of ongoing work. Please treat as such.

Identify and prepare new scientific & research communities to engage with EOSC

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- The more engaged communities are the ones of the ESFRI clusters - strengths differ, from strong federation e.g. ESCAPE to the diversity of services e.g. ENVRI-FAIR or training and skills e.g. SSHOC
- Natural sciences, especially Earth & Environmental Sciences and Biological Sciences - most data catalogues on EOSC Portal Marketplace; also highest number of services for data management, processing and analysis
- Most disciplines explicitly prioritise development of common standards especially metadata standards and share those through cross-disciplinary catalogues such the RDA Metadata Standards catalogue, FAIRsharing
- Discipline specificities determine tailored approaches e.g. working with sensitive or personal data requires communities like the health and medicine and social sciences to prioritize AAI developments
- There are few disciplinary roadmaps or domain overarching OS/RDM policies – the more consolidated ones come from the cluster projects but there are a few exceptions

Based on an initial assessment a set of the underrepresented communities are:

- Engineering and technology: Wind energy and Materials Sciences;
- Natural sciences: Chemical sciences and Biodiversity
- Computer and information sciences: Librarianship, archival science and information Science
- Social sciences: Public sector information / Open government data / Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

  --- Not for lack of awareness; non-scientific large data sources of interest for research

Next steps

- ✔ Additional insights collected from community representatives
- ✔ Consult the community - disciplinary groups & domain Ambassadors - Webinar upcoming
- ✔ Consider the RDA Communities of Practice
- ✔ Upcoming activities under EOSC Future

Organisations, the RDA and the EOSC

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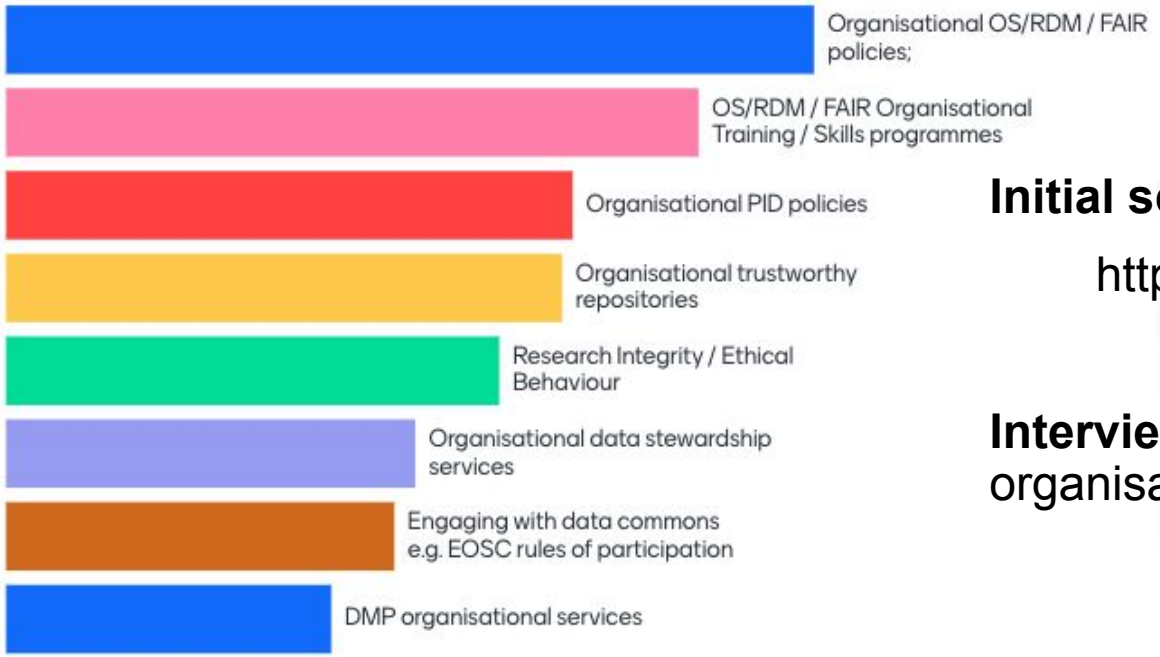
Supporting the RDA organisational and regional members with their open science agenda and engagement in global or regional data commons activities such as the EOSC.



Mapping areas of interest

Initial scoping with the RDA Organisational members

https://www.rd-alliance.org/get-involved/organisational-membership

Interviews – collecting perspectives on challenges from an organisational perspective, successful activities and next steps

Support activities

Series of policy briefs - Focusing on different aspects of engaging with the EOSC & other data commons initiatives from an organisational perspective

Coordination webinars - facilitating the dialogue with representatives from EOSC and other similar initiatives

Institutional/organisational and policy maker engagement in EOSC

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RESEARCH DATA ALLIANCE

Supporting the alignment of organisational research data management policies

This policy brief is targeted at organisations that are looking at research data management policy alignment to increase internal coordination and efficiency and enable engagement with the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) and other similar data commons international initiatives playing an instrumental role for the implementation of Open Science across geographical and disciplinary borders.

As Open Science grows as a movement, an increasing number of research performing and funding organisations as well as other research stakeholder organisations are developing policies aimed at improving research data management and sharing. These often come with guidelines and advice on the practical implementation and the practices to be adopted by researchers and the other actors involved in the research process.

Researchers, data stewards, research support staff, managers, IT departments, policy makers and funders might all have different expectations and requirements and the data policy needs to provide a guiding framework that is aligned with all of the various levels in a way that enables collaboration and communication and becomes a tool of efficiency.

What are the problems / challenges?

challenging as organisations are required to achieve a range of agreements, alignments, or harmonisations at once. Internal policies

A few recommendations

Focus on key policy components that can constitute stepping stones for alignment: DMP requirements, repository guidelines and selection, persistent identifiers (PIDs), FAIR metrics.

Join national networks, to facilitate alignment with national legislation, national funders and policy makers – this work also facilitates your internal assessments and helps identify any existing gaps in your policies.

Join disciplinary networks, these facilitate alignment with disciplinary approaches and best practices and often provide guidance for internal processes for specific research domains or types of organisations such as the support CESSDA provides for archives, ELIXIR for life sciences research centers or DiSSCo for biodiversity domain.

Dedicate effort to communication and training before, during and after the RDM policy development. Providing training will facilitate awareness, collaboration and support alignment. The more direct the engagement from the outset, the less it seems that alignment efforts are an afterthought.

Provide tools and resources to navigate and use the RDM policy. These can be mind maps or infographics to highlight how policy components are connected and relate to other policies. Provide templates where applicable, for example DMP templates are valuable tools to ensure compliance but can also constitute points of convergence across disciplines and funding requirements.

Consider a principle – based approach – the widely adopted FAIR principles, complemented by the TRUST and CARE principles, should guide RDM policy development even if not explicitly referenced. Also bear in mind principles such as accountability and that policies should aim to be embedded (not to introduce additional bureaucratic burden) and be proportionate (to the size of the organisation or department and their data management needs and capabilities) (European Commission, 2020, p. 9).

Consider at all times the point of view of the researcher who should not be faced with conflicts in policy directions. (i.e. whether to follow institutional or funder DMPs). Organisational RDM policy as well as the funder expectations should align with the same set of core requirements, principles and guidelines.

Next steps

- ✔ Webinar on policy alignment 7th May - 13:00 CET - Consolidated versions
- ✔ The value of RDA for EOSC page https://www.rd-alliance.org/get-involved/value-rda/value-research-data-alliance-european-open-science-cloud-eosc
- ✔ Upcoming Policy brief: OS/RDM / FAIR Organisational Training / Skills programmes and Data Stewardship

- It is a journey of awareness and capacity building that has multiple social and technical bridges that need to be crossed – RDA has already built or is building some of these bridges
- Forums like RDA can support via individual memberships and contributions or organisational one – provide connections to data commons such as the EOSC

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Thank you!

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