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Helmholtz Open Science Briefing

Helmholtz Open Science Forum "Research Evaluation, Reputation Systems, and Openness"

Report

Imprint

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Content

Abstract	2
Introduction	3
Documentation of the Forum	4
Introduction and Welcome	4
Challenges for PoF V	5
Task Group Helmholtz Quality Indicators - Current status subgroup Research Software	5
Task Group Helmholtz Quality Indicators - Current status subgroup Research Data	5
Introduction: Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)	5
Status and perspectives at Forschungszentrum Jülich	6
Status and perspectives at GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences	6
Status and perspectives at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology	6
Status and perspectives at Max Delbrück Center	7
Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA): current status	7
The DFG's perspective on CoARA	7
Outlook	8

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Abstract

On May 9, 2023, the Helmholtz Open Science Office organized the Forum "Research Evaluation, Reputation Systems, and Openness". On this occasion, experts from Helmholtz and the scientific community presented current developments in the field of research evaluation and reflected on the connection between reputation systems and openness. The event focused on three main topics: 1) Development of Helmholtz quality indicators for data and software products, 2) 10 years Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) and 3) Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA). A central subject in the discussion and presentations was the issue of the use and definitions of indicators which foster Open Science. The discussion centered on what appropriate incentives look like in order to make research evaluation fair and appreciative. Furthermore, the relevance of these questions from the perspective of early-career scientists was highlighted.

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Introduction

The Helmholtz Open Science Forum on the topic of "Research Evaluation, Reputation Systems, and Openness" on May 9, 2023 was organized by the Helmholtz Open Science Office in cooperation with the Task Group Helmholtz Quality Indicators for Data and Software Products.

Together with the speakers (Table 1) and 105 participants, approaches and perspectives for the development of "Research Evaluation, Reputation Systems, and Openness" were discussed.

The Helmholtz Open Science Forum offers an opportunity for exchange, networking, and information. This virtual event also served to maintain and create awareness of the topic of research evaluation within the Helmholtz Association.

This report documents the event; the slides of the speakers can be found in the appendix of this report (from p. 9 onwards).

Table 1: Program of the Helmholtz Open Science Forum "Research Evaluation, Reputation Systems, and Openness", May 9, 2023

Programm	Speaker			
Introduction and Welcome	Roland Bertelmann,			
	Helmholtz Open Science Office			
Focus: Helmholtz Quality Indicators for Data and Software Products				
Challenges for PoF V	Sören Wiesenfeldt, Department Research, Helmholtz Association			
Task Group Helmholtz Quality Indicators - Current status subgroup Research Software	Doris Dransch, GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences and Guido Juckeland, Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden- Rossendorf			
Task Group Helmholtz Quality Indicators - Current status subgroup Research Data	Britta Höpfner, Helmholtz Zentrum Berlin and Martin Köhler, Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY			
Focus: 10 Years Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)				
Introduction: Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)	Lea Maria Ferguson, Helmholtz Open Science Office			
Status and perspectives at Forschungszentrum Jülich	Sven Rank, Forschungszentrum Jülich			
Status and perspectives at GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences	Wolfgang zu Castell, GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences			

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Status and perspectives at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology	Arne Upmeier, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology			
Status and perspectives at Max Delbrück Center	Jess Rohmann, Max Delbrück Center			
Focus: Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA)				
Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA): current status	Roland Bertelmann, Helmholtz Open Science Office			
The DFG's perspective on CoARA	Matthias Kiesselbach, DFG- Geschäftsstelle			

Documentation of the Forum

Introduction and Welcome

Roland Bertelmann from the Helmholtz Open Science Office (OS Office) introduced the work of the OS Office as a service provider that supports the community in shaping the cultural change towards open science.

In September 2022, the Helmholtz Open Science Policy¹ was adopted. This policy provides guidelines for the open publication of scientific articles, research data and research software. It is an important landmark in anchoring open science in the activities of the community as well as taking steps towards monitoring and reforming research assessment in Helmholtz.

Helmholtz has already integrated research data and software in monitoring results from the Program oriented Funding (PoF).² The Task Group Helmholtz Quality Indicators for Research Data and Software Products³ is mandated by the Assembly of Members and is associated with the Working Group Open Science⁴ of the Helmholtz Association. The members of the Task Group from all Helmholtz Centers develop approaches to extend the PoF monitoring into Helmholtz Quality Indicators for Data and Software Products. Broader perspectives on indicators and related assessment are globally discussed in the context of the Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA).⁵ As of mid-2023, DORA is already the subject of discussion in four Centers. An interesting development building on DORA is the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA).⁶

¹ https://os.helmholtz.de/en/open-science-in-helmholtz/open-science-policy/

 $^{^2\ \}underline{\text{https://www.helmholtz.de/en/about-us/structure-and-governance/program-oriented-funding/}}$

³ https://os.helmholtz.de/en/open-science-in-helmholtz/working-group-open-science/task-group-quality-indicators/

⁴ https://os.helmholtz.de/en/open-science-in-helmholtz/working-group-open-science/

⁵ https://sfdora.org

⁶ https://coara.eu/

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Challenges for PoF V

Sören Wiesenfeldt from the Helmholtz Open Science Office presented the challenges for PoF V, which is a key instrument for steering in Helmholtz. Scientific output and transfer⁷ should be visible and therefore, indicators in PoF shape the demands placed on scientists and can work as incentives.

Task Group Helmholtz Quality Indicators - Current status subgroup Research Software

Doris Dransch from the GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences and Guido Juckeland from the Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf presented an overview about the approach and work in progress on the Helmholtz Quality Indicator for Research Software. The proposed quality indicator is a multidimensional indicator to improve software quality in terms of reliability, sustainability, and openness.

Task Group Helmholtz Quality Indicators - Current status subgroup Research Data

Britta Höpfner, from the Helmholtz Zentrum Berlin and Martin Köhler from the Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY presented an overview about the approach and work in progress on the Helmholtz Quality Indicator for Research Data. The proposed quality indicator is a multidimensional indicator that is not a benchmark value, but rather an incentive for improving the quality of research products.

Introduction: Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)

Lea Maria Ferguson from the Helmholtz Open Science Office introduced DORA: DORA was published in May 2013 and recognizes the need to improve the way scientists and the output of scientific research are evaluated. DORA has become a worldwide initiative covering all scholarly disciplines and key stakeholders including funders, publishers, professional societies, institutions, and researchers. The presentation focused on how DORA is set out and functions, and how it can be an inspiration for Helmholtz concerning the core themes of research evaluation, reputation systems, and openness.

A modified slide set based on this talk will be published as a presentation blueprint via the event's website; this slide set is open for use by the Helmholtz Centers and other interested parties, seeking to embark on the journey towards implementing DORA and/or CoARA.

⁷https://www.helmholtz.de/en/transfer/

https://os.helmholtz.de/en/events/fora/research-evaluation-reputation-systems-and-openness/

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Status and perspectives at Forschungszentrum Jülich

Sven Rank from the Forschungszentrum Jülich (FZJ) presented the perspectives on research assessment in the context of DORA and CoARA at Jülich. DORA came up as a topic of discussion at Forschungszentrum Jülich as the new directorate already had experience with DORA from CNRS⁹ in France. As a result, in the fall of 2022, corporate development and the central library were asked to evaluate a DORA implementation in Jülich. Thus, FZJ will take first steps towards a cultural change process in research assessment. Several challenges for this process were identified and are being addressed. Eventually, the establishment of fairer and more open scientific practices will greatly benefit from DORA and CoARA inspired research assessment.

Since the publication of its declaration in July 2022, CoARA has significantly gained speed, although its direction and impact are not quite foreseeable yet. FZJ has therefore signed the DORA declaration in May 2023¹⁰, aiming to pick the "low hanging fruits" regarding its implementation. This will mean to better comply with (and to deliver) Helmholtz PoF data and software indicators on the one hand, and to improve staff-related practices on the other hand. Furthermore, Jülich wants to monitor the CoARA developments, as these seem oriented at effective changes in research culture.

Status and perspectives at GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences

Wolfgang zu Castell from the GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences presented the status and perspectives at the German Research Centre for Geosciences. Both, data and software, are recognized as the results of scientific work. In addition, there are processes that regulate their publication and ensure that research data and software become visible as valuable results of scientific work. In addition to text-based publications, research data and research software are also used for quantitative evaluation in internal performance assessments.

To replace the well-known quality metrics for evaluating scientific performance based on citations, an indicator is currently being developed that can depict the strategic contribution of scientific work in several dimensions.

Status and perspectives at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

Arne Upmeier from the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology explained that KIT was one of the early signatories of DORA. He presented the state of discussion at KIT on DORA and CoARA in combination with Open Science. Two related projects were introduced: "DORA4KIT" and "ERRED". While DORA4KIT is already running successfully, "Entwicklung eines Referenzmodells zum Reporting in wissenschaftlichen Einrichtungen anhand von DORA - ERRED" has been approved, but has not yet begun its work.

⁹ https://www.cnrs.fr/fr

https://www.fz-juelich.de/de/aktuelles/news/meldungen/2023/wissenschaftliche-leistungen-besser-bewerten-mit-dora

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Status and perspectives at Max Delbrück Center

Jess L. Rohmann from the Max Delbrück Center presented the current research program at the Max Delbrück Center. The program is focused on Systems Medicine and Cardiovascular Diseases and guided by the motto, "Discovery for Tomorrow's Medicine." When thinking about the future of medicine and the research it requires, one cannot avoid discussing the evaluation (and reform) of research as a central topic. In the talk, recent and ongoing activities at the MDC that relate to research evaluation and seek to foster openness were presented with special focus on the MDC Library and in Research Data Management. In addition, Jess L. Rohmann explained the preparations for the upcoming evaluation of the scientific centers, which will include a comprehensive assessment of MDC research groups and technology platforms, followed by the launch of the strategic process "MDC Strategy 2030". Finally, relevant concerns of junior scientists about the research evaluation reform and some suggestions for addressing these problems were outlined: Recommendations were made for institutions to empower early-stage researchers to get involved in improving research culture and practice.

Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA): current status

Roland Bertelmann from the Helmholtz Open Science Office presented the current status of CoARA that was founded in December 2022 and builds, among others, on DORA. In this presentation the highlights of CoARA's development and its vision were illustrated: The evaluation of research, researchers, and research institutions should recognize diverse outcomes, practices, and activities in order to maximize the quality and impact of research. Peer reviews and the responsible use of quantitative indicators are central to this.

Addendum: As of August 2023, the CoARA Steering Board announced that ten Working Groups and the first five National Chapters have been approved to start their activities as part of CoARA; they are open for more CoARA members to join.¹²

The DFG's perspective on CoARA

Matthias Kiesselbach from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft presented the German Research Foundation (DFG) perspectives on CoARA: The DFG constantly evaluates the environment in which research takes place, and its own funding practices, including the ways project proposals are reviewed and evaluated.

As of May 2022, the DFG has published a Position Paper on Academic Publishing,¹³ which discusses the functions of the publishing system as well as a number of challenges and problems facing it. Addressing not only the academic communities, but also funding agencies such as the DFG itself, the position paper proposes a number of actions in order to improve the functioning of the academic publishing system.

¹¹ https://www.mdc-berlin.de/research/discovery

¹² https://coara.eu/news/formation-of-first-coara-working-groups-and-national-chapters/

¹³ Academic Publishing as a Foundation and Area of Leverage for Research Assessment - Challenges and Fields of Action: https://www.dfg.de/download/pdf/foerderung/grundlagen_dfg_foerderung/publikationswesen/positions paper publikationswesen_en.pdf

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They include establishing and supporting new forms of quality review, new systems of reputational attribution, ensuring that data is owned by the researcher and her or his community, and broadening the spectrum of accepted publication formats. It turns out that these actions require a comprehensive reform of the incentive structure facing researchers – and hence of the culture of research assessment through which these incentives are set.

In order to support the needed cultural change, the DFG has recently implemented some changes in its assessment practices (most recently, it has incorporated narrative elements in its CV forms and changed its guidelines to reviewers) and supported the foundation of CoARA. In a nutshell, CoARA calls for two broad shifts in research assessment: research assessment ought to be less focused on quantitative metrics (or proxies) and more on contents (or ideas). And it should widen its focus from journal articles to the whole range of scientifically valuable contributions over the whole cycle of research.

As a CoARA member, DFG aims to play a constructive role in CoARA's Working Groups, and to help to ensure that the identification of scientific excellence is and remains the goal of all responsible research assessment.

Outlook

The Helmholtz Open Science Forum "Research Evaluation, Reputation Systems, and Openness" presented insights into diverse efforts regarding research assessment strategies. To ensure multifaceted good scientific practice, research assessment must honor all contributions and activities to research. Reproducibility and research integrity can be advanced, if the diversity of research outputs and outcomes is acknowledged in a way that is appropriate for each research area. This forum marks a first step to discuss and coordinate respective efforts in Helmholtz.

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Appendix



Indicators in PoF-Controlling

Sören Wiesenfeldt Helmholtz Head Office

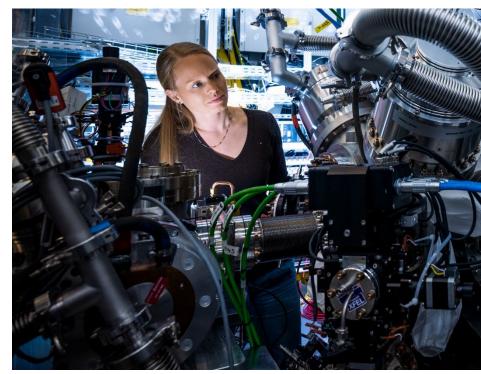
Helmholtz Open Science Forum "Research Evaluation, Reputation Systems, and Openness"

9 May 2023

Contact: soeren.wiesenfeldt@helmholtz.de

Helmholtz research mission & strategy Research for grand challenges

- Systems solutions for grand challenges based on:
 - Scientific excellence
 - Interdisciplinarity and critical mass
 - Long-term research programs
- Helmholtz provides a highly attractive environment for talents and brilliant brains
- Profound expertise in large-scale research infrastructure
- Helmholtz as a prime strategic partner at the local, national and international level
- Transfer of knowledge into economy and society



Strategic Research for Grand Challenges Program-oriented Funding

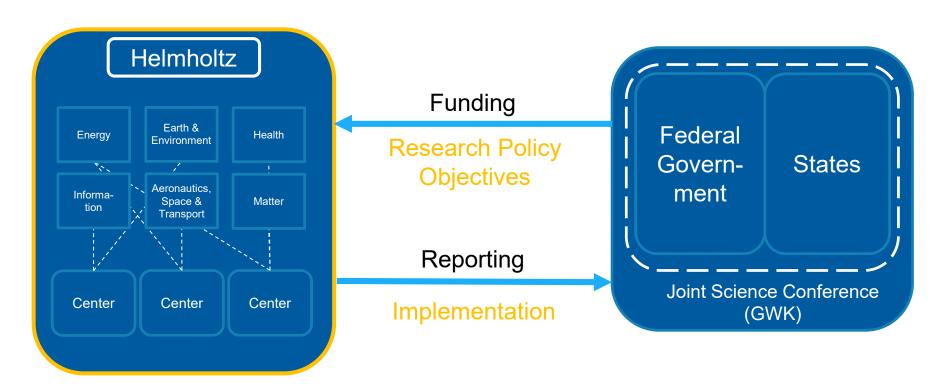
- R & D in our 18 centers is organized in multi-year programs,
 - pooling the centers' unique research competences in a complementary approach
 - ▶ to tackle long-term challenges
 - with a strategic focus
- Provision of large-scale scientific equipment and platforms for international scientific user communities ("user facilities")



- Helmholtz does not invest its resources in individual institutions, but in (cross-center) research programs!
- Basic costs of the center buildings & infrastructure, central facilities, operations, central services, administration as well as RESEARCH – are financed through the programs

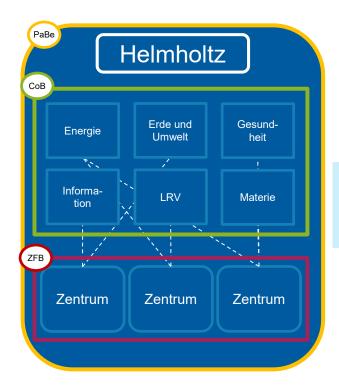
Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation

Framework for the Research Agenda of Helmholtz



Reporting System

Three reports on different levels



Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation

Program-oriented Funding

Helmholtz Centers (legally independent)

- Funding: long-term (2021-2030) with annual increase of budget by 3% ▶ planning reliability!
- · Goals and measures to
 - · promote dynamic development
 - · strengthen transfer to business and society
 - deepen networking
 - · attract and retain the best minds
 - · strengthen infrastructures for research
- · Research policy objectives

Paktmonitoringbericht

Controllingbericht

Zentrumsfortschrittsberichte

Program monitoring

- Program spokespersons prepare annual reports in which they present
 - (interim) results,
 - the status of the implementation of Senate recommendations and
 - where applicable, newly addressed topics or changes in strategy
- Reports include quantitative indicators.
- The levels of controlling are
 - the research fields and programs (Helmholtz procedures) and
 - the centers and their shares in the programs
- Program reports (text plus figures), together with the report for the research fields form the basis for the "Controlling Report of the President" to the Helmholtz Senate.







PoF IV Indicators

Overview

- Publications in journals of ISI or SCOPUS lists, Open Access Publications
- Third-party funding
- Finished dissertations, Postdocs, Junior research groups
- Coordinated national and international third-party funded research programs
- Cooperation with industry and non-scientific institutions, spin-offs & start-ups
- Knowledge transfer activities

Request for a "data indicator"

- "Digital products" data collections, software etc. have become increasingly important for research
- Should be visible as part of Helmholtz's scientific output and transfer
- Task Group Helmholtz Data Indicators

WoS-, SCOPUS or Open Research Europe indexed publications

... thereof open access publications

other peer-reviewed publications

third-party funding

finished dissertations

Postdocs

Junior research group leaders

selected coordinated national and international third-party funded research programs

Cooperations with the industry and external non-scientific institutions, publicly or privately financed

Spin-offs and competence-based foundations (start-ups)

knowledge transfer activities

number of core-funded scientists

number of third-party funded scientists

scientists in total

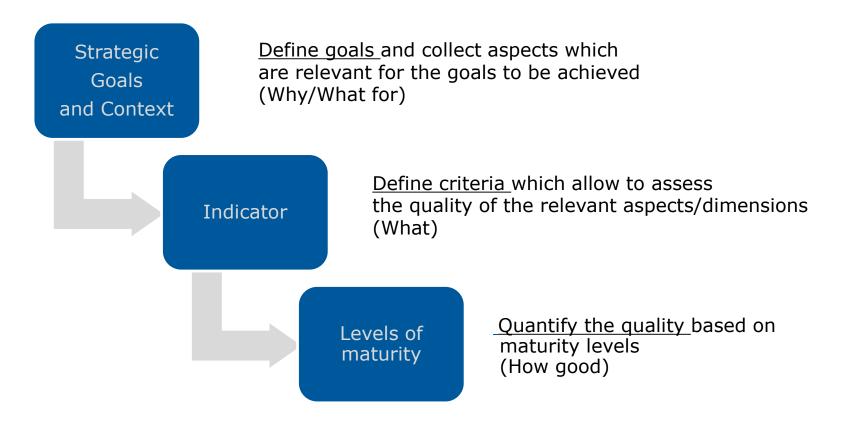
Data Indicator

- Entry-level indicator: Number of citable published research data and research software publications
 - Must be stored in a repository with metadata and assigned an identifier (DOI)
 - Has been recorded for the first time for 2022 (progress reports)
 - Only used internally
- In the spring of 2024, discussion whether this entry-level indicator or the quality indicator that may then
 be available should be part of the PoF indicator set starting in 2025 (reporting year 2024)
 - Today's topic!
 - Strong support for a quality indicator, could be first example for "outside the quantitative-or-text box"

Towards a quality indicator for research software -Status April 2023-

Subgroup Software Quality Indicator

The Big Picture – Our General Approach





- Enhancement of research assessment: not only paper but also research software should be counted as scientific product/output
- Strategic
 Goals
 and Context

 Indicator

 Levels of maturity
- Enhancement of scientific product: the quality of research software should be improved along several quality dimensions
- Promoting Open Science: Reusability and reproducibility of research software should be improved

Manifold perspectives on the quality indicator

Different players => different perspectives

- Scientists developing software => credit for scientifc carreer, improving scientific insight
- Software developers supporting science => credit for daily work, improving software
- Collectors/providers of the numbers => relibale numbers, process to collect/provide numbers

Our focus: All are important

Different quality concepts

- Quality of a product
- Quality of the process to create and provide a product

Our focus: The quality of the process

Several quality dimensions => Vague understanding of quality => Definition

Quality: "of a high standard" (Cambridge Dictionary)

Our definition: Scientific software of high standard should be reliable & sustainable.

This is true for research software as well as scientific infrastructure software => no differentiation

Our focus: Quality dimensions determining "reliable" and "sustainable"

Our Work in progress

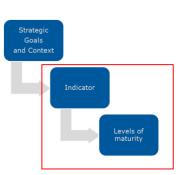
Arising questions

- What quality dimensions of scientific software do we define?
- What attributes do we define to determine the quality dimensions?
- How to quantify the attributes/dimensions?
- How to derive the values for the attributes?
- How to condense single measures for dimensions/attributes into one number, the quality indicator?



Our Workpackages

- Define quality dimensions and attributes (What quality criteria?)
- 2. Define maturity levels for quality dimension/attributes (What maturity levels?)
- 3. Define procedure to derive the attribute maturity levels (How to derive the maturity levels?)
- Define procedure to derive one single number, the quality indicator, from maturity levels of quality dimensions/attributes



Workpackage 1: Define quality dimensions and attributes

Scientific software of high standard should be reliable & sustainable

=> Quality dimensions to determine "reliable" and "sustainable"



Quality Dimensions

reliable & sustainable scientific software has to be

- Findable
- Accessible
- Interoperable

=> FAIR+ST

- Reusable
- Scientifically well-grounded
- Technologically well-grounded



Scientifically well-grounded means that scientific software is based on scientific knowledge and practice Technologically well-grounded means that scientific software is based on software engineering knowledge and practice

Example: Dimension, Attribute

Work in progress no final result

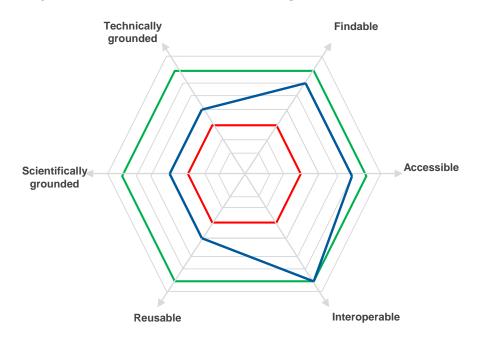
Research Software mu	Rator				
Dimension	Attribute				
Dimension Findable	Open Publication repository Versioning PID/for components				
Accessible	Rich metadata Access conditions (legal) Access options (process) technical accessibility				

Research Software Indikator

HELMHOLTZ

Workpackage 2: Define maturity levels for quality dimensions/attributes

Methode: Multivariate starplot and process-oriented maturity levels, COBIT Maturity Model (COBIT is an international recognized framework for IT Governance, it is directed to processes)



- Quality Dimensions (FAIR+ST)
- Attributes describing each dimension*
- Maturity levels for each attribute**
- Maturity levels for each dimension** derived form attribute maturity levels

^{*} Paper FAIR4RS DOI: https://doi.org/10.15497/RDA00068

^{**} COBIT Maturity Model

Example: Dimension, Attribute, Maturity levels



Research Software Indi	kator						
		Non-existent		Repeatable but intuitive, process follows regular patterns	Defined process / is documented and communicated		Optimised / P. Follows best practices and is automated
Dimension	Attribute	0	1	2	3	4	5
Findable	Open Publication	No	Online repository exists	unstructured description (Readme)	structured meta data description (DataCite)	publication repository listed (WHERE?)	Publication repository certified (e.g. re3data)
	repository	0\M/ii	5-141-1	,	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	,	
	Versioning	no SW versioning	initial version	with min/maj rel	Description of versioning scheme available	Roadmap	Versions automatically tagged by CI/CD
	PID/for components	no PID	,	identifier with defined metadata scheme	PID	Automatic harvesting possible	PID listed
	Rich metadata	no MD	basic MD	full MD	cont. Updated	autom. Harv.	QA (e.g. review)
Accessible	Access conditions (legal)	unclear	contact	licence	open licence	open lic. & support	Open + community
	Access options	Only one form	source/exec	both+rich doc	incl. Test case	incl. Checks	SW service
	technical accessibility	no info	"how to install"-readme	installation scripts	makefile, manual package (e.g. python modules)	towards package manager, auto-make	complete package (container, app package

WP3: Define procedure to derive the attribute maturity levels (How to derive the maturity levels?)

Activity 1: Software Evaluation Questionnaire Questions to get answers for maturity levels

Findable	
The following questions address the aspect of being able to find and uniquely identify	the
software. For each question, provide a check if the question can be answered with yes	<u>.</u>
Open Publication Repository	1170000
(0) There is no information available on where to find the software.	
(1) Is there an online repository which contains the software?	
(2) Is there some kind of description available giving further information on the	eta en 197
software in this repository (<u>e.g.</u> readme file)?	
(3) Is there a structured meta data description (e.g. following DataCite) given for	
software in this repository?	
(4) Is the repository listed in some overarching meta-repository?	
(5) Is the repository listed in a meta-repository performing quality checks	
(e.g. re3data)?	
Versioning	NO
(0) No software versioning applied.	
(1) Is there some kind of version for the software?	
(2) Does the versioning provide information on minor/major releases?	
(3) Is a description of the versioning scheme available?	
(4) Is there a roadmap giving further information on software releases?	
(5) Does the versioning scheme allow for automatic tagging by CI/CD processes?	
Persistent Identifier	
(0) No PIDs given.	
(1) Is there a handle/URL given to identify the software?	
(2) Is the identifier provided with a defined metadata scheme?	

Work in progress no final result

WP3: Define procedure to derive the attribute maturity levels (How to derive the maturity levels?)

Work in progress

Activity 2: Tool development

- The final result of our activities should be an algorithm.
- Much of the algorithm will likely depend on meta data provided as manual input. Examples:
 - CITATION.cff
 - LICENCE
 - link to git repository
 - DOI
- Allows software developers to easily determine missing information/processes.
- Makes reporting center-wide results possible without unreasonable effort.

WP4: Define procedure to derive one single number, the quality indicator, from quality dimensions/attributes

To be done!

Summary

We are on the way to a "Quality Indicator for Research Software"

Status of our Workpackages

- 1. Define quality dimensions and attributes almost done
- 2. Define maturity levels for quality attributes (What maturity levels?) in progress
- 3. Define procedure to derive the attribute maturity levels (How to derive the maturity levels?) **in progress**
- Define procedure to derive one single number, the quality indicator, from maturity levels of quality dimensions/attributes to be done

Towards a quality indicator for research data -Status April 2023-

Subgroup Research Data Indicator

Process/Status

- HGF "Entry indicator" → Lessons learned
 - Was/is challenge for all Centers
 - Need more than pure metrics
 - ...
 - Iterative process respecting large variety of datasets within Helmholtz:



Ownership
Size/complexity
Handling
FAIRnes

How to compare in a fair way?

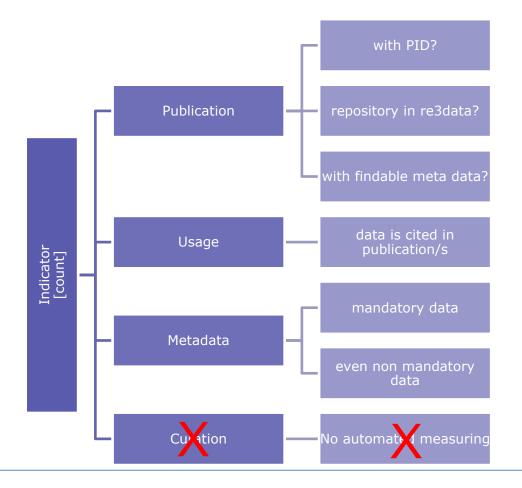
Objectives of the quality indicator:

- Opening up the concept of scientific output center-internal promotion for the development of data publication
- Improvement of the research data-quality (process)
 assessment should be multidimensional and automatically measurable
- Promoting Open Science
 which OS areas should be pushed and how to push them?

Work in progress

Mulitidimensional Approach

- Indicator
- Dimensions
- Attributes
- Measure process quality!
- What can be realized?
- What can be measured automatically?



Work in progress

Attributes → Indicator ?!

- Attributes: Weight + Maturity-LEVEL → Value for dimension
- Radar plot

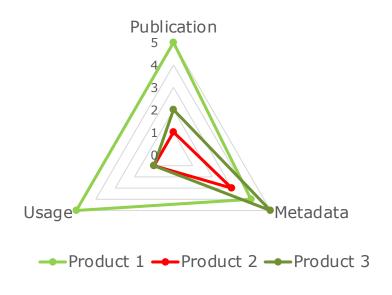
Multidimensional description

• Threshold $(?) \rightarrow Indicator$

In discussion: F-UJI integration?



TO DO



Make sure to avoid wrong incentives ("Teaching to the test")!



DORA

STATUS AND PERSPECTIVES AT FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM JÜLICH

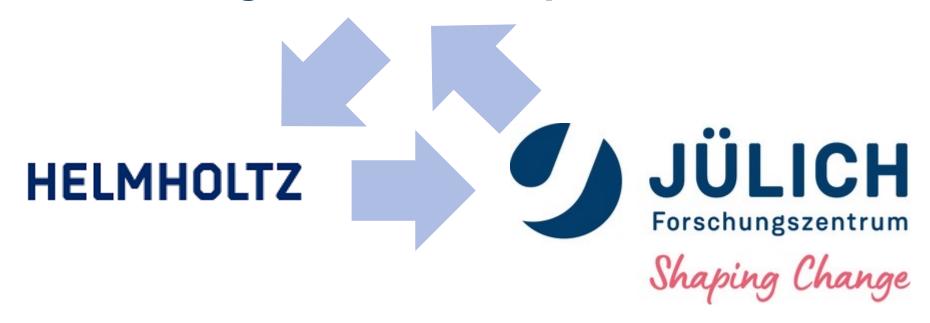
9 MAY 2023 I SVEN RANK



DORA

- (so) what?!

Cultural change in scientific practice, not more, not less





DORA vs. CoARA

CoARA (2022) = DORAs (2012) "younger relative"

Principles are largely similar. CoARA is more modern in wording, both more detailed & more comprehensive: text is influenced by change and diversity management.

DORA = a declaration of principles, which institutions (dt. Einrichtungen) and organisations (dt. Organisationen) and/or individuals can sign and adopt at their own discretion.

DORA = global

CoARA = common vision of the signatories to act along certain principles

CoARA = declaration of intent, to create an action plan as soon as possible (2023) to put the common vision into practice

CoARA = European initiative, but open to all



OPTIONS FOR FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM JÜLICH

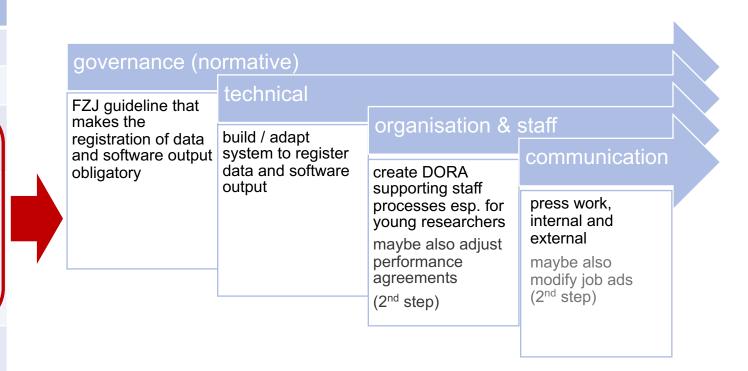
B "Lip Service"	C "Low Hanging Fruits"	D "All-in"
= sign DORA	= sign DORA	= sign (DORA and) CoARA
= press release	= press release	= press release
	= small implementation steps, e.g. adapt templates, count data &software etc. in 2023	= draft "action plan" with implementation steps in staff and in research assessment in 2023
Seit	= evaluate at the end of 2023, how CoARA comes along	= 2024ff. put CoARA "action plan" into practice
	= press release	= sign DORA = sign DORA = press release = press release = small implementation steps, e.g. adapt templates, count data &software etc. in 2023 = evaluate at the end of 2023, how CoARA comes

LOW HANGING FRUITS FOR JÜLICH

(some may not hang that low ...)

C "Low Hanging Fruits"

- = sign DORA
- = press release
- = small implementation steps, e.g. adapt templates, count data &software etc. in 2023
- = evaluate at the end of 2023, how CoARA comes along





CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED AT JÜLICH

- ➤ even simple quantitative OS indicators cannot be delivered (OA: yes; RD: not reliably; Software: not at all)
- ➤ staff development department sees DORA/CoARA critical (= changing processes is extra work)
- ➤ board of directors afraid of parallel/double developments in PoF and in DORA/CoARA (= extra work?)
- researchers afraid of having to perform even more tasks parallelly ("jack of all trades, master of none")







HOPE







PERSPECTIVES

From my personal point of view





Shaping Change





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION





REFERENCES

DORA

https://sfdora.org/read/

CoARA

https://coara.eu/app/uploads/2022/09/2022 07 19 rra agreement final.pdf

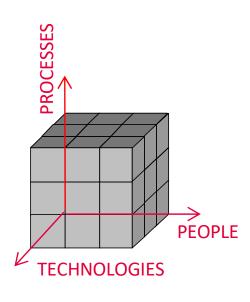


Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) Status and Perspectives at GFZ

Wolfgang zu Castell (Director Department Geoinformation)



Open Science @ GFZ



- Technologies
 - platform for open publication of text-based output
 - workflow/platform for publication of research data
 - workflow/platform for publication of research software
- Processes
 - processes for data/software publication
 - process for regular technology screening
 - multi-dimensional assessment of research performance (QUIBS)¹
- People
 - training/eductation in various aspects of open science for various levels of career
 - support for researchers in open access publishing, research data management and research software engineering



However, h-indices still regularly appear in research assessments!



Do not mix-up the map with the terrain ...

- "Some of the most powerful incentives in contemporary science actively encourage, reward and propagate poor research methods and abuse of statistical procedures."
- "Whenever a quantitative metric is used as a proxy to assess a social behaviour, it becomes open to exploitation and corruption."
- "Incentives to increase one's h-index may also encourage researchers to engage in high-risk hypothesizing, particularly on 'hot' research topics, because they can increase their citation count by being corrected."

ROYAL SOCIETY OPEN SCIENCE

rsos.royalsocietypublishing.org

Research





Cite this article: Smaldino PE, McElreath R. 2016 The natural selection of bad science. R. Soc. open sci. 3: 160384. http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rsos.160384

The natural selection of bad science

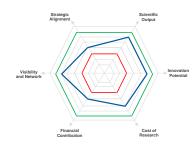
Paul F. Smaldino¹ and Richard McFlreath²

¹Cognitive and Information Sciences, University of California, Merced, CA 95343, USA
²Department of Human Behavior, Ecology, and Culture, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany

PES, 0000-0002-7133-5620; RME, 0000-0002-0387-5377

Poor research design and data analysis encourage false-positive findings. Such poor methods persist despite perennial calls for





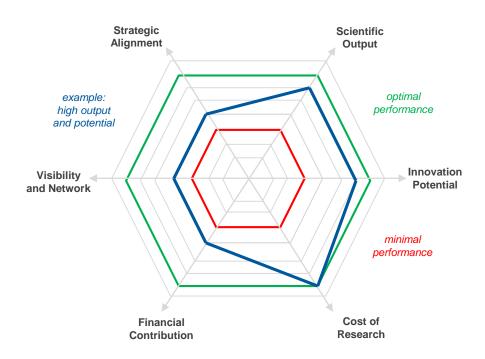
The general approach

 collect aspects which are relevant for the goals to be achieved • derive strategic dimensions which together span the field of strategic activities dimensions refine the dimensions to make sure they represent different aspects of the activities to be assessed collect criteria which allow to assess the quality of the respective direction attributes select the most significant of these criteria • determine a quantitative measures for each of the chosen criteria levels of maturity

- balance attributes against each other and fix their relative weight
- based on an a priori adopted maturation model, define levels of maturity for each of the dimensions
- provide a set of questions serving as guide for maturity assessment



Assessing with respect to multiple perspectives



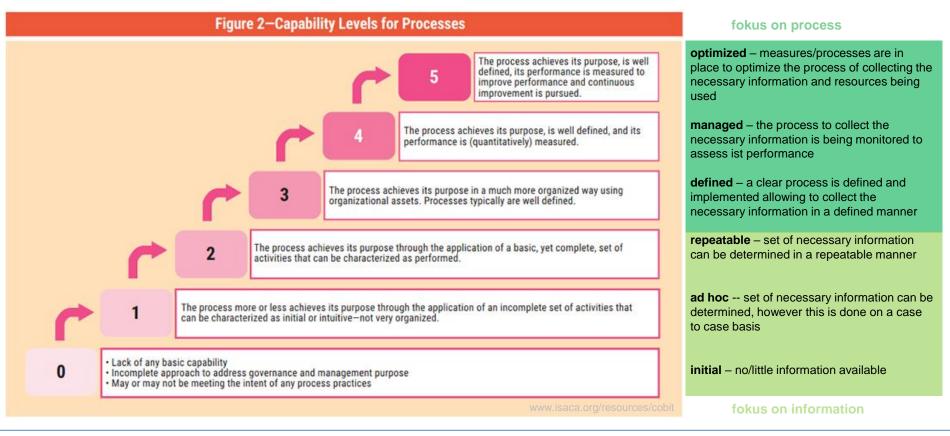
- for visualization purposes the number of chosen strategic directions should not be too large
- maturation should be measured on equal scale either ingoing or outgoing
- minimal criteria might be defined being depicted by a minimal polygon
- as overall assessment, a number can be assigned to be determined by some kind of (weighted) averaging over all directions

Note that most of the time it is **not helpful** to optimize for **all directions at the same time**.

The perfect team rarely consists of perfect universalists, only.



Quantification can be achieved using a process maturity model





Some concluding remarks

- We should never measure without purpose.
- Measurements should help us to improve our science and to achieve our scientific goals.
- Metrics should help us uncover ,the hidden' and objectify our assessment.
- Metrics should cover as many of the relevant aspects of our activity as possible.
- Metrics should not be directly connected to rewards to avoid optimizing for the metric rather than the goal behind it.
- We must promote values and foster transparancy.

At the end, we must master a cultural change (rather than a mere re-design of our assessment scheme).





Thank you for your attention!





DORA am KIT



DORA am KIT



KIT hat im Dezember 2019 DORA unterzeichnet

Wichtige Punkte bei DORA:

- Allgemein:
 - Bewertung nicht [nur] nach Journal Impact Faktoren (h-Index). "Die Notwendigkeit, die Forschung selbst zu bewerten und dies nicht auf Grundlage der Fachzeitschrift, in der sie veröffentliche wird, zu tun"
 - Die Untersuchung neuer Kennzahlen für die Signifikanz und Bedeutung
 - Berücksichtigen Sie zur Forschungsbewertung … auch andere Forschungsergebnisse (einschließlich Datensätze und Software). Berücksichtigen Sie eine breite Palette von Kennzahlen einschließlich qualitativer Messgrößen (Empfehlungen 3 und 5)

Forschungsbewertung trifft Open Science

Das Projekt DORA4KIT – Data Literacy



- Finanzierung aus Sondermitteln der Exzellenz-Universität
- Ursprünglich nur einer von drei geplanten Teilprojekten
 - Data Score
 - Data Champion
 - Data Literacy
- Drei Jahre, 2 E13 Stellen
- Beteiligte Einrichtungen am KIT sind das House of Competence (HoC), das Institut für organische Chemie (IOC) (Stefan Bräse / Nicole Jung), das Institut für Funktionelle Grenzflächen (IFG) (Ute Schäpers) und das Zentrum für Mediales Lernen (ZML)
- Nimmt insbesondere DORA-Empfehlungen 3 und 5 in den Blick:
 - Frühzeitige curriculare Einbindung von Forschungsdaten und Forschungsdatenmanagement

Das Projekt DORA4KIT – Data Literacy



Entwicklung von Inhalten zur systematischen <u>Sensibilisierung für FDM</u> und die dazu notwendige Bereitstellung entsprechender Lehrmaterialien und Kurse für Studierende und Lehrende.

Langfristig solle eine FDM-Lernplattform auf Ilias entwickelt werden, um die FDM-Lernangebote am KIT zentral zu verorten.



Digital & integrierbar: Die Online-Lernmodule sollen unkompliziert und direkt in die Lehre integrierbar sein.



Theoretisch & praxisbezogen: FDM soll sowohl theoretisch als auch praktisch vermittelt werden. Dazu werden Lernangebote mit konkreten Anwendungsszenarien verknüpft, sodass die erlernten Kompetenzen direkt in die Praxis transferiert werden können.



Modular & flexibel: Ein Modul-Baukastensystem soll ermöglichen, dass fachübergreifenden Grundlagen als auch fachspezifische Komponenten des FDM zielgruppen- und bedarfsorientierten eingesetzt werden können.

Das Projekt DORA4KIT – Data Literacy



Das erste Lernmodul steht seit Wintersemester 2021/22:

Der Kurs "ELN 1"

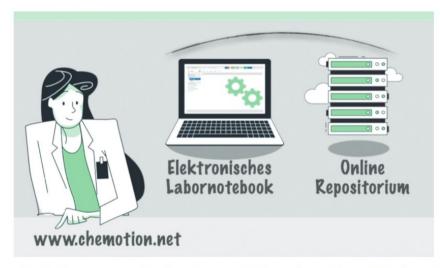


Abb. 3: Nutzung einer Kombination aus elektronischem Labornotebook und Repositorium als Basis zur schnellen Bereitstellung von Forschungsdaten.



- BMBF Fördermaßnahme "Digitaler Wandel in Bildung, Wissenschaft und Forschung"
 - Förderbereich: Etablierung einer gelebten Open-Access-Kultur
- Letzte Woche vorläufig bewilligt
- Vorgesehener Projektstart: 1. September 2023, Laufzeit 2 Jahre
- Personalmittel: 24 Monate E13



- Ausgangspunkt:
- Durchdringung der DORA-Empfehlungen ist immer noch zu gering
- Grund: es fehlen Alternativen zur Leistungsmessung

"Die noch ausstehende Durchdringung der DORA-Empfehlungen in Deutschland verdeutlicht sich auf der praktischen Ebene insbesondere in der fehlenden Umsetzung von Alternativen zur Leistungsbemessung, die zu einer notwendigen Weiterentwicklung einer wissenschaftsgeleiteten und verantwortungsvollen Bewertung von Forschungsleistungen führen würde." [Aus dem Antrag]



■ Ziel:

Erarbeitung eines Referenzmodells zum Reporting auf Basis der am KIT bereits vorliegenden oder mit vertretbaren Aufwand zu erhebender Kennzahlen

Nachnutzbarkeit in anderen Einrichtungen

Vorbehaltlich entsprechender Prüfung sollen die zu erhebenden Daten unter offener Lizenz veröffentlicht werden können, um die Nachnutzbarkeit zu verbessern



Arbeitspakete:

- 1. Evaluation des Ist-Zustandes
- 2. Überprüfung der Übertragbarkeit der DORA-Ziele auf die Reportingverfahren
- 3. Kommunikation am KIT gemeinsam mit Wissenschaftler:innen und Entscheider:innen
- 4. Erstellung eines Referenzmodells
- 5. Praxistests anhand des erarbeiteten Referenzmodells
- 6. Projektmanagement

Wird das KIT CoARA zeichnen?



- Diskussion läuft
- Vorarbeiten aus dem Kontext von **EPICUR**
- CoARA ist erheblich breiter.
- CoARA und die UN-Nachhaltigkeitsziele
- Bedenken und Kritik

Sustainable Development Goals































10



Fragen? => Jetzt gleich hier oder später an arne.upmeier@kit.edu



Diese Folien dürfen frei weitergegeben und auch bearbeitet werden. Bei den verwendeten Abbildungen und Markenzeichen gehen die entsprechenden Nutzungsrechte vor. DORA
STATUS AND PERSPECTIVES
AT THE MAX DELBRÜCK
CENTER

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@JLRohmann

ORCID: 0000-0003-2420-5716

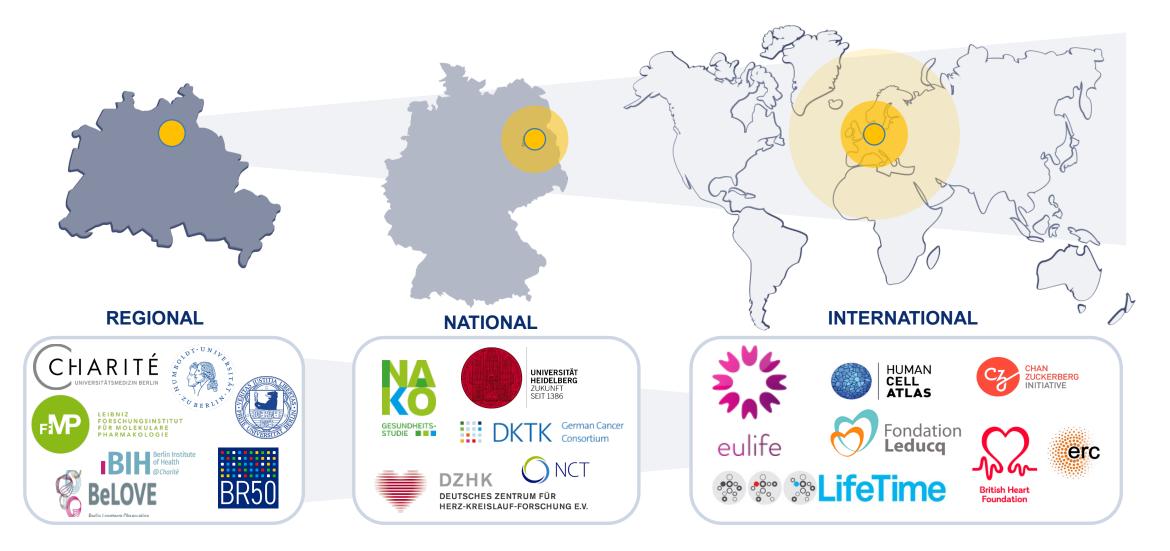


FOR TOMORROW'S MEDICINE



WE CONNECT OUR ACTIVITIES TO OTHERS'





RECENT AND ONGOING ACTIVITIES AT THE MDC

- "Open Responsible Research and Innovation to further Outstanding KNowledge" - ORION project (2017-21)
 - ➤ Integration of open science not only into curricula but also professional development for scientists
 - Large outreach component: Berlin Science Week, Long Night of Sciences, citizen science projects

 EU-LIFE: "Research Assessment" & "Indicators and Publications" Task Forces







open science





IN PROGRESS... SUPPORTING OUR SCIENTISTS (BETTER)



MDC Library

- > Systematic collection of metadata into MDC Repository: OA, indicators
- Currently: How to best integrate research data and software?
- > Next: new Head & scope of services: internal committee, townhall

MDC RDM Team (since 2020)

- ➤ RDM Roadmap for MDC
- Optimizing internal integration with library, IT; onboarding and service provision for scientists
- > Repository of open-source software developed by MDC scientists

DigTools

Database of Digital Tools offerd by the MDC-Groups

Thanks to Inga Patarcic and Wolf Schröder-Barkhausen





- 2023 Evaluation @ Institutional level
 - > Research groups: May 31-June 2, Tech platforms June 8-9
 - > Big picture of our activities as a Center, evaluation of "us"
 - What is working? What needs more support?
 - > Reviewer briefings, analysis/results, institutional contributions/engagement

MDC Strategy 2030

Strategic Process

"Hopes and fears"

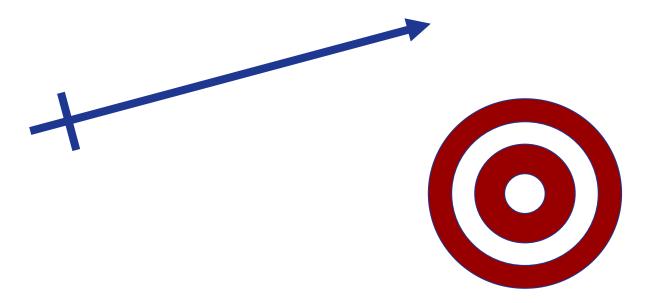
ECRS & THE FUTURE...



FUTURE?

NEW TARGET



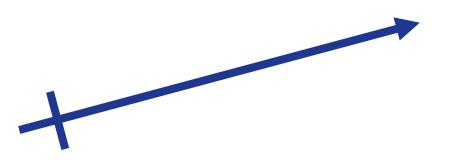


HELMHOLTZ



NO TARGET





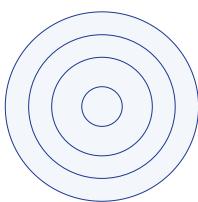
HELMHOLTZ



NO TARGET?

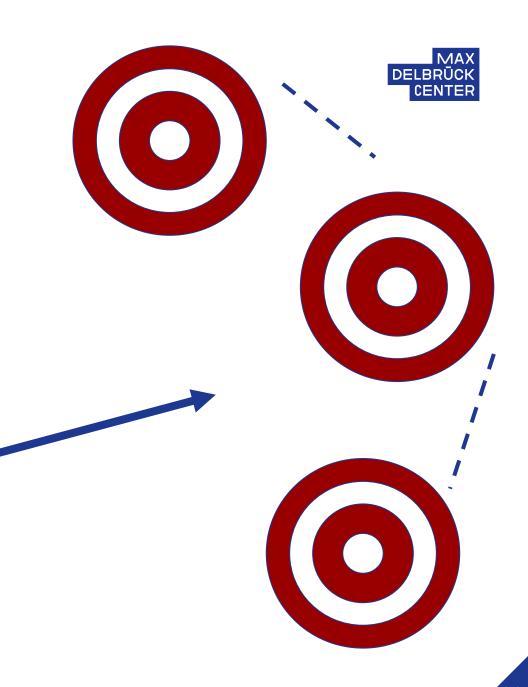






MOVING TARGET





WHAT ABOUT A PLATFORM/LANDING PAD?







ENGAGE AND EMPOWER STAKEHOLDERS



PLOS BIOLOGY

CONSENSUS VIEW

Recommendations for empowering early career researchers to improve research culture and practice

Brianne A. Kento 1, Constance Holmano 2, Emmanuella Amoako 3,4, Alberto Antonietti 5, James M. Azamo 6, Hanne Ballhauseno 2,7, Yaw Bediako 8, Anat M. Belaseno 9,10, Clarissa F. D. Carneiro 11, Yen-Chung Cheno 12, Ewoud B. Compeero 13, Chelsea A. C. Connor 14, Sophia Crüwello 2, Humberto Debato 15, Emma Dorris 16, Hedyeh Ebrahimio 17, Jeffrey C. Erlicho 18,19, Florencia Fernández-Chiappe 20, Felix Fischer 1, Małgorzata Anna Gazda 22, Toivo Glatz 3, Peter Grabitzo 2, Verena Heiseo 4, David G. Kento 5, Hung Loo 26,27, Gary McDowello 8, Devang Mehtao 9, Wolf-Julian Neumanno 30, Kleber Neveso 11, Mark Pattersono 31, Naomi C. Penfold 2, Sophie K. Pipero 33,34, Iratxe Pueblao 35, Peter K. Quashieo 36,37, Carolina Paz Quezadao 3, Julia L. Rileyo 9, Jessica L. Rohmanno 23,40, Shyam Saladi 11, Benjamin Schwessingero 4, Bob Siegerinko 4,44,4, Paulina Stehliko 45,46, Alexandra Tzilivakio 26,27,47, Kate D. L. Umberso 4, Aalok Varmao 4, Kaivalya Walavalkar 4, Charlotte M. de Windeo 50, Cecilia Zazao 51, Tracey L. Weissgerbero 2,

ECRs have good ideas about research reform & implementation...

Talk with them!

Give them protected time and a platform!

Empower them!



Table 1. Actions that organizations and individuals can take to support ECRs in improving science publishing and research culture.



Kent, B. A. et al. (2022). *PLoS Biology*.

https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3001680

DELBRŪCK

CENTER





The DFG's perspective on CoARA

Matthias Kiesselbach

Helmholtz OS Forum "Research Evaluation, Reputation Systems, and Openness", 9/5/23



DFG White Paper on Academic Incentives on individual research

and Research Assessment (May 2022)

Academic Publishing
As a Foundation and Area of Leverage for

Challenges and Fields of Action

Position Paper

https://www.dfg.de/en/service/press/press_releases/ 2022/press_release_no_15/index.html





DFG White Paper on Academic Publishing ... and Research AssessmentPublication cultures





- Delay between conclusion of research
- no THE LANCET
- Inst

CORRESPONDENCE | VOLUME 383, ISSUE 9923, P1123, MARCH 29, 2014

Missing topics, slow turnover, problems of replicability > Problematic incentive structures → The system does not run optimally, is not resilient

Published: March 29, 2014 • DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(14)60556-0 Incent Incenti

High co

Rising costs

liments

flow of

knowledge

quality

- Delay between conclusion of research and publication
- Reduced public awareness, visibility, findability of topics which are (currently) not "marketable"
- Insufficient recognition for scientific output of the non-prestigious kinds

Impediments to the flow of (new) knowledge

- Incentives for cutting corners in research process and hasty publication
- Incentives for violations of good scientific practice

Loss of scientific quality

High cost of publication (money for prestige)

Rising costs



- Establish and support fast, open publication formats (e.g. preprints)
- Equal access for all topics in reaching the academic public
- Scientific community as owner of data, publications and publication venues
- Recognition for all forms of scientific output





Improve flow of scientific knowledge

Increase quality

Lower costs



- Establish and support fast, open publication formats (e.g. preprints)
- Equal access for all topics in reaching the academic public
- Scientific community as owner of data, publications and publication venues
- Recognition for all forms of scientific output
- https://zenodo.org/record/7193838#.Y3zS6qSZNaT →Open Science position paper: →DFG code: https://wissenschaftliche-integritaet.de/en
- Incentivize quality control in the entire cycle of research
- Incentivize good scientific practice (e.g. via recognition for Open Science adherence)

Lower costs

Improve flow of

scientific knowledge



- Establish and support fast, open publication formats (e.g. preprints)
- Equal access for all topics in reaching the academic public
- Scientific community as owner of data, publications and publication venues
- Recognition for all forms of scientific output

Improve flow of scientific knowledge

Incentivize quality control in the entire cycle of research

Increase quality

- Incentivize good scientific practice (e.g. via recognition for Open Science adherence)
- Establish and support science-driven, affordable publication venues

Lower costs

→ Action Plan for Diamond Open Access: https://www.dfg.de/foerderung/info_wissenschaft/2022/info_wissenschaft_22_26/index.html https://www.dfg.de/foerderung/info_wissenschaft/2022/info_wissenschaft_22_26/index.html



- Establish and support fast, open publication formats (e.g. preprints)
- Equal access for all topics in reaching the academic public
- Scientific community as owner of data, publications and publications

Improve flow of scientific knowledge

Incentivize quality control in the entire cycle metrics of outputs

Incentivize good scientific practice (earth a ride nition of Open Scientific Stablish and support scientific **Increase quality**

Lower costs



DFG's measures to support a shift in Sept. 2022

ssessment



nttps://www.dfg.de/en/research fundi ng/announcements_proposals/2022/i nfo wissenschaft 22 61/



DFG's measures to support a shift in the culture of research assessment Since September 2022

Changes in the proposals and review procedures

→ https://www.dfg.de/foerderung/index.html

- Frugal in terms of data, GDPR compatible
- Room for individual and narrative information

New category for various forms of publication types

uniform CV



DFG's measures to support a shift in the culture of research assessment Since September 2022

Changes in the proposals and review procedures

→ https://www.dfg.de/foerderung/index.html

- Frugal in terms of data, GDPR compatible
- Room for individual and narrative information

uniform CV

- New category for various forms of publication types
- Discuss contents of project specific preliminary and previous works
 - List of previous publications only in the References (at the end of the text)

new Guidelines

- Inclusion of full spectrum of publication formats
- No metrics!

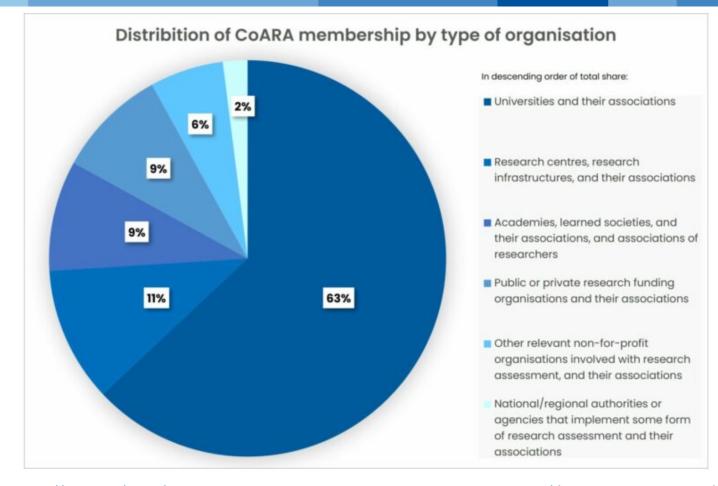


CoARA

Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment



- > 500 signatory organisations
- Member organisations:
 - Universities
 - Research performing organisations
 - Research funding organisations
 - Academies of science
 - others



see https://coara.eu/news/progress-on-coara-membership-and-forthcoming-activities/ (from 24 February 2023)



CoARA Core CommitmentsFully compatible with DFG practice

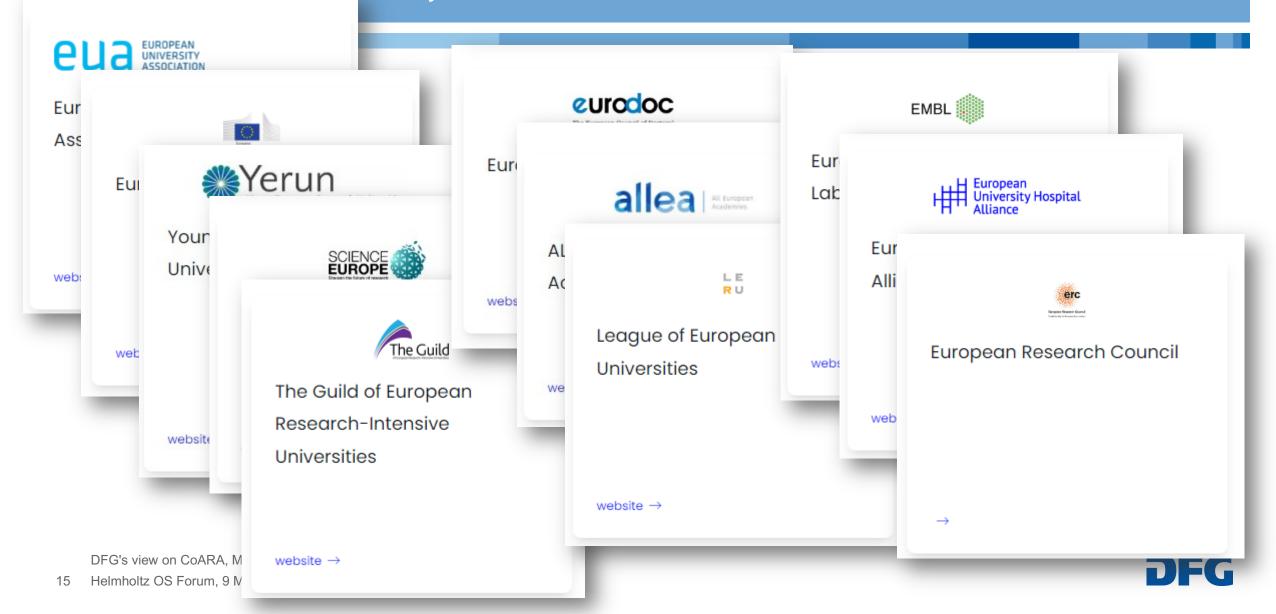
► CoARA Core Commitments

- 1. Recognise the <u>diversity of contributions to</u>, <u>and careers in</u>, <u>research</u> in accordance with the needs and nature of the research
- 2. Base research assessment primarily on <u>qualitative evaluation</u> for which peer review is central, supported by responsible use of quantitative indicators
- 3. <u>Abandon inappropriate uses in research assessment of journal- and publication-based metrics</u>, in particular inappropriate uses of Journal Impact Factor (JIF) and h-index
- 4. Avoid the use of rankings of research organisations in research assessment



Signatories of the Agreements on Reforming Research Assessment

European organisations, subjective selection



DFG's membership in CoARA

Uses and values from the perspective of DFG

- ► Membership in the bottom-up initiative
 - → Chance to influence discussions
 - → Mutual Learning
- ▶ Join forces with like-minded agencies public, transparent monitoring
 - → Higher credibility of and commitment to our own attempts at reforming practices and culture
 - → Dependability and safety for researchers
- ► Creation of a unified research area with similar principles in the evaluation of research
 - → Minimize the "First Mover" Disadvantage (break out of the "Prisoner's Dilemma")
 - → Break the path dependency



Commitment 10: "Communicate progress made on adherence to the Principles and implementation of the Commitments Planning of DFG activities along the line of the CoARA reporting system



------Ongoing monitoring – check and develop DFG's review and evaluation procedures

Current activities

Planned activities

Activities in CoARA

Activities to be developed



CoARAPractice and theory



Tool box /
Reservoir of ideas





Thank you for your interest!

Further information

- ► DFG CoARA e-mail inbox: coara@dfg.de
- ▶ DFG Publication System e-mail inbox: <u>publikationswesen@dfg.de</u>
- ▶ on DFG: https://www.dfg.de
- on DFG's funding: https://www.dfg.de/foerderatlas
- on DFG funded projects: https://www.dfg.de/gepris
- on the German research landscape: https://gerit.org



Einschätzung Wissenschaftlicher Qualität - prospektiv

Förderwürdigkeit (des Antrags)

Erwarteter wiss. Ertrag (des Projekts)

"Intellektueller Kern"

Originalität, Relevanz, ... der

- Konkreten Erkenntnisziele

- Hypothesen
- Methoden

Pläne i.B. auf Output

- **Publikation**
- Nachnutzbare Daten
- Code

Weitere Voraussetzungen

- Arbeitsumfeld
- Qualifikation der PIs
- Diversität des **Teams**

Auswirkungen auf Forschungssystem

Auswirkungen auf...

- Nachwuchsförderung: Personalstruktur des Wiss.feldes
- Diversitätsstruktur des Wiss.feldes
- Vertrauen der Öffentlichkeit in Wiss.

Gewichtungen: (in Einzelförderung)

- typischerweise hoch
- typischerweise mittel
- typischerweise niedrig

(bei Verbundprojekten (FOR, GRK, SFB, EXC, auch SPP, sind die "Auswirkungen…" höher gewichtet)



Culture

HELMHOLTZOpen Science