Message from the CODATA President, Barend Mons

Date: Nov 7, 2019



The field of research data and associated services is in a rapid - and epoch-making - phase transition from a data sparse to a data-overloaded ecosystem. Many national and international efforts are underway to try and deal with the enormous challenges posed by instrumentation and automation and the associated explosion in the volume and complexity of data. We all try and keep pace with this phenomenon by deploying the analytical processes and tools needed to enable data-intensive science, supported by machines. In order that high throughput data generation instruments and computers may effectively support the scientific and innovation process, both data and workflow components need to be machine-actionable. Building on and refining many earlier efforts, in 2014 the FAIR principles were formulated. These principles recommend that data (and services around them) should be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and (thus) Reuseable, *first and foremost by machines*.

25 November 2019
CODATA is the Committee on Data of the International Science Council and exists to promote global collaboration in advancing Open Science, and to improve the availability and usability of data in all all areas of research. A recent statement by President Barend Mons reminds us that FAIR data should be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable first and foremost by machines. Read the statement here.

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