
Recommendations on practice to support FAIR data principles

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Based on the results of the [landscape assessment](#), desk research and interviews [D3.2 FAIR Data Practice Analysis](#) provides an analysis of practices to support FAIR data production within a broad selection of research disciplines and research data repositories. [D3.4 Recommendations on Practice to support FAIR Data Principles](#) is a set of practical recommendations on making data FAIR and is aimed at research communities and data stewards. The recommendations are grouped under four main ambitions, outlined as themes A - D, with recommendations numbered accordingly. Each recommendation concludes with the summary of actions for various stakeholder groups.

Theme A: Develop and implement data sharing and interoperability frameworks

- A1: Describe research outputs using agreed terminologies and metadata standards to make data FAIR
- A2: Build a culture of data citation

Theme B: Ensure data management is supported by data management plans (DMPs)

- B1: Formalise and support appropriate data management plans (DMPs) for FAIR data
- B2: Develop roadmaps, guidance and workflows for machine-actionable data management plans (DMP) to inform FAIR data stewardship

Theme C: Develop professional support for FAIR data

- C1: Define and manage FAIR support costs and resources
- C2: Develop and implement models for coordinating and supporting data stewards and research software engineers
- C3: Develop and implement terminology for competence centres to annotate and retrieve training materials on enabling FAIR
- C4: Develop and implement a self-assessment framework for Research Infrastructures, institutions, and other FAIR competence centres

Theme D: Ensure trusted curation of data

- D1: Develop and implement guidance and support for selection of appropriate trusted digital repositories (TDRs)
- D2: Develop and implement guidance and support for making sensitive data FAIR for reuse

Resources for Research Performing Organisations

Framework for assessing capability maturity and engagement with FAIR-enabling practice (ACME-FAIR)

Our [ACME-FAIR guides](#) helps research performing organisations to self-assess how well they are enabling researchers, and the professional staff who support them, to put



the FAIR data principles into practice. The framework is released as seven thematic guides, each one dealing with a key aspect of enabling FAIR practice. ACME-FAIR thematic guides:

- [Defining the Policy Environment](#)
- [Developing sustainable business models](#)
- [Professionalising Roles through Training, Mentoring, and Recognition](#)
- [Supporting Data Management Planning](#)
- [Defining Data Interoperability Frameworks](#)
- [Selecting Data, Services, and Repositories for FAIR](#)
- [Ensuring Trustworthy Curation](#)



Implementation Stories

Our [collection of Implementation Stories](#) share real-life examples of approaches taken by data support actors in one or more Research Performing Organisation or Research Data Infrastructure to help researchers to produce or reuse FAIR data, either directly or by assisting professional support staff.

A [blank Implementation Story template](#) is available for anyone who wishes to adopt this approach to create and share their own implementation stories.



Guidance

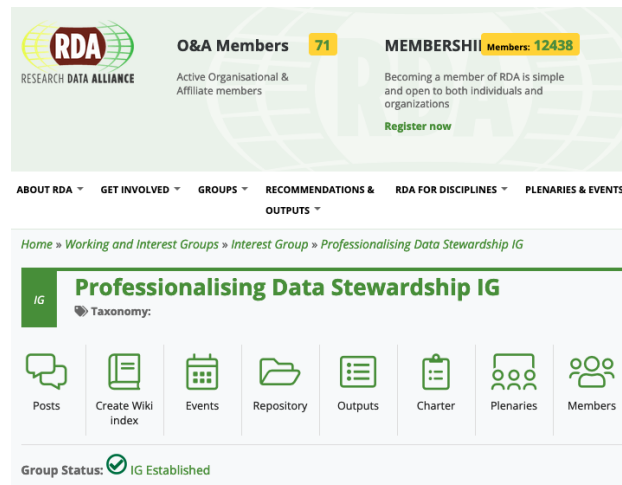
Additional guidance has been developed to complement selected ACME-FAIR themes.

- [FAIR-Aware Additional guidance to the Science Europe DMP assessment rubric](#). This Supporting annotated version of the Science Europe DMP assessment rubric offers additional guidance on FAIR for data stewards and others using this rubric to provide feedback to researchers developing data management plans (DMPs).



Survey on organisational models for data stewardship

We worked with the [RDA Professionalising Data Stewardship Interest Group](#) to design a survey of the data stewardship community, which was run by the IG at the end of 2021. The report is expected to be released before the [19th RDA Plenary](#), and will offer a valuable snapshot of the approaches currently being taken to deliver support for researchers in data stewardship.



The screenshot shows the RDA Professionalising Data Stewardship Interest Group (IG) website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with items: ABOUT RDA, GET INVOLVED, GROUPS, RECOMMENDATIONS & OUTPUTS, RDA FOR DISCIPLINES, and PLENARIES & EVENTS. The main content area features a header with the RDA logo and the text 'RESEARCH DATA ALLIANCE'. Below this, there are two sections: 'O&A Members 71' (Active Organisational & Affiliate members) and 'MEMBERSHIP Members: 12438' (Becoming a member of RDA is simple and open to both individuals and organizations, with a 'Register now' link). The main heading is 'Professionalising Data Stewardship IG' with a 'Taxonomy:' label. Below the heading is a row of icons for 'Posts', 'Create Wiki index', 'Events', 'Repository', 'Outputs', 'Charter', 'Plenaries', and 'Members'. At the bottom, the 'Group Status' is indicated as 'IG Established'.

Get involved!

- Share examples of good practice through our Implementation Stories. To share a story, please [get in touch](#)
- Join the [FAIR Data Forum](#) to network with your peers
- Participate in our [Data Stewardship training](#)

Further reading

- [D3.2 FAIR Data Practice Analysis](#) provides an analysis of practices to support FAIR data production within a broad selection of research disciplines and research data repositories.
- [D3.4 Recommendations on Practice to support FAIR Data Principles](#) is a set of practical recommendations on making data FAIR and is aimed at research communities and data stewards. The recommendations are grouped under four main ambitions, outlined as themes A - D, with recommendations numbered accordingly. Each recommendation concludes with the summary of actions for various stakeholder groups.
- Drawing on the open consultation results, desk research and interviews [D6.1 Overview of needs for competence centres](#) provides an overview of requirements for competence centres in general and a core competence centre for FAIR data stewardship.

