Task Force charter
Data stewardship curricula and career paths

Main aims

Encapsulate the main aims of the Task Force in a few sentences

The Data stewardship curricula and career paths task force will focus on the Data Steward role and their core activities [5]. This TF should define data stewardship job roles and curricula to ensure these are recognised and aligned across Europe and develop recommendations for potential career paths taking into account appropriate recognition and rewards for data management activities. The taskforce will actively engage with stakeholders and disseminate their work. Relevant initiatives will be taken into account, including the recommendations from the *Digital Skills for FAIR and Open Science report* [5].

Core activities

Specify a basic workplan and set of activities which the group will address, highlighting key outputs / outcomes expected and a timeline for these

- Task 1: Stakeholder management and dissemination. M1-24
  - Milestone 1.1: Identify stakeholders and related initiatives and clarify definitions used - by end 2021
    - Produce a stakeholder list, identify the modalities of contact and timeline
    - Together with stakeholders, clarify terminology around Data Stewards/Data Stewardship and how these terms might be used in different international, disciplinary and institutional contexts. Clarify overlapping terms (e.g. data management activities).
  - Dissemination could include informal EOSC AG TF cafe sessions, webinars of implementation examples etc.
  - Likely topics for public dissemination:
    - Clarify terminology around Data Stewards/Data Stewardship and how these terms might be used in different international, disciplinary and institutional contexts
    - Highlight Data Stewards as a viable career path
- Task 2: Definition of a minimal data stewardship curricula (taking into account previous work [1-5, 8]). M1-24
  - Milestone 2.1: Recommendations for Data Steward curricula version 1 - M12
    - Define Data Stewards roles, their core activities, possible specialisations or extension activities, and the context in which these roles operate
    - Develop a competency profile for data stewardship core activities
    - Define levels of training needed by the different Data Steward roles

- - - Produce guidelines for a Data Stewardship curricula, which could include university curricula as well as short training.
    - Milestone 2.2: Recommendations for Data Steward curricula version 2 - M24
      - Refined version of the the competency profile and curricula with input from the implementation use cases
- Task 3: Career paths for Data Stewards and associated roles (taking into account previous work [1-4]). M1-24
  - Milestone 3.1: Report on how Data Steward roles map in an international, disciplinary and institutional context - M09
    - In alignment with Upskilling countries to engage in EOSC Task Force, and other international initiatives
  - Develop Data Steward career paths;
    - Milestone 3.2 Recommendations for Data Steward career paths version 1 - M15
      - Recommendations for the individual on the career paths available
      - Recommendations for research performing institutions and organisations on how to establish career paths for Data Stewards
      - Recommendations for the recognition and rewards for data stewardship activities (e.g. credits, incentives);
        - Aligned with the Research careers, recognition and credit Task Force.
    - Milestone 3.3: Recommendations for Data Steward career paths version 2 - M24
      - Refined version with input from implementation use cases
- Task 4: Implementation examples using use cases; M6-M24
  - Milestone 4.1: Identify use cases and potential settings to implement the version 1 of recommendations for data stewardship curricula and career paths - M12
  - Use cases will contribute to version 2 of recommendations for data stewardship curricula and career paths
  - Use cases will contributes to the successful dissemination of Data Stewardship in collaboration with task 1
  - When selecting potential use cases the following should be taken into account:
    - Discipline-specific support (Data Steward with relevant domain background) as well as generic data steward support
    - Policy-development with Data Steward
    - Various institutional environments in which data stewards will intervene
    - University degree versus short training setting

Planned duration

Specify how long you expect the group to run. 12-24 months is anticipated as a typical length

24 months

Working methodology

Describe how the Task Force will approach its work and engage with stakeholders. Are focus groups, workshops or other forms of interaction envisaged to solicit feedback and test implementation? Also consider how the community at large will be kept informed.

- Kick off procedures
  - Charter coordinators call the first information meeting
    - Set out procedure for the election of Co-Chairs and nomination of Task leads
      - Co-Chairs elected from the TF confirmed by EOSC board
      - Task leads nominated by co-chairs based on expression of interest
    - Nomination and election will take place offline
- Working practices. The task force will
  - draft and regularly update a list of stakeholders
  - Release work in versions to incorporate feedback and lessons learned
  - Ensure a co-creation process between theoretical development and implementation examples
  - Hold public consultation through e.g. surveys, interviews, discussion workshops with stakeholders across all activities
    - Potential workshops could include:
      - Together with stakeholders, clarify terminology around Data Stewards/Data Stewardship and how these terms might be used in different international, disciplinary and institutional contexts.
      - Knowledge exchange workshop for Data Stewards to discuss career paths
  - Hold close communication with other relevant task forces to align and optimise efforts
  - Collect use cases from within as well as outside the task force
    - Potential examples not already mentioned in task 4
      - Establish a network looking/collaborating for future funding, joint implementation
      - Recommend the need for a Data Stewards certification, and/or a community of practice and/or professional body

Dependencies

Identify key dependencies that will affect work, such as overlap with other Task Forces, inputs required from projects or engagement from certain communities

- Research careers, recognition and credit Task Force
- Upskilling countries to engage in EOSC Task Force

- RDA Professionalising Data Stewardship IG
  https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/professionalising-data-stewardship-ig
- RDA Education and Training on handling of research data IG
  https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/education-and-training-handling-research-data.html
- Any initiatives or projects implementing recommendations from the Digital Skills for FAIR and Open Science report [5]. We anticipate the output of this taskforce to contribute to recommendations 1, 2, and 3.

Membership

Describe the proposed membership composition and size, denoting the competencies needed within the group and how balance should be achieved to represent different stakeholders such as research communities, implementers, funders and research performing organisations

- We anticipate the task force will have between 25-30 members
- Roles and engagements of the Task force
  - Co-chairs:
    - Elected from the TF members
    - Co-chairs are responsible for the overall running of the TF. They are expected to take the lead in organising and chairing the full TF meetings and to coordinate the writing of any report. Co-chairs can be part of any task but should not double as task leader. Co-chairs will take the lead in presenting the work of the TF to the wider community.
    - Co-chairs can invite additional members if certain expertise is missing from the Task Force.
  - Co-Task leaders (2 per task)
    - Nominations from the TF members, appointed by Co-chairs
    - Task leaders are responsible for the running of their task. They are expected to take the lead in organising and chairing the task meetings and take the lead in writing reports for their task
  - Task Force members
    - Expected to become a member of at least one task (tasks 2-4), everyone is expected to contribute to task 1.
    - Expected to attend the TF and their task meeting and make substantive contributions. May be asked to contribute to writing reports. Will be expected to review reports and comment on draft documents.
- Selection criteria
  - General EOSC criteria
    - Focus on relevant skills for delivering Task Force remit
    - Prioritise Association Members & Observers
    - Prioritise people who add value to EOSC
    - Ensure research community inputs
    - Include key project representatives responsible for implementation
    - Ensure diversity and balance in terms of:

- Gender
- Country
- Career stage
- Stakeholder category
- Organisation / member

○ Additional criteria set by the Task Force charter; *please clarify the points below in your motivational statement.*

  ■ Spread of contributors across the tasks 2-4.
  ■ Willingness to serve as co-chair/co-task leader/members.
  ■ Individuals should commit to provide significant input for the duration of the TF.
  ■ Indicate if you can provide relevant implementation examples.
  ■ It would be helpful if initiatives highlighted in the stakeholder list are part of the task force.

References

[1] Mijke Jetten, Marjan Grootveld, Annemie Mordant, Mascha Jansen, Margreet Bloemers, Margriet Miedema, & Celia W.G. van Gelder. (2021, January 1). Professionalising data stewardship in the Netherlands. Competences, training and education. Dutch roadmap towards national implementation of FAIR data stewardship (Version 0.1). Zenodo. http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4320505

[2] National Coordination of Data Steward Education in Denmark
https://www.deic.dk/sites/default/files/Data%20Steward%20Education%20in%20Denmark_0.pdf

[3] S. Scholtens, M. Jetten, J. Böhmer, C. Staiger, I. Slouwerhof, M. van der Geest, C.W.G van Gelder (2019, October 5). Towards FAIR data steward as profession for the lifesciences. Report of a ZonMw funded collaborative approach built on existing expertise. Zenodo. http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3471708

[4] Verheul, I., Imming, M., Ringersma, J., Mordant, A., van der Ploeg, J. L., & Pronk, M. (2019). Data stewardship on the map: A study of tasks and roles in Dutch research institutes.
https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2669150

[5] Digital skills for FAIR and Open Science - Report from the EOSC Executive Board Skills and Training Working Group
https://doi.org/10.2777/59065

[6] Six Recommendations for implementation of FAIR practice by the FAIR in practice task force of the European open science cloud FAIR working group
https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/4630fa57-1348-11eb-9a54-01aa75ed71a1

[7] Openness Profile - Modelling research evaluation for open scholarship. Knowledge Exchange report
https://repository.jisc.ac.uk/8340/1/Openness%20Profile%20Modelling%20research%20evaluation%20for%20open%20scholarship%20March%202021.pdf

[8] EDISON Data Science Framework: Part 1. Data Science Competence Framework (CF-DS) Release 2;
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