

Introduction to Digital Collection Curator Training Pilot

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Digital Collection Curator Training Pilot

24th September 2024

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● Agenda and objectives

Times (CEST)		Duration (min)
13:00	Welcome and introduction	20
13:20	Module 1: planning and strategy	40
14:00	Module 2: Data digitisation, processing and preservation	40
14:30	Break	15
14:45	Module 3: Data governance- legal and ethical considerations	40
15:25	Module 4: Sharing: making library, archive & museum collections FAIR	40
16:05	General discussion	15
16:25	Workshop wrap-up	5

- To provide a learning path with associated learning material and guidance that addresses the Open Science (OS) and Research Data Management (RDM) skills identified as Minimum Viable Skills (MVS) for the role of Digital Collection Curators
- The main target audience for the courses are trainers preparing courses on these topics, but the materials can also be used for self-learning
- Focus on reusing materials and involving the community

● Skills4EOSC project

- See <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11224900>



The poster for the Skills4EOSC project is divided into several sections. At the top, it features two circular images: a terracotta figurine and a fish. Below these are the names and contact information of four project partners: Helmo Rainer (Natural History Museum Vienna), Nikos Günsdorfer (Natural History Museum Vienna), Angus Whyte (Digital Curation Centre), and Clara Linés Díaz (Digital Curation Centre). The main title 'Supporting policy making by opening scientific collections from the Natural History domain' is prominently displayed. The 'Open Scientific Collections in Skills4EOSC project' section outlines the goal of promoting Open Science and FAIR principles. The 'Activities' section describes case studies on open natural science collections and their policy goals. The 'Minimum Viable Skillsets (MVS) and training materials for Digital Collections Managers' section details the development of job profiles and learning materials. The 'Professional network of data curators in museums and collections' section aims to facilitate networking and exchange of good practices. The 'Get in touch' section provides contact information for the project. The bottom of the poster features logos for the European Union, UK Research and Innovation, and the Skills4EOSC project itself, along with social media handles and a website link.

Supporting policy making
by opening scientific
collections from the
Natural History domain

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Open Scientific Collections in Skills4EOSC project

Goal: To promote the concept and spirit of Open Science, Open Scientific Collections, as well as the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) and CARE (Collective Benefit, Authority to Control, Responsibility, and Ethics) Principles among professionals who manage scientific collections, with a particular focus on Natural History collections.

Activities

Case studies on how open natural science collections can support policy goals, especially at the European level, with a focus on biodiversity, climate change, or tackling pollution

- To be shared through a policy brief and by hosting a round table for parliamentarians and policy administration in Brussels.
- These findings will also be integrated into the project's training materials for policymakers.

Minimum Viable Skillsets (MVS) and training materials for Digital Collections Managers:

- Developing a job profile based on the MVS concept, to empower professionals with essential skills for fostering the role of open collections in research and policy. Digital transformation of museum collections requires different ways of working and new skills.
- The MVS will inform learning materials piloted in training to help people acquire the essential skills to make collections more open for research that informs policy.

Professional network of data curators in museums and collections

- Facilitate networking at both national and international levels.
- To exchange good practices in open science and digital collections.

Get in touch

We are looking forward to engaging with other initiatives dedicated to advancing open scientific collections and discovering cases of scientific collections supporting biodiversity policy goals. If you work with natural history collections - and this has informed policy on biodiversity, climate change, or pollution - Skills4EOSC would love to share your story. If any aspect of our work aligns with your interests let's talk! Speak to us here or please reach out to us!

Skills4EOSC

Skills for the European Open Science commons: creating a training ecosystem for Open and FAIR science

Funded by the European Commission Horizon Europe programme (GA 101058527). Coordinated by Consortium GARR 44 partners in 18 European countries. Skills4EOSC has set up a pan-European network of competence centres to speed up the training of European researchers and harmonize the training of new professionals for scientific data management.

Minimum Viable Skillsets

The MVS are one of the key outputs of the project and cover a variety of career profiles related to open science, such as researchers, policy-makers, knowledge brokers, and data stewards. Each MVS distils the essential skills relating to activities, outcomes and mission typically expected of the role, in relation to Open Science.

Learning paths

To assist trainers of professionals in these roles, the project is developing learning paths and training resources based on the MVS.

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● Training materials for digital collections curators

- The main target for the courses are trainers preparing courses on these topics, but the materials can also be used for self-learning
- Focus on reusing materials and involving the community
- The plan is to make the resources available by the end of the year through a gitbook that describes the resources, links to them and provides guidance for the trainers on how to use them.
- FAIR-by-Design Training in Social Sciences and Humanities:
Research Data Management and Open Science
[example from T5.2](#)



● Overview of the learning path

Each module combines introductory materials and case studies from museums, libraries and archives

Module 1 Planning and strategy

Module 2 Data digitisation, processing and preservation

Module 3 Sharing: Making Library, Archive & Museum Collections FAIR

Module 4 Data Governance - Legal and Ethical considerations

● Module 1: Planning and strategy

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Gain knowledge of principles relating to FAIR data, Open Science, and Open Collections, the policy and legal contexts to these principles, and strategies for implementing them in diverse GLAM institutions and domains.

This includes understanding of training requirements to build the essential skills for Open Collections practices, policies and procedures, including knowledge/awareness of relevant software development.

● Module 1: Planning and strategy

MODULE OUTLINE:

Lesson 1.1 - Preparing for FAIR and open collections that meet community interests

Lesson 1.2 - Developing essential skills for managing research data derived from collections

Case studies from libraries, archives/infrastructures and museums

RESOURCES INCLUDED IN THE PILOT:

- Data Management Plan (DMP) for MEISE Botanic Garden – [Mathias Dillen](#)
- Developing essential skills for managing research data derived from collections – [Angus Whyte](#)

● Module 2: Data digitisation, processing and preservation

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Knowledge and understanding of practical steps to **manage Collections as Data** and to **apply Open Science principles** to data derived from digital collections.

This includes abilities to establish and maintain good **data management practices** relevant to open digital collections, and to ensure **data quality** and **long-term preservation** by performing **data transformation and migration**, establishing processes for **information security**, **risk management**, **version control**, and **documentation**.

It also includes the **ability to promote** the value of good data management among data producers and users, researchers, support services colleagues, and relevant committees.

● Module 2: Data digitisation, processing and preservation

MODULE OUTLINE:

Lesson 2.1: RDM cycle for open digital GLAM collections

Lesson 2.2: Curation workflows to manage digital GLAM collections

Case studies from libraries, archives/infrastructures and museums

RESOURCES INCLUDED IN THE PILOT:

- RDM cycle for open digital GLAM collections (work in progress)
- Checklist and workflow for collections as data - [Gustavo Candela](#)
- Museums: scientific object-based collections - [Heimo Rainer](#)

● Module 3: Data governance - legal and ethical considerations

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Ability to establish **governance processes to handle ethical and legal/regulatory aspects** of managing digital open collections in the GLAM sector.

This requires understanding of processes to handle **intellectual property rights**, deal with **personal data**, and ensure the **responsible reuse of digital objects**, including through the **de-colonisation of collections**.

It also requires familiarity with **sustainable business modeling approaches** relevant to the sector, including to establish appropriate levels of resource pooling and coordination across services.

● Module 3: Data governance - legal and ethical considerations

MODULE OUTLINE:

Lesson 3.1: Introduction to legal considerations

Lesson 3.2: Responsible Open Science and intellectual property rights

Lesson 3.3: Decolonising collections

Case studies from libraries, archives/infrastructures and museums

RESOURCES INCLUDED IN THE PILOT:

- Personal data handling for historical collections - [Mauthausen-Memorial Andreas Salmhofer](#)
- Responsible Open Science and intellectual property rights - [Teodora Konach](#)
- Decolonising collections - [Angus Whyte](#)

● Module 4: Sharing - making library, archive & museum collections FAIR

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Ability to apply **FAIR principles** to collections, and to other digital objects they interoperate with, including software.

This includes the capability to apply **standards**, **ontologies**, **infrastructure** and **tools for (meta)data** publishing and sharing, and for managing the associated **workflows**.

It also includes the capability to provide **open access** to collections.

● Module 4: Sharing - making library, archive & museum collections FAIR

MODULE OUTLINE:

Lesson 4.1: Applying FAIR principles to collections

Lesson 4.2: PIDs, documentations and collections metadata

Case studies from libraries, archives/infrastructures and museums

RESOURCES INCLUDED IN THE PILOT:

- FAIR implementation starts at home. Collection Data Curation and FAIR Playbook – [Sharif Islam](#)
- Making Libraries FAIR – [Donat Agosti](#)
- Case study: collections-as-[FAIR]-data in a marine science library – [Amanda Whitmire](#)

Skills4EOSC has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme under Grant Agreement No. 101058527 and from UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) under the UK Government's Horizon Europe funding guarantee, Grant No. 10040140

Thanks!



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The EOSC logo, featuring a stylized "e" followed by the letters "eos" in a lowercase, sans-serif font.



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