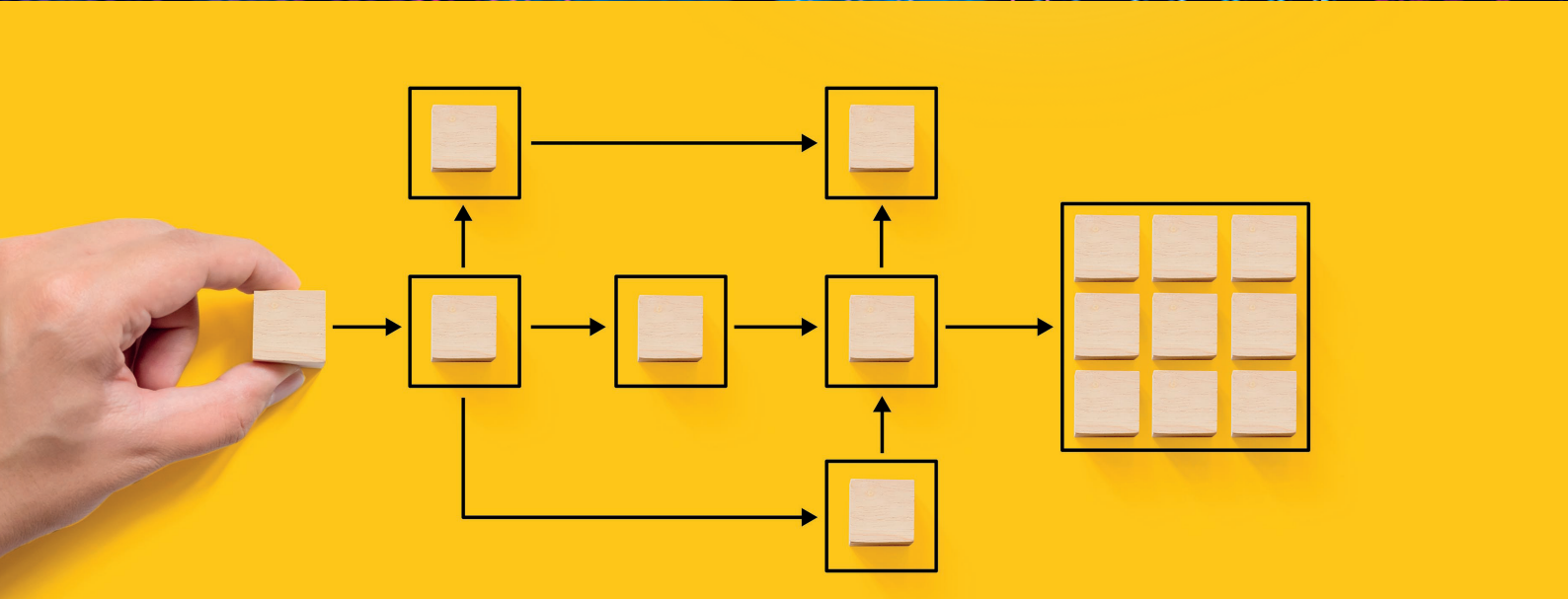




Reflecting on the trustworthiness and transparency of Quetelet-Progedo-Diffusion



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Summary:

FAIR-enabling and trustworthy data repositories play a central role in making and keeping data FAIR over time. While there is ongoing debate on what constitutes trustworthiness, there is broad agreement that transparency and evidence is essential to enable end users to make informed decisions about the repository services they use. In the scope of FAIR assessment, there are also steps to take in the findability of assessment information, and the exposure of assessment results. FAIR-IMPACT has developed guidelines to improve the transparency of, and trust in, repositories. In this support action successful applicants will have the opportunity to test the guidelines and receive guidance on exposing relevant metadata at the organisational and object level to facilitate discovery, provide context, and support interoperability.

In this support action, participants had the opportunity to learn about these new guidelines in depth, and to critically evaluate them as they applied them to their own repository and stakeholders. Participants considered the current status of information exposure in their organisations and how this could be improved using the guidelines. Through this process, participants provided valuable feedback on how useful, relevant, and realistic the guidelines are, directly shaping the future iterations of the guidelines.

This FAIR Implementation Story outlines the specific aims and actions of Progedo in relation to their participation in the support action.



■ ■ Introduction:

Progedo is a national infrastructure (IR*) for quantitative social sciences data, backed by the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research (MESR). One of its core operations is to distribute data for the social sciences community via its data repository, Quetelet-Progedo-Diffusion: <https://data.progedo.fr/>.

Progedo's participation in this support action was primarily motivated by its ongoing efforts to certify Quetelet-Progedo-Diffusion via CoreTrustSeal (CTS). Throughout the duration of the support action, Progedo thus leveraged the different FAIR-IMPACT tools and resources aimed at assessing a data repository's trustworthiness and transparency. Most notably, Progedo used the FAIR-IMPACT guidelines to not only reflect on the trustworthiness and transparency of Quetelet-Progedo-Diffusion, but also identify and pursue opportunities for 'improvements' for Quetelet-Progedo-Diffusion.

■ ■ Approach taken:

As Progedo's objective was to use this support action as a means to reinforce how it prepares Quetelet-Progedo-Diffusion for CTS, the various FAIR-IMPACT tools and resources were reviewed and tested as a team. Concretely, this meant discussing the various criteria or characteristics of trustworthy and transparent data repositories during internal meetings, identifying collectively changes that could be adopted in the short- and long-term to improve transparency and trust, and articulating a realistic implementation plan for the identified opportunities for change.

Externally, as Progedo is participating in CESSDA's Trust and Landscape Work Group (WG) to support the CESSDA KPIs (collected from the CESSDA Service Providers, such as Progedo), it was also able to draw from its participation in this support action to inform WG discussions on the alignment between the CESSDA KPIs and international measures for demonstrating a data repository's trustworthiness and FAIR-enabling qualities (e.g., those discovered during this support action).

■ ■ Challenges encountered and addressed:

For Progedo, a noteworthy challenge was identifying feasible options for making trustworthiness and FAIR-enabling information more machine actionable. To date, the primary solution has been to leverage repository registries (like re3data), as they offer a machine-friendly schema that includes a number of metadata fields that help to expose a data repository's trustworthiness and FAIR-enabling qualities.

■ ■ Impact:

Participating in this support action has provided Progedo with valuable and new insights on how to think about the trustworthiness and transparency of Quetelet-Progedo-Diffusion. Progedo is particularly motivated to continue using the FAIR-IMPACT guidelines as a live 'checklist' as it continues to prepare Quetelet-Progedo-Diffusion for CTS, as well as refine plans aimed at further enhancing the trustworthiness and transparency of Quetelet-Progedo-Diffusion.



■ ■ Key messages:

If your organisation is looking to assess the trustworthiness and transparency of your data repository, the FAIR-IMPACT tools and resources are must-haves in your assessment 'tool kit'!

Thank you to the FAIR-IMPACT team for allowing Progedo to participate and for fostering a dynamic, meaningful and inclusive learning experience.





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