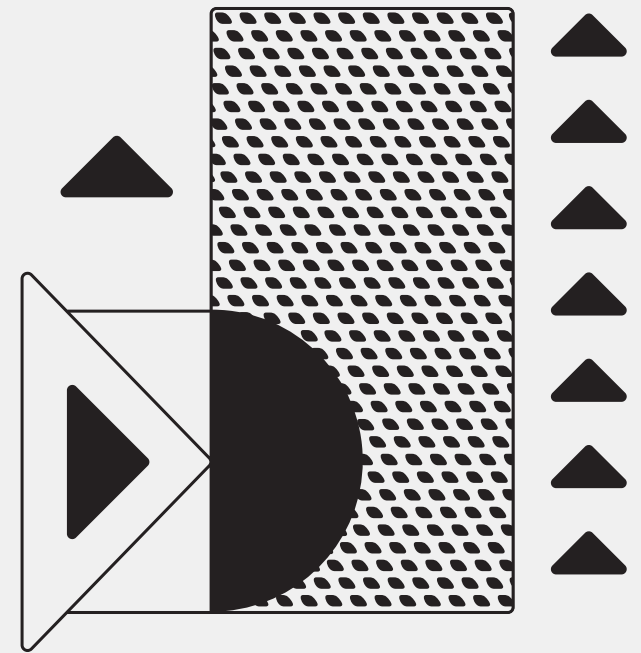







# National training and community platform for data professionals

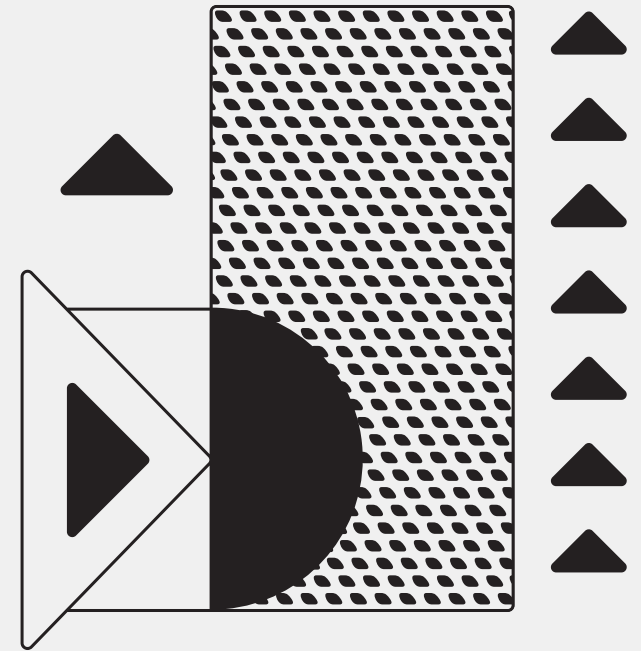
Fieke Schoots, Madeleine de Smaele,  
Dorien Huijser, Marjan Grootveld, Celia van  
Gelder, Deborah Thorpe, Mijke Jetten,  
Shanmugasundaram Venkataraman



# Agenda

-  Introduction RDNL project
-  Training needs
-  Discussion in groups
-  Shared decision making
-  Wrap-up

# Introduction



# Research Data Netherlands

The logo for DANS, consisting of the letters 'DANS' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.The logo for 4TU ResearchData, featuring a stylized orange sunburst icon to the left of the text '4TU' in orange and 'ResearchData' in grey. Below this, the words 'SCIENCE • ENGINEERING • DESIGN' are written in a smaller, grey, sans-serif font.The logo for health RI, featuring a grid of orange dots to the left of the text 'health' in blue and 'RI' in orange. Below this, the tagline 'enabling data driven health & life sciences' is written in a smaller, grey, sans-serif font.The logo for SURF, featuring the word 'SURF' in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters inside a black, rounded rectangular shape with a small circle at the bottom right.

- National coalition of data service providers and expertise networks
- Mission: promote implementation and long-term sustainability of FAIR research data in the Netherlands
- Training and expertise for data support staff / data professionals

# 10+ years of RDNL in a nutshell

- **Training: Essentials 4 Data Support**

- Starting data professionals who support researchers in storing, managing, archiving and sharing research data.
- Online only (free) // Full course (certificate)

- **Training: GDPR 4 Data Support**

- Data professionals seeking a general understanding of the GDPR in research.
- Online only (free) // Full course (certificate)

- **Dutch Data Prize for FAIR data**

- Every 2 years
- Social Sciences & Humanities, Natural & Engineering Sciences, Life Sciences & Health

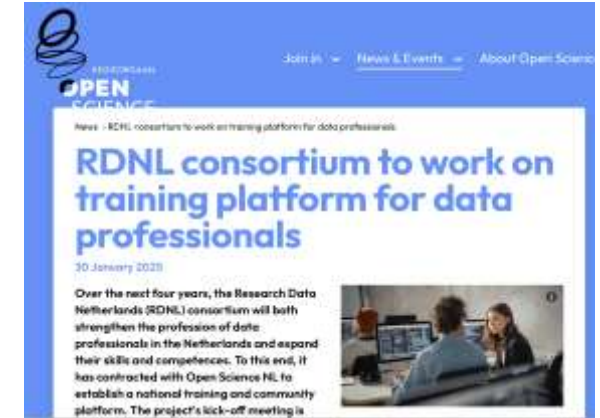
<https://researchdata.nl/>

# Project: Training & Community platform (2025-2028)

Aim: Increase capacity of research data professionals in NL to enable the transition to Open Science

## Outcomes:

1. Curriculum and **training programme with certification** for data professionals
2. Online space connecting training with the **community** of data professionals
3. Long-term plan for governance and sustainability



# Data professionals, data stewards



Scriberia

A superhero-representation of the core responsibilities of a Data Steward. *The Turing Way* project illustration by Scriberia (CC-BY 4.0). DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.5706310](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5706310).

## Data stewardship:

"Course of action taken by a person or group to **manage** and supervise organisational **data assets** with responsibility and commitment. Good stewardship involves adequate **care**, making use of the **FAIR** principles, and holding ownership and regulation to provide **high-quality data** (including metadata), combining trust and ethical practice"

CODATA RDM Terminology, <https://terms.codata.org/rdmt/data-stewardship>

# Curriculum – what is it?

“activities related to the design, organisation and planning of training for data professionals, including the definition of **learning objectives**, the **content** and **formats** of courses, methods for **assessment** of learners and **evaluation** of programmes as well as arrangements for training teachers and trainers”

## Requirements:

- Align with University Job Classification (UFO) profile
- Build on existing work / projects
- Enable external trainings
- Enable learning paths beyond the entry-level





# Curriculum – approach

## The situation:

- Trainings from RDNL:
  - Essentials 4 Data Support
  - GDPR 4 Data Support
- Trainings from external training providers:
  - Learning objectives?
  - Content?
  - Format?
  - Assessment?



## Approach:

- **Competency framework (What):**  
Boundaries of an RDNL curriculum
- **Training programme (How):**  
Learning paths with trainings as building blocks
- **Training providers (Who)**  
Collaborate with other training providers
- **Certification (When)**  
Demonstrate to have the competencies

# Competency framework

Competency area	Competencies + supporting Knowledge & Skills	Topics
1. RDM, FAIR, Open Science	1. ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ K: ...</li> <li>○ S: ...</li> </ul>	...
2. Research Software Management		
3. Data infrastructure		
4. Policy & governance		
5. Legal & ethical responsibilities		
6. Training & awareness		
7. Transversal skills		

- **Scope:** what falls within Dutch Data Steward competencies?
- **Identify gaps:** Map existing RDNL & external trainings

# Some example competencies

## **RDM, FAIR, Open science**

- Deliver hands-on data management (e.g., metadata standards databases, workflows, models)

## **Research software management**

- Provide tailored advice on computational reproducibility (e.g. good coding practices, tools, workflows)

## **Transversal skills**

- Professional skills (knowledge about your own function, mentoring colleagues, team working, organisational sensitivity)
- Build and maintain networks
- Manage RDM-related projects effectively

# The aim of today

## Competency areas:

1. RDM, FAIR, Open science
2. Research software management
3. Data infrastructure
4. Policy and governance
5. Legal and ethical responsibilities
6. Training and awareness raising
7. Transversal skills

- **Scope:** what falls within Dutch Data Steward competencies?

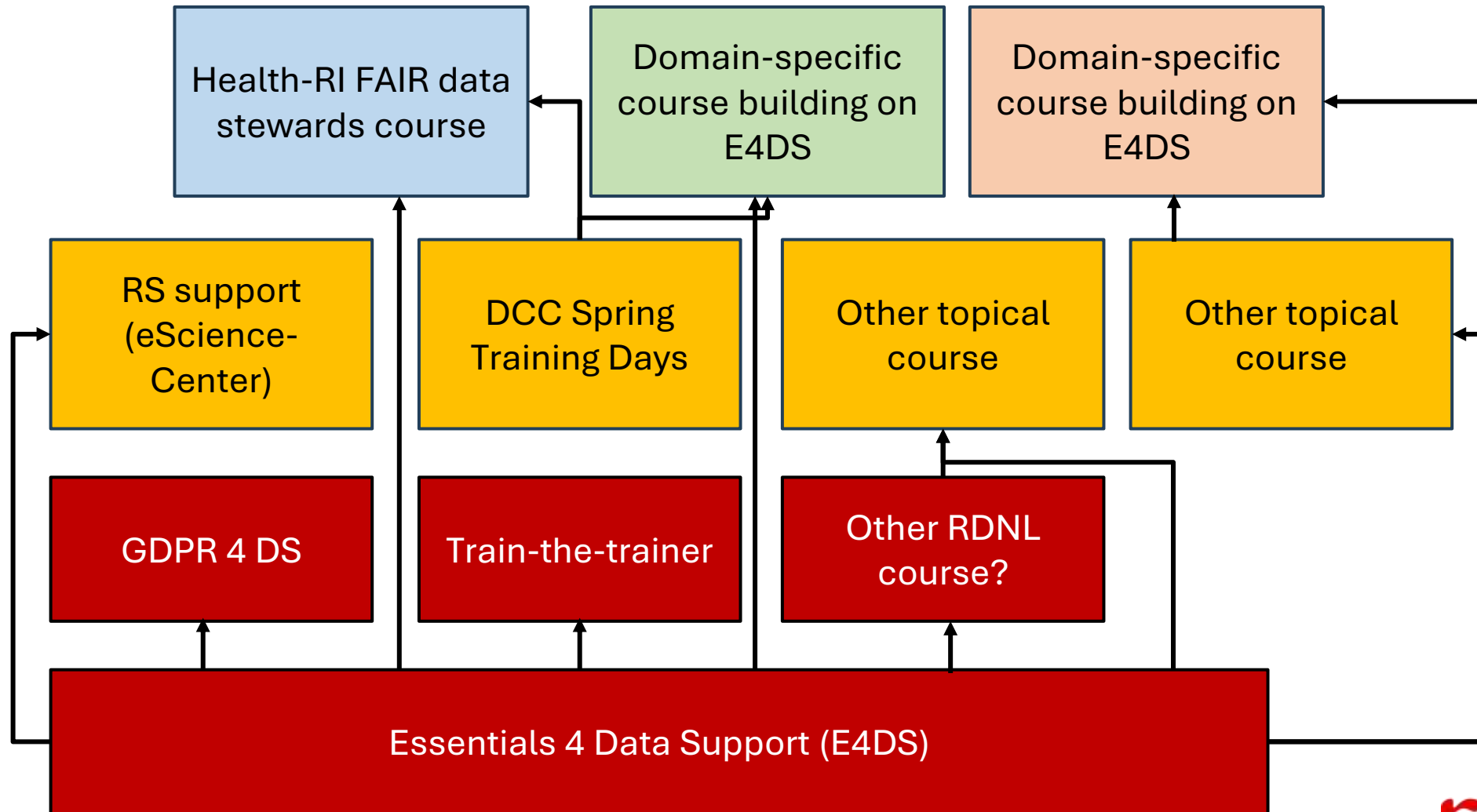
- **Identify gaps:** Map existing RDNL & external trainings



## Today

Find the most pressing training needs for data professionals

# Training programme, example



# Who are here today?

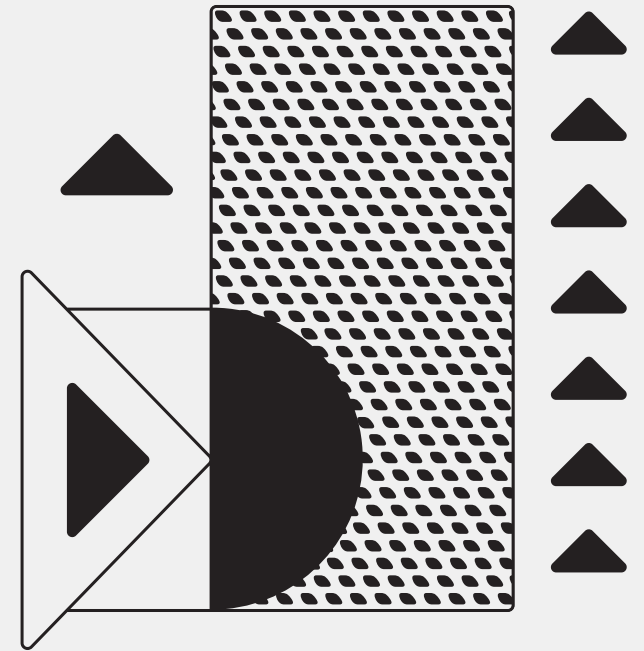
Stand up if you are (or identify as) ...

- A researcher
- A research data professional / data supporter
- Policy maker
- Other



[Giphy, @laff-tv](#)

# Your input!



# Exchange experiences



[Giphy, @dasding](#)

Recall an example of a recent situation where a problem you encountered revealed a gap in your existing knowledge or skills

Discuss with your neighbour

 5 minutes (in total)



# Write down your training needs (individual)

1. Summarise your need on a sticky note
2. Go to the category that best fits the scenario you just described and paste your sticky on it!
3. If relevant, add other training needs as well (also in other categories). **Don't be shy!**

It is ok if you are not in the exact right category 😊

 max 10 minutes

## Competency areas:

1. RDM, FAIR, Open science
2. Research software management
3. Data infrastructure
4. Policy and governance
5. Legal and ethical responsibilities
6. Training and awareness raising
7. Transversal skills

# Discuss training needs (groups)

With the people in 'your' category:

- Cluster training needs (if relevant)
- Give each other tips:
  - How have others gained these skills?
  - Are there already relevant trainings?
  - Write on a sticky note.
- Time left? Visit another category
- Plenary summary per category



15 minutes



[Giphy, @masonrystudios](#)

# Prioritising needs (individual)



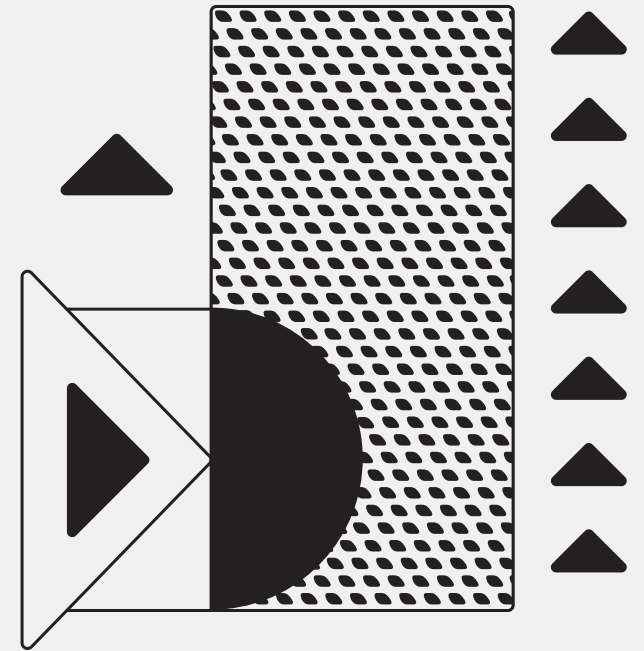
**Which training needs have priority for the community of data professionals?**

Dot voting: Paste 3 dot stickers on the training need(s) that you think deserve the highest priority



max 10 minutes

# Wrap-up



# Recap

## This platform is for you!

We will...

- take your input into account in development of the training programme
- collaborate with other training providers
- ask for your input at many more stages of the project



[Giphy, @moodman](#)

# Get involved

## Do you want to:

- Keep up-to-date?
- Provide feedback on project outputs?
- Contribute actively?

### 1. Sign yourself up

### 2. RDNL community event

 Save the date: Early 2026

### 3. Keep an eye out

- <https://researchdata.nl/>
- RDM mailing lists
- Etc.



[Giphy, @bakedlab](#)

# Thank you!

