## Open Science & Research Assessment: How can they go together?



Dr Birgit Schmidt University of Göttingen ENLIGHT Webinar, 21 May 2024





## Open Science = diverse practices & workflows

- Publishing a paper in an OA journal or book (or other peer-reviewed media) ("OA publishing")
- Deposit of a preprint\* or final author manuscript in a repository ("OA via repositories")
- Making data available via a repository (FAIR data and open data)
- Making own research (more) reproducible
- Engaging societal actors and citizens in research

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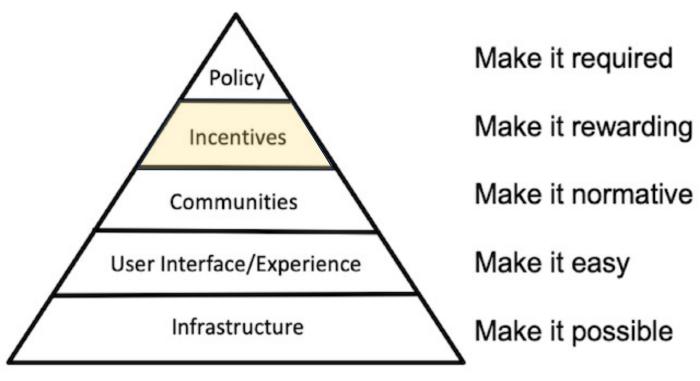
But this may also involve some **challenges**: e.g. additional effort to make data and software FAIR, costs of publishing, trust in the quality of the journal, intellectual property rights, etc.



<sup>\*</sup> Preprint = final author manuscript (before peer review), submitted or ready for submission to a publisher

## Open Science requires cultural change

- Open science/scholarship targets a broad cultural change in research, education & communication
- Bottom-up and top-down efforts are combined
- A range of benefits can be achieved, e.g. broader access to and (re)use of research outcomes (publications, data, code, etc.)
- However, incentives and rewards are still rather limited

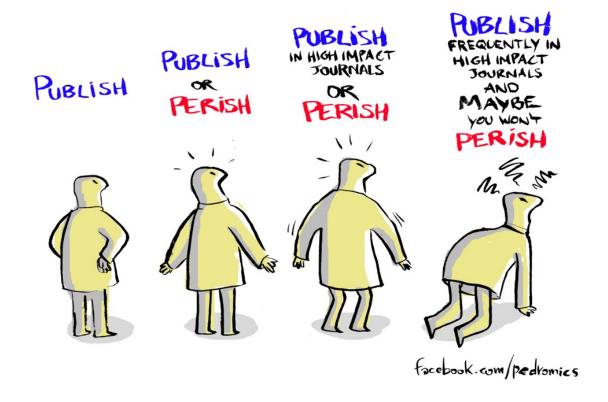


Open Science: Strategy for Cultural Change

(Nosek, 2019, <a href="https://www.cos.io/blog/strategy-for-culture-change">https://www.cos.io/blog/strategy-for-culture-change</a>)

## Research careers, a publish or perish trap

### THE EVOLUTION OF ACADEMIA



### Researcher role realities

### 19th century scientist

I must find the explanation for this phenomenon in order to truly understand Nature...



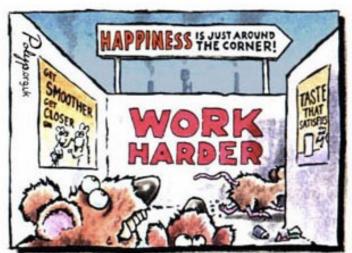
#### 21st century scientist academic

I must get the result that fits my narrative so I can get my paper into Nature..



facebook.com/pedromics

## ... and a constant need to secure grants



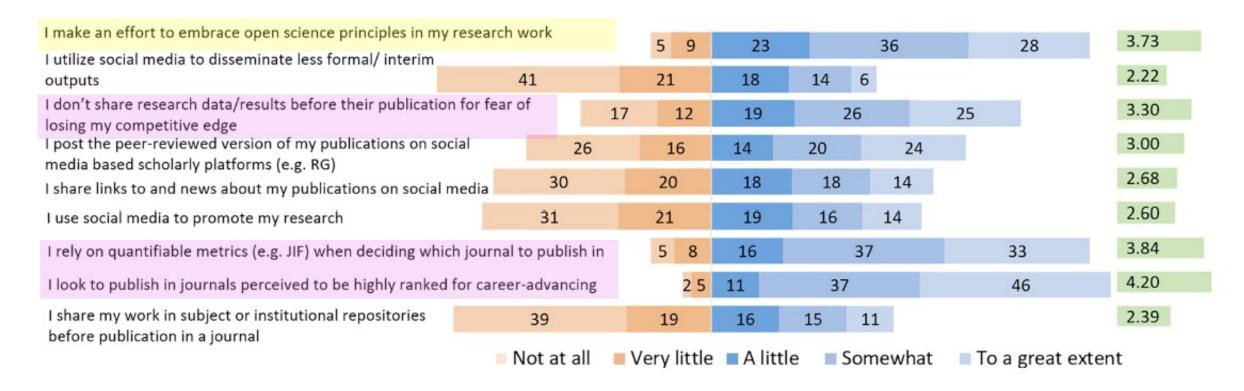






Adapted from: Polyp cartoons,

## Scholarly communication attitudes of early career researchers



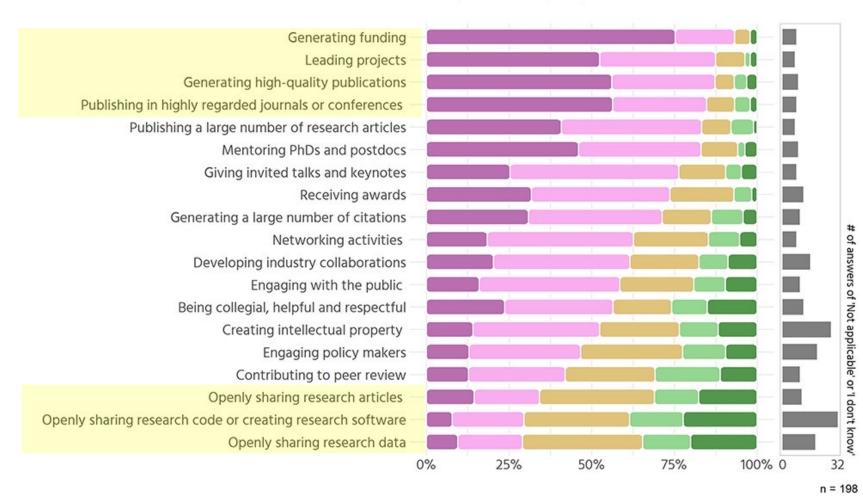
**FIGURE 3** Percentages and mean value for 'To what extent are the following statements true about your current practices concerning publishing?' (N = 1,533).

Source: Nicholas, D., Jamali, H. R., Herman, E., Watkinson, A., Abrizah, A., Rodríguez-Bravo, B., Boukacem-Zeghmouri, C., Xu, J., Świgoń, M., & Polezhaeva, T. (2020). A global questionnaire survey of the scholarly communication attitudes and behaviours of early career researchers. *Learned Publishing*, *33*(3), 198–211. https://doi.org/10.1002/leap.1286

#### Mismatch between promotion criteria and responsible OS Very important Somewhat important Neither important nor unimportant

Very unimportant

Somewhat unimportant



### Reform movements

- From evaluative bibliometrics to responsible metrics (DORA, 2013; Leiden Manifesto, 2015; Metric Tide report, 2016; Hong Kong Principles, 2020)
- From a narrow focus on publications and grants to a broader set of activities, principles and values
  - Diversity, equity, inclusiveness, collaboration (in terms of activities and practices, outputs, skills, roles, disciplines, career stages, etc.)
  - Openness, reproducibility
  - Research integrity
  - Expected impacts (e.g. contributions to SDGs)
- However, there is a gap between positive views on the potential of reforms and their actual implementation.

## Towards Reforming Research Assessment

2013

2020 DORA DORA at 10 The Declaration Signers Project TARA News and Resources **PLOS BIOLOGY** San Francisco Declaration on Research The Hong Kong Principles for asses\_ 2021 Fostering research internal. Assessment Fostering research integrity There is a pressing need to improve the ways in which the output of scientific research is evaluated by funding agencies, academic institutions, and other parties, To address this issue, a group of editors Published: July 16, 2020 • https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3000737 and publishers of scholarly journals met during the Annual Meeting of The American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB) in San Francisco, CA, on December 16, 2012. The group developed a set of 2022 recommendations, referred to as the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment. We invite interested parties across all scientific disciplines to indicate their support by adding their names to this Declaration. Abstract 2015 The outputs from scientific research are many For knowledge to benefit research and robust, rigorous, and transparent at all s knowledge, data, reagents, and software; inte Principle 3: Reward the Funding agencies, institutions that employ so transparency. We have developed the H Conference on Research Integrity with a need, to assess the quality and impact of sci improvement through ensuring that rese **The Metric Tide** is measured accurately and evaluated wisely behaviors that strengthen research inter practices; transparent reporting; open so Towards a reform of the The Journal Impact Factor is frequently used research; and recognizing all contribution we provide a rationale for its inclusion a research assessment system scientific output of individuals and institution Reader Comment Report of the Independent Review Figures Figures of the Role of Metrics in Research Scoping Report Assessment and Management AGREEMENT ON REFORMING The Leiden Manifesto RESEARCH ASSESSMENT for research metrics 20 July 2022 Use these ten principles to guide research evaluation, urge Diana Hicks,

## Comparison of approaches

Table 1: Elements of international recommendations for responsible assessment<sup>2</sup>

	RECOMMENDATIONS	DORA	LEIDEN	METRIC TIDE	HONG KONG
	Journal-metrics as surrogate measure of quality	<b>✓</b>			
METHOD	Quantitative evaluation support qualitative assessment	:	✓	✓	
	Qualitative judgment based on portfolios	:	✓		
	Misplaced concreteness and false precision	:	✓		
	Explicit criteria used in evaluating	<b>✓</b>			
CRITERIA	Systemic effects of assessment and indicators	:	✓	✓	
	Scrutiny and regular updating of indicators		✓	✓	
	Open and transparent data and methods	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	✓	
DATA	Licence allowing unrestricted reuse	✓	:		
	<ul> <li>Allowing those evaluated to verify data and analysis</li> </ul>	:	✓	✓	
	Best possible data in terms of accuracy and scope		:	✓	
	All research outputs and broad range of impacts	<b>✓</b>	✓	✓	✓
VALUE	Missions of the institution, group or researcher	:	✓		
DIVERSITY	Excellence in locally relevant research	:	✓		
	<ul> <li>Variation by field in publication and citation practices</li> </ul>	:	✓	✓	
	Plurality of research and career paths			✓	✓
	<ul> <li>Responsible practices, complete reporting, open science</li> </ul>	:	:		✓
	Research activities and contributions	:	:		✓
	Multilingualism and outputs in all languages	:			

Source: EUTOPIA-TRAIN. (2022). *Open Science in research assessment. An overview of quantitative and qualitative approaches*. Zenodo. <a href="https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7097264">https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7097264</a>

## What if, RRA does not take OS into account?

- Reinforces the status quo of evaluation and ignores the changes in research workflows and communication
- Conflicts with research policies: Open availability to research outputs and additional open practices are increasingly mandated / encouraged by research funders
- Missed opportunities to incentivize and reward good practices, e.g. enable reproducibility, data sharing and reuse, make research accessible for different audiences

## Funder requirements: European Commission

## Mandatory vs. recommended Open Science practices

- Proposers have to provide concrete information on how they plan to comply with the mandatory OS practices
- OS practices will be evaluated under the 'Excellence' criterion (in particular under methodology) and under 'Quality and efficiency of implementation'
- A clear explanation on how recommended OS practices are adopted will result in a higher evaluation score.

#### Mandatory open science practices

- Some open science practices are mandatory for all beneficiaries per the grant agreement. They concern:
  - open access to scientific publications under the conditions required by the grant agreement;
  - o responsible management of research data in line with the FAIR principles of 'Findability', 'Accessibility', 'Interoperability' and 'Reusability', notably through the generalised use of data management plans, and open access to research data under the principle 'as open as possible, as closed as necessary', under the conditions required by the grant agreement;
  - information about the research outputs/tools/instruments needed to validate the conclusions of scientific publications or to validate/re-use research data;
  - digital or physical access to the results needed to validate the conclusions of scientific publications, unless exceptions apply;
  - o in cases of public emergency, if requested by the granting authority, immediate open access to all research outputs under open licenses or, if exceptions apply, access under fair and reasonable conditions to legal entities that need the research outputs to address the public emergency<sup>19</sup>.

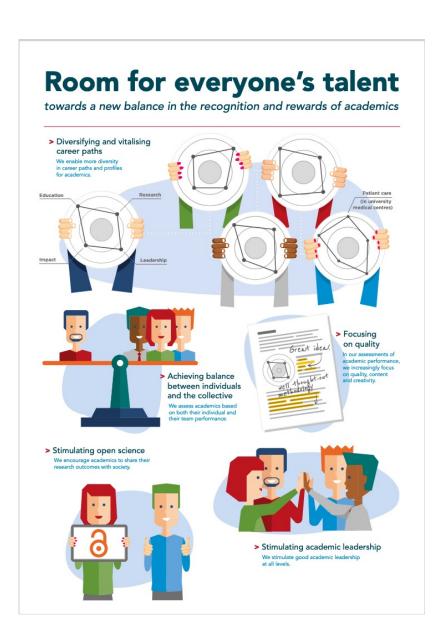
These obligations are described in the Model Grant Agreement (Article 17) and detailed guidelines on complying with them are provided in the Annotated Grant Agreement (Article 17).

## Example: Netherlands

Position paper published in 2018 by the Association of Universities in the Netherlands (VSNU), Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centers (NFU), Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), Dutch Research Council (NWO), and Netherlands Organization for Health Research and Development (ZonMw)

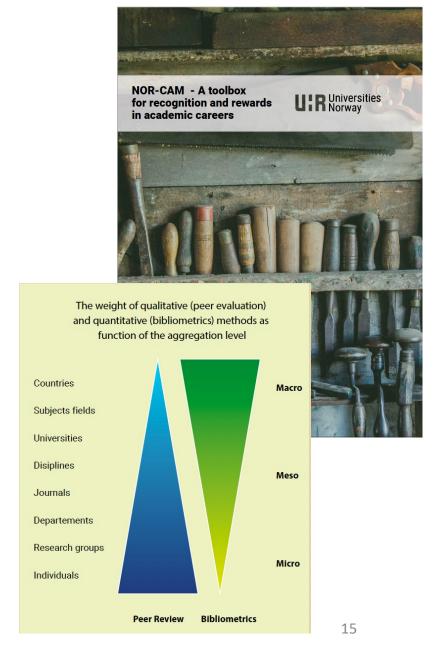
#### Main aims:

- 1. Enable the diversification and vitalization of career paths
- 2. Acknowledge the independence and individual qualities and ambitions of academics as well as recognizing team performances
- 3. Emphasize quality of work over quantitative results (such as number of publications)
- 4. Encourage all aspects of open science
- 5. Encourage high quality academic leadership



## Example: Norwegian Career Assessment Matrix (NOR-CAM)

- Developed by a working group commissioned by Universities Norway (32 universities and university colleges), published in Nov 2021
- 6 principles + 4 recommendations
- Principles
  - #1 Balancing quantitative and qualitative measures
  - #2 Everybody should not do everything
  - #3 Open Science as a fundamental principle
  - #4 Transparency in assessment and identifying what earns merit
  - #5 Promoting gender balance and diversity
  - #6 Assist in the concrete practice of job vacancy announcements and assessment processes locally
- Six competence areas: A. Research output, B. Research process, C.
   Pedagogical competence, D. Impact and innovation, E. Leadership, and F. Other experience





## Examples from CoARA Action Plans

- Reference to institutional guidelines and policies on OS, publication metrics, principles include that data and methods used, and the results are as open and transparent as possible
- Reference to national frameworks (e.g. NOR-CAM, FIN-CAM) and initiatives (e.g. UKRN OR4 project)
- Evaluate practices, criteria and tools based on solid evidence and state-of-the-art research on research and make data openly available for evidence (Commitment 10)
- Active monitoring of the development of **open data sources** (e.g. OpenAlex) and analysis tools related to publication metrics alongside the commercial ones (WoS, Scopus)
- Raise awareness, training and monitoring of open research and responsible research assessment

https://zenodo.org/communities/coara\_action\_plans/



## ENLIGHT joint actions on Open Science

"If you want to go fast, go alone."
If you want to go far, go together."

- Identify and spell out your values and goals: ENLIGHT Open Science Principles (Nov 2023)
- Make your values known: OS Ambassadors (launched in Sept 2022), supported by the OS Experts Network
- Recognize and reward accordingly: Implementation of an OS Award (Spring 2023)

## ENLIGHT OPEN SCIENCE PRINCIPLES



Endorsed by the ENLIGHT Rectors on 23 Nov 2023, Uppsala.

https://enlight-eu.org/index.php/university-about-us/news-events/158-news/1043-enlight-rectors-endorse-joint-open-sciences-principles

#### **ENLIGHT Open Science principles:**

#### 1. Promotion of Open Science

The ENLIGHT alliance recognizes that Open Science is a key component of their scholarly processes. Therefore we

- Enhance the sharing of knowledge and good practices at the institutional level and across the ENLIGHT alliance.
- Aim to support Open Science broadly, including via training and skills development.
- Support the development and realization of an Open Science agenda and policy.

#### 2. FAIR and Open Data

The ENLIGHT alliance stresses the importance of the FAIR data principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable) and will

- Support the implementation of FAIR, for example by developing or contributing to FAIRenabling infrastructures, and/or by guiding researchers towards such existing infrastructures.
- Optimize access to research data and the use of such digital research data wherever possible ("as open as possible as close as necessary").
- Work towards using and contributing to a distributed and open infrastructure for research data, including integration with the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC).

#### 3. Open Access

The ENLIGHT alliance underlines the value and benefits of unrestricted and immediate open access to scholarly publications and thus will

- Encourage and support researchers in providing free and unrestricted online access to all research publications, ideally immediately after publication.
- Promote bibliodiversity and increase awareness of various open access routes available as an alternative to author-pays models of open access.
- Support researchers in retaining their original rights to share and publish their works and other research outputs under an open license.

#### 4. Open Education

The ENLIGHT alliance supports Open Education as a valuable part of a diverse and inclusive environment and will

- Encourage their research and teaching staff to create, share and use open educational materials and methodologies.
- Strive to support training and development opportunities for the research community that facilitate an understanding of open educational tools and methodologies.

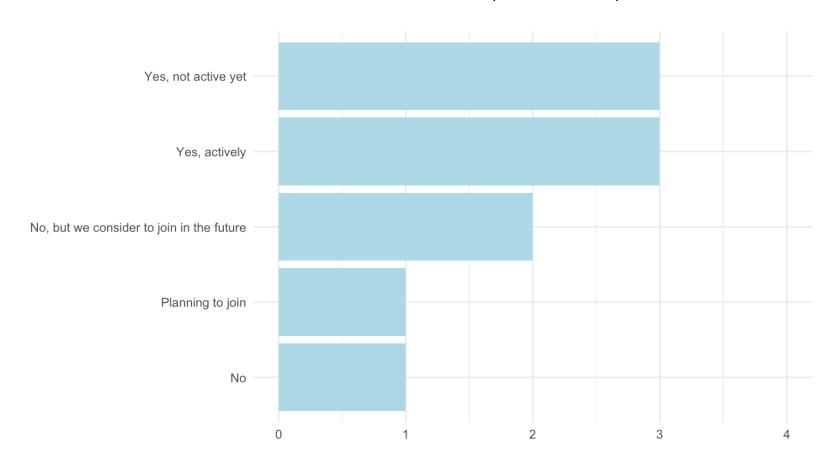
#### 5. Responsible Research Assessment

The ENLIGHT alliance promotes the inclusion of Open Science principles in research assessment and will

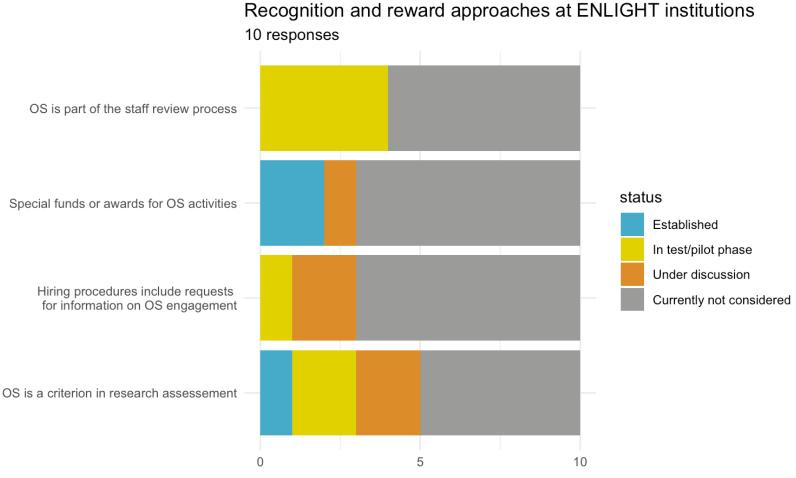
- Raise awareness for the different aspects of research assessment reform and commit to high quality standards in their own research assessment procedures.
- Align with the <u>Declaration on Research Assessment</u> (DORA) or the <u>Agreement on Reforming</u> Research Assessment (CoARA), wherever possible.
- Incentivize Open Science practices as means for enhancing the quality and impact of research.

## ENLIGHT OS Survey: Engagement with CoARA

#### Status of CoARA membership of ENLIGHT partner universities



## Has OS arrived in recognition and reward approaches? (institutional perspective)



## Examples at ENLIGHT universities

University of Groningen: Open Science Award, annual, in place since 5 years

- Case studies on open research and/or open education practices
- E.g. making research outputs freely accessible, online tools and services, alternative models of publication and peer review, open collaborative methods
- Submissions are screened for eligibility
- 3 prizes are drawn randomly from all submissions

https://www.rug.nl/research/openscience/open-research-award/submission-guidelines

**University of Gent**: Since 5 years full professors can report on Open Science activities in research evaluations. This is voluntary and it remains unclear how often this actually happens.

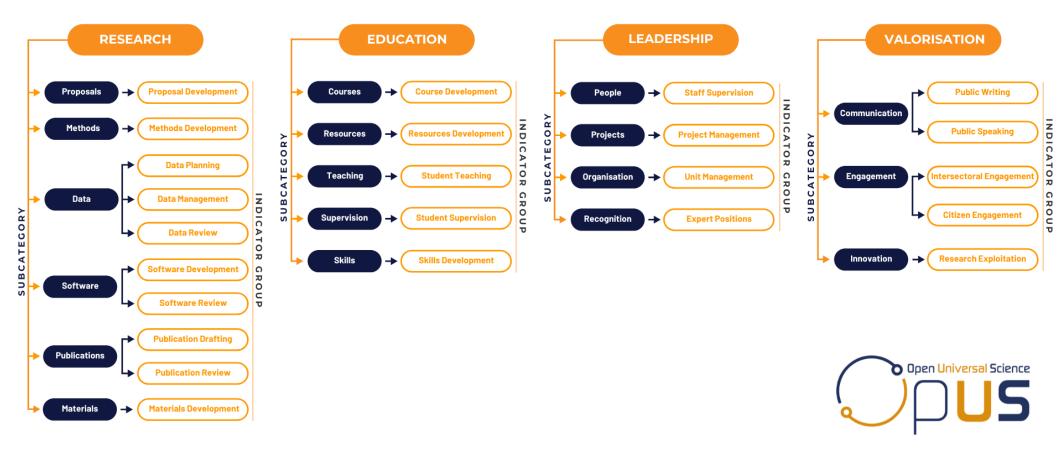
**University of Göttingen**: Some academic hiring comittees for professorships have used a clause that requests the candidates to indicate past and future plans in engagement for open, transparent and reproducible research (e.g. Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy, Scientific Information Analytics).

### A brief look at OS-RRA frameworks

- Generic frameworks and data infrastructure under development, e.g.
  - <u>PathOS</u> Open Science Impact Pathways: Evaluates and develops indicators to measure academic, societal and economic impacts of OS (<u>handbook</u> under development).
  - OPUS Open Universal Science: has developed the **OPUS Researcher Assessment Framework** (building on OS-CAM, European Commission 2017) and pilot implementations.
  - <u>GraspOS</u> Next Generation Research Assessment to Promote Open Science: Develops an **Open Science Assessment Framework (OSAF)**, builds an infrastructure for metrics (data-tools-services, not published yet) and conducts <u>pilot studies</u>.
  - <u>SciLake</u> Democratising and making sense out of heterogeneous scholarly content: With focus on Knowledge Graphs the project creates open data infrastructures and services in support of discovery and research assessment.
- Disciplinary and institutional implementation approaches, e.g.
  - psychology research community
  - institutional approach in the medical sciences

## Projects: OPUS

#### **OPUS Researcher Assessment Framework**



## Example indicator: Research data

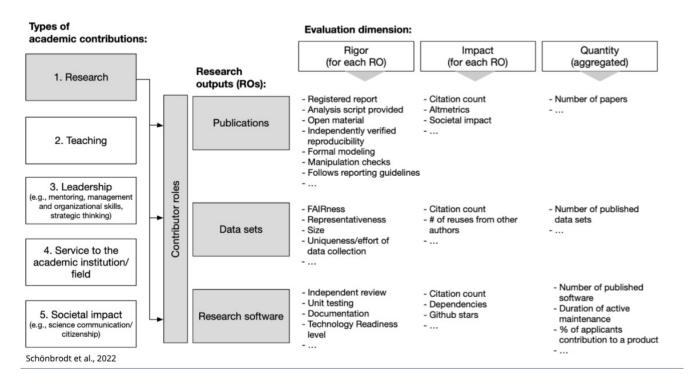
Table 21: Open Science Indicators and Metrics for Category Research Subcategory Data

Indicator Group	Indicator Type	Quantitative Metric
Data Planning	Process	# of (FAIR) Developing Data Management Plans Openly Available
	Output	# of (FAIR) Finalised Data Management Plans Openly Available
	Outcome	# of (FAIR) Implemented Data Management Plans Openly Available
Data Management	Process	# of Developing (FAIR) Data Sets Openly Available
	Output	# of Finalised (FAIR) Data Sets Openly Available
		# of Archived (FAIR) Data Sets Openly Available
	Outcome	# of Openly Available (FAIR) Data Sets Accessed
		# of Openly Available (FAIR) Data Sets Cited
Data Review	Process	# of Draft (FAIR) Data Set Peer Reviews Openly Available
	Output	# of Submitted (FAIR) Data Set Peer Reviews Openly Available
	Outcome	# of Accepted (FAIR) Data Set Peer Reviews Openly Available

Source: O'Neill, G. (2024). OPUS Deliverable 3.1: Indicators and Metrics to Test in the Pilots. Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10670779

## Disciplinary approaches: Psychology – I

## Academic contributions are multifaceted

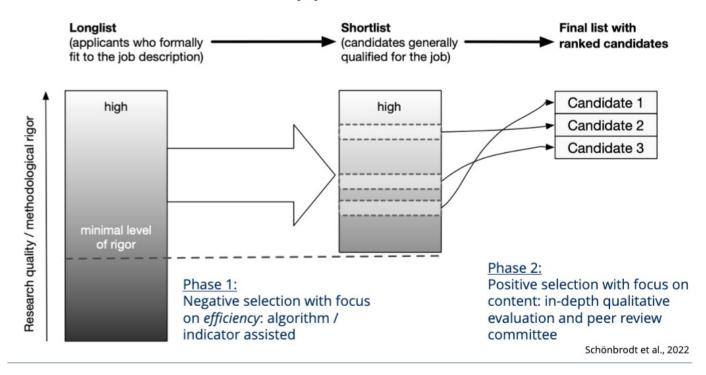


Schönbrodt, F., Gärtner, A., Frank, M., Gollwitzer, M., Ihle, M., Mischkowski, D., Phan, L. V., Schmitt, M., Scheel, A. M., Schubert, A.-L., Steinberg, U., & Leising, D. (2022). *Responsible Research Assessment I: Implementing DORA for hiring and promotion in psychology*. PsyArXiv. <a href="https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/rgh5b">https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/rgh5b</a>

## Disciplinary approaches: Psychology – II

### **Efficiency in hiring committees**

Can it handle 100+ applicants?



Schönbrodt, F., Gärtner, A., Frank, M., Gollwitzer, M., Ihle, M., Mischkowski, D., Phan, L. V., Schmitt, M., Scheel, A. M., Schubert, A.-L., Steinberg, U., & Leising, D. (2022). *Responsible Research Assessment I: Implementing DORA for hiring and promotion in psychology*. PsyArXiv. https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/rgh5b

## Institutional approaches: Open data incentive

Example: Charité, Berlin Institutes of Health

Criteria for datasets to qualify as open data for performance-oriented funding at the Charité and indicator-oriented funding at BIH 2024

Data have to be shared in the context of an article publication; i.e. stand-alone data are not considered.

#### Source:

https://www.bihealth.org/en/translation/innovation-enabler/quest-center/projects/project/einfuehrung-von-opendata-als-zusaetzlicher-indikator-fuer-die-interneleistungsorientierte-mittelvergabe-lom-forschung

#### The criteria for the open data incentive as of 2024 are as follows:

Research data have been made freely accessible by researchers of the Charité/BIH

OR the data have been shared with restricted access and meet the following requirements:

- Data is stored in an external repository (or archive, database, registry)
- A standardized access route is named, i.e. the access requirements, the procedure for a request and the responsible persons or offices are described
- The reason for the restricted access is stated or is directly evident from the data being subject to data protection
- Access is possible for all academic researchers at least from the European Economic Area
- Co-authorship of articles is not a condition for the provision of the data
- The access to the data is free of charge or maximally requiring compensation of expenses

## Institutional approaches: Responsible Research Dashboard



## Conclusions on how RRA can integrate OS at the institutional level

#### #1 Review assessment methodologies, data and indicators

- Transparency of methods and indicators, reproducibility of quantitative analysis
- Collect information on OS activities and outputs (via quantitative and qualitative methods)
- Support the move towards open research information & open infrastructures (Barcelona Declaration)

#### #2 Enable interventions, interlink policies, create incentives and rewards

- Review and revise evaluation criteria in grant selection, hiring and promotion
- Implement and promote what is expected (e.g. job announcements, CV template, guidance)
- Share the status of achievements (e.g. via dashboards, case studies)

#### #3 Take into account frameworks under development

- National frameworks, e.g. The Netherlands, Norway, Finland
- Disciplinary approaches, e.g. Psychology
- EU projects: GraspOS, OPUS, PathOS, SciLake

# Thank you for listening. Your comments or questions?

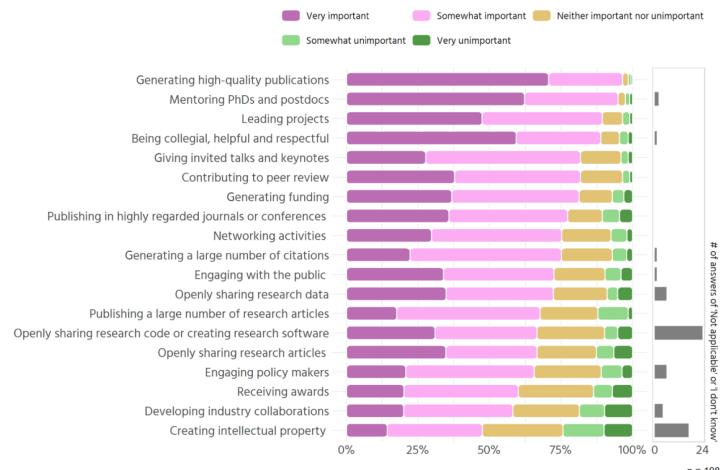
Contact: Birgit Schmidt, Göttingen State and

University Library, <a href="mailto:bschmidt@sub.uni-goettingen.de">bschmidt@sub.uni-goettingen.de</a>

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## Researchers opinion on how important promotion criteria should be



### Open Science Career Assessment Matrix (OS-CAM) – I

Open Science Career Assessment Matrix (OS-CAM)					
Open Science activities	Possible evaluation criteria				
RESEARCH OUTPUT					
Research activity	Pushing forward the boundaries of open science as a research topic				
Publications	Publishing in open access journals				
	Self-archiving in open access repositories				
Datasets and research	Using the FAIR data principles				
results	Adopting quality standards in open data management and open datasets				
	Making use of open data from other researchers				
Open source	Using open source software and other open tools				
	Developing new software and tools that are open to other users				
Funding	Securing funding for open science activities				
RESEARCH PROCESS					
Stakeholder engagement	Actively engaging society and research users in the research process				
/ citizen science	Sharing provisional research results with stakeholders through open				
	platforms (e.g. Arxiv, Figshare)				
	Involving stakeholders in peer review processes				
Collaboration and	Widening participation in research through open collaborative projects				
Interdisciplinarity	Engaging in team science through diverse cross-disciplinary teams				
Research integrity	Being aware of the ethical and legal issues relating to data sharing,				
	confidentiality, attribution and environmental impact of open science				
	activities				
	Fully recognizing the contribution of others in research projects,				
	including collaborators, co-authors, citizens, open data providers				
Risk management	Taking account of the risks involved in open science				
SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP					
Leadership	Developing a vision and strategy on how to integrate OS practices in the				
	normal practice of doing research				
	Driving policy and practice in open science				
	Being a role model in practicing open science				
Academic standing	Developing an international or national profile for open science activities				
	Contributing as editor or advisor for open science journals or bodies				
Peer review	Contributing to open peer review processes				
	Examining or assessing open research				
Networking	Participating in national and international networks relating to open				
	science				

Source: European Commission. Directorate General for Research and Innovation. (2017). *Evaluation of research careers fully acknowledging Open Science practices: Rewards, incentives and/or recognition for researchers practicing Open Science*. Publications Office. <a href="https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/75255">https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/75255</a>

### OS-CAM - II

RESEARCH IMPACT			
Communication and	Participating in public engagement activities		
Dissemination	Sharing research results through non-academic dissemination channels		
Dissemination	Translating research into a language suitable for public understanding		
TD (makes the constant)			
IP (patents, licenses)	Being knowledgeable on the legal and ethical issues relating to IPR		
	Transferring IP to the wider economy		
Societal impact	Evidence of use of research by societal groups		
	Recognition from societal groups or for societal activities		
Knowledge exchange	Engaging in open innovation with partners beyond academia		
TEACHING AND SUPERVISION			
Teaching	Training other researchers in open science principles and methods		
	Developing curricula and programs in open science methods, including		
	open science data management		
	Raising awareness and understanding in open science in undergraduate		
	and masters' programs		
Mentoring	Mentoring and encouraging others in developing their open science		
	capabilities		
Supervision	Supporting early stage researchers to adopt an open science approach		
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE			
Continuing professional	Investing in own professional development to build open science		
development	capabilities		
Project management	Successfully delivering open science projects involving diverse research		
	teams		
Personal qualities	Demonstrating the personal qualities to engage society and research		
7.5.5.5.5.5	users with open science		
	Showing the flexibility and perseverance to respond to the challenges of		
	conducting open science		
	conducting open dolonec		

Source: European Commission. Directorate General for Research and Innovation. (2017). *Evaluation of research careers fully acknowledging Open Science practices: Rewards, incentives and/or recognition for researchers practicing Open Science*. Publications Office. <a href="https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/75255">https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/75255</a>

## Example: Norwegian Career Assessment Matrix (NOR-CAM)

6 assessment areas, results and competences, documentation, reflection

#### Source:

https://www.uhr.no/en/resources/nor-cam/

