

Skills 4 EOSC

MS5.5 - Piloted training modules for Open Collections

Lead Partner:	Natural History Museum Vienna (NHMW)
Version:	V1
Status:	Final draft
Dissemination Level:	PU: Public
Document Link:	https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14507093

Milestone Abstract

This document contains a short summary of the pilot training 'OS and RDM skills for Open Scientific Collections', which was held online on 24th of September 2024. The main purpose of the pilot training was to gather feedback from the community on the structure, the format and the selected learning objectives for a training course aimed at potential trainers to train digital collection curators for GLAM institutions (galleries, libraries, archives, and museums).



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 number 10040140]

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DOCUMENT LOG

<i>Issue</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Author</i>
<i>v.01</i>	<i>2024/11/13</i>	<i>First draft</i>	<i>Megumi Kiesel, Heimo Rainer, Clara Lines, Angus Whyte</i>
<i>V.02</i>	<i>2024/12/09</i>	<i>Final draft</i>	<i>Megumi Kiesel, Heimo Rainer, Clara Lines, Angus</i>

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v.03			

TERMINOLOGY

<https://eosc-portal.eu/glossary>

<i>Terminology/Acronym</i>	<i>Definition</i>
DMP	Data Management Plan
GLAM	Galleries, Libraries, Archives, and Museums
MVS	Minimum Viable Skillsets
OS	Open Science
RDM	Research Data Management

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1 Executive summary

This document contains a short report on the pilot training course on Open Collections. The training course, which has a strong focus on the collection’s context, is designed for potential trainers for digital collection curators in GLAM institutions. The pilot training, which was held as a webinar on 26th of September 2024, aimed to test and collect feedback on the training modules, format and structure for improvements. A detailed description of the learning module design process will be provided in the deliverable D5.5 “FAIR and RDM training modules for open collections”.

The following section 2 outlines the structure, modules and format of the pilot training course. It is followed by a brief description of the participants. The final section summarises the outcomes, feedback from participants and ideas for future training courses.

2 Structure, Modules and Format

The pilot training on 24th of September 2024 took about 3.5 hours and consisted of the following four modules (shown in the table):

<i>Contents</i>	<i>Duration (min)</i>
Welcome and introduction	20
Module 1: Planning and strategy	40
Module 2: Data digitisation, processing and preservation	40
Break	15
Module 3: Data governance - legal and ethical considerations	40
Module 4: Sharing - making library, archive & museum collections FAIR	40
General discussion	15
Workshop wrap-up	5

Table 1: Structure of Pilot Training on 24th of September 2024

All four modules started with an introduction where the task members presented the learning objectives and key aspects of the module. Following the introductory session, 2-3 contributors from the GLAM community presented key topics based on their own areas of expertise and experience. This allowed the training to provide not only a general overview of the key topics, but also to illustrate them by using practical examples from different GLAM sectors. The varied examples helped participants to deepen their knowledge of common skills across different types of collections and to learn about domain- and topic-specific challenges.

At the end of each module, there was time for discussion, where participants could address questions to the presenters and other attendees. The discussion and exchange part was intended to make a positive contribution to the learning effect, since it gave the participants the opportunity to

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compare and discuss the practices of other institutions with their own. The interactive part was much appreciated by the participants. As Table 1 shows, the general discussion was originally scheduled to last 15 minutes. However, due to the high level of interest from participants, it continued for a longer period than anticipated.

In the case of the pilot training, this session was also useful to collect other relevant aspects, common interests and challenges, that can be included in the training course.

3 Participants

A total of 14 individuals participated in the pilot training. Six of the 14 participants are Skills4EOSC project members, comprising four T5.5 task members and two members of other working groups. The remaining eight participants are external experienced experts from libraries, natural history collections or an archive, who are digital collection curators and/or are responsible for data management or data infrastructure. Two contributors were unable to attend the webinar. Therefore, their slides, which had been provided in advance, were presented by task members.

4 Outcomes and Ideas for the Training Course

Discussions and exchange sessions were very beneficial to gather needs and expected skills from participants. Not only in the general wrap-up session at the end, but also in the discussion in the end of each module, there were some aspects expressed several times by participants, that should be taken into account in the training course.

The participants highly valued the structure of the pilot training. They also appreciated that the training provided general principles in the context of digital collections such as Open Science and FAIRification as well as a general overview of important aspects such as the CARE principles and licensing. The pilot training also showed that a cross-domain exchange is beneficial in order to identify common knowledge, challenges and expected skills in the different areas of GLAM institutions' practices as well as domain-specific skills.

The ability of long-term-thinking and adopting a long-term perspective on data management and curation was highlighted as an important skill in the discussion. The RDM needs to be adapted to the technical developments and challenges, but at the same time, it is necessary to consider when the new skills required should be included in the MVS. For example, on the topic of Data Management Plan (DMP), the presenter mentioned that the importance of machine-actionable DMP will increase in the near future, however, this topic should only be added to the MVS after sufficient experience has been gained, in order to avoid the confusion.

Two participants (IT experts) expected the training to include more practical aspects and more development of the technical discussion, such as "how to implement the FAIR principles" or "what to do to solve licensing issues" or – already mentioned above – future aspects such as "what will be expected in 10 years". They mentioned that the focus would depend on the audience, but it is worth considering including more of such aspects in the training course.