RDA-SHARC fairness assessment tools for crediting/rewarding scientists data sharing activities

CONTEXT: the rda-SHAring Reward & Credit ig, Corresponding authors: R. David, L. Mabile, A. Cambon-Thomsen

What for? to foster data sharing by improving recognition of the work required

How? by providing a set of recommendations to guide researchers and other relevant stakeholders (research
institutions administrators, funders, policy makers and publishers/editors) in moving through the necessary steps towards

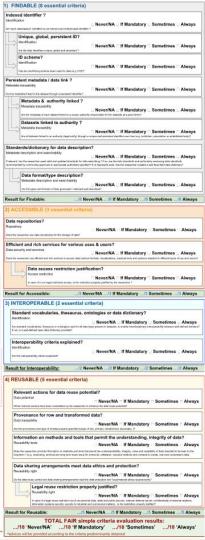
crediting and rewarding in the data/resources- sharing process (in progress); and to encourage the adoption of data sharing activities- related criteria in the research evaluation process at the institutional, national and European/international levels.

As part of it, **3 human readable assessment tools** are **under development** that will assess semi-quantitatively the fairness knowledge & practices of scientists:

- 1.1 extensive FAIRness external assessment grid52 criteria so far
- 1.2 simplified FAIRness external assessment grid (can be used as a quick self-assessment grid)18 essential criteria

https://zenodo.org/record/2551500#.XGK4llxKg2w

2.2 extensive checklist for fairness self-assessment (adapted from the 2 previous grids)



Fairness assessment grids

Objectives: credit & reward for FAIRness in researchers sharing behaviors

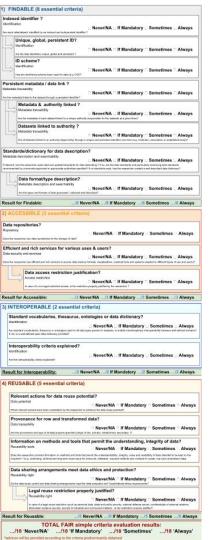
-> necessity to improve FAIRness (understandable and step by step processes)

Main properties:

- As simple as possible (understandable by non IT people)
- Easy to complete (due to FAIR skills availability in evaluation processes)
- Based on informations given by researchers in careers doc / activity reports
- CC author license (can be reused by anyone at the end of the implementation)

Assessment process: leading to recommendations to improve fairness

- Designed as a decision tree in each FAIR Principle
- 3 Level of criterion importance : essential / recommended / desirable
- 4 possible answers/criteria:
 - □ Never/NA □ If Mandatory □ Sometimes □ Always
- Evaluation based on scoring each answer for each F.A.I.R. principle
 ex: Findable 2/8 Never/NA; 3/8 If Mandatory; 1/8 Sometimes; 2/8 Always
- Recommendations based on this scoring



Fairness assessment grids

Lessons learnt from the first tests:

- Essential criteria not always understandable without training
- Implementation of some criteria can be time consuming / need technical advisor / operator

Possible open issues:

- Develop gradual assessment of the researcher FAIRness Literacy
- Help identify needs to build FAIRness guidelines for a better researcher sharing capacity (based on rewards and credits / How to do and step by step tools)

Next steps:

- Upcoming SHARC-survey launch to evaluate the external assessment extensive grid usability: please participate!
- RDA P13 Sharc's session: please attend!
- Tools experimentation in specific networks (IMI FAIRplus; BiodiFAIRse; Citizen science networks...)