



OPEN SCIENCE SKILLING AND TRAINING INITIATIVES IN EUROPE

POLAND

Interview with Natalia Gruenpeter, Open Science Platform, Interdisciplinary Centre for Mathematical and Computer Modelling, University of Warsaw

[Website](#)

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How did your Open Science skilling initiative begin?

The Open Science Platform is an initiative of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Mathematical and Computational Modelling, University of Warsaw (Poland). We facilitate open science in Poland by developing open science infrastructure as well as supporting researchers and institutions in providing open access to the research outputs. At some point it was clear that further development of the infrastructure should be accompanied by adequate training programmes. They also served as a bottom-up approach to promoting open science, especially in the face of relatively slow institutional changes in this area.

When did the general initiative start?

The training initiative started in 2013.

Please describe the context and aims of the initiative.

We organize workshops and lectures for researchers, PhD students, librarians and everyone interested in open science. Currently, we offer training in two main areas: Open Science and Research Data Management. Usually, workshops and lectures are divided into two parts. The first has a more practical dimension and includes topics such as open access to scientific publications and research data, FAIR rules, information about repositories etc. The second provides legal context for academic publishing and open science.

How is the initiative managed and coordinated?

Training is coordinated by the Open Science Platform team, with support of National Open Science Desk (OpenAIRE). Trainers are affiliated with the Interdisciplinary Centre for Mathematical and Computational Modelling, University of Warsaw (Poland), but workshops take place at various Polish universities, academic libraries and scientific institutes.





What organisational framework did you use for this initiative?

Our training initiative does not function as a single, separated project. It is part of a broad array of activities such as developing open science infrastructure, consulting activities, promoting open science, observing trends in open science and providing information for Polish scientific community. All those areas complement and reinforce each other. Also, our training is delivered by full-time employees who are engaged in different activities, so trainers' competencies and knowledge are also, very often, build upon their experience and daily tasks. Currently, there are 4 trainers, including 2 experts in legal aspects of open science.

Who are your target audiences?

Library Staff, Researchers, PhD, PostDoc

Which skills are prioritised?

TOP PRIORITY	STRONG PRIORITY	MODERATE PRIORITY	NOT A PRIORITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FAIR Data• Open Science Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scholarly Publishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research Infrastructures and the EOSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Metrics & Rewards• Research Integrity• Citizen Science

Why did you prioritise some skills and exclude others?

As an Open Science Platform we focus on topics that are closely connected to our primary area of expertise and address urgent needs of research communities in Poland.

How are participants acquiring these skills?

We show examples and discuss them, engage participants in a general discussion and encourage them to share their experience (especially by sharing examples or issues closely connected to their discipline/area of research).

Which channels and learning types are used?

Face-to-face. Distant learning. Group learning. Individual learning.

Which formats are used?

PDF documents. Slides. Interactive platforms.

Is there formal recognition?

Yes. A certificate of attendance.

Of the channels and formats, which have been most useful?

In our opinion, face-to-face workshops but we are also considering including elements of online learning.



What impact do you expect from this initiative?

Raise awareness of open science in Poland and give researchers knowledge and tools necessary to make their research outputs openly accessible.

Have you seen impact already?

Yes, we've observed increased interest in topics related to open research data, FAIR data, data management plans. During and after our workshops we are often approached by participants willing to organize similar events in their institutions.

How do you keep trainees updated with these skills?

We encourage trainees to subscribe to our newsletter, visit our website and observe our social media where we share news and training materials.

How do you train the trainers?

Trainers have the opportunity to attend other/previous workshops and conferences and develop their own ideas with support of other team members and experts, more experienced in training.

How do you recruit the trainers?

Trainers are from the Open Science Platform team and they deal with many open science issues in their daily tasks. Also, trainers covering legal aspects of scientific publishing and open science have a legal background (PhD in law).

What have you learnt so far?

Continuous development of training programmes and methods based on the needs of research communities is of utmost importance. An appropriate balance between generic and specific elements of training programmes should be ensured. The main challenge, given the heterogeneity of data and research practices, is the provision of discipline-specific open science skills.

What would you tell others looking to do a similar program?

Encourage participants to fill in evaluation forms. Also, when discussing open science be aware of other factors impacting researchers' work (even if they are not a part of the training), such as disciplinary diversity, institutional framework or current research assessment system.

What's next on your skilling/training calendar?

[Research data management workshop](#) in Łódź, Poland.

It is our sixth workshop this year, the last one in this semester. After that, we will summarize our key experiences and challenges, taking into consideration feedback received from participants. Further workshops will be scheduled and announced in the coming semester (in Fall 2019).



Please share resources which you found helpful.

- [FOSTER](#)
- [OpenAIRE](#)

This case study has been produced by [LIBER's Digital Skills for Library Staff & Researchers Working Group](#).

For more case studies, and the original version of this one, please see: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3251731>

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