

Data Management Plan: a required data travelogue

The GUIDE For DMP

► OPEN SCIENCE ► FAIR ► 2021

Cecilia Mascia^a, Vittorio Meloni^a, Alessandro Sulis^a, Caterina Giorgia Carboni^b, Franco Cappai^b and Francesca Frexia^a

^aCenter for Advanced Studies, Research and Development in Sardinia (CRS4) - ^bSardegna Ricerche

DMP: a resource for the ages



repository metadata FAIRness security privacy Picture adapted from clouds vector created by vectorjuice - www.freepik.com

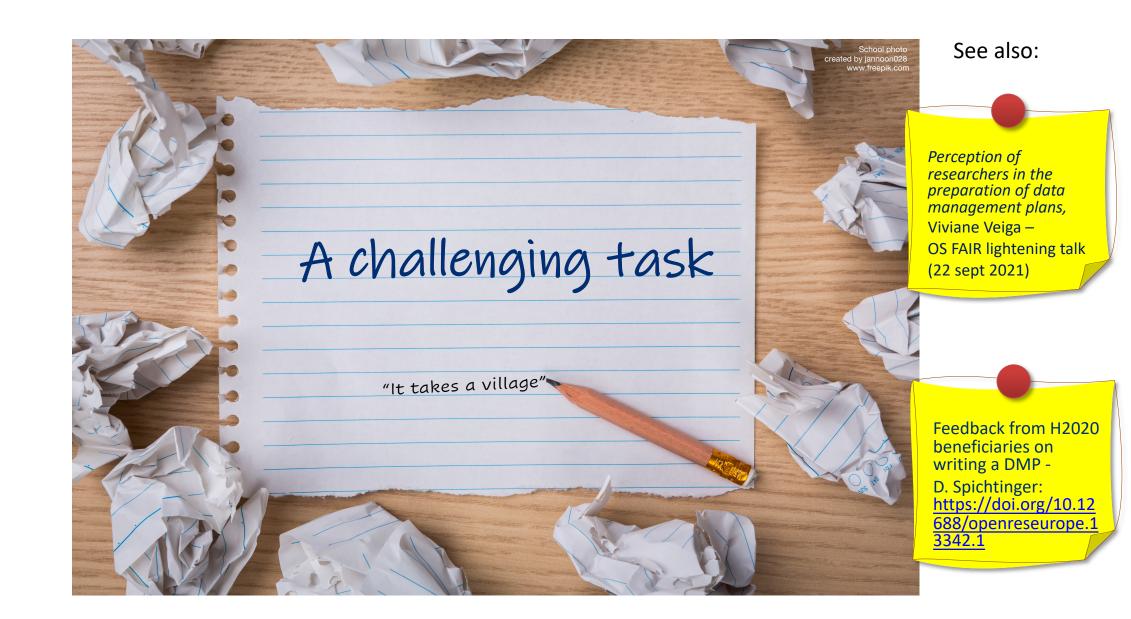
Aided DMP compilation



- Questionnaire-like
- Partially completed









The guide

- Analysis of several DMP templates between the most used ones e.g., those from the **Swedish Research Council**, the **Digital Curation Centre** and the **European Commission**.
- Substantial overlap in content and structure.

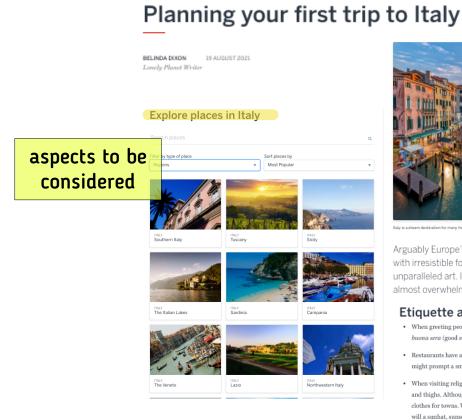


- Available on Zenodo at: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5140990
- Testing scenario: 18 independent clinical studies within the I FAIR program
 - F. Cappai, C. G. Carboni, E. D'Aloja, G. Fotia, F. Frexia, G. Serra, G. Sotgiu, P. Uva, G. Zanetti (2019), I FAIR Program: the Sardinian way to support and fund independent clinical studies that want to be Findable Accessible Interoperable Reusable, in: The Ecosystem of Evidence Conference Abstract book, GIMBE, Evidence for Health, p. 15. URL: https://www.ebhcconference.org/Abstract_book_2019.pdf

The structure of the guide

Five main dimensions:

- General information;
- Data management:
 - Collection and generation;
 - Documentation and metadata;
 - Shareability, publication and reuse;
 - FAIRness;
- Resources;
- Security, storage and backup;
- 5. Ethical, legal, administrative and privacy aspects.



Must-visit destinations in Italy

Florence and Venice. Have time to prolong your Italian love affair? With a couple of weeks at posal, you can cover more ground and venture farther into the countryside

mandatory elements*

rationale

Arguably Europe's most enticing country, Italy charms visitors with irresistible food, awesome architecture, diverse scenery and unparalleled art. In fact, it's so packed with possibilities that it can almost overwhelm.

Etiquette and practical tips for visiting Italy

- · When greeting people, shake hands or kiss both cheeks and say buongiorno (good day) or buona sera (good evening). Only use first names if invited
- Restaurants have a cover charge (coperto) of €2-3. If service isn't included, a small tip
- · When visiting religious sites, avoid offense by dressing modestly: cover shoulders, torsos and thighs. Although shorts and sandals are fine for the beach, you'll need smart-casual clothes for towns. Walking shoes make cobbled streets and hill paths more comfortable, as
- · In the main tourist centers, English is fairly widely spoken, but in rural areas and south of Rome learning a few key expressions and using a phraguide will make your visit more fun and mealtimes mo guidance

This article was originally published October 2015

* specialised for the I FAIR programme



Write down as much information as possible

Five main dimensions:

- General information;
- 2. Data management:
 - a. Collection and generation;
 - b. Documentation and metadata;
 - c. Shareability, publication and reuse;
 - d. FAIRness;
- 3. Resources;
- Security, storage and backup;
- 5. Ethical, legal, administrative and privacy aspects.

3.3.2. Documentation and metadata

Rationale: Describe all types of documentation (README files, metadata, etc.) that will be provided to support data understanding and reuse. Metadata should at least include basic details allowing other users (computer or human) to find the data (minimally: the file name, a persistent identifier, collection date, access conditions, etc.). Furthermore, the documentation may include details on: the methodology used, the performed processing and analytical steps, variable definitions, references to vocabularies used, as well as units of measurement, possibly following existing community standards and guidelines. This section should explain how this information will be prepared and shared [SNSF].

Aspects to be considered:

Documentation content and purpose (data description, definitions of <u>variables</u>, units of measurement, contextual information, procedures, processing, data quality measures, etc.); documentation availability (where recorded and how is accessible) and <u>formats</u> (e.g., a 'readme' text file, file headers, code books, lab notebook, etc.); metadata (e.g., purpose, types, formats and standard scheme, <u>standards</u>, machine-readability, generation or collection); data searchability (unique and persistent identifiers, workflows for data identification, etc.); software requirements and necessary knowledge for (meta)data processing [SNSF], [DCC], [NSF], [UniBi], [HRB], [NWO], [SRC].

Guidance:

- Where these are in place, researchers are advised to use community metadata standards. The Research Data Alliance maintains a <u>Directory of Metadata Standards</u> [NWO].
- Note the standards to be used for data and metadata format and content (where existing standards are absent or deemed inadequate, this should be documented along with any proposed solutions or remedies) [NSF].

Mandatory Elements (for I FAIR)

Documentation content and purpose (data description, definitions of variables, units of measurement, contextual information, procedures, processing, data quality measures, etc.); documentation availability (where recorded and how is accessible) and formats (e.g., a 'readme' text file, file headers, code books, lab notebook, etc.); software requirements and necessary knowledge for (meta)data processing.

http://rd-alliance.github.io/metadata-directory/



Remembering the "exceptionalism"

3.6. Ethical, legal, administrative and privacy aspects

Rationale: Ethical issues in research projects require specific measures in addition to ordinary data management procedures, such as data anonymization, ethics committees approval, formal consent agreements, etc. In this section, all the relevant ethical issues in the project and their respective countermeasure should be outlined. Note that some of the content listed here may overlap with what is defined in the previous section. If additional legal or administrative issues are identified, such as Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and ownership, they should be treated here as well [SNSF],[HRB].

Aspects to be considered:

Security provisions for sensitive/personal data (data protection, recovery, secure storage and transfer); permissions for data handling (collection, processing, storing, etc.); relevant legislation and standards (e.g., GDPR); confidentiality agreement; informed consent (formal agreement, gaining, etc.); ethical issues; ethical review (IRB, Ethic Committee, protocols, approval dates, etc.); specific risks/measures for data security; support staff; data anonymization/pseudonymization and encryption; code of conduct; any national/institutional

3.5. Security, storage and backup

Rationale: Data backup, recovery and security measures are of an utmost importance, especially when working with personal or other sensitive data. This section should outline which measures are adopted, how they are put into practice, eventual standards or regulations considered (e.g., ISO 27001-Information security management) and the main procedures or facilities for storage, processing or transfer of personal or other sensitive data. [NWO],[SNSF],[H2020].

Aspects to be considered:

Data and metadata security provisions (e.g., data recovery, automatic data backup, data access rights, technological solutions, responsible staff, etc.); storage and retention (e.g., certified repository, institutional/third parties storage, online/offline storage, locations, multiple copies, formats, etc.); security standards and legislation (e.g., regulations, confidentiality agreement, etc.); security risk analysis (e.g., main concerns, estimation, how they can be managed, etc.); personal and sensitive data protection measures (e.g., secure storage,

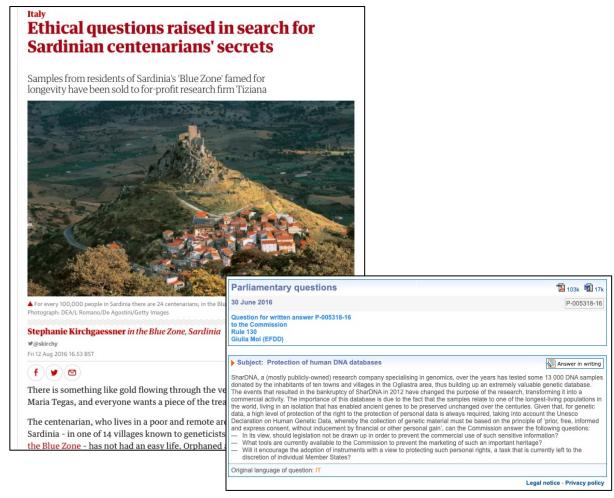
transfer, anonymisation, pseudony [H2020],[SNSF],[DCC],[SRC], [UniBi],

3.3.3. Shareability, publication and reuse

Rationale: This paragraph should describe the main aspects of data sharing, including methods, repositories, how the reuse is regulated, timing for release and restrictions [SNSF].

Aspects to be considered:

Data repositories (e.g., trustworthy data repository, indexed in a catalogue, direct handling of data requests, proprietary/not-commercial, generic/domain-specific platforms, FAIR compliance); data discoverability; sharing conditions and policies (data selection, licenses, Data Access Committee, chargeable access, timing of data release, reason for delay if applicable, justification in case of no shareability, acknowledgement for data reuse, access procedures) and limitations motivations (legal, ethical, copyright, confidentiality or other clauses); obligation for data release (if existing); long-term preservation plan (long-term value



Something about the SharDNA case:

https://doi.org/10.1007/s12687-017-0328-2 https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-49388-2 17



Remembering the "exceptionalism"

3.6. Ethical, legal, administrative and privacy aspects

Rationale: Ethical issues in research projects require specific measures in addition to ordinary data management procedures, such as data anonymization, ethics committees approval, formal consent agreements, etc. In this section, all the relevant ethical issues in the project and their respective countermeasure should be outlined. Note that some of the content listed here may overlap with what is defined in the previous section. If additional legal or administrative issues are identified, such as Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and ownership, they should be treated here as well [SNSF].[HRB].

Aspects to be considered:

Security provisions for sensitive/personal data (data protection, recovery, secure storage and transfer); permissions for data handling (collection, processing, storing, etc.); relevant legislation and standards (e.g., GDPR); confidentiality agreement; informed consent (formal agreement, gaining, etc.); ethical issues; ethical review (IRB, Ethic Committee, protocols, approval dates, etc.); specific risks/measures for data security; support staff; data anonymization/pseudonymization and encryption; code of conduct; any national/institutional

3.5. Security, storage and backup

Rationale: Data backup, recovery and security measures are of an utmost importance, especially when working with personal or other sensitive data. This section should outline which measures are adopted, how they are put into practice, eventual standards or regulations considered (e.g., ISO 27001-Information security management) and the main procedures or facilities for storage, processing or transfer of personal or other sensitive data. [NWO],[SNSF],[H2020].

Aspects to be considered:

Data and metadata security provisions (e.g., data recovery, automatic data backup, data access rights, technological solutions, responsible staff, etc.); storage and retention (e.g., certified repository, institutional/third parties storage, online/offline storage, locations, multiple copies, formats, etc.); security standards and legislation (e.g., regulations, confidentiality agreement, etc.); security risk analysis (e.g., main concerns, estimation, how they can be managed, etc.); personal and sensitive data protection measures (e.g., secure storage,

transfer, anonymisation, pseudony [H2020],[SNSF],[DCC],[SRC], [UniBi],

3.3.3. Shareability, publication and reuse

Rationale: This paragraph should describe the main aspects of data sharing, including methods, repositories, how the reuse is regulated, timing for release and restrictions [SNSF].

Aspects to be considered:

Data repositories (e.g., trustworthy data repository, indexed in a catalogue, direct handling of data requests, proprietary/not-commercial, generic/domain-specific platforms, FAIR compliance); data discoverability; sharing conditions and policies (data selection, licenses, Data Access Committee, chargeable access, timing of data release, reason for delay if applicable, justification in case of no shareability, acknowledgement for data reuse, access procedures) and limitations motivations (legal, ethical, copyright, confidentiality or other clauses); obligation for data release (if existing); long-term preservation plan (long-term value

Guidance:

- Consider using a generic FAIR-compliant platform (see the <u>example</u>) for data deposit
 if there are no suitable specific repositories for the considered research field [SNSF];
- Repository Finder can help to find an appropriate repository to deposit research data; data licenses can be expressed through the commonly used Creative Commons licenses and a <u>wizard</u> can help to choose the correct one. Check also the <u>Five Recommendations for FAIR Software</u>. [NWO].

Guidance:

"Accessible data" doesn't imply "open data", the approach should be "as open as possible, as closed as necessary". The Registry of Research Data Repositories provides a useful listing of repositories that you can search to find a place of deposit.

Guidance:

The <u>EUDAT B2SHARE</u> tool includes a built-in license wizard that facilitates the selection of an adequate license for research data.

Practical TIPS from the guide:

- https://repositoryfinder.datacite.org/
- https://ufal.github.io/public-license-selector/
- https://fair-software.nl/
- https://www.re3data.org/
- https://b2share.eudat.eu/



A living guide for a living document

- A complementary approach to existing tools and good practices.
- Good initial feedback from the I FAIR Program.
- Plans: systematic evaluations and refinement.

THANK YOU

contact > cecilia.mascia@crs4.it
the guide > https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5140990

