

Supporting Implementation of Information Classifications

An implementation project for the Institutional
Underpinnings Program

Project summary report

Monash University, University of Tasmania

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About the Institutional Underpinnings Program

In partnership with 25 Australian universities, we created a jointly-agreed Research Data Management Framework for Institutions for the management, sharing, retention and disposal of research data. Each partner university conducted projects to validate and test an aspect of the framework in their local contexts. This is a report on one of the projects.

More information

View more outputs of the [Institutional Underpinnings program](#).

View the [Research Data Management Framework for Institutions](#).

Project Summary

This project sought to provide feedback to the [Research Data Management for Institutions Framework](#) Active Data Management (ADM) and Sensitive Data (SD) elements and working groups, specifically those related to information classification schemes.

While also directly acting on call to actions and recommendations by the ADM and SD working groups for institutes to actively share their frameworks, this project was developed by University of Tasmania and Monash to practically test and reflect on specific recommendations for a classification framework provided by each working group. The outcomes of this collaborative project is an analysis of the journey between the two universities in developing or reviewing their classification framework including insights into why certain decisions were made by each university, its alignment with the recommendations and discussions from the ADM and SD working groups as well as as additional learnings and consideration for a university looking to develop or update their framework.

Resulting Improvements

Throughout the course of this project, University of Tasmania and Monash (and at times Melbourne University) held a number of meetings to discuss the progress of information classification frameworks and potential strategies for implementation of each of the frameworks based on different experiences and classification content. Comparing the details of the different information classification schemes provided insight for future improvements in each of the frameworks. These frameworks are also being used to make more informed decisions about the underlying infrastructure supporting research data management (RDM) at our institutions, and have opened the door for cross-institutional discussions about supporting RDM by providing a common understanding around risk or sensitivity.

Next Steps

Ongoing relationships between University of Tasmania, Monash and Melbourne will continue as the frameworks are implemented and improved on as time goes on. We plan to use these frameworks to discuss improvements in cross-institutional collaboration and data movement (especially in relation to all being nodes of the ARDC Nectar Research Cloud). Locally we will be applying these frameworks to assessments of our RDM infrastructure and the policies and procedures supporting RDM.

Project Outputs

Reusable outputs produced include:

- Supporting [Implementation of Information Classifications case study and comparison report](#).

The report provided feedback on the recommendations on information classification schemes as provided by the ADM and SD elements.

View more outputs of the [Institutional Underpinnings program](#).