Responsible Research Data Management at ULiège

HRS4R – Report 2020-2021

Context

Acknowledging the recently or newly implemented demands from most stakeholders in the European research landscape and given the digitalization of research processes and outputs, ULiège has launched various actions to create and/or strengthen support to research staff in **responsible research data management.** These actions aim at a variety of deliverables along three axes**: awareness, training, and guidance** . These deliverables (will) make it possible for researchers to navigate those demands, but also to produce research output in a more open, transparent and reproducible fashion.

A gap analysis has been conducted in early 2020 and has led to **twelve principles** to support research quality, setting the course for a **long-term action plan**. Some of these actions are being developed at institution-level, whereas some others are relevant to the consortium of six French-speaking Belgian Universities (Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles).

Action plan and status at time of report

🟩	Done
🟧	Ongoing
🟥	To do
🟦	Under study

	Action	Status	Scale
Awareness			
1	Creating and organising awareness events (seminars, training sessions and on-demand events) about open science, open and FAIR data	🟩	Internal / Inter-university
2	Creating and organising awareness events (seminars, training sessions and on-demand events) about RDM general issues and good practice all along the research data lifecycle (collection, processing, analysis, storage, documentation and re-use, reproducibility and traceability)	🟩	Internal / Inter-university
3	Creating and organising awareness events (seminars, training sessions and on-demand events) about RDM ethics, methodology and scientific integrity	🟧	Internal / Inter-university
4	Providing the research community with awareness and self-training material about general RDM issues (flyers, web pages, on-line resources)	🟩	Internal / Inter-university
5	Providing the research community with reference material and documentation (ethics codes, applicable regulations, Charte Européenne du Chercheur, …) and promote said material	🟩	Internal / Inter-university
6	Providing the research community with peer-review support material to help assess the scientific integrity of publications	🟩	Internal / Inter-university
7	Creating an internal RDM steering committee involving researchers, research support staff and authorities representative to operationalize institution-level actions	🟩	Internal
8	Defining recommendations for a RDM policy and strategy based on input from researchers and research support staff	🟥	Internal
9	Creating and publishing safe procedures to report scientific misconduct (fraud or questionable RDM practice)	🟩	Internal
10	Nuancing the importance of quantitative metrics in career assessment (such as impact factor) in favour of qualitative or quality-focused metrics (e.g. interdisciplinarity, openness of publications,	🟦	Internal

11	Defining and using metrics to monitor the scientific integrity "climate" in the institution or in the FWB consortium	🟦	Internal/Inter-university

Training

12	Strengthening and developing cross-disciplinary RDM skills training by expanding the offer to both internal and external training solutions	🟧	Internal/Inter-university
13	Incorporating RDM-focused bite-sized training sessions into the PhD training programme (e.g. applicable regulations, metadata, data repositories, licenses, …)	🟧	Internal
14	Organising training sessions about disciplinary RDM skills, with an emphasis on methodologies (experimental design, statistics and data analysis) both at institution-level and/or Faculty level	🟦	Internal
15	Encouraging PhD students to create a data management plan, even when not requested by funding, to bring up RDM issues in early career stages	🟦	Internal

Guidance

16	Designating a Research Data Officer and create a network for Research Data Officers to exchange good practice and habits	🟥	Internal / Inter-university
17	Promoting peer-to-peer RDM support through a Data Ambassadors Community	🟧	Inter-university
18	Creating an inventory / wishlist of training resources for Data Officers / Ambassadors	🟦	

Data Management Plans

19	Subscribing to the DMPonline tool and provide support and guidance (on-demand + training + tutorials)	🟩	Internal
20	Creating an institution-level DMP template and encourage its use when releveant (to substitute when DMP not mandatory)	🟧	Internal
21	Integrating the GDPR obligations enabling tools in the DMP tool	🟧	Internal

Data Management Tools

22	Setting up an institution-wide electronic lab book and encourage its use when relevant	🟧	Internal

23	Setting up an institution-wide (meta-)data repository		Internal
24	Providing selection criteria for data repositories to support informed decisions (to complement or substitute to the institution-wide solution when relevant)		Internal
25	Providing the research community with self-help and self-assessment tools, making them easily findable and accessible online (e.g. RRI toolkit , EQUATOR, H2020 self-assess., Integrity Checklist)		Internal / Inter-university