



„RESEARCH DATA“ CLUSTER – MANIFEST

Who we are

We represent different service areas at Austrian universities and work together in the “Research Data” Digitisation Cluster to advance the development of research-supporting services. In the “Research Data” Cluster, we operate with digital technologies and infrastructures and their accompanying organisational measures. The target group of our projects are researchers and research institutions.

What we believe

- FAIR principles (findability, accessibility, interoperability, and reusability) are the key to digital transformation in research.
- Data sharing and open access to research results promote a transparent, barrier-free, and collaborative research environment.
- Data management services create added value for researchers and are neither an obstacle nor an excessive administrative burden.
- New approaches in research processes, evaluation, and knowledge transfer need to be supported. Examples include, but are not limited to: machine-assisted methods, management of huge amounts of data, machine exchangeability, AI, and automation.
- Compatibility with European and international standards and services must be ensured - interoperability between services is preferred, including through metadata standards, identifiers, authentication, and authorisation mechanisms.
- Sustainability of investments and continuity of services can only be achieved with qualified personnel in a sustainable infrastructure.
- Joint research-supporting services follow a mutually developed strategy and ensure the necessary resources and sustainability through co-operative development.



Our guidelines

- We involve all Austrian universities and non-academic research institutions.
- We offer consistent, yet cutting-edge support for research with a focus on inclusivity and scalability.
- We work interdisciplinarily and equitably with different organisational areas (IT, project, RDM and open science support, libraries, CRIS, legal, ethics, etc.), employment relationships (scientific and administrative) and institutions (universities, non-university research institutions).
- We are not in competition, and seek to learn from each other.

We commit to

- Developing a strategy for the advancement and operation of research-supporting services together with the university representatives of UNIKO.
- Involving other institutions more closely in the work of the "Research Data" Cluster.
- Combining reliable technical infrastructure with specialist expertise.
- Developing customised solutions for various disciplines.
- Providing training, tools and support for an effective data ecosystem.

