

SHARED RDM

Business Models for RDM Tools and Services Findings from the Shared RDM Services & Infrastructure project

Lead: TU Graz; Duration: July 2023 - June 2026

Funding: Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF)

Alexander Bardel, Birgit Söser, Ilire Hasani-Mavriqi
Graz University of Technology

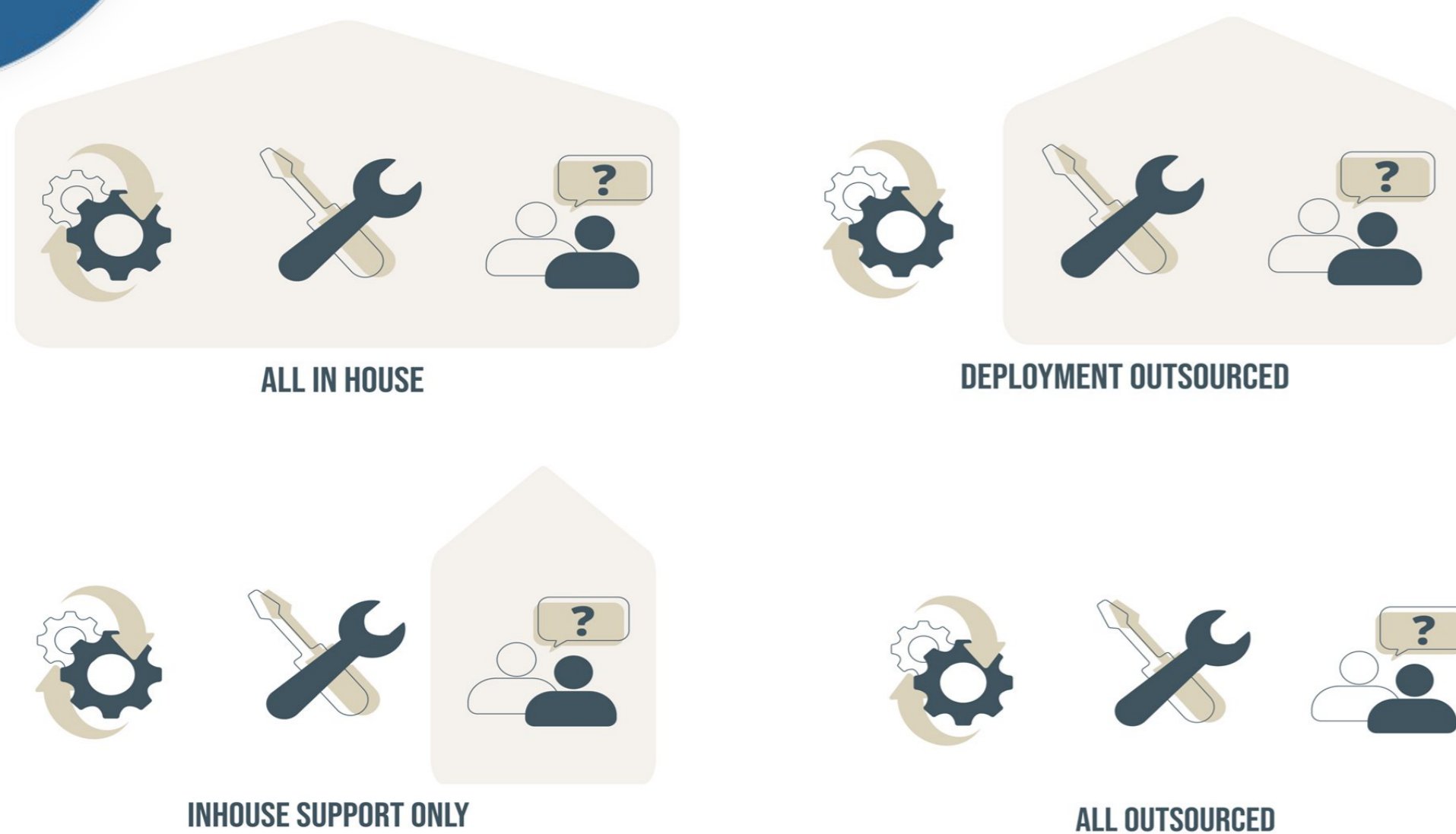
Background

Challenges:

- High resource and maintenance costs for individual solutions
- Infeasibility for smaller institutions

Need for collaborative solutions:

- Provide reliable, interoperable infrastructures across all Austrian universities
- Avoid redundancies by implementing shared services for selected RDM tools across the Austrian research landscape



Identified Business Models: Possible Approaches

Identified Business Models

All in house:

- Internal: Tool deployment, maintenance, support activities
- External: None

Deployment outsourced*:

- Internal: Tool maintenance, support activities
- External: Tool deployment

Inhouse Support Only*:

- Internal: Support activities
- External: Tool deployment, maintenance

All Outsourced:

- Internal: None
- External: Tool deployment, maintenance, support activities

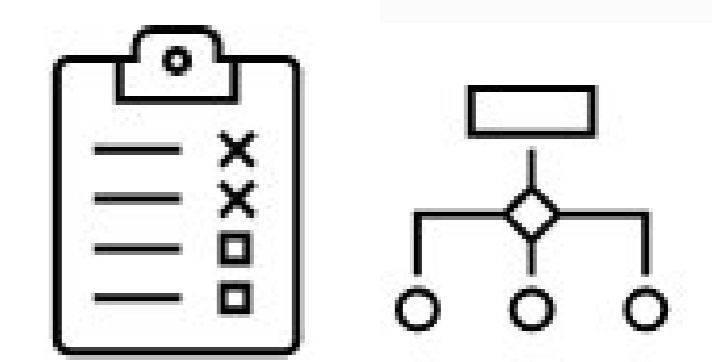
*Allocation of activity to external/internal may vary

Implementation

- Cross-university models addressing resource allocation, organizational and legal needs
- Setup, deployment and maintenance of RDM tools and services and associated user support
- In-house vs. external service handling
- Key steps:
 - Analyze pilot institution's situation
 - Develop and implement preliminary business model
 - Continuous adjustment

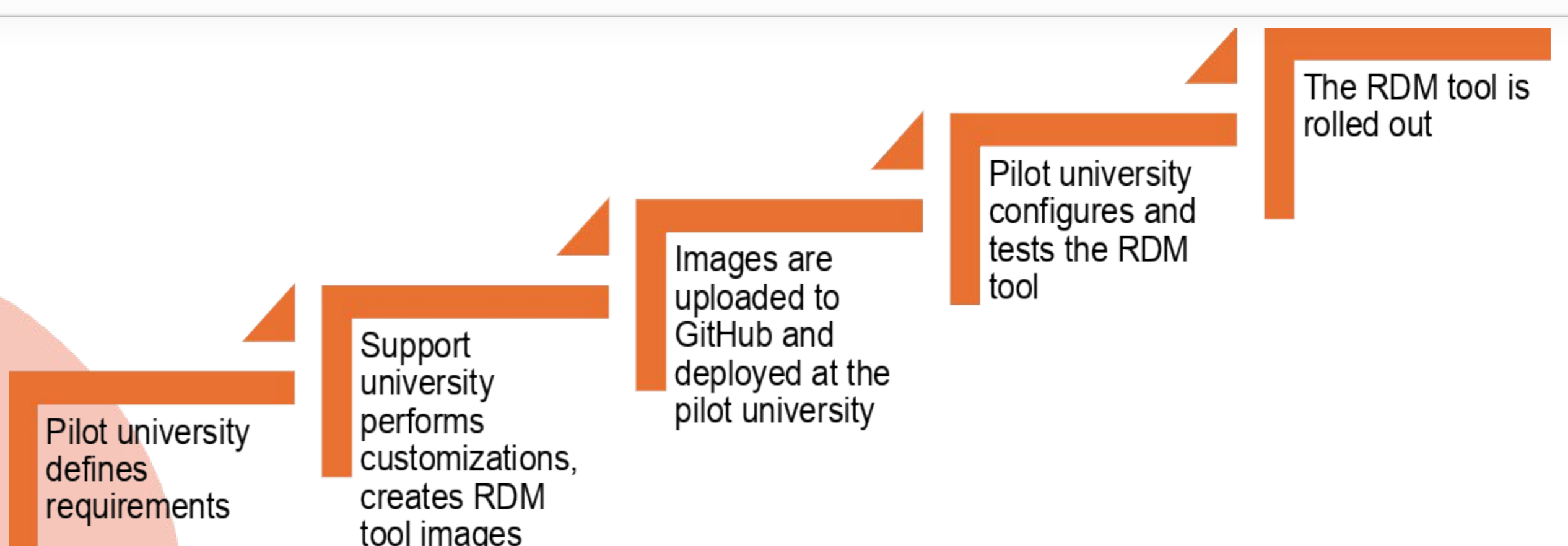
Criteria

- Security requirements
- Scalability
- Costs
- Available infrastructure and personnel
- Software specifics



Use Cases

- **5 pilot universities** in the first project phase (July 2023 - June 2024):
 - *Medical University of Graz, University of Innsbruck, University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna, BOKU University, Vienna University of Economics and Business*
- **Support universities:** *TU Graz & TU Wien*
- RDM tools of interest:
 - **DAMAP:** machine-actionable data management tool
 - **eLabFTW:** Electronic laboratory notebook
 - **InvenioRDM:** Research data management repository



Example of a deployment workflow for a shared RDM tool

Lessons Learned

- Models need to be tailored towards universities, not vice versa
- Enhanced collaboration
 - Shift from viewing software tools as monolithic to recognizing them as web applications with distributed components
- Early stakeholder involvement
 - Involvement of IT and research support stakeholders enhances acceptance and sustainability
 - Prevents the emergence of "shadow infrastructure" among researchers
- Establishing trust and understanding cross-university research needs are essential for future business model development

Contact

Website: <https://forschungsdaten.at/sharedrdm/>

Detailed report on
RDM Business Models

Webinar series "RDM in Austria":

<https://www.youtube.com/@rdm-austria>

Mail: Alexander Bardel,
alexander.bardel@tugraz.at

