



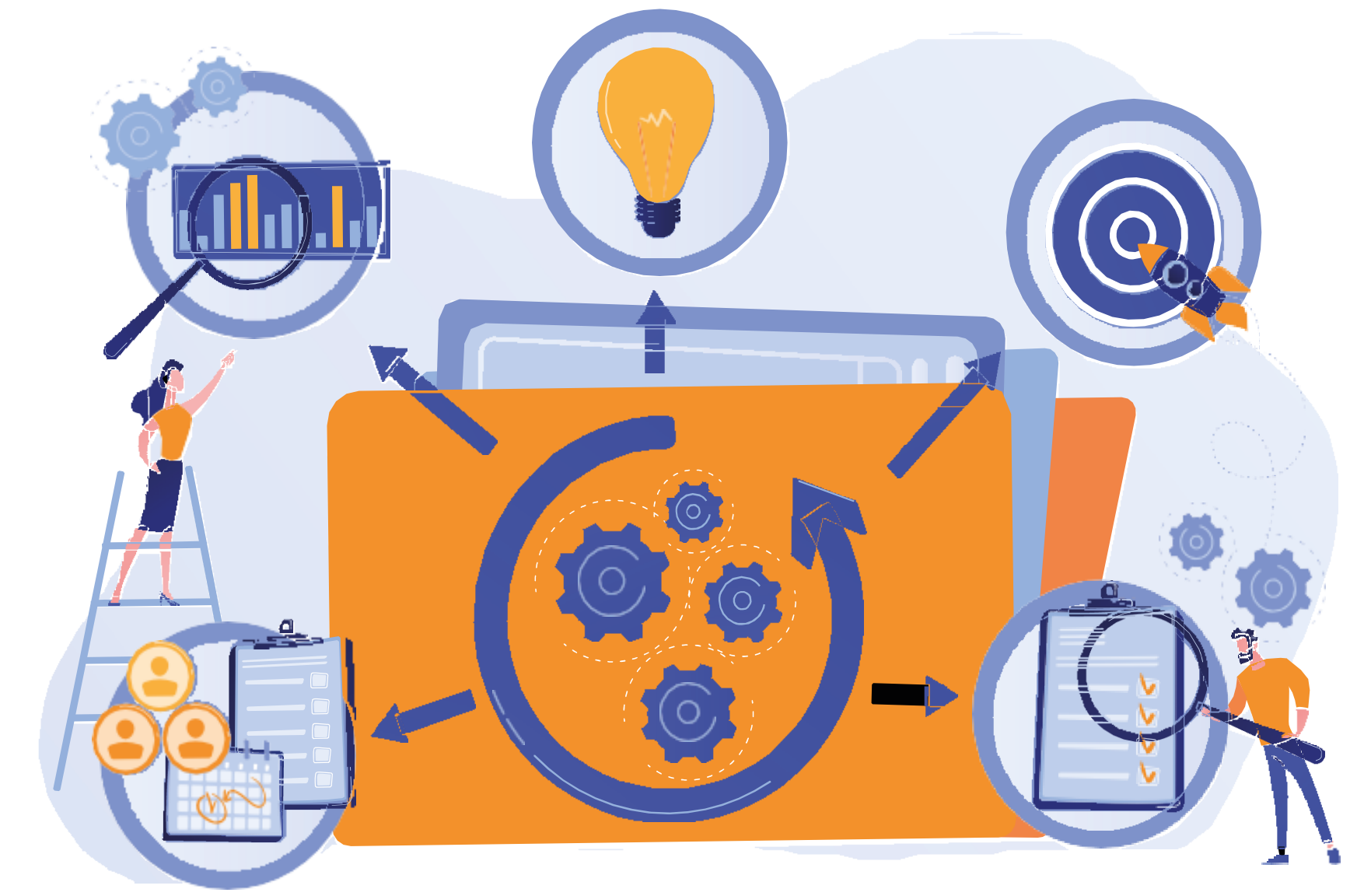
## Data Stewards

### What Austrian Universities Look For?

A national strategy for the development of data stewardship solutions for the Austrian context

#### WHAT DOES A DATA STEWARD DO?

- Data stewards are experts in the field of research data management (RDM) and have a consulting role throughout the entire research data lifecycle.
- Data stewards make connections and open channels of communication between researchers, policy makers, software developers, and infrastructure providers (inside or outside the institution) so that the necessary elements that enable researchers to successfully implement (RDM) can be put in place.
- The role of data stewards as promoters of FAIR data principles is essential to help researchers and institutions transition to modern RDM practices.



#### DATA STEWARD MODELS

Depending on the size of the university, the resources available, the profiles of the data stewards, and the training offered, there are different models that meet different needs. For the Austrian context, three main models can currently be identified.

##### Data Steward Contact Point

Data stewards of this type forward inquiries, network, offer general advice, but do not perform any operational activities (e.g., create data management plans or develop policies).



##### Data Steward Office

Data stewards are positioned at a central organizational unit that bundles different competencies and offers appropriate services/advice. The competencies are broader because they are shared among several people.



##### Data Steward Network

Data stewards are based at the faculties, main research areas or institutes. They have discipline-specific knowledge and research experience and can therefore provide advice on a particularly discipline-specific basis.



#### WHAT DOES A DATA STEWARD NEED?

Domain Expertise



Technical Expertise



RDM and Open Science Expertise



Contact Point

Office

Network

Check out our report to learn more about data stewardship!



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