

# Introduction to Data Management and FAIR Data

*Katie Mika*

*Data Services Librarian*

*Harvard Library & Institute for Quantitative Social Science*

[katherine\\_mika@harvard.edu](mailto:katherine_mika@harvard.edu)



**HARVARD**  
Dataverse

DATAVERSE.HARVARD.EDU



# Learning Objectives

1. Apply **FAIR Principles** to share data effectively on Harvard Dataverse
2. Design practical **data management & sharing strategies** to meet funder requirements



# What is RDM?

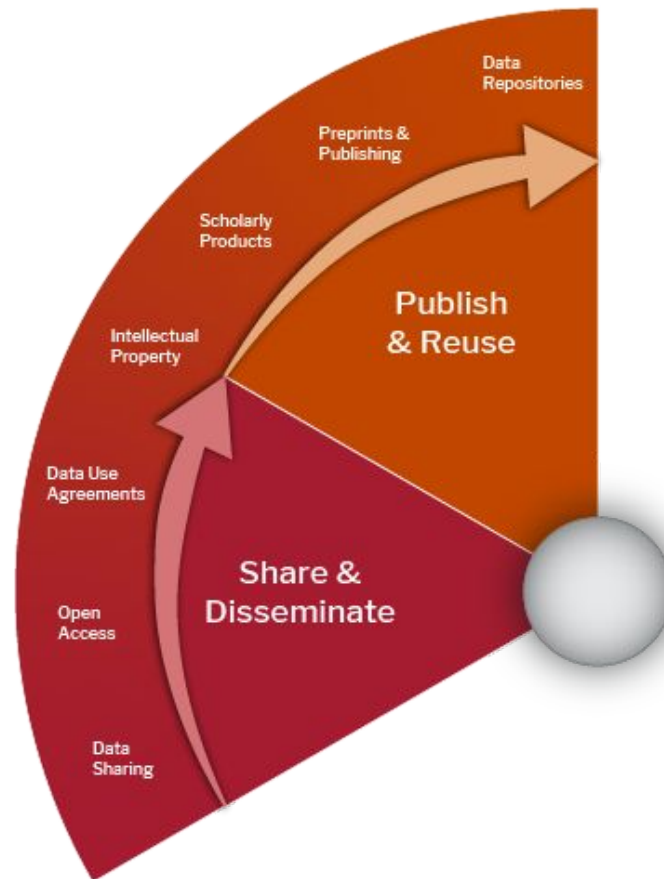
“The *active and ongoing* management of data *through its lifecycle* of interest and usefulness to scholarship, science, and education.”

The University of Illinois'  
Graduate School of Library and  
Information Science



# Data Sharing

- Depositing data in a repository
- Choosing data licenses
- Applying metadata to make published data more findable
- Write good documentation so shared data is actually reusable
- Steward shared data over its useful term



## FINDABLE

Increases visibility,  
citations, and impact of  
research

Supports knowledge  
discovery and innovation

# FAIR

## ACCESSIBLE

Streamlines and maximizes  
ability to build upon previous  
research results

Attracts partnerships with  
researchers and business in  
allied disciplines

## REUSABLE

Promotes use and reuse of  
data allowing resources to  
be allocated wisely

Improves reproducibility  
and reliability of research  
results

## INTEROPERABLE

Supports and promotes  
inter- and  
cross-disciplinary data and  
reuse

The FAIR Guiding Principles ([Wilkinson et al. 2016](#))



**HARVARD**  
Dataverse

DATAVERSE.HARVARD.EDU



Generalist Repository Ecosystem Initiative

# Who makes data FAIR?

## Repositories:

- Assign persistent identifiers
- Structure metadata records according to a disciplinary standard or schema
- Index data as searchable resources
- Retrieve datasets according to an open protocol that supports authentication
- Preserves data files and metadata
- Provenance and versions are tracked

## Researchers:

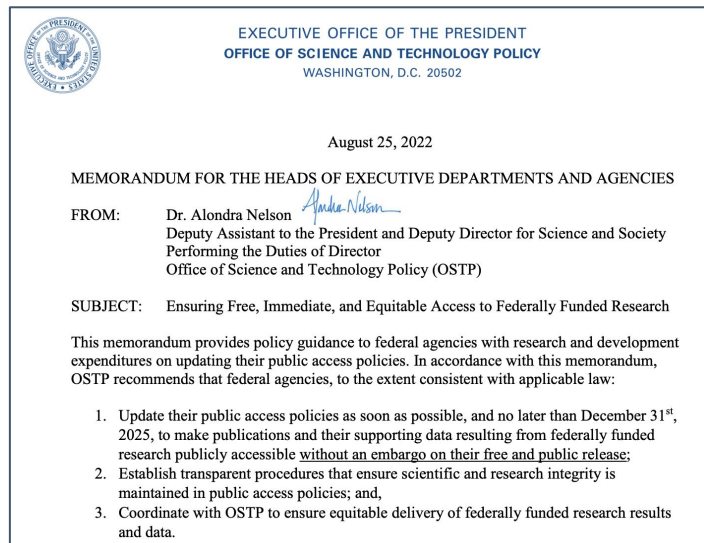
- Structure data clearly and apply good data management practices
- Document data and software
- Richly describe data using standardized metadata fields
- Apply license and/or clear terms of use



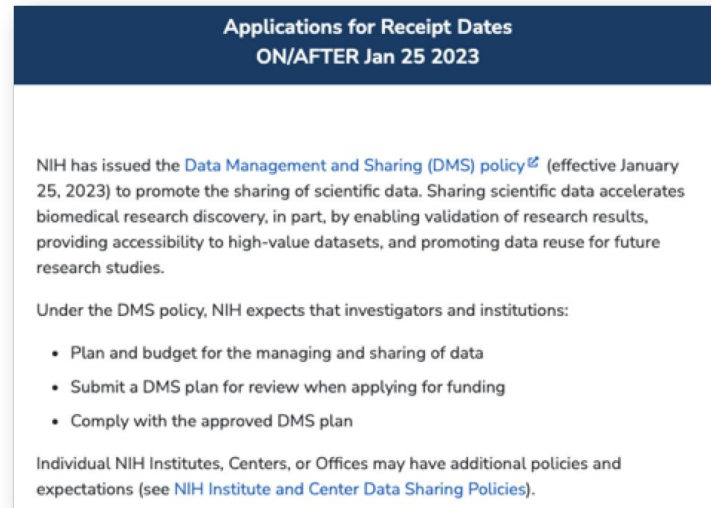
***Data curation*** is the process of transforming your collection of data files, notes, code, visualizations, and other vital research materials into an organized digital object that is optimized for reuse



# Response to federal mandates



[OSTP Memo: Ensuring Free, Immediate, and Equitable Access to Federally Funded Research](#)



[NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy](#)



# NIH Data Repository “Desired Characteristics”

NIH promotes the use of established data repositories because deposit in a quality data repository generally improves the **FAIRness** (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Re-usable) of the data.

- **Supplemental Information to the NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing: Selecting a Repository for Data Resulting from NIH-Supported Research:**  
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-21-016.html>
- **Open Domain-Specific Data Sharing Repositories:**  
[https://www.nlm.nih.gov/NIHbmic/domain\\_specific\\_repositories.html](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/NIHbmic/domain_specific_repositories.html)
- **Generalist Repositories:** [https://www.nlm.nih.gov/NIHbmic/generalist\\_repositories.html](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/NIHbmic/generalist_repositories.html)



# NIH Data Management and Sharing Plan

Specific guidance for Harvard Dataverse users: [DMP Guidance](#)

Harvard-wide templates available on [DMPTool](#) & [RDM @ Harvard](#)

Specific elements relevant for depositing data in Harvard Dataverse

- **Data types:** content overview, overall size and individual file size, security level & licensed data
- **Related tools, software, & code:** open source tools, custom software
- **Standards:** disciplinary, metadata standards (descriptive & technical)
- **Data Preservation, Access, and Associated Timelines:** de-identification, embargos, general records schedule
- **Access, Distribution, or Reuse Considerations:** IP & licenses
- **Oversight of Data Management:** ongoing administration & stewardship



## NSF: Social, Behavioral, Economic Services Directorate (NSF-SBE)

This plan is based on the "NSF-SBE: Social, Behavioral, Economic Sciences" template provided by National Science Foundation (nsf.gov) - (ver: 3, pub: 2021-10-25).

[expand all](#) | [collapse all](#)

0/6

+ Roles and responsibilities (0 / 1)	+
+ Expected data (0 / 1)	+
+ Period of data retention (0 / 1)	+
+ Data format and dissemination (0 / 1)	+
+ Data storage and preservation of access (0 / 1)	+
+ Additional possible data management requirements (0 / 1)	+

## Department of Energy (DOE)

This plan is based on the "Department of Energy (DOE): Generic" template provided by United States Department of Energy (DOE) (energy.gov) - (ver: 4, pub: 2021-10-25).

[expand all](#) | [collapse all](#)

0/4

+ Data sharing and preservation (0 / 1)	+
+ Data used in publications (0 / 1)	+
+ Data management resources (0 / 1)	+
+ Confidentiality, security and rights (0 / 1)	+

## Department of Defense (DOD)

This plan is based on the "Department of Defense (DOD)" template provided by United States Department of Defense (DOD) (defense.gov) - (ver: 4, pub: 2023-04-19).

[expand all](#) | [collapse all](#)

0/6

+ Types of data produced (0 / 1)	+
+ Data and metadata standards (0 / 1)	+
+ Conditions for access and sharing (0 / 1)	+
+ Conditions and provisions for reuse, redistribution, and derivatives (0 / 1)	+
+ Plans for archiving and preservation (0 / 1)	+
+ Justification for the restriction of data (0 / 1)	+



# Data Types

- Briefly summarize the data types, including file formats, that you create or collect
- Describe what data will be shared and why
- List metadata, other relevant data, and documentation that will accompany shared data

## Examples:

Murunga, Nickson; Nyawanda, Bryan; Nyiro, Joyce U.; Otieno, Grieben P.; Kamau, Evelyn; Agoti, Charles N.; Lewa, Clement; Gichuki, Alex; Mutunga, Martin; Otieno, Nancy; Mayieka, Lilian; Ochieng, Melvin; Kikwai, Gilbert; Hunsperger, Elizabeth; Onyango, Clayton; Emukule, Gideon; Bigogo, Godfrey; Verani, Jennifer R.; Chaves, Sandra S.; Nokes, David James; Munywoki, Patrick K., 2022, "Replication Data for: Surveillance of respiratory viruses at health facilities from across Kenya, 2014", <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/VFCZN4>, Harvard Dataverse, V7, UNF:6:ek1fu3CwyMKIiLVkPQPC8Q== [fileUNF]



# Tools & Software

- Will specialized tools be needed to access or manipulate shared scientific data?
- What programs or systems will you use to manage and analyze the data?

## Examples:

Kozitsin, Ivan, 2022, "Replication Data for: Optimal control in opinion dynamics models: towards a unified framework",  
<https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/6D6OGG>, Harvard Dataverse, V5

Dataverse Uploader GitHub Action:  
<https://github.com/marketplace/actions/dataverse-uploader-action>

RSpace:  
<https://documentation.researchspace.com/article/h14qd5tvjj-dataverse-integration>

Open Science Framework (OSF):  
<https://help.osf.io/article/208-connect-dataverse-to-a-project>



# Metadata Standards

1. **Citation Metadata:** any metadata that would be needed for generating a data citation and other general metadata that could be applied to any dataset;
2. **Domain Specific Metadata:** with specific support currently for Social Science, Life Science, Geospatial, and Astronomy datasets; and
3. **File-level Metadata:** varies depending on the type of data file (for more details see File Handling section below) and include options like file tags, descriptions, and hierarchy preservation.

## Examples:

Slavery, Abolition, Emancipation, and Freedom Collection:  
<https://dataverse.harvard.edu/dataverse/SAFE>

James, Toby S.; Garnett, Holly Ann, 2023, "Electoral Management Survey, (EMS-2.0)",  
<https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/Z7XVMC>,  
Harvard Dataverse, V1,  
UNF:6:C5AOksQAF5Dn6QOp3II7+w==  
[fileUNF]



# Data Preservation & Stewardship

- Provide the name of the repository(ies) where scientific data and metadata arising from the project will be archived.
- Consider how the dataset will be managed over time

## Examples:

Harvard Dataverse Preservation Policy:  
<https://support.dataverse.harvard.edu/harvard-dataverse-preservation-policy>

Mallick, Swapan; Reich, David, 2023, "The Allen Ancient DNA Resource (AADR): A curated compendium of ancient human genomes",  
<https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/FFIDCW>,  
Harvard Dataverse, V8



# Access & Reuse

- Include any restrictions related to informed consent; privacy and confidentiality protections; Tribal, state, and local laws, regulations, and policies; and any other considerations.
- State whether access to the scientific data will be controlled.
- Describe how the privacy, rights, and confidentiality of human research participants will be protected (if applicable).

## Examples:

Phillips, Jonathan, 2023, "Locating what comes to mind in empirically derived representational spaces", <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/ISZQG3>, Harvard Dataverse, V2

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), 2023, "Assessment of Nutrition-Sensitive Value Chains in the Feed the Future Zone of Influence in Tajikistan", <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/BMKEMG>, Harvard Dataverse, V1, UNF:6:x/dlNUoZ79srF5dZfHr4ug== [fileUNF]

McArthur, Charles C.; King, Stanley H., 1992, "Harvard Student Study, 1960-1964", <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/4POMAK>, Harvard Dataverse, V3





# FAIR Summary



**Findable:** DOIs, **rich metadata**, indexing, **data citation**

**Accessible:** Standard & open retrieval protocol, authentication, persistent records, open metadata, **access permissions**, file format agnostic

**Interoperable:** Standard metadata schemas, **controlled vocabularies**, **open formats**, APIs & external tools, metadata harvesting

**Reusable:** **Accurate & comprehensive metadata**, **clear Terms of Use**, tracked versions, **data stewardship** & preservation, file previews

# Join the Dataverse Community!

Harvard Dataverse: [dataverse.harvard.edu](https://dataverse.harvard.edu)

The Dataverse Project: [dataverse.org](https://dataverse.org)

Test out features at [demo.dataverse.org](https://demo.dataverse.org)

Preservation policy and other governance information:  
<https://support.dataverse.harvard.edu/harvard-dataverse-preservation-policy>

Get help: [support@dataverse.harvard.edu](mailto:support@dataverse.harvard.edu)

Leave an issue about a bug or a feature:  
<https://github.com/IQSS/dataverse/issues>

Dataverse-Users Google Group:  
<https://groups.google.com/g/dataverse-community>

Bi-Weekly Community Call:  
<https://dataverse.org/community-calls>



# Thanks!

Katie Mika

[katherine\\_mika@harvard.edu](mailto:katherine_mika@harvard.edu)

