



# RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP: 2020 WORK PLAN

The Research Data Management Working Group (RDM WG) was established out of two motivations: first, to help libraries secure a critical role in the 21st century scholarly information infrastructure and, second, to recognize research data as valuable academic resources that need to be managed, shared and preserved to foster research and science. Research libraries can have a key role in Research Data Management (RDM), consisting of supporting the entire data life cycle through knowledge, skills, infrastructure and tools.

## 1 Objectives

The RDM WG has three objectives:

- Exploring and developing library services regarding FAIR research data, such as support in data management during research projects, support with data archives/repositories to store and publish research datasets, and linking data to publications;
- Identifying best practices, fostering knowledge exchange and knowledge transfer, aiding in training and development of RDM services, and fostering collaborative science;
- Reaching out and seeking collaboration with other RDM initiatives to evaluate and support skills development as well as RDM infrastructures.

## 2 Target Audiences

The deliverables and output of the RDM WG are targeted towards data professionals in the broadest sense of the term, including people responsible for management and policy in the field of RDM such as (but not limited to) library managers and staff, discipline specialists, data stewards, policy makers, researchers, PhD candidates and funders. The RDM WG also reaches out and collaborates with related initiatives (e.g. Research Data Alliance, DCC, the Carpentries, national RDM networks and EOSC) and contributes to projects where possible.

## 3 Activities & Task Groups

The RDM WG works with task groups. Each group has at least three members, and focuses on a specific topic selected by the RDM WG. An overview of the 2020 task groups can be found in the section below. Task groups are expected to work in a self-directed way, by organizing and working out deliverables, and informing other RDM WG members about progress made.

For 2020, four types of activities are foreseen: (1) a workshop at LIBER 2020 Online (LIBER's Annual Conference, which in 2020 is taking place virtually), (2) dedicated task groups that each work on a specific topic, (3) a series of webinars, and (4) a series of communications from the RDM WG. The activities are further detailed below.





### 3.1 Workshop at LIBER 2020 Online:

**Description:** In 2012, LIBER published [10 recommendations for libraries to get started with RDM](#). Since then, libraries have become increasingly involved with RDM. Despite this, many challenges persist such as the need to tackle RDM strategically, and the need to develop adequate RDM services. A defining feature of the current situation is the need for clarification of the role of the library and library professionals in solving RDM challenges. This is the focus of the workshop, titled *Hot RDM topics: Challenges and Roles for Library Professionals*.

For 2020, the RDM WG has prioritized eight hot RDM topics that require further guidance and articulation from the library perspective: data stewardship, FAIR data, data curation, data rights, DMP reviews, RDM training, implementing RDM policies, and engaging researchers. During the workshops, brief pitches will be held for the hot topics, articulating the challenges and how libraries can move forward in these areas.

Library data professionals, both newcomers and experts, are invited to join as we discuss and review the topics, and look more generally at how to ensure a strong and enduring role for research libraries in the field of RDM.

**Timeline:** Planning will begin in January. The workshop will be held the third week of June.

### 3.2 Task Groups

Eight task groups will cover RDM topics in 2020. Each topic links to LIBER's 2018-2022 Strategy and has been selected based on a December 2019 survey of RDM WG members.

TASK GROUP	DELIVERABLES
Data rights, data protection and the GDPR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify tensions, for instance regarding publishing research data</li> <li>Identify different roles of library staff in data rights/GDPR, including how library staff can help researchers with creating legal/GDPR proof research datasets for publication</li> </ul>
Professionalizing data stewardship in libraries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Library professionals job descriptions</li> <li>Outline of responsibilities and tasks</li> <li>Implementation strategies for libraries to improve staff skills</li> </ul>
FAIR factsheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updating the <a href="#">2017 FAIR Data Factsheet</a></li> </ul>
Data curation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify main aspects of data curation and recommend how to integrate these aspects into library training</li> <li>Identify different roles of library staff in data curation, including how library staff can help researchers with creating FAIR datasets for publication</li> </ul>
Engaging researchers in RDM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify good practices and main challenges</li> <li>Based on those, create a framework for different ways of engaging researchers. Focus on libraries with little RDM experience.</li> </ul>
RDM training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List of what works (and doesn't work) in training</li> <li>Structured list of curriculum topics for training of researchers by librarians, and of train-the-trainer initiatives</li> </ul>
Implementing RDM policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify main aspects of implementing RDM policies</li> <li>Identify different roles of library staff in implementing policies</li> </ul>
DMP catalogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add content to the DMP catalogue</li> </ul>



### 3.3 Webinars

The WG has run webinars since 2017. These webinars attract large audiences and have demonstrated clear added value both for the WG and for the LIBER network. In 2020, the WG aims to run 4-6 webinars.

**Timeline:** At least two webinars are foreseen for the first half of 2020, and at least two more in the second half of the year.

**Costs:** Incidental allowances for speakers.

### 3.4 Communication and Outreach

Communicate news from the RDM WG more frequently with the LIBER community.

**Activities:** Provide input for LIBER newsletter, communicate and share news, insights and tips through social media.

**Deliverables:** Share and create news items/posts at the LIBER website, in the LIBER newsletter, and via social media.

## 4 Contact

More about the group, including contact details for the group chairs and a list of all members, can be found [on the LIBER website](#).