ITU Research Data Management Policy

Goals:

- To follow recommendations of the **Danish Code of Conduct for Research Integrity**
- To facilitate research that is credible and transparent
- To ensure that data are **Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable (FAIR principles)**
- To facilitate research data being made freely accessible **EXCEPT when** this is **in conflict with** legal or contractual obligations, current regulations, research ethics, privacy, confidentiality or intellectual property rights

Research Data Management Policy

Definition

Research data management is planning for and organizing the collection, analysis, storage, reuse and disposal of research data

Scope

Applies to research data collected and/or used during ITU research activities

Research Data Management Policy

General Principles – research data should be:

a. Recognized as valuable

b. Taken into consideration (when commencing a project)

c. Stored securely and appropriately

d. FAIR - Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable

e. Retained following discipline-specific best practices, otherwise for a minimum of five years after publication

f. Appropriately disposed

g. Managed in line with ethical protocols, confidentiality

h. Compliant with legal requirements

Misconceptions

I do not do anything related to humans so this does not apply to me

- **Research integrity** addresses ANY data you might use regardless of whether humans are involved
- If there is a challenge to the integrity of YOUR publications then ITU and YOU must provide the data you based your conclusions on (WHATEVER IT IS) – so FINDABLE data
- If challenged you must allow others access to your data – so ACCESSIBLE data
- Bonus – if data are also interoperable and reusable

Misconceptions

I use only synthetic datasets so this doesn't apply

- Considerations of Research Integrity still apply
- ALSO – synthetic data is potentially very shareable provided good quality documentation
- Can ITU help you to make sure your synthetic data is also INTEROPERABLE and REUSABLE?

Misconceptions

I use only publicly available data so this doesn't apply to me

- Same issues of research integrity apply here
- Publicly available data can constitute valuable and shareable resources
- GDPR concerns potentially still apply
- Just because it is public does not mean your use of it is exempt from ethical considerations. See:
  Zimmer, M. (2010). "But the data is already public": on the ethics of research in Facebook. Ethics and information technology, 12(4), 313-325.
  Zook, Matthew, et al. "Ten simple rules for responsible big data research." PLoS computational biology 13.3 (2017): e1005399.

Misconceptions

I use data that isn't classified as personal data so this doesn't apply to me

- Research Integrity concerns still apply
- GDPR redefines what counts as personal data – are you sure you are still in the clear after May 25th?
- How much of FAIR principles might apply to you? Is current IT infrastructure sufficient to support FAIR with respect to your data?

Misconceptions

I am a qualitative researcher so this doesn't apply to me
- Considerations of research integrity still apply
- Qualitative data includes even MORE personal data – have you thought about security and compliance with GDPR?
- Your data does not need to be reusable or interoperable but it MUST be FINDABLE and ACCESSIBLE
- Collaborations involving qualitative data also require IT infrastructures – is existing infrastructure at ITU sufficient?

Expectations and obligations: RESEARCHERS

PI/Main researcher must

> Ensure researchers under their management conduct research data management in accordance with policy

Researchers must

- Ensure data are managed in line with best practices

- Organize data storage such that results can be assessed, procedures can be retraced and, when relevant, research can be reproduced

- Decide what to store and for how long

- Plan for appropriate data disposal approaches

- Manage access to their research data

Expectations and obligations: ITU

IT University of Copenhagen must:

- Provide a data storage system that allows researchers to manage their data responsibly (storage space, access control, backup capabilities)

- Provide a research data catalogue to enable FAIR

- Provide education and training in data management

- Provide advice on practice, legal issues & infrastructures

- Develop and maintain common systems and infrastructures for research data management

Questions to consider

- Are we in agreement with the general principles?

- Are new faculty responsibilities reasonable and realistic?

- Are ITU's institutional responsibilities sufficient and realistic?

- Are existing technical infrastructures sufficient?

- Are existing administrative infrastructures sufficient?

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