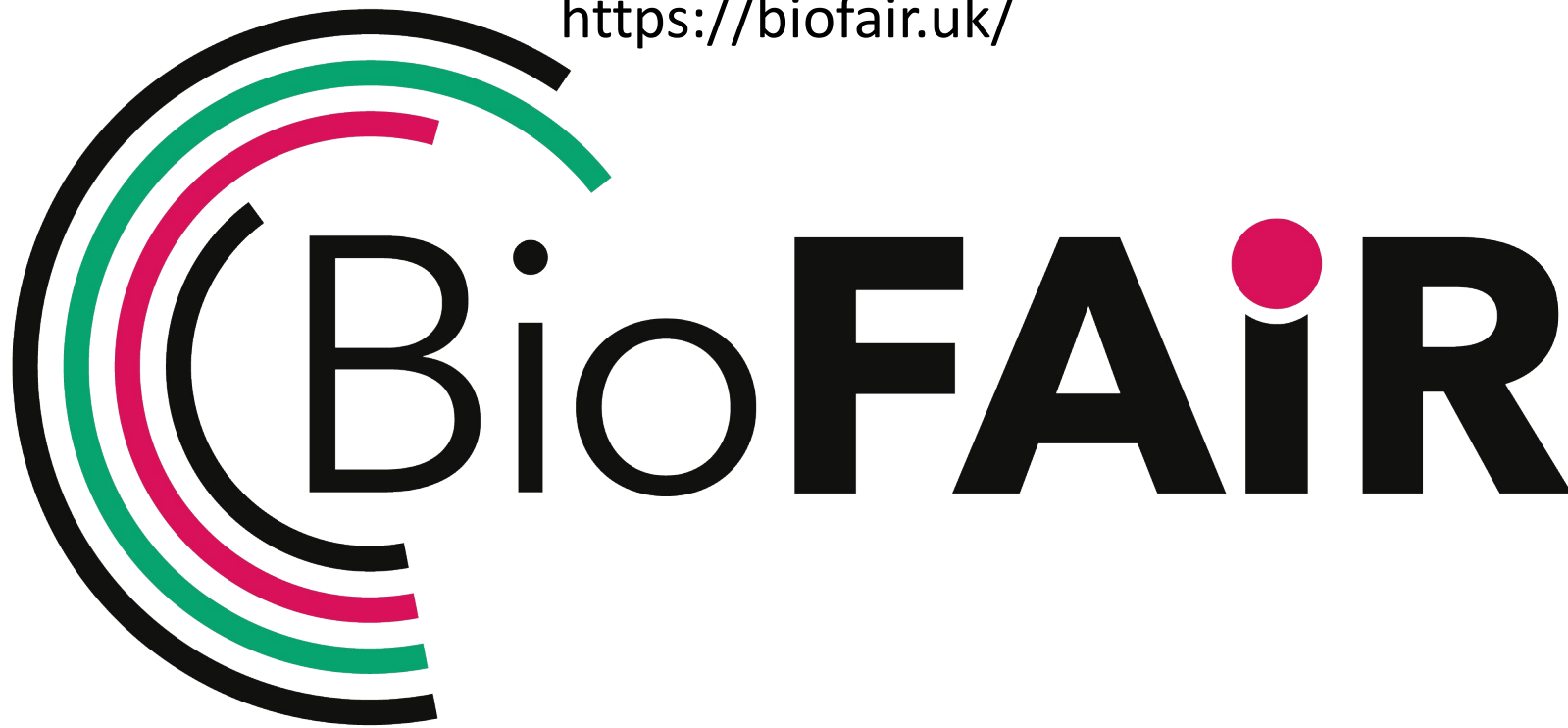


<https://biofair.uk/>



UK Research
and Innovation



A Digital Research Infrastructure for UK Life Sciences

Gerry Reilly
Interim Director, BioFAIR UK
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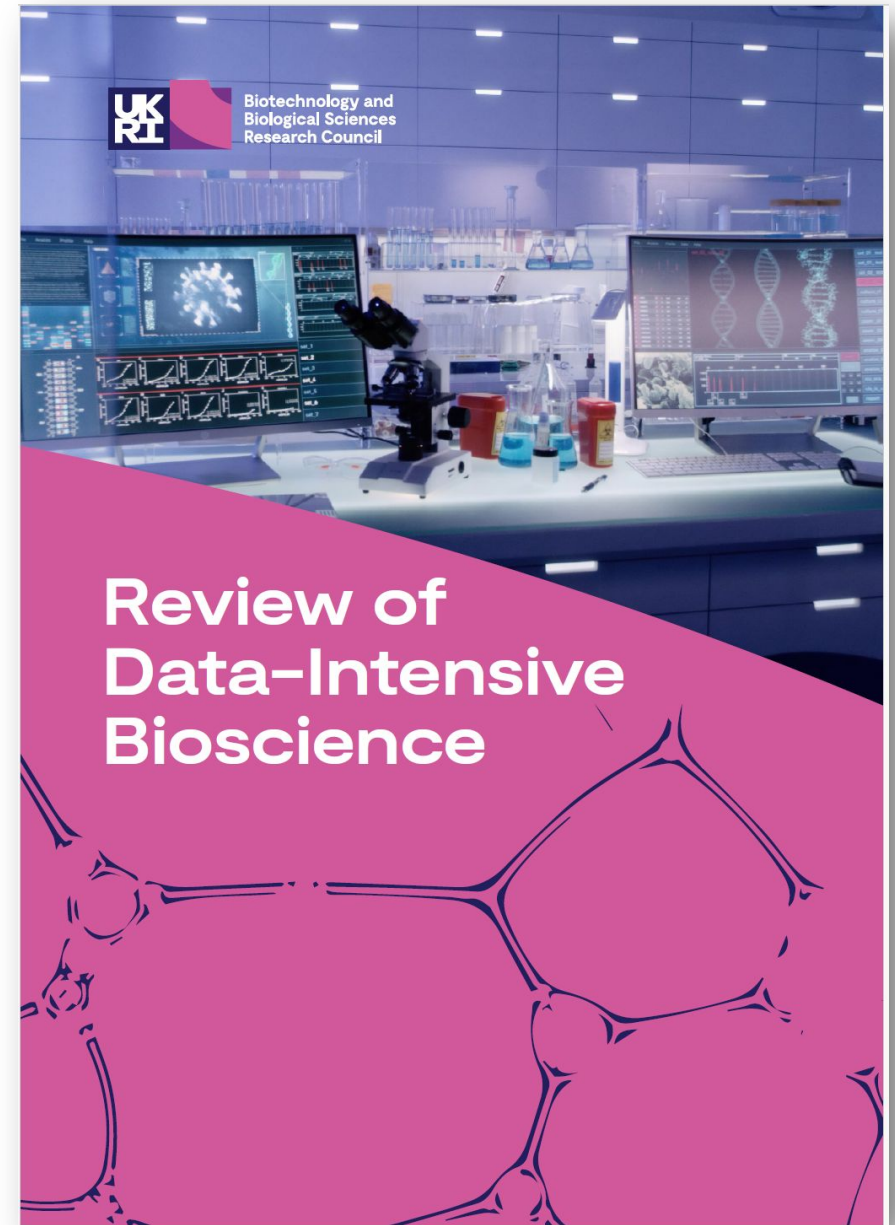
Eva Wan
Project Manager, BioFAIR UK
eva.wan@earlham.ac.uk

The life sciences are data rich disciplines

▪▪▪
as reliant on sophisticated analysis of multiple complex datasets as laboratory-based experimentation

with vast increase in pace of experimentation, computational analysis and volumes of data

a team sport using different data types





100+ UK Research
Performing Organisations
(RPOs)



100,000+ UK Researchers



100+ Project Consortia



...that should operate using FAIR Principles



FAIR Data drives AI

What does FAIR include?

- Data
- Metadata
- Data Methods, Workflows, SOPs
- Software
- Training materials
- Other data services and tools

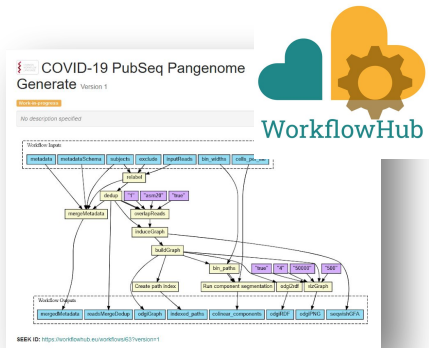
What doesn't FAIR include?

- Open data
- Data quality

Wilkinson *et al.* The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship. *Sci Data* 3 (2016)
Goble *et al.* FAIR computational workflows. *Data Intelligence* 2(2020)
Barker *et al.*, Introducing the FAIR Principles for research software. *Sci Data* 9, 622 (2022)

Life sciences researchers need to have access to rich data services

Data methods – to manipulate and analyse their own and other data reproducibly



Research Software Engineers & Stewards



Data resources – to manage, store and curate their data, or search for and access others' data



Data Stewards



Training and Knowledge – to learn how to use and apply these data methods and resources and share knowledge



Trainers



Communities – to discuss issues, share and promote good practice, support stewards and engineers, make pathways for FAIR data in their fields.



Champions



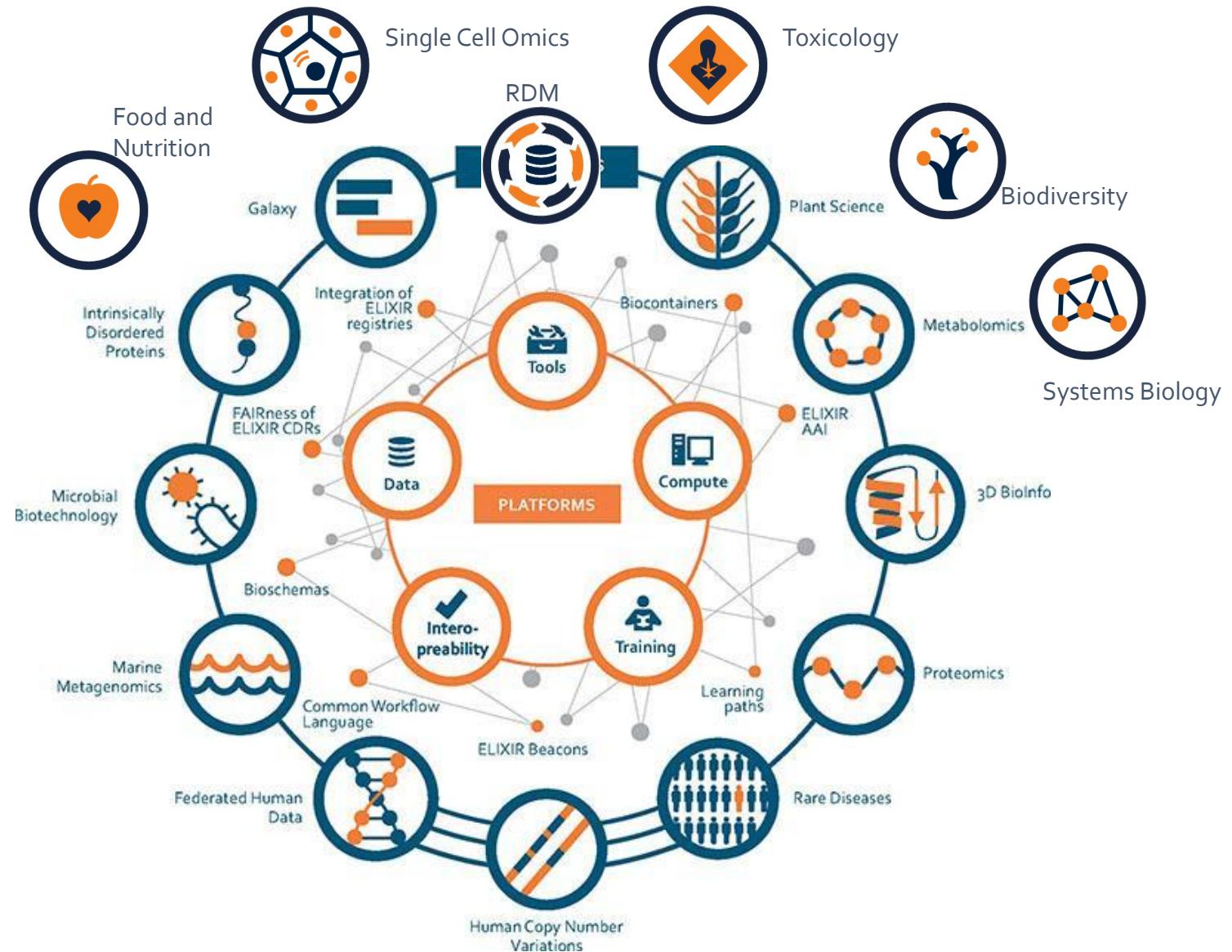
enabling and applying FAIR principles



European wide FAIR data services with UK leadership



28 Organisations



Navigating a rich and complex landscape



Data methods and services



Training & Knowledge resources



Data resources



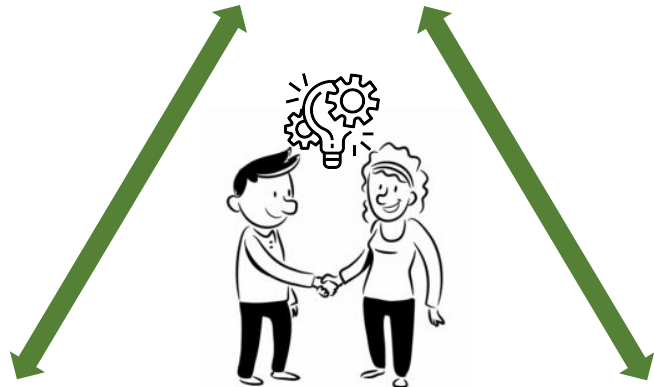
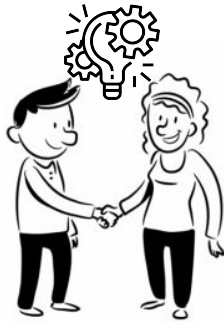
Community groups



Navigating a rich and complex landscape



Global Community
Data and Analysis Infrastructures



Home Institute Data
and Analysis
Infrastructures



National
Data and Analysis
Infrastructures

**A coherent
ecosystem of services
for the UK**

Own data & analysis

Shared data & analysis

Common data,
analysis, tools, standards,
services, support

Technopolis Study of the UK (2021)



Figure 19 Main reasons why research data and other digital assets are not made available for secondary use or reuse (n=140)

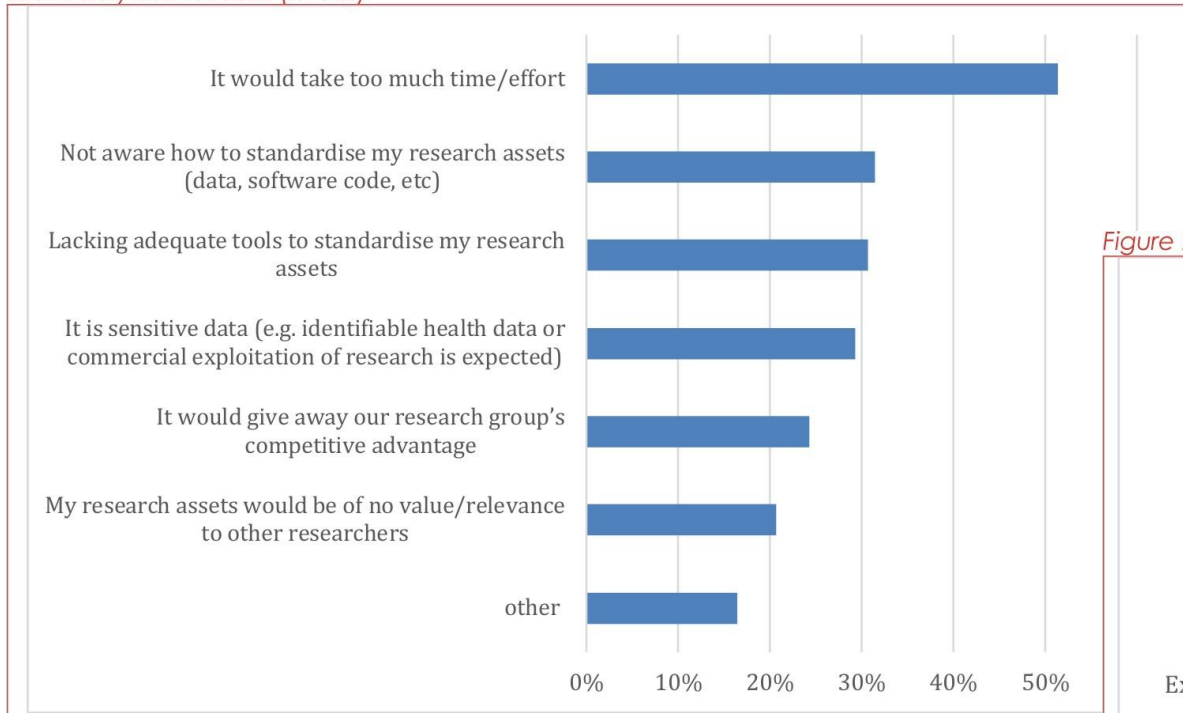
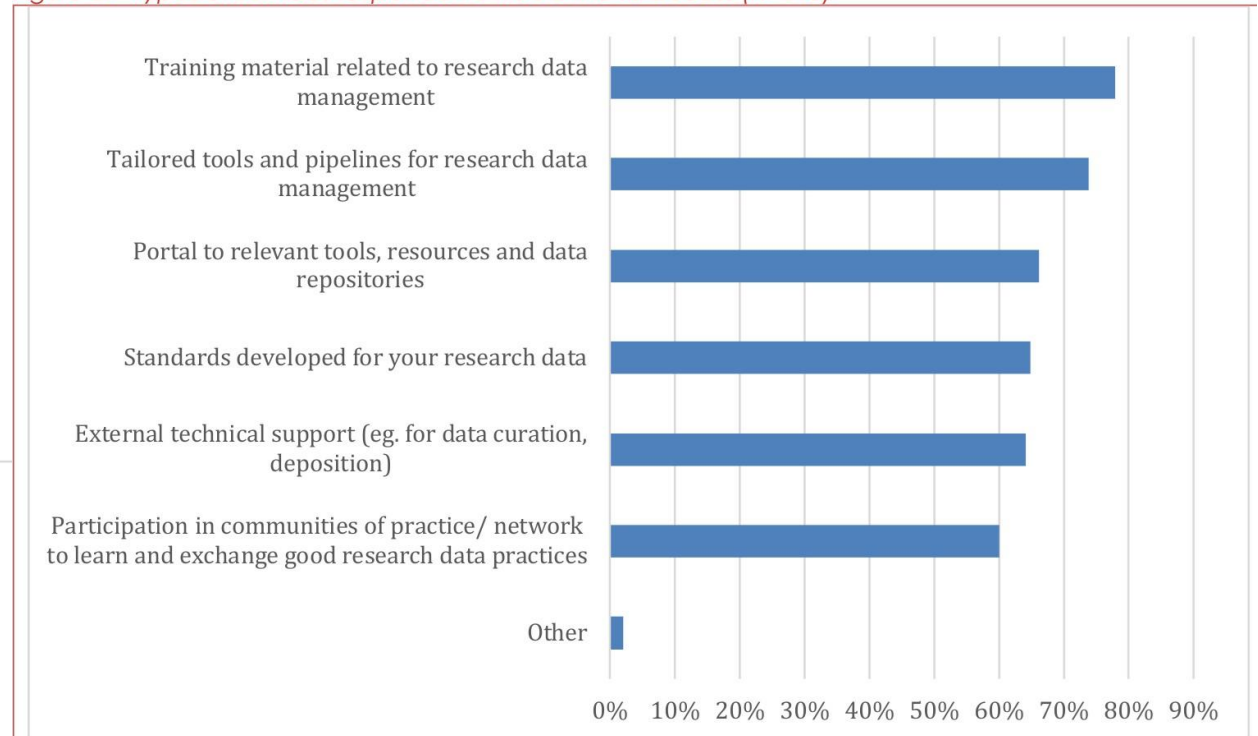


Figure 27 Types of services respondents would like to access (n=145)

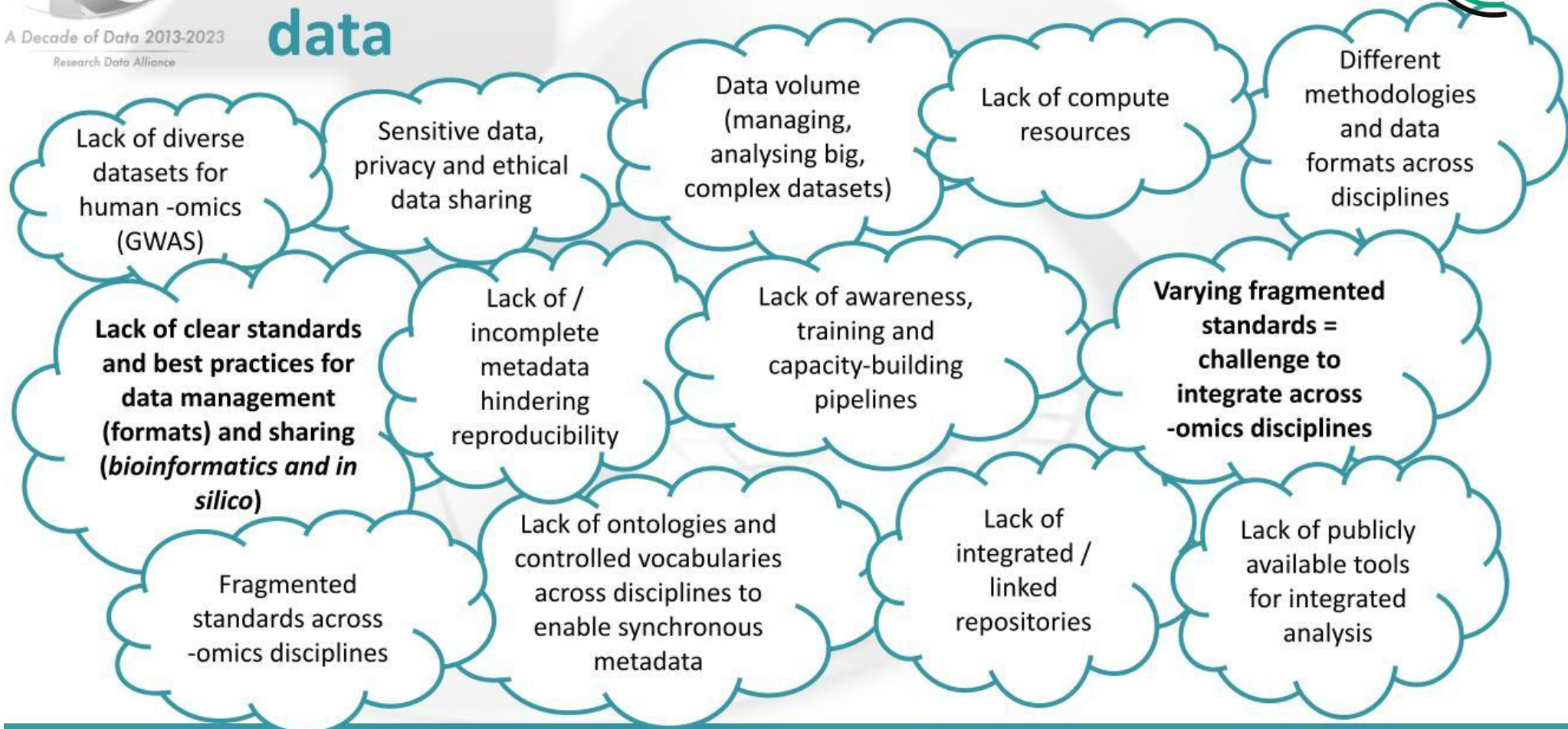


Respondents reported 56 different repositories used



A Decade of Data 2013-2023
Research Data Alliance

Your challenges of managing multiomics data



 rd-alliance.org  [@resdatall](https://twitter.com/resdatall)

RDA-OfR Creating a Multi-Omics Metadata Schema Standard Reporting Matrix WG



Squandering the value of data-intensive research



Fragmented and confusing landscape

- Data methods and services lack connectivity
- Lack of awareness of methods and services researchers could/should use
- End to end data lifecycle support is hard

Lack of research data management (RDM) skills

- Majority of researchers lack the basic skills to use existing tools and services
- Shortage of highly skilled experts

Inconsistent usage

- Uneven access data services and data methods, with supporting services
- Mostly researcher DIY

Data often not reusable

- Lack of skills, shared data poor quality non-reusable by other researchers

UK lacks a FAIR culture

- Limited adoption of FAIR principles across UK life sciences researchers

This will only increase as the life sciences becomes increasingly data-intensive

Other countries are establishing national bioscience data capabilities

Strategic priority for UK



BioFAIR Objectives

1. Culture change: To drive adoption of FAIR principles and open data across the UK life sciences to provide high quality FAIR datasets ready for uptake and reuse.
2. Defragmentation: To increase the coordination, collaboration and cohesiveness of the UK's life science related data landscape, enhancing its effectiveness and efficiency.
3. Access: To enable democratised access to data and data methods within UK life sciences via a national capability.
4. Skills: To attract, develop and retain excellent research data management skills and capacity for UK life sciences.
5. Data reuse: To improve the efficiency of research and enabling new research by increased re-use of data in the life sciences.



Scope: Users and Generators

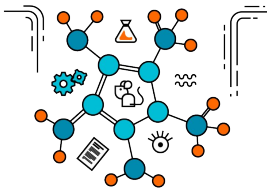
The long tail



UK researchers and project teams

Collaborations between institutions and partners

Communities



Data Coordination Centres

Support their Data Hubs, archives and processing activities

Researchers



- Limited skills in research data management & analysis
- High level of skill in research data management & analysis

Research Supporters



- Institutional data managers
- Community data stewards
- Workflow developers
- Trainers

Tools and Service Providers



- Tools, data resources, analysis
- Improvements for the UK
- Data AI-readiness



Scope: Services and Data

Data tools & services

- Datasets
- Software code
- Analysis tools
- Workflows
- Standards for data and metadata

- Humans,
- Animals, Plants, Fungi
- Microbes

UK Project Data

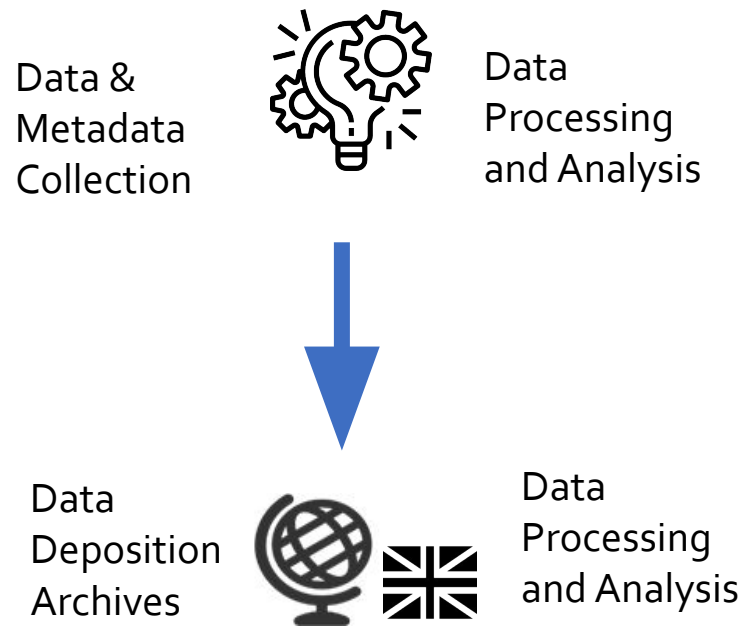
Out of scope

- Sensitive data, e.g. patient data: Partner with Health Data Research UK
- Data beyond the life sciences: Partner with NERC Environmental Data Commons
- Industry R&D data infrastructure

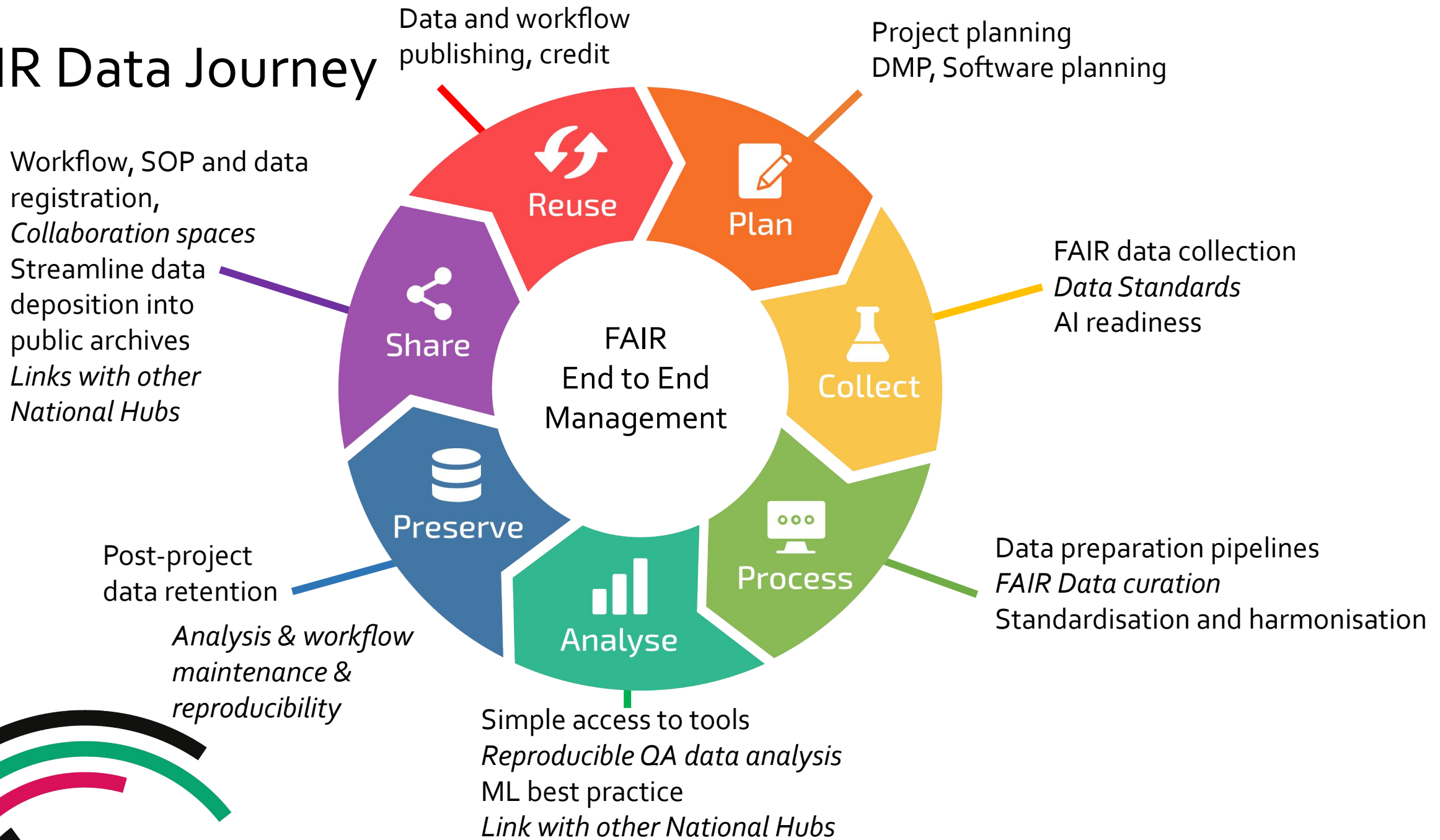


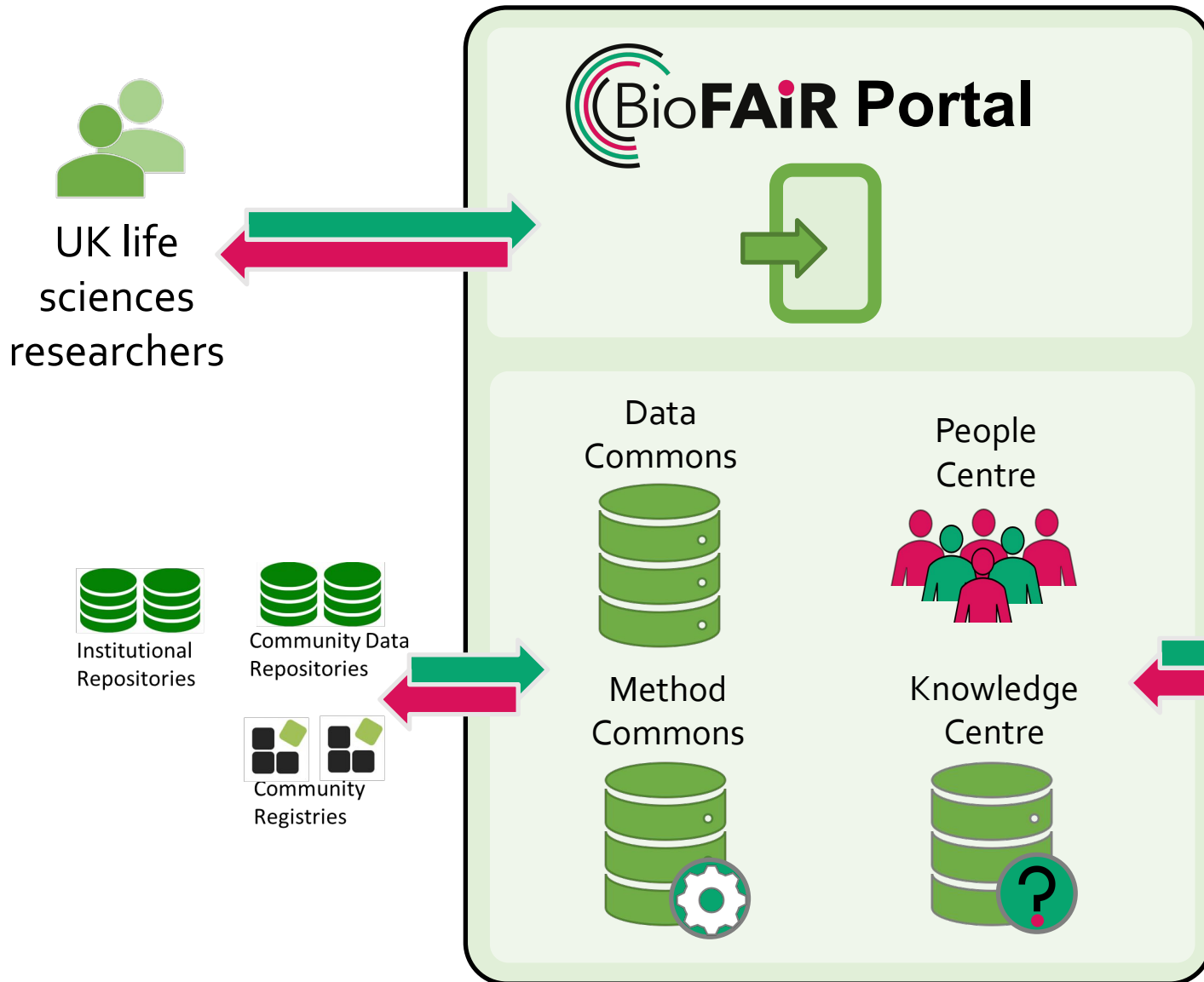
Support the Data Journey

The first & last mile



FAIR Data Journey





Joining up the Dots

BioFAIR will join the dots between DRI investments, act as a catalyst for integration between DRI data hubs, build a cooperative collective of analysis and FAIR capability and provide cohesive capability using cross cutting technologies and techniques.



Using existing services and national delivery partners

Method Commons

National workflow capability

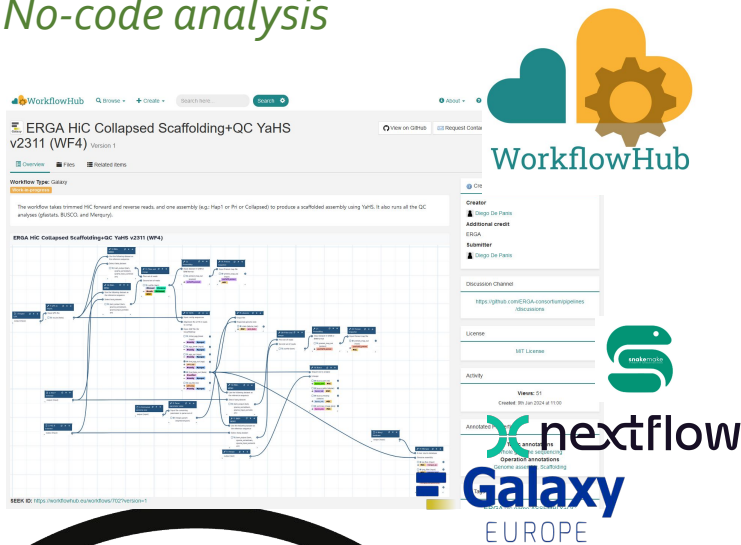
Workflow development

National compute

Electronic Lab Notebooks

Workflow sharing – public & project enclaves

No-code analysis



Data Commons

Standards

Data Catalogue

Federated Data Lake

National data storage

Project data spaces

Analysis data ingress & egress

FAIR data services

FAIR Digital Objects

Data Management Planning

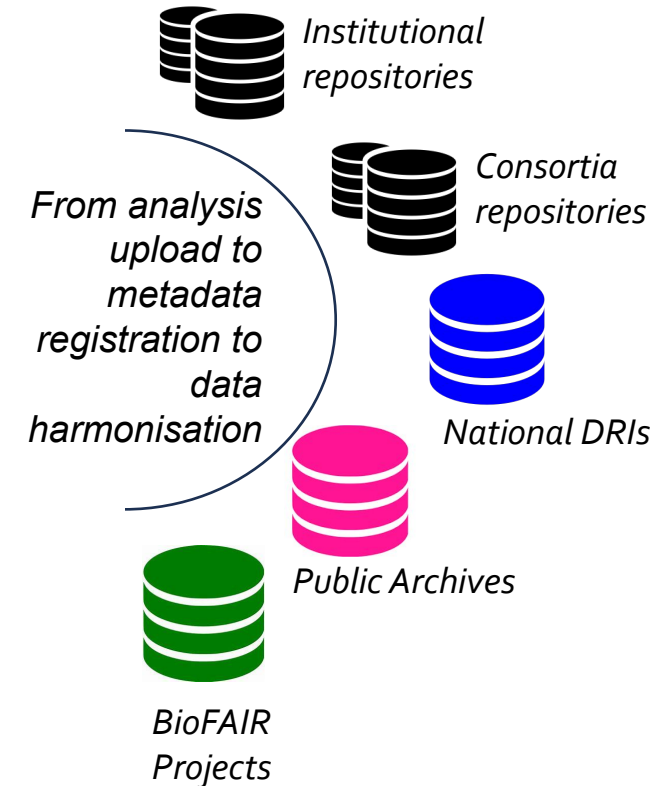
Islands of harmonised data

Submission pipelines to archives

Data brokering for projects

Post-project data retention

Data sharing – public & project enclaves



Support FAIR data at researcher's home, FAIR analysis using their data safely and confidentially

Using existing services and national delivery partners

Knowledge Centre

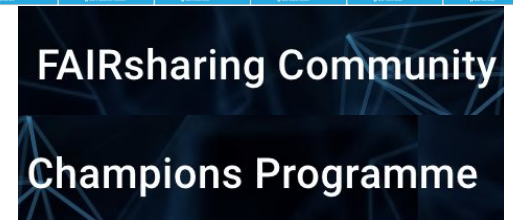
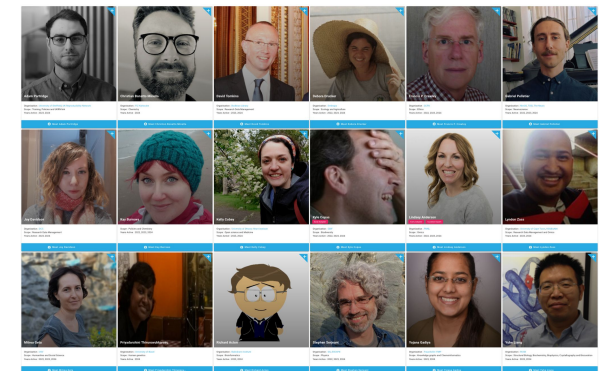
*RDM Toolkits & Cookbooks, DM Plans
Standards Registries
Training Portals*

The screenshot shows the FAIRsharing.org website. The top navigation bar includes 'About', 'Events', 'Materials', 'e-Learning', 'Workflows', 'Collections', 'Directory', and 'Log in'. The main content area is titled 'Training materials' and features a search bar and a filter sidebar. Below the search results, there are sections for 'SLIDES' (Life Sciences Research Data Management 2023 Course by ELIXIR Norway) and 'COURSE MATERIALS' (RDMkit). A 'Data life cycle' section is also visible. In the bottom right, a 'Recipe Overview' for 'Making an omics data matrix FAIR' is shown, including details like 'Reading Time: 30 minutes', 'Executable Code: Yes', and 'Audience: Data Manager, Data Scientist'.

People Centre

*Train the Trainers
Dedicated Data Stewards
Dedicated Software and workflow developers
Community workers*

A grid of 10 circular portraits of ELIXIR Fellows. Each portrait is accompanied by a name and a role. The roles include 'Fellow' and 'Project team'. The names and roles are: Adam Partridge (Fellow), Andrew Mason (Fellow), Annabel Cansdale (Fellow), Ciara Loughrey (Fellow), Diane Hatzioanou (Fellow), Edward Parkinson (Fellow), Elvina Gountouna (Fellow), Emma Karoune (Fellow), Gabriela Lopez-Gonzalez (Fellow), and Katarzyna Kamieniecka (Project team, University of Bradford/ELIXIR-UK).



A data and analysis concierge service



Aim to Accelerate Discovery

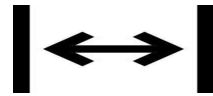
Maximise FAIR and Reproducible Data and Methods

Findable
Accessible
Inter-operable
Reusable

Improve culture
Mobilise researchers
Reduce waste time

AI Readiness

Widen use of existing data methods and services

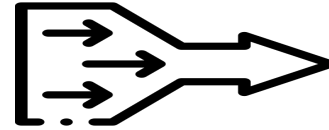


Optimise best practice
Exploit UK and global investments and skills

Support UK service providers

Benefit from international services

Ease and streamline collaboration



Provide an outside organisation data and methods brokering and data retention service

Bridge the gap

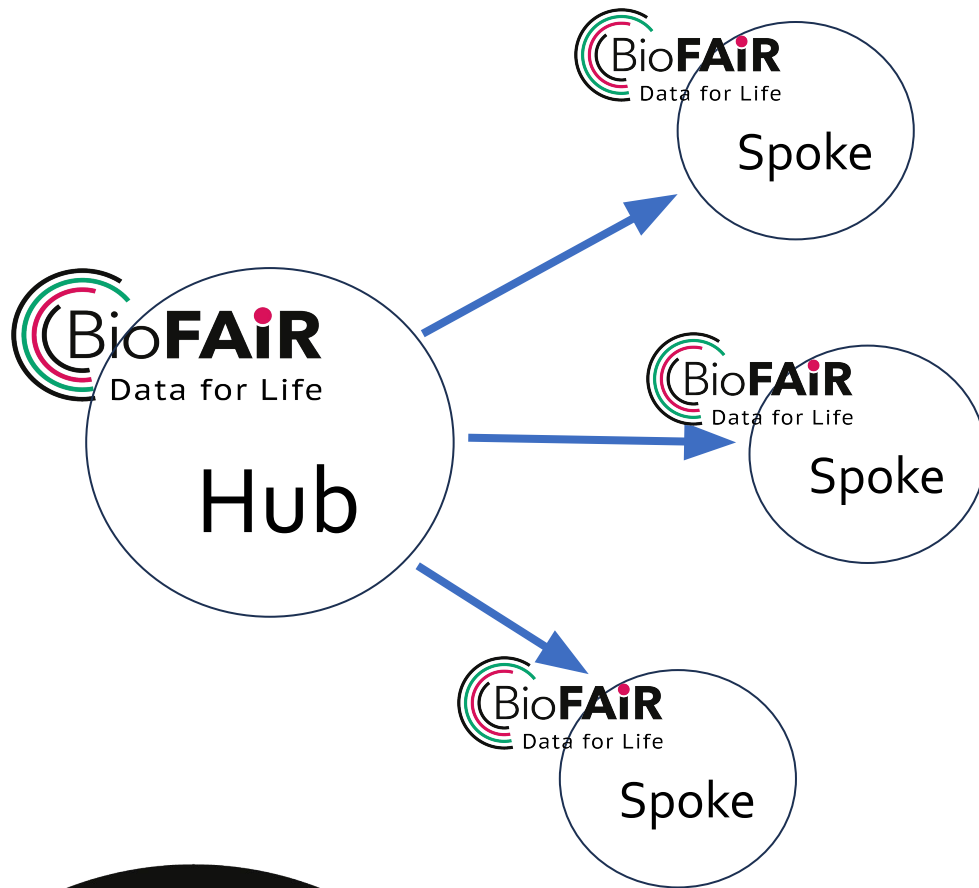


Between researchers, data sources at individual institutions, and existing data infrastructures

Increase efficiency of research



BioFAIR Delivery model



Delivery spokes operate the tools and services available through BioFAIR to form a coherent federated infrastructure

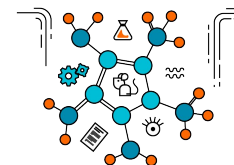
Complements existing UK Digital Research Infrastructures



The Alan Turing Institute



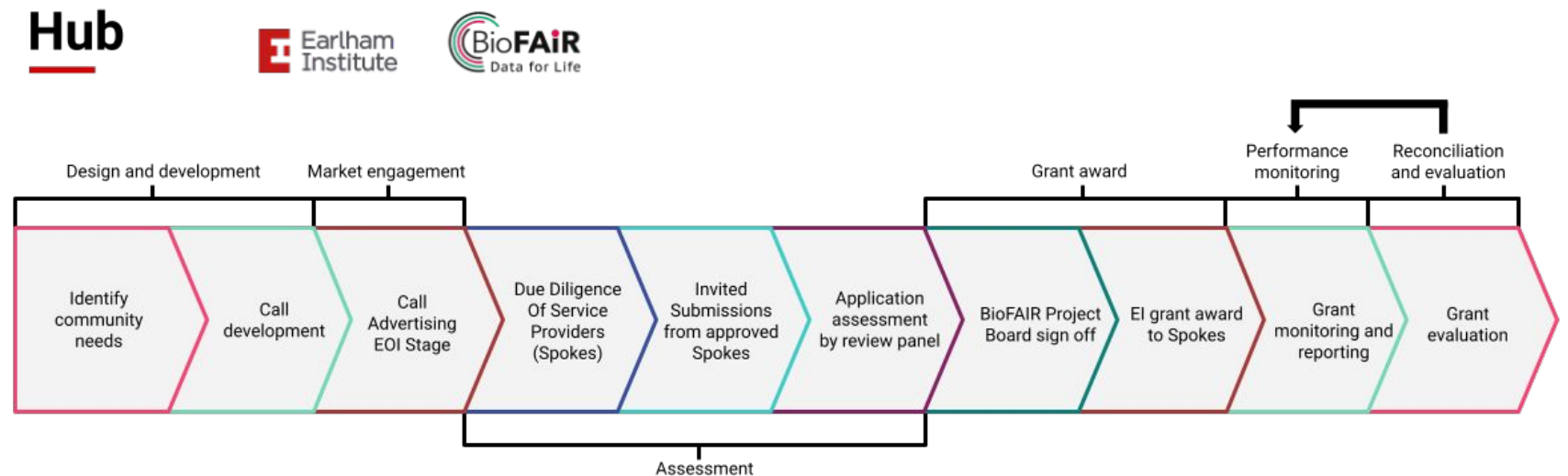
Partnerships



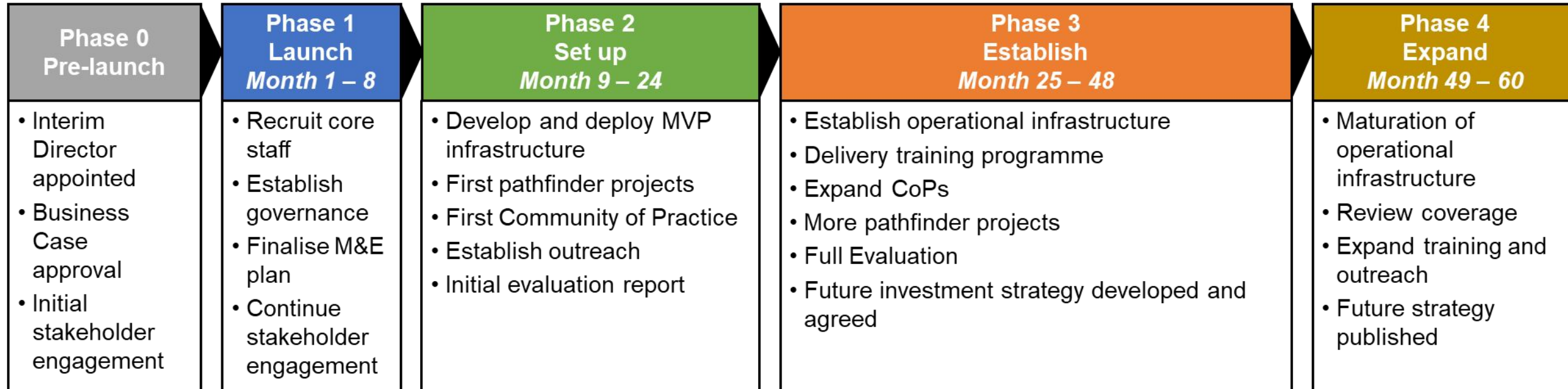
Pathfinder communities

Spoke selection

- Delivery team and leadership will be distributed across Hub and Spokes
- Spokes will be selected as long term partners with responsibility for key components and services
- Eligibility based on track record of delivery and operational excellence
- Open and transparent selection process



BioFAIR Delivery Phases



Target for Launch - Summer 2024



Help us
start to
build BioFAIR



Workshop 1 Topics

- At the heart of BioFAIR is a commitment to the FAIR principles. We want to facilitate their wide spread adoption to enable better access and reuse of data, however we also understand that researchers want to be able to demonstrate their active adoption of FAIR to funders. What services should BioFAIR provide to enable both adoption and demonstration?
- We are early in defining the priorities for BioFAIR and its architecture. What services and capabilities would you like us to focus on delivering in the first year?



Workshop 2 Topics

- The BioFAIR project was conceived from the ELIXIR community and we wish to continue its deep commitment to be open, transparent and community-led. How would you like to engage with BioFAIR and support the community led design and delivery? What communications approaches would you like us to adopt?
- BioFAIR aims to serve researchers and their facility support staff, RSEs, bioinformaticians and data stewards in RPOs. How should BioFAIR and local staff and data policies/platforms best interact?





UK Research
and Innovation