Sharing is daring?

Data sharing in the context of networks in science and technology

#COSTconnect

13-14 March 2019

COST Association – Avenue Louise 149

1000 Brussels, Belgium

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Over the last decades, data have risen to a prominent role in society, and in science and technology in particular. Some opinion makers have gone so far as to call data "the world's most valuable resource". Sharing data plays a crucial role in the establishment of a true Open Science culture, as envisaged in the "three O" strategy proposed by European Commissioner Carlos Moedas[1].

This potential prominent role for data sharing leads to many new challenges concerning data management. First, there are the technical challenges: how can data be made available to a broader public of researchers and innovators, in such a way that they can easily be valorised? To this end, in 2016, the FAIR principles were drafted by a group of prominent researchers. The FAIR principles state that data should be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable[2]. How can these principles be brought into actual practice in an efficient way?

Beyond these technical challenges, there are questions of a more managerial nature. If data are shared and pooled on a structural basis, who is responsible for the day-to-day-management of the data pool? Can authenticity and quality of available data be assured? Who is actually the owner of these pooled data? If data have been made available for one particular purpose, can these data freely be used for other purposes? What if researchers or other stakeholders involved in data collection object against the reuse of data? Do individuals still have control over "their" data?

COST Action networks can involve hundreds of researchers and innovators, and these networks have shown innovative ways in how they collect, manage, use, visualize data. Given the often interdisciplinary nature of COST Actions, data-sets range from widely different backgrounds with data related to domains as diverse as mobility, space, vegetation, migration, archaeology and genomics, among others.

This COST Connect event has the aim to bring together representatives of COST Actions and relevant stakeholders in order to create a platform where the above-mentioned questions will be discussed. Institutions and professionals engaged in data sharing and management can bring another point of view and a managerial approach to data sharing to the table. The event has the aim to create synergies between all actors involved, to share best-practices, to raise awareness about data sharing and to exchange and promote the principles of data management amongst researchers and society at large.

Their perspectives can aid COST Actions, and researchers engaged in data sharing through networks in general, in formulating priorities and developing strategies in widespread data sharing.

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[1] http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-15-5243_en.htm
[2] https://www.nature.com/articles/sdata201618

METHODOLOGY

The methodology of the workshop is based on the concept of the Pro-Action Café, which is a methodology allowing for creative and inspiring conversations. Participants are invited to share their questions (around projects – seed ideas) and obtain group input (deeper questions – knowledge – experience) from others. A Pro-Action Café is an innovative yet simple methodology for hosting conversations about questions, projects, and concerns that matter to the attendees.

In a Pro-Action Café, topics are brought forward by participants themselves. There is no set agenda, only overall guiding questions and setting-the-scene presentations with the intention of deepening the learning process of everyone.

Short setting-the-scene presentations provide a possibility for COST and stakeholders to bring in key information relevant for the discussion and suggest questions to be discussed. After the introduction and the setting-the-scene presentations parts, there are three rounds of conversation in café style, each guided by a few generic questions to help dig into the subject and narrow down the ideas.

INVITED PARTICIPANTS

Invited participants include:

- COST Actions relevant to the topic
- Horizon 2020 projects relevant to the topic
- Policy and Programme Officers of European Commission Directorates-General RTD, CONNECT and JRC
- COST Scientific Committee Members and COST Senior Officials
- Representatives from the Research Data Alliance
- Representatives from the Big Data Value Association
- Representatives from the EIT Digital
- Representatives from ETSI
- Representatives from EUDat
- Representatives from CODATA
- Representatives from Frontex
- Academic sector stakeholders, NCPs and representatives from the national policy system

OVERVIEW OF RELATED COST ACTIONS

- A network for Gravitational Waves, Geophysics and Machine Learning
- International Network to Encourage the Use of Monitoring and Forecasting Dust Products
- Knowledge Conversion for Enhancing Management of European Riparian Ecosystems and Services.
- Harmonization of UAS techniques for agricultural and natural ecosystems monitoring
- LEukaemia GENe Discovery by data sharing, mining and collaboration
- Performance and Reliability of Photovoltaic Systems: Evaluations of Large-Scale Monitoring Data
- European Raptor Biomonitoring Facility
- MULTI-modal Imaging of FOREnsic SciEnce Evidence - tools for Forensic Science
- Vector Boson Scattering Coordination and Action Network
- International Ethnic and Immigrant Minorities' Survey Data Network
- Archaeological practices and knowledge work in the digital environment
- Mitochondrial mapping: Evolution - Age - Gender - Lifestyle - Environment
- Gene Regulation Ensemble Effort for the Knowledge Commons
- European Network for cost containment and improved quality of health care
- European Cooperation for Statistics of Network Data Science (COSTNET)
- Functional Annotation of Animal Genomes - European network (FAANG-Europe))
- Mathematical and Computer Science Methods for Food Science and Industry (FoodMC)
- Open Multiscale Systems Medicine (OpenMultiMed)
- Multi-target paradigm for innovative ligand identification in the drug discovery process (MuTaLig)
- Chemistry of Smart Energy Carriers and Technologies (SMARTCATS)
- Molecules in motion (MOLIM)
- European Network for Collaboration on Kidney Exchange Programmes
- High-Performance Modelling and Simulation for Big Data Applications (cHiPSet)
- Computationally-intensive methods for the robust analysis of non-standard data (CRoNoS)
- Simulation and pharmaceutical technologies for advanced patient-tailored inhaled medicines (SimInhale)
- Quality specifications for roadway bridges, standardization at a European level (BridgeSpec)
- Scientific and technical innovations for safer Powered Two Wheelers (PTW)
- Big Data Era in Sky and Earth Observation (BIG-SKY-EARTH)
- Development of a European network for preclinical testing of interventions in mouse models of age and age-related diseases (MouseAGE)
- Time Dependent Seismology (TIDES)
- Evaluation of Ocean Syntheses
- A European network for a harmonised monitoring of snow for the benefit of climate change scenarios, hydrology and numerical weather prediction

DRAFT AGENDA – 13 MARCH 2019

Networking lunch	*12.00 – 13.00*
1. **Introduction and welcome** Welcome words by the organisers	13.00 – 13.15
2. **Welcome round and check-in** All participants briefly introduce their work	13.15 – 13.45
3. **Setting the scene – Part 1** - Brief input on the current state-of-play	13.45 – 15.00
Coffee break	*15.00 – 15.20*
4. **Announcing, discussing and selecting questions** - People bring forward their question with the offer to host a discussion table. After all tables have been chosen by someone sharing a question, the other participants are invited to think about which table they want to join first.	15.20 – 16.00
5. **Pro-Action Café – Round 1: What is the quest behind the question** - Every participant is invited to challenge the table host and different facets of the question are explored.	16.00 – 17.00
6. **Pro-Action Café – Round 2: What is missing** - The participants aim to make the picture more complete, redefine and deepen the discussion on the question (e.g. questions not asked yet, perspectives or options not considered yet).	17.00 – 18.00
Social dinner	*19.30*

DRAFT AGENDA – 14 MARCH 2019

Welcome breakfast	*08.30 – 09.00*
7. **Recap of day 1**	09.00 – 09.15
8. **Setting the scene – Part 2** - Brief input on the current state-of-play	09.15 – 09.45
9. **Pro-Action Café – Round 3: What is next** - What did we learn? What next steps will each of us take? What are possible actions (individually and together in variable geometry)?	09.45 – 10.45
Coffee break	*10.45 – 11.00*
10. **Presentation of results** - Wrap up of the results by the hosts of the tables	11.00 – 12.00
11. **Next steps and closing of the meeting** - Brief input from the organizing team and COST on the next steps. Feedback round by all participants	12.00 – 12.15
Networking lunch	*12.15 – 13.00*

LOCATION

The event will take place at the COST premises: Avenue Louise 149 (15th Floor), Brussels, Belgium.

CONTACTS

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