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What is really needed? Towards Open Science and Research Data Management - Results of a National Survey in Austria

Abstract

In early 2015, the scientific and artistic-scientific personnel at all 21 universities and three non-university research institutions in Austria received the call to participate in an Austria-wide survey relating to research data and their management. The survey was conducted within the project e-Infrastructures Austria and facilitated the collection of the practical handling of digital data. The findings from this survey form the basis for a consecutive a) realization of RDM-policies b) the identification of e-Infrastructure Commons c) the optimization of e-infrastructures and services available in this field, in accordance with needs that have been expressed.

Solid research data management is the foundation a) of the envisaged Open Science Cloud and b) cooperative and open research and thus of their comprehensibility and verifiability. The subject is equally relevant and current for researchers, funding bodies and senior posts of scientific institutions.

The presentation will illustrate the main findings of this nation-wide survey. For the first time, the status quo of a domestic data management is displayed in a representative manner crossing all disciplines. This can be used by individual institutions to derive organizational, structural or strategic measures for the development of infrastructures. On the other hand, it allows a co-ordinated National approach for identifying common areas of responsibility and for establishing central services.