Maastricht University's Open Science tree

its roots, stem, and how we make it bloom
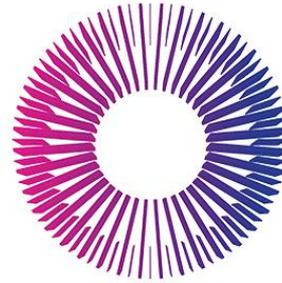

Dr. Mariëlle Prevoo, Maastricht University Library
Erasmus+ mobility exchange visit to University of Potsdam, 16 March 2026

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UM Open Science
Connecting open minds

Labels on tree:
- Recognition & Rewards
- FAIR Data Use
- FAIR Software
- Public Engagement
- Open Educational Resources
- Open Access
- Preregistration

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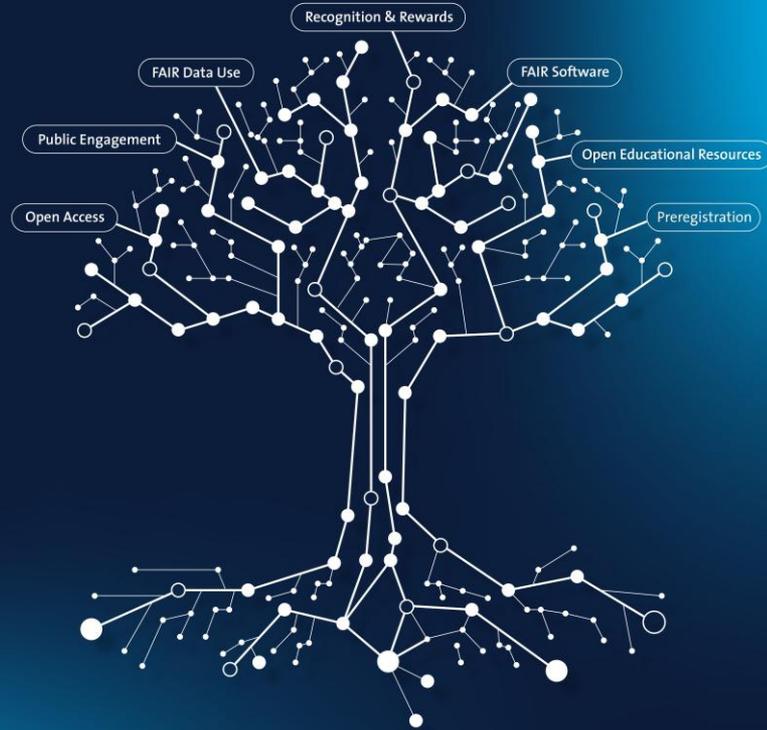
Why Open Science?

"Open Science is aiming to make scientific knowledge openly available, accessible and reusable for everyone, to increase scientific collaborations and sharing of information for the benefits of science and society."

"Open Science stands for the transition to a new, more open and participatory way of conducting, publishing and evaluating scholarly research. Central to this concept is the goal of increasing cooperation and transparency in all research stages."

Two core values: transparency & (academic & societal) impact

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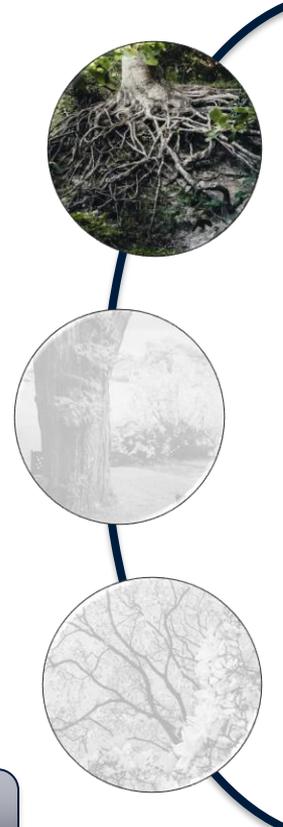
The wider Open Science landscape

- National: OS-NL, COS, SURF, UKB, LCRDM
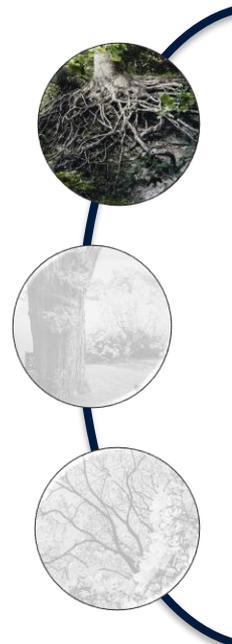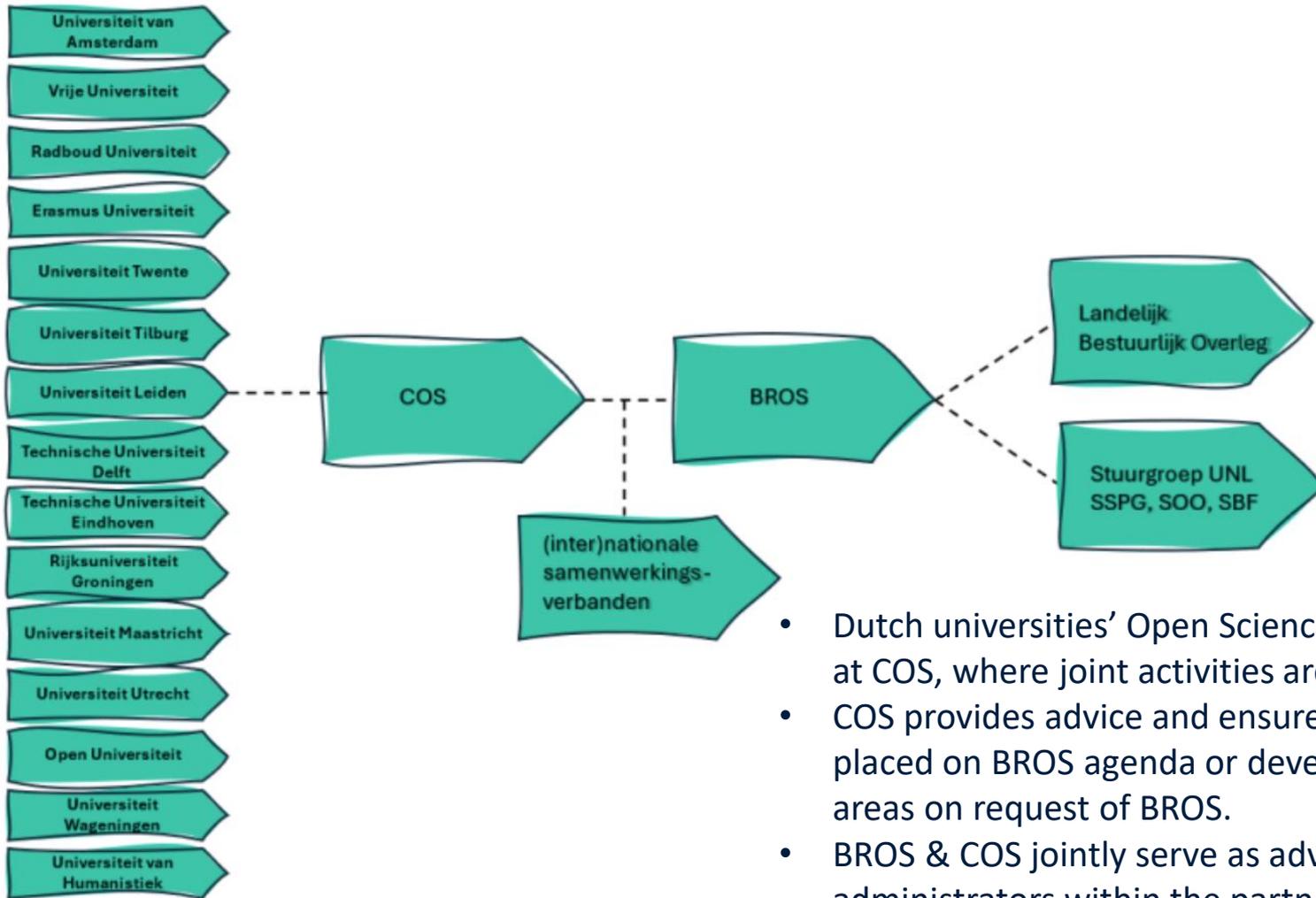- Network of Open Science Communities

Mission and vision

'Open Science NL is the national programme that aims to promote and accelerate the transition to open science in the Netherlands. It does so through dedicated funding, empowering communities and by supporting capacity building and infrastructure.' Thus read the mission and vision of Open Science NL.

Background

Open Science NL is tasked to establish open science as the norm in the Netherlands within ten years. The foundation for this goal was derived from the plans outlined in the NPOS 2030 Ambition Document and Rolling Agenda . Universities, universities of applied sciences, research funders, umbrella organisations, libraries, ICT infrastructure providers, and representatives of researchers and PhD candidates were involved in this National Programme Open Science (NPOS).

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Universiteit van Amsterdam
Vrije Universiteit
Radboud Universiteit
Erasmus Universiteit
Universiteit Twente
Universiteit Tilburg
Universiteit Leiden  ----  COS  ----  BROS  ----  Landelijk Bestuurlijk Overleg
Technische Universiteit Delft                              Stuurgroep UNL SSPG, SOO, SBF
Technische Universiteit Eindhoven
Rijksuniversiteit Groningen
Universiteit Maastricht                 (inter)nationale samenwerkings-verbanden
Universiteit Utrecht
Open Universiteit
Universiteit Wageningen
Universiteit van Humanistiek
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- Dutch universities' Open Science activities converge at COS, where joint activities are planned.
- COS provides advice and ensures specific items are placed on BROS agenda or develops specific focus areas on request of BROS.
- BROS & COS jointly serve as advisory body for administrators within the partnerships.

Open Science Communities

50 communities   **2300+ members**

🇩🇪 Open Science Communities in Germany
Open Science Community Hannover (OSCH)
Open Science Community Kiel (OSCK)

OSCA — Open Science Community Amsterdam
OSCU — Open Science Community Utrecht
OSCL — Open Science Community Leiden
OSCD — Open Science Community Delft
OSCR — Open Science Community Rotterdam
OSCT — Open Science Community Tilburg
OSCM — Open Science Community Maastricht
OSCG — Open Science Community Groningen
OSCW — Open Science Community Wageningen
OSCT — Open Science Community Twente
OSCN — Open Science Community Nijmegen
OSCE — Open Science Community Eindhoven
OSCP — Open Science Community Parkstad

INOSC

https://vimeo.com/510808878

History of Open Science @ UM

- First UM Open Science policy in 2019
- UM signed DORA in October 2019
- OSCM started in 2020
- Strategic program 2022-2026:

integrity are of paramount importance. Open Science is the norm, which entails stakeholder participation, FAIR data principles and data management, open-access publications and other research output, and more. Thanks to this first-class research

- Open Science policy 2022-2026 incorporates all phases of the research cycle

Open Science as the norm

The overall objective is to become a university where Open Science is the norm – as it is formulated in the Strategic Programme 2022-2026. In other words: *a university where research is shared as open as possible, as closed as necessary, while acknowledgin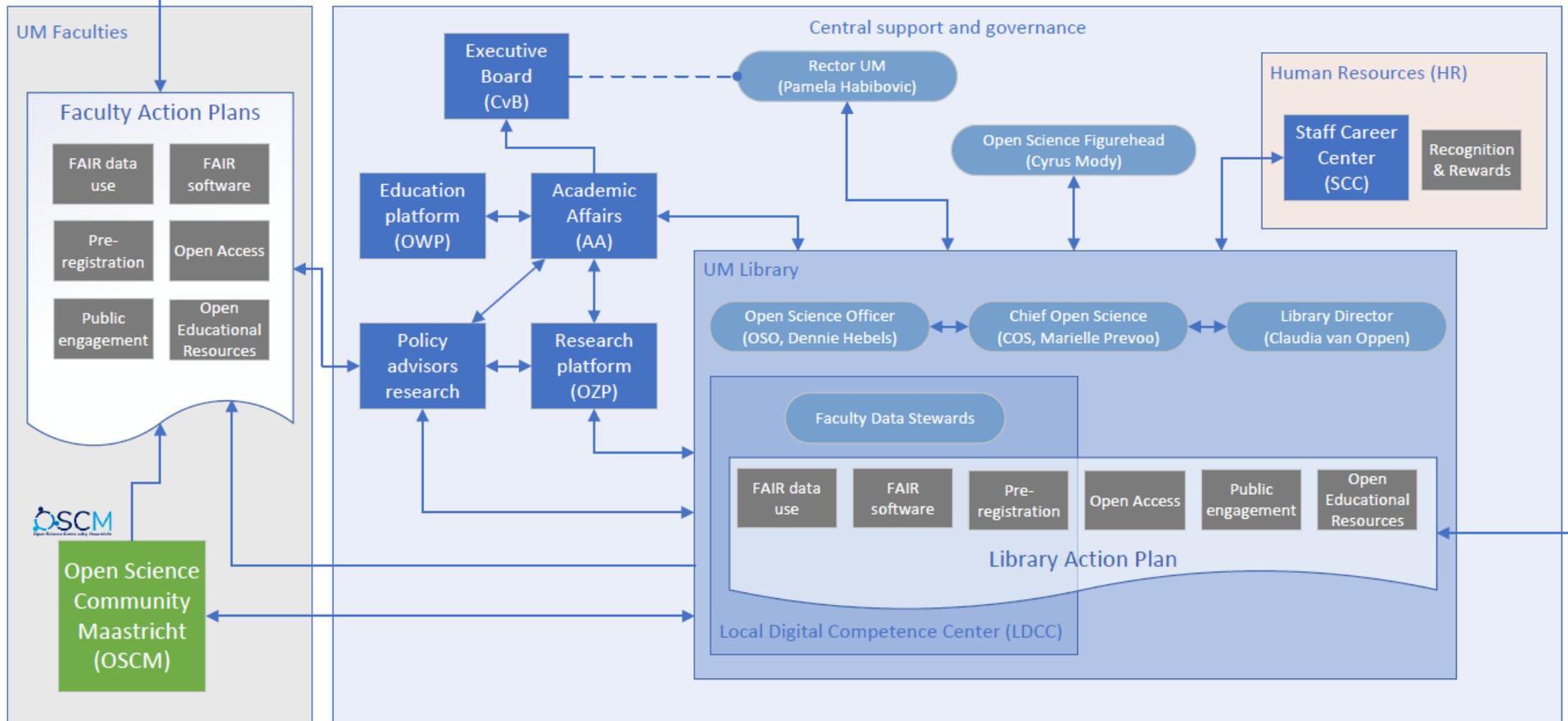g disciplinary differences in research practice.* This ultimately means that every UM academic is familiar with the principles of Open Science, and knows how to achieve the following concrete goals:

- publish research results Open Access or make them openly available;
- apply FAIR principles to research output such as data and software;
- relate to the public and address societal concerns in research;
- make educational materials available to others;
- and, perhaps most of all, know and experience that all such aspects are recognized and rewarded.
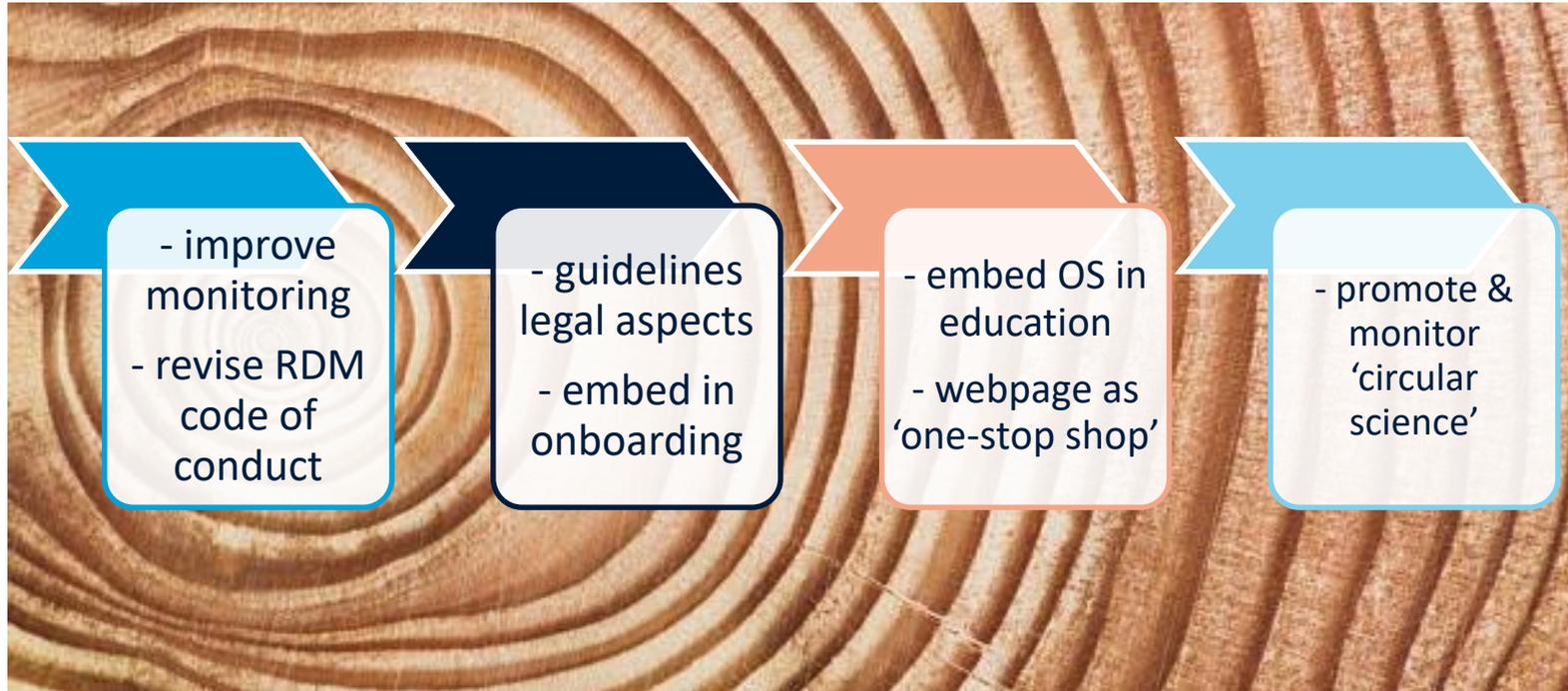
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Maastricht University Open Science Policy

UM Faculties

Faculty Action Plans

FAIR data use	FAIR software
Pre-registration	Open Access
Public engagement	Open Educational Resources

OSCM

Open Science Community Maastricht (OSCM)

Central support and governance

Executive Board (CvB)

Rector UM (Pamela Habibovic)

Open Science Figurehead (Cyrus Mody)

Human Resources (HR)

Staff Career Center (SCC)

Recognition & Rewards

Education platform (OWP)

Academic Affairs (AA)

Policy advisors research

Research platform (OZP)

UM Library

Open Science Officer (OSO, Dennie Hebels)

Chief Open Science (COS, Marielle Prevoo)

Library Director (Claudia van Oppen)

Faculty Data Stewards

FAIR data use	FAIR software	Pre-registration	Open Access	Public engagement	Open Educational Resources

Library Action Plan

Local Digital Competence Center (LDCC)

Open-Science-encompassing actions

- improve monitoring
- revise RDM code of conduct

- guidelines legal aspects
- embed in onboarding

- embed OS in education
- webpage as 'one-stop shop'

- promote & monitor 'circular science'

Online module

1. Introduction to Research Integrity & Ethics →

Interactive, multidisciplinary session

Sign up for the multidisciplinary session when the online module has been completed

Sign up →

Open Science

Online modules

1. Introduction to Open Science →

2. Introduction to Research Data Management →

3. Open Access Publishing →

Interactive, multidisciplinary session

Sign up for the multidisciplinary session when all three online modules have been completed

Sign up →

Science Communication

Circular science

Attention should also be paid to the usage of openly shared resources. In other words, if we enable and support UM academics to share their resources, we should also make them aware and knowledgeable about the availability and accessibility of resources of others and the conditions under which they can reuse these resources; also referred to as 'circular science'.
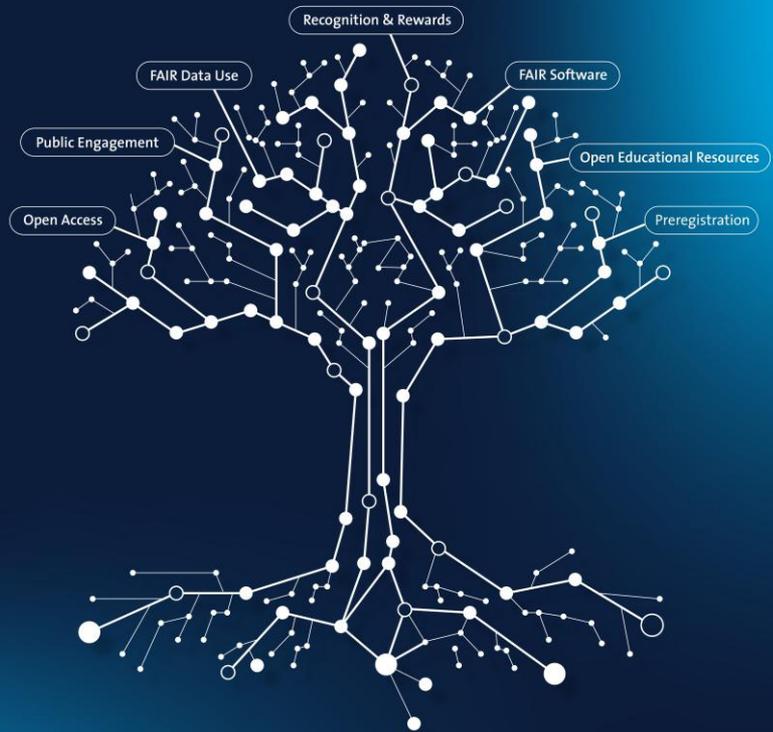
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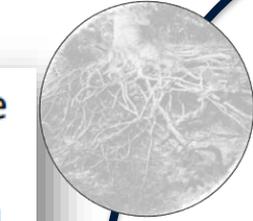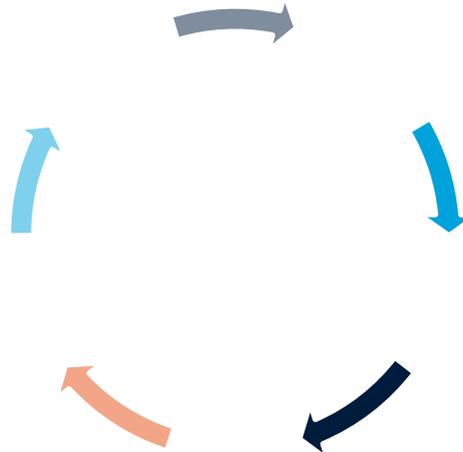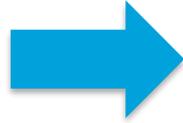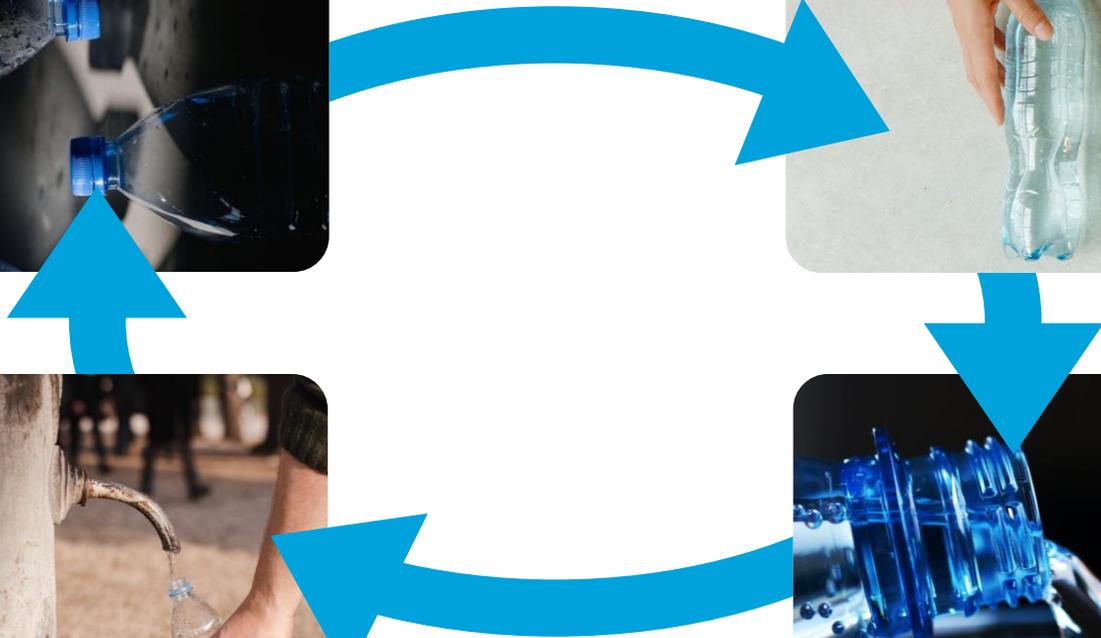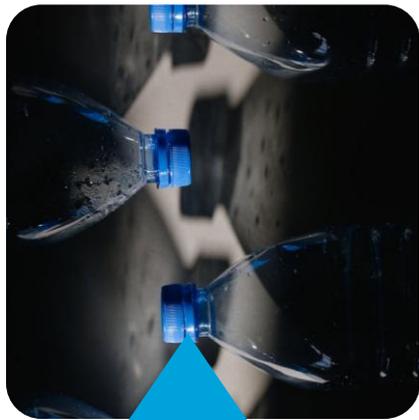
Challenges of a university-wide policy

- As open as possible, as closed as necessary

- 'Science' ≠ natural sciences or related; all fields/disciplines are targeted

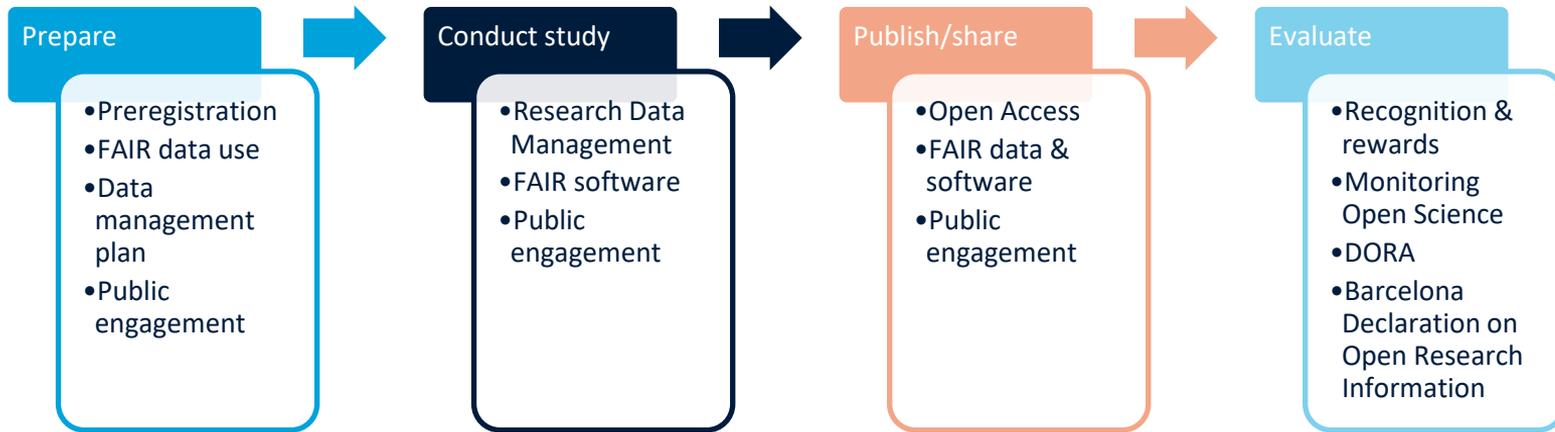- Acknowledging disciplinary differences in research practices → faculty action plans

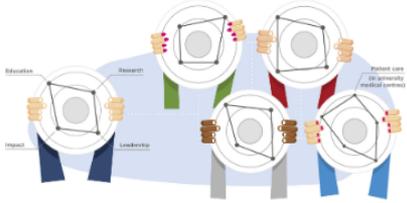UM **Open Science**
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Open Science throughout the research cycle

Prepare
- Preregistration
- FAIR data use
- Data management plan
- Public engagement

Conduct study
- Research Data Management
- FAIR software
- Public engagement

Publish/share
- Open Access
- FAIR data & software
- Public engagement

Evaluate
- Recognition & rewards
- Monitoring Open Science
- DORA
- Barcelona Declaration on Open Research Information

Recognition & rewards

Diversifying and vitalising career paths

Achieving balance between individuals and the collective

Stimulating open science

Focusing on quality

Stimulating academic leadership

Open Access

- [OA portal](#)
- Read & publish deals → [journal browser](#)
- Green OA promotion, incl. [Taverne amendment](#)
- [OA books fund](#)
- [Maastricht University Press](#)
- New national OA strategy under construction
- Working towards faculty-specific publishing strategies

Public engagement

- Exploring best practices, existing connections & needs for support
- First UM citizen science matchmaking event took place in December
- Regional Citizen Science Hub "De BRUG"
- More thinking in terms of reuse in this OS domain as well

FAIR data use

- [RDM portal](#)
- Faculty [data stewards](#) 1st point of contact
- Revised UM [RDM code of conduct](#)
- [Research Project Services platform](#)
- DataverseNL
- Local and [thematic Digital Competence Centers](#)
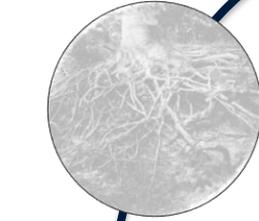
FAIR software

- FAIR data & FAIR software complementary
- Software stewards
- Align with Research Computing Support
- Software section added in RDM code of conduct
- Basic skills for data stewards
- GitLab/GitHub as tool for versioning

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Preregistration

- Increase awareness (e.g. [video OSCM](#))
- General information provision
- Basic skills for data stewards

What is preregistration?

Preregistration involves documenting your research plan, including hypotheses, methods, and intended analyses, *before* collecting data. This approach supports transparency, reduces research bias, and helps prevent questionable practices.

Open Educational Resources (OER)

- [OER portal](#)
- From OER to Open Science in education
- National funding programs in education domain (Npuls)
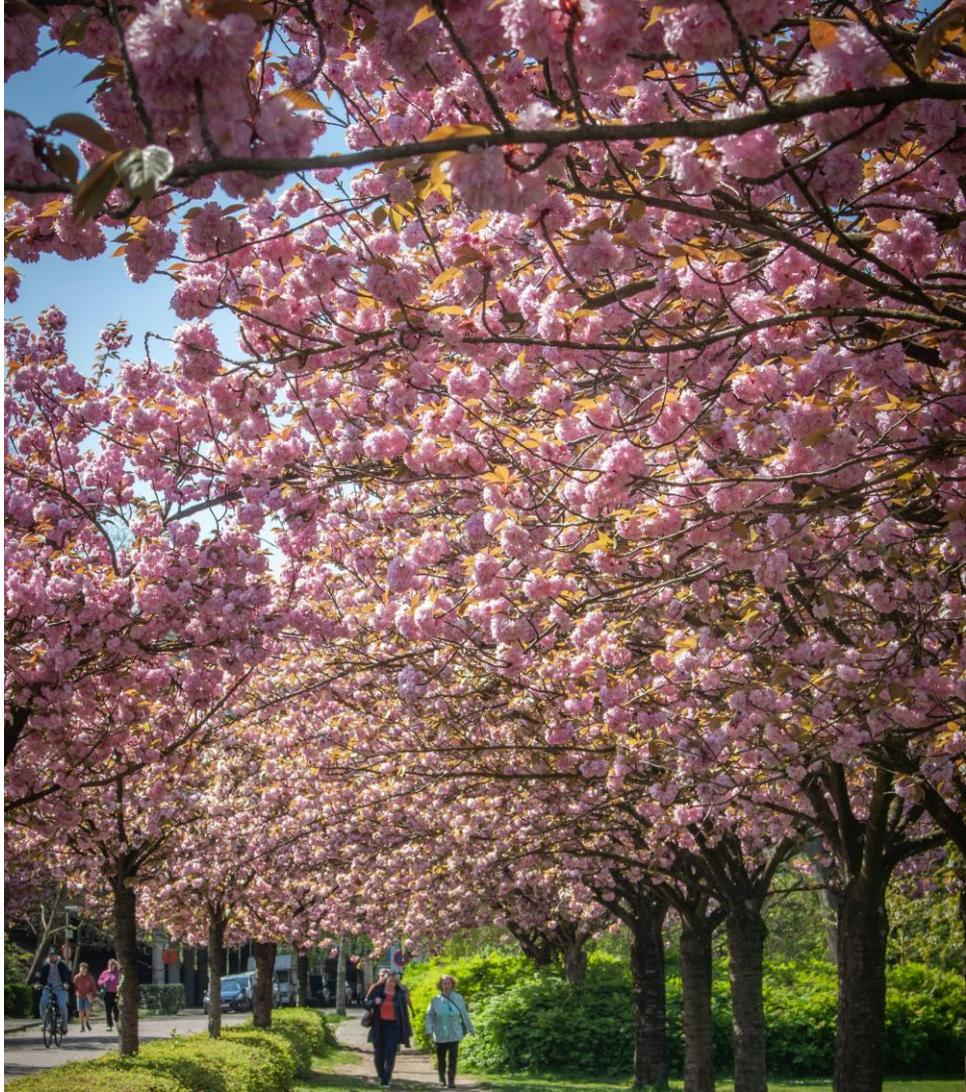 - → [OER discovery tool](#)

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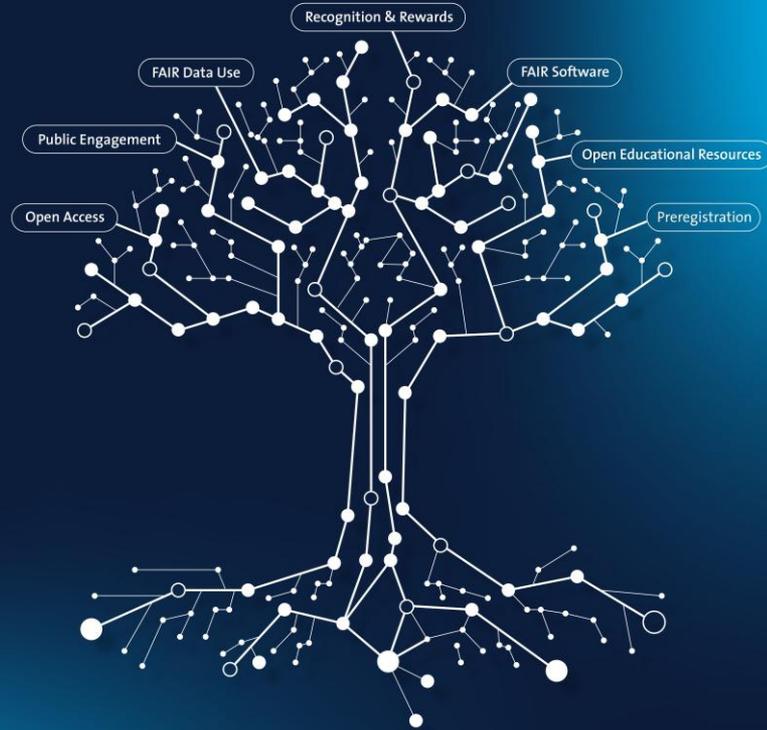
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Challenges for the future

- Supporting and enabling rather than demanding
- How open is as open as possible?
- Strike a balance between quantitative and qualitative monitoring
- Make Open Science truly circular

References

- UM Open Science policy https://www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/file/um-open-science-policy-update-2022-v13pdf
- UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000379949_eng
- Netherlands National Programme Open Science https://zenodo.org/records/7433767
- Open Science NL https://www.openscience.nl/en/mission-and-vision
- Open Science governance UNL https://www.universiteitenvannederland.nl/onderwerpen/onderzoek/open-science-governance
- INOSC https://osc-international.com/
- Position paper "Room for everyone's talent" https://recognitionrewards.nl/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/position-paper-room-for-everyones-talent.pdf

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