

## The First French GO FAIR Meeting For Future INs

The first information meeting for potential [GO FAIR Implementation Networks](#) (IN) in France was organized by the DGRI at the [Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation](#), (MESRI) on the 14 March. The meeting brought together more than 30 representatives from French research organizations including the [CNRS](#), [CEA](#), [INSERM](#), [INRA](#), [IRD](#), as well as representatives from the national research funding agency ([ANR](#)) and the Ministry. The main objectives of the day were :

- To present the GO FAIR project.
- To present the preliminary propositions of networks who have already manifested an interest in forming an IN.
- To open up discussions on GO FAIR and questions posed by researchers on how to [FAIRise](#) their data.

The [program](#) and the talks can be made available on request.



The day began with a status report by Bernard Mons who outlined the origins of the FAIR principles and the role of GO FAIR as an implementation driver open to all. GO FAIR is a bottom up approach that will build on existing data infrastructures and community practices. In parallel with its close working cooperation on the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC), GO FAIR has a broader international focus aiming to prepare the ground for the [Internet of FAIR Data and Services](#) (IFDS).

Barends' presentation focused mainly on the opportunities and challenges of data driven science. He gave examples of the problems and (often overlooked) costs related to storage for increasingly data intensive techniques, as well as the importance of training significant numbers<sup>[1]</sup> of "data stewards" to enable the smooth transition to [FAIR data practices](#).

The three pillars supporting the GO FAIR mission were outlined : GO CHANGE (Culture, Promotion), GO TRAIN (Training, Certification) and [GO BUILD](#) (infrastructure components, technical standards, best practices). The perspectives and trends included the obligation to introduce the FAIR principles for all publically funded research, and the growing emphasis on the integration of long-term data management plans in research project financing.

The overview of GO FAIR was followed by four flash presentations from French scientists and consortiums proposing the formation of an IN in their fields or specialties. Propositions were presented in the domains of **Nanofabrication** (Michel Labachellerie, CNRS), **Life** ( Isabelle Perseil, INSERM), **Plant Science** (Anne Françoise Adam-Blondon, INRA), and **Economics** (Johan Richer, CEPREMAP).

The openness of GO FAIR to networks in ANY domain was emphasized, and we strongly encourage groups working in fields not yet covered by an IN to consider creating their own IN as a motor to implement FAIR principles. Information on how to create an IN can be found [here](#).

The meeting concluded with an open and wide ranging discussion covering a range of topics. Subjects and points raised included :

- The rationale for prioritizing machine readable metadata over simple text (this will generate research efficiency gains and doesn't imply that the metadata should not also be human readable – as long as the GO FAIR [rules of engagement](#) are followed decisions are taken at the IN level).
- The roles envisaged for GO FAIR in training, certification, and publishing platforms operating under different licensing models.
- The need for technical support and training for researchers and the envisaged role of data stewards; Issues of data contextualization, including the persistence and plasticity of metadata.
- The strategic advantages of forming an IN.

We warmly thank all the participants at this engaging and productive meeting. We would particularly like to thank the groups who presented proposals for INs.

## Contacts

French groups interested in setting up an IN or getting involved in GO FAIR should contact Gavin Connor Fox at the GFISCO [Paris Office](#). Check the [GFISCO](#) site for up to date news and upcoming events!

## Program morning GO FAIR 14 March 2018

9:30 Presentation of GO FAIR status (Barend Mons)

10:15 Presentation of GO FAIR in France (Patrick Garda)

10:20 Flash presentations by potential future French INs :

**EURONanoLab** – Michel Labachellerie (CNRS)

**Life** - Isabelle Perseil (INSERM)

**Plant Science** -Anne Françoise Adam-Blondon (INRA)

**Economics** – Johan Richer (CEPREMAP)

11:00 General discussion

12:00 End of meeting

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[1] The Final report of the High Level Expert Group on the EOSC estimates that half a million core data scientists are needed to make the most of open research data in Europe.

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/openscience/pdf/realising\\_the\\_european\\_open\\_science\\_cloud\\_2016.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/openscience/pdf/realising_the_european_open_science_cloud_2016.pdf).