

The GO FAIR Approach: Building the EOSC Bottom-up – Based on Implementation Networks



GO FAIR is a Global and Open Initiative that Aims at Making Fragmented and Unlinked Data Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable

FAIR Principles

The FAIR principles form the basis of a trusted environment where researchers, innovators, companies, and citizens can publish, find, and re-use each other's data and tools for research, innovation, and educational purposes. They refer to data (or any digital object), metadata (information about that digital object), and infrastructure.

Findable

The first step in (re)using data is to find them. Metadata and data should be easy to find for both humans and computers. Machine-readable metadata are essential for automatic discovery of datasets and services, so this is a fundamental component of the FAIRification process.

Accessible

Once users find the required data, they need to know how these data can be accessed, possibly including authentication and authorisation.

Interoperable

The data usually need to be integrated with other data. In addition, the data need to interoperate with applications or workflows for analysis, storage, and processing.

Reusable

The ultimate goal of FAIR is to optimise the reuse of data. To achieve this, metadata and data should be well-described so that they can be replicated and/or combined in different settings.

The GO FAIR Implementation Approach

The GO FAIR initiative pursues a bottom-up international approach for the practical implementation of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) as part of a global Internet of FAIR Data and Services.

The initiative follows the recommendations of the Commission High Level Expert Group on the EOSC to "federate the gems and amplify good practice" and to "build on existing capacity and expertise where possible".

Thus, the core of the GO FAIR initiative is a federation of existing topical networks – so called "implementation networks" – that collectively commit to the FAIR principles in terms of standards, protocols, and best practices.

3 Pillars: GO CHANGE – GO TRAIN – GO BUILD

The pillars of GO FAIR are three interactive processes.

GO CHANGE: Socio-cultural change in the broader scientific system. As a part of this change research data – not just article publications – are recognised as a significant output of research and become a vehicle for reputation gain within academia.

GO TRAIN: Developing training curricula focused on FAIR Data Stewardship as well as standards for competencies in FAIR Data Stewardship.

GO BUILD: Designing and building the technical standards, best practices, and infrastructure components needed to create an Internet of FAIR Data and Services.

Implementation Networks (INs)

The GO FAIR initiative offers an open and inclusive ecosystem for anyone committed to defining and creating materials and tools as elements of the Internet of FAIR Data and Services.

The basic idea is that individuals, institutions, or organisations across disciplines and countries synchronize their efforts within GO FAIR as so-called "implementation networks" in order to avoid silo formation, undue competition, and fragmentation.

What do INs do?

- They clearly define plans and objectives to implement elements of the Internet of FAIR Data and Services
- They develop and share best practices and standards with the GO FAIR community
- They benefit from opportunities of knowledge exchange at GO FAIR events, from broad dissemination and visibility of their best practices and project outcomes, and, eventually, from a network that can be seamlessly integrated into the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC)

How to become an IN?

At any time, new implementation networks can be added or join existing networks by:

- (1) filling in the application form on the GO FAIR website
- (2) signing the GO FAIR Rules of Engagement and selecting a consortium coordinator
- (3) creating a manifesto outlining objectives, strategy and partners

