Manifesto of the GO FAIR Ambassadors Implementation Network

Introduction

The GO FAIR Ambassadors are early adopters of FAIR. The effective use of research data can be more rapidly advanced in scientific domains and in other geographical regions via a team of well-informed and trusted ambassadors of the GO FAIR initiative. Close contact with the pillars of GO BUILD, GO TRAIN and GO CHANGE will be key, as the activity in this network aims to contribute to greater understanding of and acceptance of FAIR in different places. This activity will also help create understanding of contextual influences on FAIR implementation in different places across the globe. The Ambassadors Implementation Network (AIN) will strengthen the involvement of researchers on FAIR in new countries and new sectors, including PhD students, masters students, bachelor students, diploma students and data stewards, as well as inclusion of seasoned researchers interested in exploring the relevance of FAIR in their specific context and in new fields. The IN will aid the uptake of FAIR.

As a network of self-trained GO FAIR Ambassadors, we will coordinate with each other and with the GO FAIR International Support and Coordination Office when presenting the FAIR Data movement and specifically the GO FAIR approach in our countries. Participating in this IN will help us, as ambassadors, to learn more about FAIR Data through dedicated training, participation in the GO TRAIN Pillar, the GO FAIR community, as well as exchanging experiences and thus educate each other. This network aims for membership composed of people from different countries, many outside Europe. As such, we can promote the understanding of FAIR globally by addressing governments, authorities of our own country, as well as many other stakeholders, while leveraging the role of international organisations active in the research data ecosystem, such as GO FAIR, CODATA, RDA and WDS.

The IN activity will involve the active inviting of new stakeholders from new countries and in new sectors to familiarise themselves with the FAIR Principles and GO FAIR approaches, and invite them into the AIN to further support the implementation of FAIR. Therefore, the AIN commits to the following guiding principles:

- Investigating the potential contribution of FAIR and researching the possibilities for the introduction of a FAIR-based way of working in the geographic and topical domain of the researcher;
- Investigation of FAIR relevance in new countries and in new sectors;
- Introducing a culture of FAIR Data Stewardship and the promotion of the FAIR principles, showing the importance of using FAIR data and how it helps to facilitate the use of scientific data in open science and services;
- Expansion of involvement in main areas of data stewardship, data science and interdisciplinary research and application of FAIR principles;
- Promotion of collaboration and exchange on FAIR implementations;
- Promotion and support of participation in other existing GO FAIR INs by scientists in our country and/or initiation of new INs where needed.
- Promotion of FAIR within government, regional and local leaderships and communities, international organisations and policy making and funding organizations.
Purpose of the Implementation Network:
The AIN will draw from training options, including the GO TRAIN pillar and contribute to GO BUILD and GO CHANGE. The overall goals of this IN are:
Improving the openness, FAIRness and effectiveness of the exchange of scientific data globally, across countries and disciplines; Ensure better FAIR-based research practices and contribute to the development of international science; Demonstrate global interest in FAIR-based research practices, data and services.

Overarching Principle of Operation
The AIN commits to comply with the Rules of Engagement of GO FAIR Implementation Networks.

Processes of the FAIR Ambassadors IN:
1. Prepare and maintain a living “Presentation suite” for introducing FAIR Data Principles which is aligned with the current status of the country/interests in using research data;
2. Investigation of FAIR implementation in different contexts and understanding of contextual variables for implementation;
3. Exchange of FAIR research practices and FAIR research outcomes among researchers;
4. Investigation of the needs of coordinated governance structures for FAIR-implementation;
5. Studying the application of FAIR-based services in research practices;
6. Facilitation of comparative research on implementation in different contexts.

Deliverables:
1. A living “Presentation suite” and presentations of FAIR in 20 countries, commitment to data stewardship training (GO TRAIN);
2. Research publications and theses of FAIR in 15 different countries (GO BUILD);
3. Publications resulting from the collaboration of researchers across the globe;
4. Documentation of experiences with FAIR-based approaches to governance;
5. Joint publication on FAIR based digital health data;
6. Publication of comparative research on implementation in different contexts and contributions to GO CHANGE;
7. Gaps analyses and coordinated commitments to standards for data in accordance to FAIR Data Principles.

The primary objectives:
1. Completion of a clearly defined plan as part of becoming a GO FAIR Implementation Network within 3 months;
2. Improvement of the visibility and discoverability of research data across 20 countries and various disciplines through promoting FAIR Data;
3. Increase of the reuse of FAIR data and therefore efficiency and effectiveness of research;
4. Engagement of more representatives from different countries and communities/alliances.

Membership list:
We consider this Manifesto to be one way by which the undersigned stakeholders can speak with one voice on a number of critical issues that are of generic importance to the objectives of FAIR, and on which we feel we have reached consensus.
Members:

Mirjam Van Reisen - The Netherlands
Aliya Aktau - Kazakhstan
Annastacia Mongoma - Kenya
Mariam Basajja – Uganda
Mingyue Huo - China
Annisa Hedlina Hendraputri – Indonesia
Clemens Gonesh – The Netherlands
Mouhamed Mpeza – Uganda - VC, Kampala International University
Patrick Kyamanywa – Uganda – DVC Kampala International University
Andrew Chindanya – Zimbabwe – DVC – Great Zimbabwe University
Munyaradzi Mawere - Zimbabwe – Great Zimbabwe University
Kudakwashe Chindoza – Great Zimbabwe University
Abraha Kinfe Gebreghzir – Mekelle University
Mia Stokmans – The Netherlands
Katy Wolstencroft – The Netherlands

Version Date: 29.10.2019