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Data Management Planning

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Definition of Research Data

• “That which is collected, observed, or created in a digital form, for purposes of analysing to produce original research results.”

• “Research data is defined as recorded factual material commonly retained by and accepted in the scientific community as necessary to validate research findings; although the majority of such data is created in digital format, all research data is included irrespective of the format in which it is created.”

• “Evidence which is used or created to generate new knowledge and interpretations. ‘Evidence’ may be intersubjective or subjective; physical or emotional; persistent or ephemeral; personal or public; explicit or tacit; and is consciously or unconsciously referenced by the researcher at some point during the course of their research.”
Why Manage Research Data?

• To keep it safe
• To stop you drowning in the irrelevant stuff
• In case you need the data later
• To avoid accusations of fraud or bad science
• To share data so others can learn from or re-use it
• To get credit for producing the data
• Because somebody else said to do so
http://www.dcc.ac.uk/resources/how-guides/cite-datasets#sthash.P39aa8dg.dpuf
A Data Management Plan (DMP) is a **brief** plan written at the start of the project to define:

- How data will be created? (if it is to be created)
- What methodology & standards will apply?
- Who may access it? (Ethical, Legal, Copyright compliance)
- How & where it will be stored (and backed up)?
- How it will be preserved/secured (and for how long)?
- How it will be shared? (if it is to be shared)
- Who is responsible, and what resources are needed?
Benefits of a DMP

- Provide clarity around nature of the data, the methodology for collecting the data, and the standards to be used for documenting the data.
- Help to foresee (and mitigate) staffing, training, and monetary requirements.
- Complies with funder requirements…

“Guidelines on Data Management in Horizon 2020”
Help from the DCC

- Keep it simple, short, and specific
- Make sure implementation is feasible
- Justify any resources or restrictions needed