eosc | FIDELIS

Launching the FIDELIS Network of repositories

Infoshare webinar, May 13th, 2025

Funded by
the European Union

Today's programme

1. Welcome: Jan Meijer, SIKT
2. History and introduction of FIDELIS: Ingrid Dillo, DANS
3. Benefits of the provisional FIDELIS Network membership:
   a. Marjan Grootveld, DANS
   b. Mari Kleemola, CESSDA/TAU-FSD
   c. Laurence Horton, DCC
4. Q&A: attendants and Jan Meijer
5. Wrap up & next steps: Jan Meijer

Workshop Jan 2022:

FAIRsFAIR, EOSC Nordic, SSHOC to sustain project efforts for repository support

Broad group of stakeholders attended (90)

Workshop outcomes

Menti at workshop: 70% positive about a Network, rest ‘unsure’

Workshop poll: *“In your opinion, what should be possible goals of such a network?”*

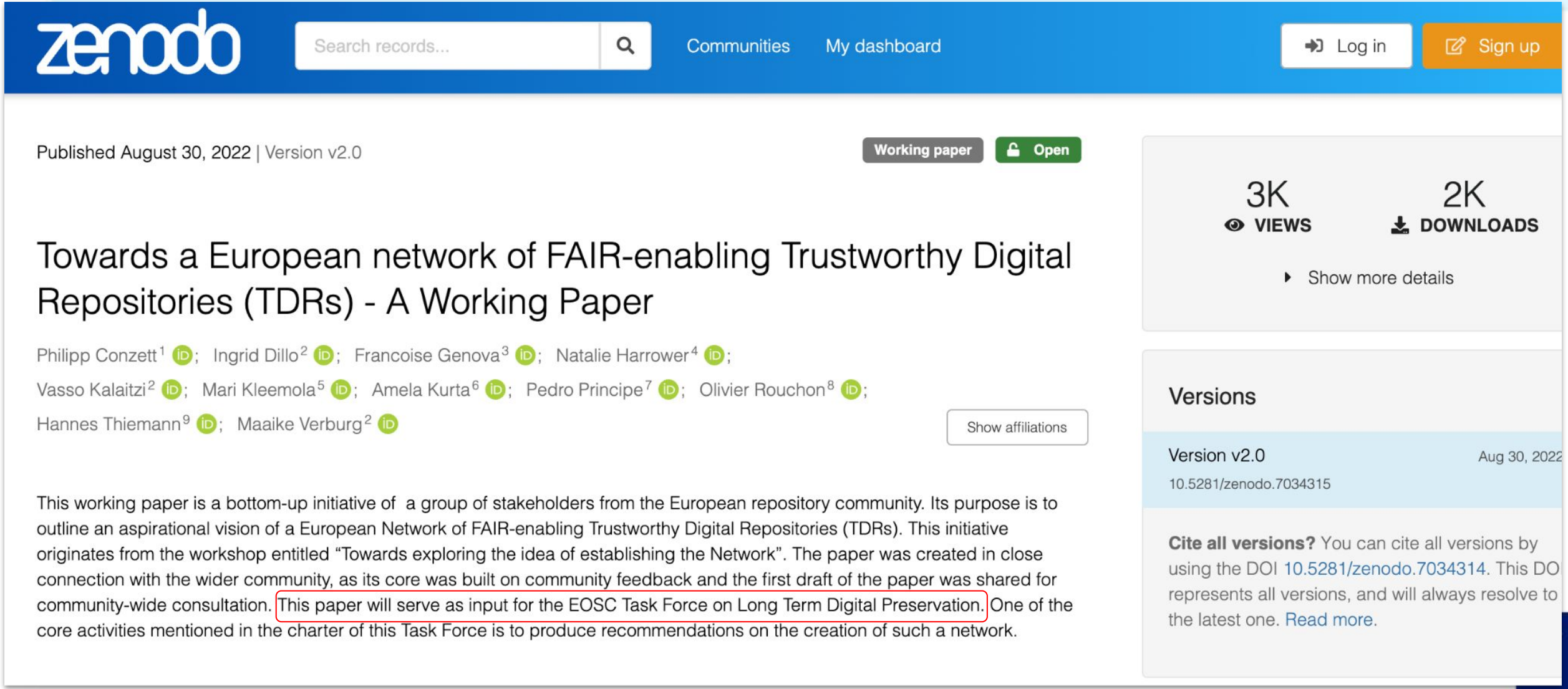
Working paper

- created with input from the European repository community;
- a vision of how a European network of FAIR-enabling TDRs could be based on the community's needs and its most important functions;
- outlining the community challenges, network functions and next steps;

Author team (*alphabetical order*):

Philipp Conzett | The Arctic University of Norway (UiT)
Ingrid Dillo | Data Archiving and Networked Services (DANS)
Francoise Genova | Strasbourg astronomical Data Center (CDS)
Natalie Harrower | Digital Repository of Ireland (DRI)
Vasso Kalaitzi | Data Archiving and Networked Services (DANS)
Mari Kleemola | Finnish Social Science Data Archive (FSD)
Amela Kurta | Data Archive for Social Sciences in Bosnia and Herzegovina (DASS-BIH)
Pedro Principe | University of Minho (UMinho)
Olivier Rouchon | National Computing Center for Higher Education (CINES)
Hannes Thiemann | World Data Centre for Climate (WDCC)
Maaike Verburg | Data Archiving and Networked Services (DANS)

Working paper



https://zenodo.org/records/7034315

From paper to project

working paper endorsed by the EOSC Task Force on Long Term Digital Preservation

idea of a European TDR network becomes part of an INFRAEOSC call

funding of the FIDELIS-project as a response to that call

FIDELIS core characteristics

Budget:	5 M euro (lump sum funding)
Duration:	36 months, starting January 2025
Instrument:	Coordination and Support action (CSA)
Coordinator:	CSC, Finland
Sister project:	EOSC-EDEN

CSC, DANS, CESSDA, TAU-FSD, UESSEX/UKDS, GESIS, TRUST-IT, SIKT, EMBL, UEDIN (DCC), INRAE, UiT, UBelgrade, CSIC, ESRF, UGDANSK, DKRZ, UBREMEN, CLARIN, UKARLOVA, UPADOVA, SIB, French Ministry of Research

Project website

eosc | FIDELIS

https://eden-fidelis.eu/

Project goal

The FIDELIS project aims to further develop and implement the vision set by the community in this paper and establish, by the end of a three-year project,

a healthy, vibrant and self-sustaining network of TDRs that will foster a supportive open science environment and guarantee FAIR data sharing also in the future

Project goals

01

Set up, develop, and operate a European network of trustworthy repositories that will support the development and growth of TDRs within the EOSC ecosystem

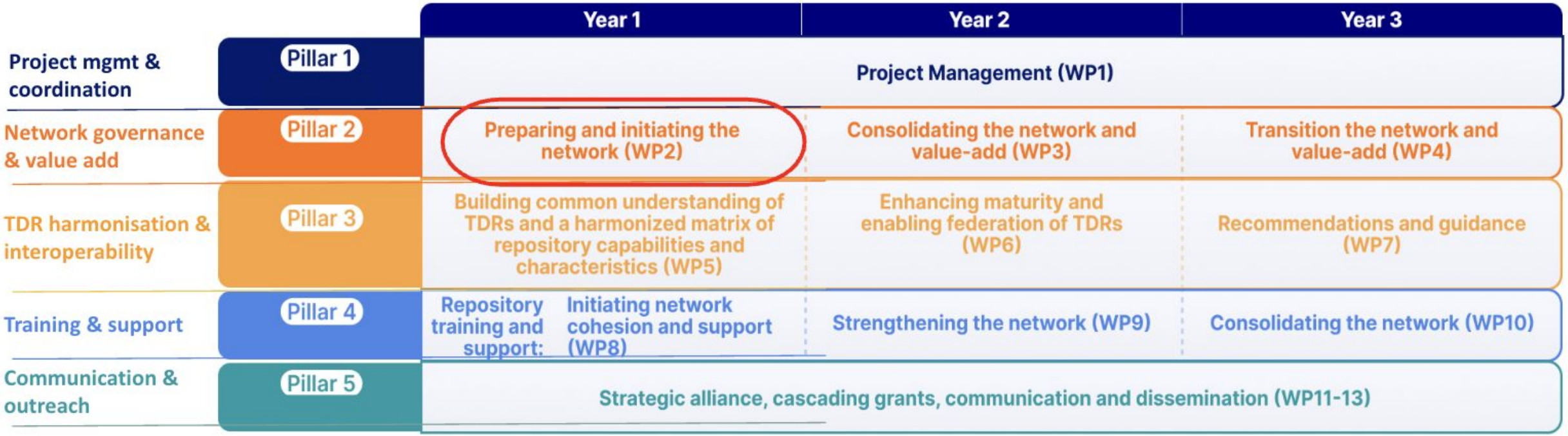
02

Foster harmonisation and interoperability across repositories to enable an EOSC federation of TDRs

03

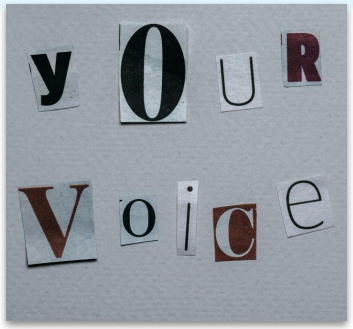
Strengthen the upskilling of repositories and expansion of the Network through an active training and support programme

Project pillar structure



Serving the repository community

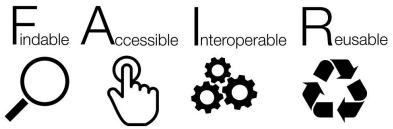
Benefits of the Network membership 1/3



1. The Network strengthens your message, position, expertise and collaboration options:
   - “Common voice”: stakeholder advocacy and engagement
   - Networking and facilitation of knowledge exchange
   - Coordination and development of repositories

2. You are invited to co-create the Network during the stage of *provisional* membership (i.e. until 2027):
   - The Network governance, including possibly different tiers of membership
   - A sustainable business model, looking at value-add and resourcing to sustain the Network after the project
   - Discuss how the Network aligns and collaborates with other organisations

3. It is easy:
   - A modest shared foundation for *provisional* members.
   - FIDELIS will provide the secretariat.
   - Near the end of 2026 you have the option to evolve your membership.

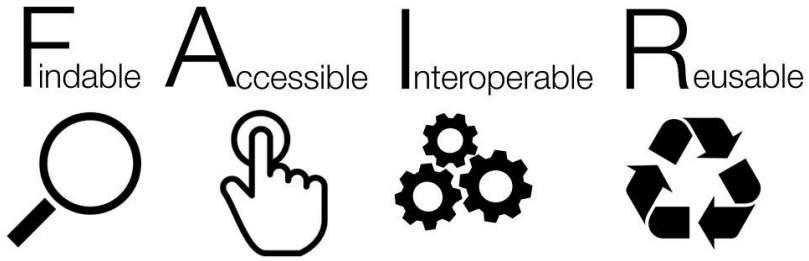


eosc | FIDELIS

https://www.pexels.com/photo/use-your-voice-inscription-on-gray-background-6185245/
https://www.pexels.com/photo/macro-photography-of-argiope-spider-276298/

FAIR data live in trustworthy repositories

Guidance for Repositories
To be transparent about specific repository services and data holdings that are verifiable by publicly accessible evidence.
To be responsible for ensuring the authenticity and integrity of data holdings and for the reliability and persistence of its service.
To ensure that the data management norms and expectations of target user communities are met.
To sustain services and preserve data holdings for the long-term.
To provide infrastructure and capabilities to support secure, persistent, and reliable services.

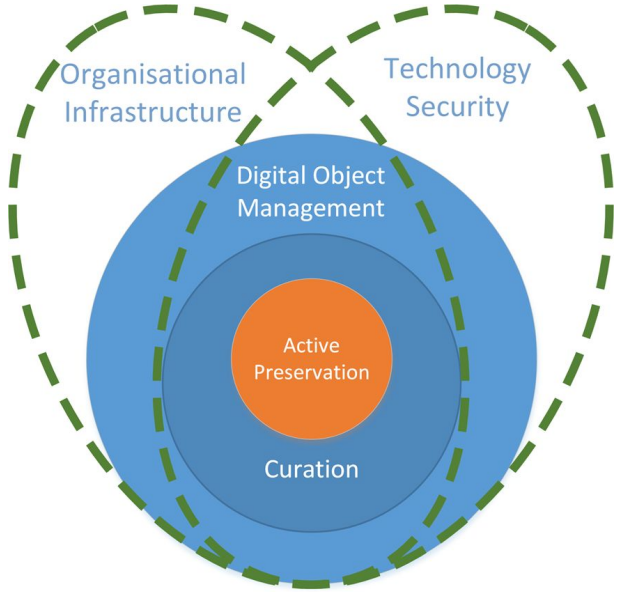


You have 4 months after registration as a member to arrange for the TRUST principles endorsement.

https://www.rd-alliance.org/value_rda/rda-and-trust-principles/

Benefits of Network membership, 2/3

- The Network brings together views on what makes a repository trustworthy across disciplines like life sciences, environmental sciences, agrifood, social sciences, the humanities,...
- The project is developing the FIDELIS Transparent Trustworthy Repository Attributes Matrix (TTRAM)
  - Based on existing standards, criteria and frameworks
  - Uses 29 activities & functions that are relatively constant across all repositories
  - Identifies what information a repository should make transparent
  - Can be use to improve and align repository practices
- Trust is context dependent rather than binary and will take time to explore, including with future network members



Forthcoming:
FIDELIS Matrix virtual workshop June 17th at 12 CEST

➢ Common understanding of key concepts like trust, repository and preservation in the EOSC context
➢ Alignment and cooperation across EOSC (and beyond)

Benefits of Network membership, 3/3

TRUST: User focus so that the data management norms and expectations of user community are served.

Repository training and support

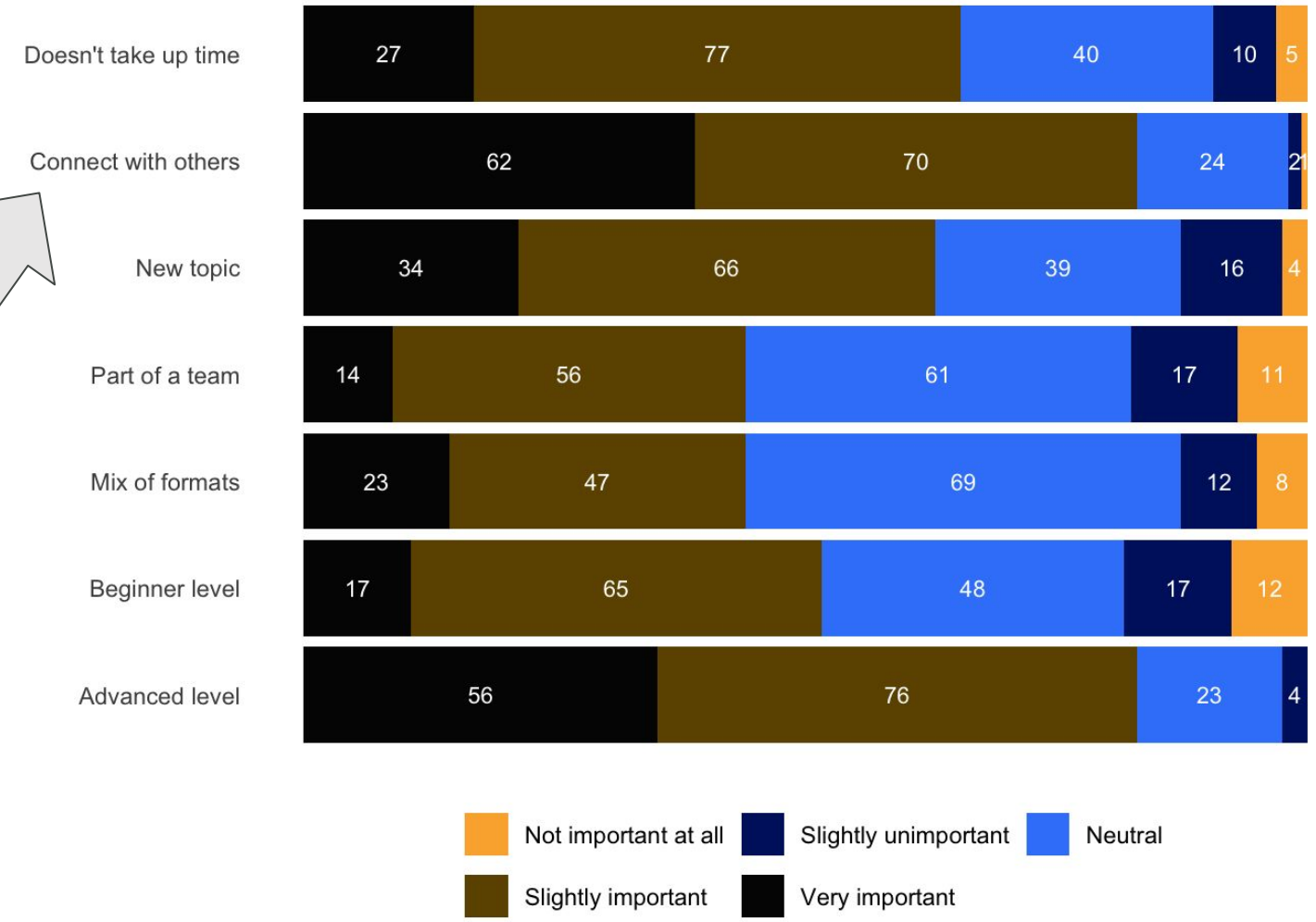
- To promote mutual learning and peer-to-peer support
- Establish common programmes for training
- Improve trust in research by helping increase FAIRness and transparency

Benefits of Network membership, 3/3

Data from the repository landscape survey indicates people value connection and support.

Q: The ability to connect with, learn from, and network with fellow participants, organisers, (guest) speakers, and other experts.

- Very important, 39%
- Slightly important, 44%



Repository Training and Support (Pillar 4)

Support routes:

1. **Cascading grants** - Open calls for financial support and guidance to implement and adopt good practices, tools, and services for increasing trustworthiness
2. **Training opportunities** - Continuous programme with two strands
    2.1. Technical topics for repository developers
    2.2 Topics related to repository governance and management
3. **Mentoring programme** - Bridging gaps between more and less advanced repositories. Peer-to-peer hands-on support to help align with TTRAM standards and requirements

A big thank you to everyone who responded to the FIDELIS survey!

What do you see as the most important benefit(s) this network should provide to you or your organisation?

Taken from the FIDELIS survey (March-April), which aims to better understand the needs of repositories.

Topics covered: digital object management, organisational infrastructure, technology & security, legal challenges, needs for training and support, expectations of the Network

159 responses, full analysis report in June

Next steps

Landscape survey

- Release analysis of landscape survey

Training and support opportunities:

- Working on what the landscaping survey tells us about appropriate and effective support
- Researching and reviewing other structured training and support activity programmes
- Defining and launching training and support methods

Photo by Pixabay: https://www.pexels.com/photo/questions-answers-signage-208494/

Thank you!

To register as a provisional member of the FIDELIS Network: https://eden-fidelis.eu/form/join-the-fidelis-network

In addition, send an email to info@eden-fidelis.eu.

Include “Endorsement of the TRUST principles - FIDELIS” in the email subject, indicating the full organisation name and the URL in the text and attach the organisation’s logo.

There is a nice gift for the first 30 repositories...

https://www.pexels.com/photo/wooden-welcome-signage-4473400/

eosc | FIDELIS

Thank you

Cordis webpage

/company/fidelis-eosc/

@fidelis-eosc