

Support for Draft Principles

Science Europe Response to Global Consultation on the UNESCO Draft Principles of Open Science Monitoring

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Science Europe welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the Global Consultation on the UNESCO Draft Principles of Open Science Monitoring. As the collective voice of Europe's public research funding and performing organisations, we are committed to promoting open science as an [integral component](#) of a well-functioning research system, and as a [key contributor](#) to positive research cultures.

We are currently undertaking a comprehensive study of the roles played by research funding and performing organisations in advancing open science, including through their monitoring practices. Recent [survey results](#) indicate that a significant majority of our member organisations either have open science monitoring mechanisms in place, or plan to develop them in the future.

As open science policies and practices become more widespread and ambitious in their scope, it becomes essential to expand monitoring mechanisms in different areas and practices in the scholarly and research environment (publishing, data and infrastructure, educational resources, evaluation methods, and more). Based on our survey findings, we highlight three ways forward for enhancing open science monitoring and support their inclusion in the Draft Principles.

Promoting comparability across levels

Monitoring mechanisms should enable comparability at various levels. Our survey results show that monitoring by funding bodies and research performing organisations is mostly conducted at organisational and national levels, often for internal use, and with limited emphasis on international comparisons.

Science Europe supports the Draft Principles' recommendation that "open science monitoring relies on open, transparent and reproducible methodologies that follow shared and agreed-upon principles" and supports the associated principle on comparability.

Include both established and emerging elements of open science

Open science monitoring should extend beyond established elements, such as [open access to research outputs](#), to also encompass emerging areas like open evaluation and open research methods. Our survey results show that while open access to research publications and FAIR

(Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) data are widely tracked, other emerging elements are monitored less frequently.

Science Europe agrees that the Draft Principles provide a foundation for future development and supports the idea that they be supplemented by technical specifications for each selected family of indicators. The principles on inclusivity and maturity also play a vital role here.

Making research information openly available

Research information produced by funding bodies and research performing organisations should be openly accessible, in line with the [Barcelona Declaration on Open Research Information](#). Our survey results show that while many members share some research information openly, comprehensive openness across all information is less common.

Science Europe supports the principles of transparency and reproducibility and encourages further efforts to make research information gathered through monitoring practices openly available.

Conclusion

Science Europe is encouraged by UNESCO's Draft Principles, which align well with the practices and goals of our member organisations. We look forward to continued collaboration to support sustainable, responsible, and inclusive open science monitoring that strengthens the global research community.