



YOUR PATHWAY TO OPEN RESEARCH AND GLOBAL IMPACT

Summary

DataCite is a leading global non-profit membership organization that enables the creation and management of Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) for over 30 types of research outputs—from samples and images to data and preprints. By joining DataCite, your organization becomes part of a community dedicated to ensuring research outputs are openly available, reusable, and connected, advancing knowledge across disciplines. Members govern DataCite and use our services to register DOIs and metadata for research outputs and resources.

By providing reliable Open Research Infrastructure that is community owned and sustained to register DOIs and metadata, DataCite ensures that research outputs are **FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable)** and open.

As a member, you can

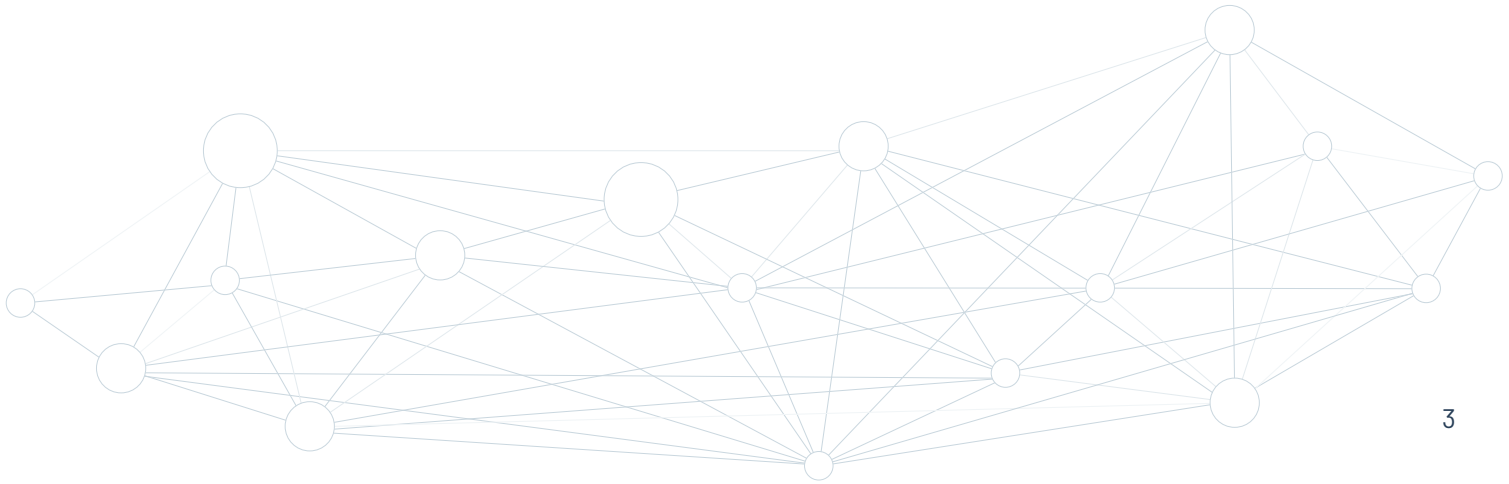
- **Streamline Tracking:** Assigning DataCite DOIs to research outputs and resources simplifies the process of monitoring and managing research activities.
- **Maximize Discoverability:** DataCite DOIs enhance research visibility and accessibility, integrating outputs into the global research ecosystem and ensuring they are Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable (FAIR).
- **Enhance Citation:** DOIs make research outputs and resources easily citable, increasing their visibility and recognition.
- **Monitor Impact:** Connected metadata enables tracking of research outputs and resources, providing valuable insights into their influence.
- **Simple Implementation:** Using interfaces through DataCite Fabrica, custom REST API integrations and out-of-the-box service provider integrations to suit diverse needs.

Benefits of joining DataCite include maximizing the impact of your research outputs, improving efficiencies, and contributing to the wider PID and Open Science community.

Our Team provides tailored support through a [Support Desk](#), a [Support Site](#), and training programs for DataCite Members and Consortium Organizations.

To find out more please email info@datacite.org, visit our [website](#), or follow us on [Mastodon](#), [X](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#).

**Become part
of a community dedicated
to ensuring research
outputs are openly available,
reusable, and connected.**



About DataCite

Who we are

Founded in 2009 as a non-profit membership organization, we are a global community that shares a common interest: to ensure that research outputs and resources are openly available and connected so that their reuse can advance knowledge across and between disciplines, now and in the future. Organizations join DataCite as members to assign persistent identifiers (PIDs)—specifically, Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs)—to their research outputs and resources, enabling them to become discoverable, citable, and reusable.

CONNECTING RESEARCH, ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE

DataCite's mission is to be a world-leading provider of PID services to help make research outputs and resources findable, citable, connected, and reused globally.

DATAcite IS MISSION-DRIVEN AND VALUE-LED



RELIABILITY

We exist to reliably support our community and ensure our infrastructure is sustainable.



TRANSPARENCY

We make transparent decisions and engage openly with the community in all that we do.



TRUST

We seek to be a trusted partner for our members and other community stakeholders by delivering services that uphold community principles.



INCLUSIVITY

We support a global community and embrace diverse perspectives.

What we do

As a community, we make research more effective with metadata that connects research outputs and resources—from samples and images to data and preprints. Following the Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure, our Open Research Infrastructure enables the creation and management of PIDs, integrates services to improve research workflows, and facilitates the discovery and reuse of research outputs and resources.

How we work

The strength of DataCite is based on its active community consisting of multiple stakeholders: we are community owned, driven, and sustained.



DataCite is committed to developing our strategy, products, and services through continuous feedback from these stakeholder communities, and our structure enables us to be proactive, agile, and responsive to community needs. We advocate the importance of all outputs and entities in the research landscape, and we engage in outreach that reflects the interests of our diverse community.

	Why?	What?	How?
PROMOTE REUSE	Promote reuse with flexible, state-of-the art tools and technology	• Content negotiation and citation formatter • ORCID auto updates and claiming	Enable reuse through good citation practices and embedding DOIs in scholarly infrastructure workflows
ENABLE DISCOVERY	Enable discovery of research outputs and resources and reporting with advanced tools and analytics	• Metrics and relational metadata files • Search and analytics dashboards • Data Citation Corpus	Make outputs resolvable and discoverable through metadata including connections between outputs/resources and other entities
INTEGRATE WORKFLOWS	Enhance research workflows and services through integration	• APIs to automate system integration • Usage tracker	Automate DOI registration and/or retrieve relevant metadata through system integration
CREATE DOIS	Make research outputs and resources discoverable and citable for the long term	• DOI and metadata management services • Link checker	Register DOIs and provide rich metadata in standardized formats



Why we do it

DataCite's goal is to advance research by improving the availability, discoverability, and reusability of research outputs and resources by providing services to register PIDs and metadata. We are dedicated to reaching this goal by adhering to the **FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) Principles**, the **CARE (Collective Benefit, Authority to Control, Responsibility, and Ethics) Principles**, as well as the principles of Open Science. Our efforts as an Open Research Infrastructure support the advancement of Open Science and the acceleration of knowledge dissemination, benefiting both the research community and society at large. The vital role of PIDs in creating a FAIR and Open Research Ecosystem is acknowledged in international Open Science and Research Data Management policies, and has led to the development of national PID strategies.

„The critical components of open science infrastructures allow unambiguous identification of scientific items by unique persistent identifiers.“

UNESCO 2022, <https://doi.org/10.54677/QZPQ1991>

DataCite Services

What is a DOI?

A **DOI** is a type of PID that uniquely identifies research content. DOIs provide a persistent way of identifying and accessing a particular resource. A DOI resolves to a URL for a repository landing page or other digital location, which is embedded in the DOI record alongside accompanying metadata. While the URL and metadata can change, the DOI remains fixed, offering a stable method for identification and retrieval across the digital landscape.

Each component of the DOI—resolver service, prefix, and suffix—is critical in forming a unique identifier that remains persistent over time. This structure is separated by a forward slash between the prefix and the suffix, forming a DOI name such as '10.1234/exampledoi'.

EXAMPLE OF A DOI

https://doi.org/10.15138/33bv-s284



DOIs are

- A well-established system that is widely used by the research community for persistent, globally unique, and actionable identification of research outputs and resources.
- Recognized as an ISO standard (**ISO 26324:2022**)
- Centrally managed and governed by the **DOI Foundation**.

DataCite DOIs

DataCite DOIs provide a robust and versatile solution for identifying a wide variety of your research outputs and resources, enhancing their discoverability and visibility.

DataCite DOIs are suitable for a wide range of research outputs and resources

Published Outputs

Book, Book Chapter, Collection, Conference Paper, Conference Proceeding, Data Paper, Dataset, Dissertation, Event, Journal, Journal Article, Preprint, Report, Text

Multimedia

Audiovisual, Image, Interactive Resource, Sound

Processes & Workflows

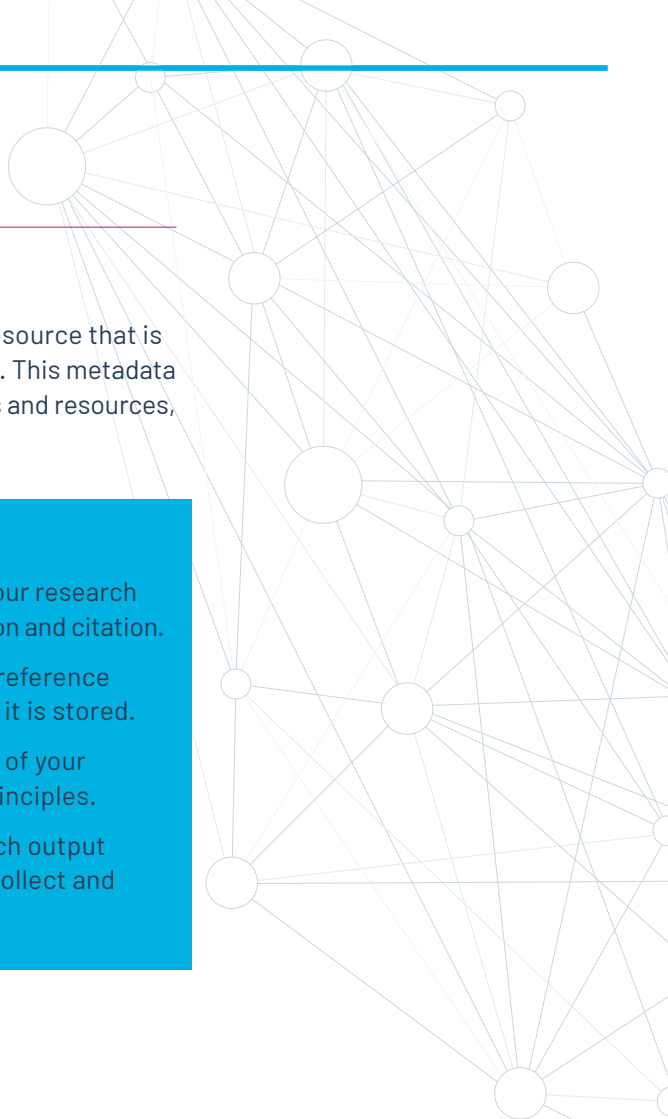
Award, Model, Output Management Plan, Peer Review, Project, Standard, Study Registration, Workflow

Code

Computational Notebook, Service, Software

Physical Resources

Physical Object, Instrument



What is Metadata?

Metadata is descriptive information about your research output or resource that is registered alongside the DOI uniquely identifying the research content. This metadata enhances the discoverability and accessibility of your research outputs and resources, ensuring they can be consistently cited and linked.

KEY BENEFITS OF DOI METADATA INCLUDE:

- **Resource Information:** Provides a comprehensive description of your research output for which a DOI is registered enabling its accurate identification and citation.
- **Persistent Accessibility:** Ensures that users can reliably find and reference your research output at a persistent location, regardless of where it is stored.
- **Connectedness and FAIRness:** Facilitates the integration and use of your research output across various platforms, adhering to the FAIR Principles.
- **Enhanced Discovery:** Increases the discoverability of your research output through metadata aggregators, data portals, and indexes, which collect and disseminate metadata.

DataCite Metadata Schema

The DataCite Metadata Schema, tailored for DataCite DOIs, ensures that your research output or resource is described effectively and consistently across all platforms, fostering better discoverability and usability. It includes core metadata properties essential to accurately identifying the research output for accreditation and retrieval purposes. In particular, the schema contains six Mandatory properties that all support citation of your research output: Creator, Title, Publisher, Publication Year, Resource Type, and Identifier. It also has sets of Recommended and Optional properties that may be used to further describe and distinguish the research object.

The evolution of the DataCite Metadata Schema is a dynamic and community-driven process, primarily driven by contributions from the global research community.

As a DataCite Member, you are entrusted with the responsibility of regularly updating and managing your DOIs and metadata. To support this, DataCite offers you a suite of DOI registration services that maximize the accessibility, visibility, and impact of your research outputs and resources on a global scale.

KEY BENEFITS OF THE DATACITE METADATA SCHEMA INCLUDE:

- **Standardization:**
Ensures a consistent approach to metadata across all your DataCite DOIs, promoting interoperability and ease of searching across different platforms.
- **Versatility:**
Accommodates over 30 types of research outputs and resources.
- **Documentation and Support:**
Each metadata property within the schema is accompanied by instructions and examples.
- **Community-driven:**
The schema evolves in response to community feedback, with development overseen by a working group composed of DataCite community members.



DATA CITE REGISTERED SERVICE PROVIDERS

DataCite Registered Service Providers are a group of software providers that have an integration with DataCite services. They commit to meet requirements and follow best practices by becoming part of the **DataCite Registered Service Providers Program**.

As a DataCite Member, if you are already using, or plan to use, software with a DataCite integration, you will be able to automate your DOI registration process.

Creating DOIs

As a DataCite Direct Member, Consortium Lead, or Consortium Organization, you will be assigned an account to take advantage of the following DataCite services to create and manage DOIs and metadata for all of your research outputs and resources.

DATA CITE REST APPLICATION PROGRAMMING INTERFACE (API)

Organizations generally integrate with the **DataCite REST API** to provide their own automated in-house DOI registration services. This is the best solution for automating the creation of larger numbers of DOIs. Our REST API also includes a number of other features for metadata retrieval.

DATA CITE FABRICA

DataCite Fabrica is a user-friendly web interface designed to offer a simple solution for creating and managing DOIs and metadata. This service includes a web form, which makes it quick and easy to create DOIs with rich metadata. Fabrica also includes a file upload option, where you can upload a metadata file in one of the supported metadata formats. Members who register smaller numbers of DOIs typically use Fabrica.

Connecting Research

PID metadata has the capacity to connect research outputs and resources to make them truly powerful. DataCite supports you with establishing and benefiting from these connections in several ways.

PID GRAPH AND DATACITE COMMONS

The **PID Graph** is a network of PID systems that link PIDs together via relationships in their metadata to enable the discovery of the connections among them. The PID Graph is the basis for a wide range of PID services. By joining DataCite and registering DataCite DOIs, you ensure that your research outputs and resources automatically become part of the PID Graph and are connected to other works, people, and organizations.

DataCite facilitates the visibility of research impact within **DataCite Commons**—a discovery system where you can explore the PID Graph, and search, filter, and extract all the details from our collection of millions of records. Providing analytics dashboards, DataCite Commons empowers

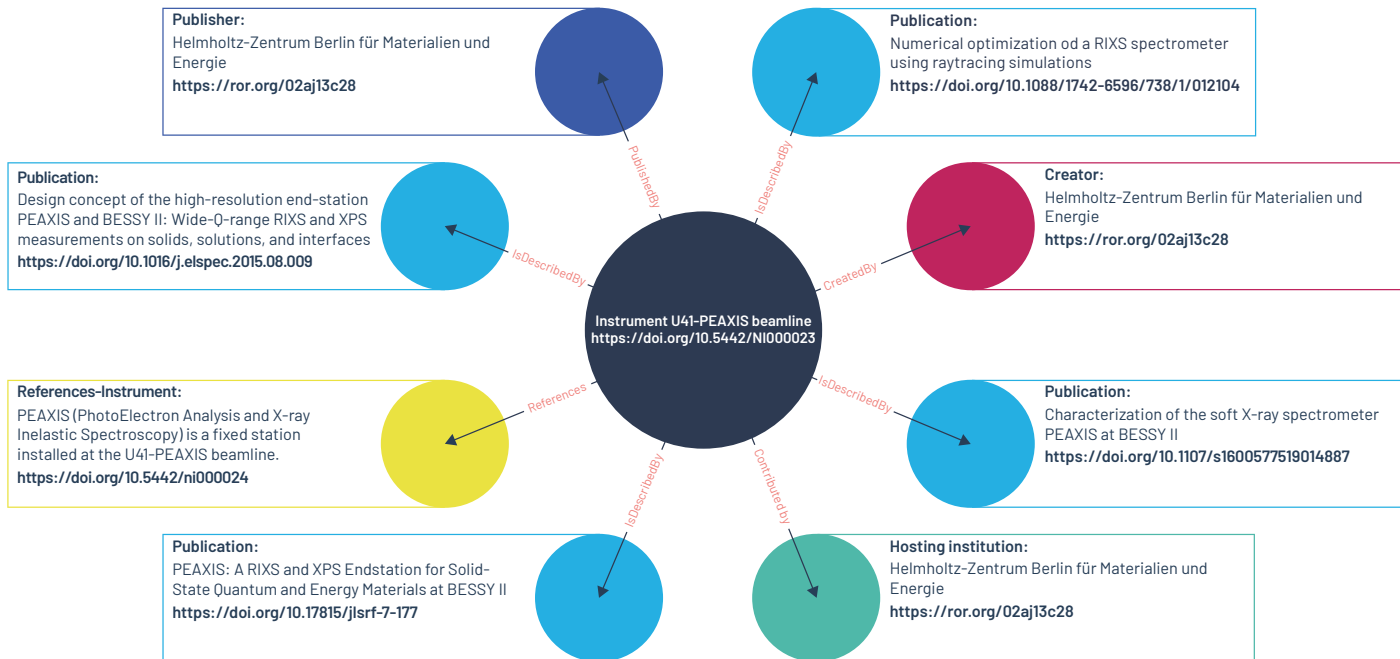
researchers and organizations to gain insights and make informed decisions based on comprehensive and interconnected metadata.

TRACKING CITATION AND REUSE

Connecting Works

DataCite metadata enables connections, including citations, to be recorded and tracked. This increases transparency and enables researchers to get credit for their work. By including related identifiers in your metadata, you can indicate how your resources have been cited and reused.

In addition to citation, related identifiers can also be used to connect research outputs and entities through other types of relationships, accommodating use cases such as linking samples to the instruments used to collect them, linking the computational workflows and the software they are built on, and many more.



A real-life example of a DataCite DOI connected to other resources and research outputs.

CONNECTING PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS

Aggregating outputs by researchers or institutions is an important use case for the scholarly community. DataCite provides robust output tracking capabilities through connection metadata that unambiguously links outputs to individual researchers through their [ORCID iDs](#), and research organizations through their [ROR IDs](#).

DataCite is a member and trusted partner of ORCID. We can therefore ask a researcher for permission to automatically update their ORCID record such that whenever a DataCite Member sends us metadata that includes their ORCID iD, we can automatically add it to their ORCID record.

Enabling Discovery

If you are putting resources into sharing your research, then you want it to have an impact. DataCite metadata is available to everyone—enabling your research to be discovered and reused. Metadata harvesters and aggregators regularly include DataCite DOI metadata in their search systems and other tools that support and enhance research discovery.

By using our services, metadata harvesters can retrieve the latest DataCite DOI metadata and integrate it with related data sources, thus serving various downstream use cases for research discovery. No matter the scope of a discovery platform, DataCite services can support the retrieval of the relevant DOIs and metadata.

We offer several services to provide machine access to DataCite DOI metadata:

- Through the **DataCite REST API**, it is possible to retrieve both single and lists of DOIs, as well as filter and query DOIs according to specific metadata properties. For example, you can surface DOIs associated with a particular organization, repository, or type of resource.
- The **DataCite OAI-PMH Service** is another option for metadata harvesters who use this protocol and it supports multiple metadata formats.
- Our annual **Public Data File** contains metadata for all DataCite DOIs registered and indexed by the end of the previous year.

DataCite Membership

Joining DataCite

DataCite membership is open to all organizations that share our commitment to enhancing access to research outputs and resources.

Joining DataCite is the first step of your DataCite journey. It will provide more than access to our robust infrastructure and reliable services; you will be part of a mission-driven, global community that advances knowledge. As a member of DataCite—a community-owned and governed organization—you will collaborate with thousands of institutions around the world, driving innovation and contributing to (and benefiting from) best practice guidance that help shape the future of Open Research, data citation, and metadata management.

If you want to join DataCite for DOI and metadata registration purposes, you need to consider the following questions:

Do you have the authority to assign DOIs to research outputs?

Will you be able to guarantee persistence?

Will you be able to provide and maintain metadata for each research output?

Will you be making metadata openly available without restriction?

Are you planning to make the research outputs accessible to external users where possible?

Are the research outputs ready to be cited by others?

Will you maintain publicly accessible landing pages for each research output?

If the answer to all of these questions is 'yes', then you can apply to start registering DOIs via DataCite.

Benefits of joining DataCite include

MAXIMIZING YOUR IMPACT

- Adapt to the unique needs of individual domains, users, and use cases.
- Improve interoperability with other infrastructure providers, such as Crossref and ORCID.
- Connect research outputs through service integration.

IMPROVING YOUR EFFICIENCIES

- Benefit from economies of scale as a registration collective.
- Streamline implementation to ensure compliance and follow best practices (e.g., FAIR).
- Simplify the registration process and take advantage of DataCite technology.
- Track organizational influence and make reporting easier.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- Contribute to our development roadmap.
- Work with an organization active in the Open Science community.

BEING SUPPORTED

- Get help when you need it via support@datacite.org and other channels.
- Make registration easy with implementation guides and supporting documentation.
- Receive updates on news and events with our monthly newsletter, regular blogs, and social media posts.
- As a Consortium Lead, you can join the DataCite Consortia Partnership Program.

JOINING THE DATACITE COMMUNITY

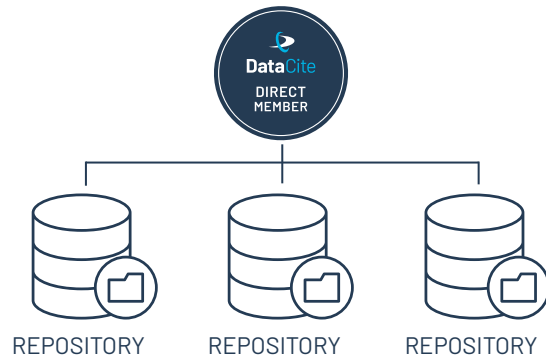
Take the next step in elevating your organization's research impact. Join DataCite and be a key player in shaping the future of research. For more details, visit <https://datacite.org/membership-enquiry/> or contact us at info@datacite.org.



Types of Membership

There are different membership options if you want to join DataCite, depending on your needs.

DIRECT MEMBER

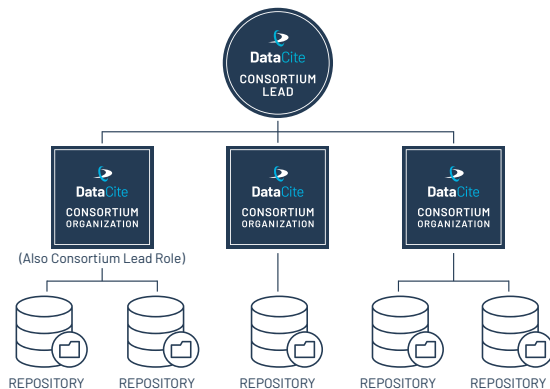


As a Direct Member, your organization supports DataCite's mission and governance. Direct members work with one or more repositories within their organization, which are under the same administrative structure as the organization.

Examples include:

- Universities
- National libraries
- Research institutions
- Government agencies

CONSORTIUM LEAD



A Consortium is a group of like-minded organizations that have come together to collectively participate in the DataCite Community and Services. One organization takes on the role of Consortium Lead and can also use DOI registration services, or just provide these services to other organizations. Your Consortium must comprise five or more non-profit organizations within (for example) a single country or research discipline, but under different administrative structures. Together, you collectively participate in DataCite's community

and governance activities and use DataCite DOI services. Following the **Consortium Guidelines**, each of the organizations within your consortium can work with one or more repositories.

Examples include:

- Regional or National research centers or initiatives
- Research and Library consortia
- University networks
- Professional associations

CONSORTIUM ORGANIZATIONS



Your organization may decide to become part of an existing DataCite Consortium and take advantage of the collective arrangement for a variety of reasons:

1. You may not have the resources or capability to join DataCite individually. This is particularly true for small organizations.
2. Your organization is already collaborating with others within the same discipline, or within the same (language) area, and may benefit in developing a shared PID strategy.
3. You can leverage relevant skills, know-how, and expertise of all organizations within the consortium. This can increase your uptake of DOI services without overstressing your resources.
4. Through the Consortium, you are able to speak with one voice.

If you are interested in joining a Consortium, please contact us at info@datacite.org, and we will connect you with the appropriate Consortium Lead.

SUPPORTING MEMBER



As a Supporting Member, your organization supports DataCite's mission and activities. You are part of the DataCite governance, and if at some point you want to start registering DOIs for your research outputs, you can easily transition to Direct membership and start using our DOI registration services the next day.

Examples include:

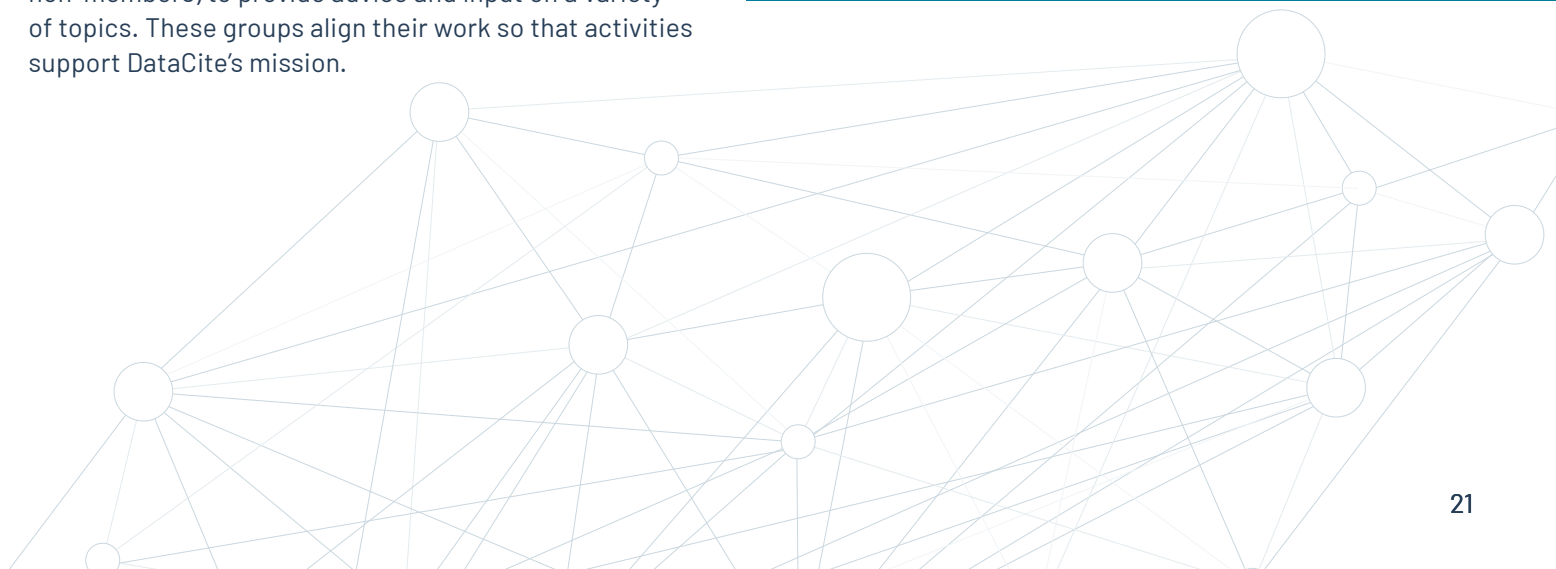
- Foundations
- Philanthropic bodies
- Corporate sponsors

DataCite Community

Governance

DataCite is governed by our members and Executive Board, (elected by the members), and directed by our statutes. Moreover, as a community organization, we develop our strategy, products, and services through continuous feedback from steering and working groups that bring together experts from the community (members and non-members) to provide advice and input on a variety of topics. These groups align their work so that activities support DataCite's mission.

**DataCite is
community owned,
driven, and sustained.**



Strategic Initiatives and Collaborations

DataCite is active in the Open Science community, attending numerous conferences and participating in working groups every year to make sure we keep up to date with the latest in innovation, technology, and best practice. In line with our mission, DataCite is also a trusted partner in numerous publicly funded projects and takes an active leadership role in **various strategic initiatives** through collaboration with stakeholders in the community to make Open Science a reality.

- **Data metrics:**
We help further the adoption and implementation of responsible data metrics with, for example, the **Make Data Count** initiative.
- **Identifier registries:**
We support community-led registries of identifiers such as the **Research Organization Registry (ROR)**.

- **Repository discovery:**
We contribute to the development of repository discovery initiatives, such as **re3data**, with collaboration and financial support.
- **Research connections:**
We work with partners such as IGSN e.V. and ARDC to build linkages among all resource types held by research organizations globally.
- **Collaborations:**
We work closely with Open scholarly infrastructure organizations, such as Crossref and ORCID, to map together existing services, as well as with national DOI Registration Agencies (e.g., KISTI, JaLC, and Wanfang Data) to connect domestic PIDs to the international ecosystem.

- **Community Engagement:**

We are actively participating in (inter-)national initiatives, such as the Research Data Alliance (RDA), to enhance discoverability, accessibility, and citation of research outputs and resources.

DataCite strives to improve equity and access to our PID infrastructure in underrepresented regions through a comprehensive approach, learning from local community stakeholders and working alongside them to increase awareness of existing infrastructure, as well as build new infrastructure to match their needs.

DataCite Team

Globally distributed and working fully remotely, the DataCite Team is the backbone of our collaborative efforts, investing in scalable and efficient resource utilization, ensuring every DataCite Member benefits from the overall vision of connected research.

Support and Outreach

SUPPORT

As a DataCite Member, you will have access to tailored support via our Support Desk (support@datacite.org). No problem is too big or small for our Support Team! We commit to providing a consistently high-quality user experience by being responsive, listening to feedback, and maintaining our [Support Site](#) with guides and documentation to help make navigating the world of DOI registration easy.

TRAINING

When your organization joins DataCite as a member, it becomes part of a collaborative community that shares best practices to further Open Research and scholarly communication. DataCite's training program has been designed by experts in our team for DataCite Members and Consortium Organizations. With certifications aimed at different levels, modules are offered several times per year, respecting different time zones, and cover key elements of DataCite metadata and services.

EVENTS

DataCite events are designed to be inclusive and engaging, welcoming diverse participants and fostering collaboration. Regular virtual events include the Annual DataCite Community Meeting, the Annual Business Meeting of the General Assembly, DataCite Open Hours, and webinars on various topics. **DataCite Connect** is our in-person event series co-located with major community events, providing a platform for face-to-face discussion.



COMMUNICATION

DataCite believes that communicating and engaging with our community is a key part of our mission. Our website is the primary place for sharing information with you, and includes the regularly updated DataCite blog that provides readers with news of all our latest product releases, outreach opportunities, and other interesting updates. You can also be kept informed through our [monthly newsletter](#), our social media channels ([Mastodon](#), [X](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#)), and our [Zenodo Community](#).

MAKING SUGGESTIONS

The development of new DataCite services and features, as well as enhancement to the DataCite Metadata Schema are informed by our community. We encourage you to actively participate in our processes and we welcome and value your inputs. All suggestions are publicly available on our website.

CONTACT US

If you have any questions,
please reach out to us,
visit our [website](#)
or [Support Site](#).



info@datacite.org



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