



**INTERNATIONAL
DATA WEEK**
13-16 October 2025
Brisbane, Australia



RDA 25th Plenary Meeting [part of IDW 2025] Collaborative Notes

Group(s) name(s) / session title	FAIR Data Maturity Model WG - <i>FAIR Data Maturity Model of the future – Addressing the Gaps and Opportunities</i>
Session link for more information	https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/fair-data-maturity-model-wg/plenary-participation
Session programme time	Wednesday, 15 October 01:30 - 03:00 UTC / 11:30-13:00 AEST, Breakout 3
Presentation slides	https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1oBnIWPNyoDA0WfH5kPAqhKDvoKSczVhi/edit?slide=id.p1#slide=id.p1



Session summary (to be filled by group chairs):

We will use the content in the table below to highlight your work to the RDA community in a report by the Technical Advisory Board ([RDA P24 report example](#)). **Please complete ALL fields below by Friday, 31 October, to be included in the report** and other communication. We also ask you to update your group webpage with the key takeaways from your post-plenary session.

1. Describe what your session is about in three sentences maximum:	<i>The session brought together various initiatives that have experience in FAIR assessment of research assets such as data, software, and physical samples and its potential application in the field of publishing. They shared the awareness the FAIR Data Maturity Model has generated and their experiences with applying and aligning their work with the model. These insights will help inform the model's future development. In addition, we discussed the gaps in FAIR assessment the model does not currently address, in order to help define the next steps or priorities of the Working Group.</i>
2. Highlight a maximum of five key outcomes/actions/takeaways of your session:	<i>Example:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>FAIR has potential, remember to show the value, use the right language</i><i>FAIR assessment can be valuable as an educational tool or an incentive</i><i>The wider use of AI is changing our understanding of what Fully AI Ready looks like. There is a wider need for information for FAIR. For example:</i><ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>Models need information to assess whether data or samples are suitable. Good associated documentation is required.</i>



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	<i>b. FAIR does not cover model performance or bias in data underlying model</i>
3. What collaborations or synergies did you discover between your group and other RDA group(s) or external (outside of the RDA) organisations? RDA Physical Samples and Collections in the Research Data Ecosystem IG RDA FAIR4ML interest group	



Attendee Check-in

New to the RDA? Check out on where to start [here](#)

Get involved in the [RDA Community](#)

This meeting will take place in accordance with the [RDA Code of Conduct](#)

Please complete this table to indicate your attendance (add rows as needed):

Full Name	Affiliation	Location	Email

Collaborative Session Notes *(To be used by participants and chairs during the session)*

Questions from the audience:

Wolmar Nyberg Åkerström (Bioinformatician Data Steward, Elixir Sweden)

Samples: Reflections on interoperability with regard to the relationships between derived samples, the associated data and provenance / process in processing the samples.

Provenance might be key for interoperability of samples. Converging on controlled vocabularies within and beyond domains is a challenge in the samples space. Development for use cases for interoperability to understand what is needed.

FAIR ML: Core extension that FAIR ML covers that Croissant does not. Croissant covers a lot today. When FAIR4ML started out much less. Croissant is quite data focused. CodeMeta and [Shema.org](#). Challenging bringing it all together. Changing as time evolves, so group is still needed.

How is your community in South America reacting to FAIR. Educational dimension is very important for SciELO. Promoting best practices and approaches in Latin America. Deliverables



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in English. Not enough for South America. Dealing with asymmetries across countries. Documentation in Portuguese and Spanish, otherwise there will not be adoption. Webinars, meeting training up journals.

Roberto: Scielo role in connecting into Global initiatives for National Open Science in Brazil? Scielo is now part of RDA. Promoting international standards like FAIR, progressing publishing sector in Latin America.

Assessment mechanism, what are challenges to FAIR? How can FDMM help?

- Samples: Assisting researchers in collecting metadata at the start
- FAIRDMM: perhaps a visual metric can be used in archive to incentivize researchers to include richer metadata
- For ML: Challenge to FAIR: importance of FAIR to researchers, get them to invest time. Needs to be easy. Example of a Stick: get the journal to require it.
- Assessment model is neither a carrot or stick. How the outcome is used is the carrot or the stick, how is it used in the incentive system.
- Interoperability was the gap when assessing repositories. Not using vocabs, but natural language.

Who should pay for the effort in making outputs FAIR?

- Samples: templates making it easier to upload. Tools for collecting samples in the field and integrating systems. Look at resources and structures that are already in place
- ML: Short term: anyone but the researcher. Adding an additional burden is not going to work. If someone is profiting they should bear the cost. Longer term: Infrastructure sector should support. Open Science means the whole system will need to change.
- Publishing: covered by academic institutions (also Unis) and funders. We do not have open infrastructures. We need a shared model. FAIR also requires also curation and preservation and support from institutions to support this.

AI is being used more broadly. More is required than just the FAIR principles to make data AI ready. Is the FDMM still relevant, or do we need more?

- Not a lot of detail in metadata. Getting AI to describe a dataset. Models need information to assess whether data is suitable. Good documentation is required.
- When training the model: what is not good data? Feed model with good and bad data. Then turn it out into the world. When do you know whether a model is good enough?
- FAIR does not cover model performance. Get external validation of a model and then track performance, look for deviation. Sometimes you need to rebuild or throw away a model. This is not part of FAIR. FAIR is expanding in scope. Other aspects (beyond FAIR) need to be included in the model. For example: Was it built on biased data?



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- Data models are having to deal with sensitive data. Sensitive data is not well covered in FAIR. Processing sensitive data we are now grappling with. Technical and governance for sensitive data is getting considered.

Wrap up and closing:

- Imagine that we could ask different questions, because of more FAIR information being available. Planet-People-Prosperity. Allows building the understanding of everything about a place. What if we know everything about a sample in that area?
- Continue to focus: outside RDA: why are you doing FAIR? Why are we working on the applications? How to communicate the value using their language and values.
- Value of RDA: funding data: show the value of the work we do. FDMM has had 17K views.

Key messages:

FAIR has potential, show the value, use the right language

Assessment as educational tool

AI is changing needs: wider needs of information for FAIR

- Models need information to assess whether data is suitable. Good documentation is required.
- FAIR does not cover model performance or bias in data underlying model

[Recording](#)