The FAIRsharing Registry and Recommendations: Interlinking Standards, Databases and Data Policies

The Challenge:

With thousands of interoperability standards, databases and policies, researchers – and those involved in curating, preserving, publishing or regulating data – need help to make informed decisions on which metadata standards to use, which are implemented in a repository and/or recommended by a journal.

What is the solution?

Recommendations to guide producers of standards, databases, repositories and policies, and a registry to make their resources discoverable to prospective users, called FAIRsharing (fairsharing.org). This registry tracks the development and evolution of standards, their implementation in databases, and adoption in data policies from funders, journals and other organizations.

Produced by: Force11 / RDA FAIRsharing WG
What is the impact?

As of March 2018, we have 1168 standards, 1050 databases and 111 policies. Our aim is to ensure quality rather than quantity. A key part of this is working directly with the community, engaging the maintainers of each standard, database and policy to actively update the record for their resource on FAIRsharing. FAIRsharing has already been used and adopted by a number of journal publishers (e.g. PLOS, Springer Nature, F1000), research data management programmes (e.g. ELIXIR and NIH), community and infrastructure groups (e.g. Biodiversity TDWG), and research and funding programmes (e.g. JISC) (see more at fairsharing.org/communities).

This WG is a joint effort between the RDA and Force11, the initiative that fostered the development of the FAIR principles. Starting in the life sciences domain, this RDA/Force11 WG has now expanded to be cross-discipline/domain. Join us!

Find out more about the FAIRSharing Registry recommendations

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