CONNECTIVE (1)
Pan-European Project Database

Comments by Barbara Ebert
Landscape (Germany): parallel efforts

Source: www.research-in-germany.org
Research information systems at universities

Source: [https://zenodo.org/record/13841#.VLPTqSuG98E](https://zenodo.org/record/13841#.VLPTqSuG98E)
Use cases for research information systems
Position Paper, DINI AG-FIS (2016)

- Annual reports
- Information of the public (showcasing research on the internet)
- Performance-based funding
- Personal websites for researchers
- Miscellaneous
  - Reports for evaluation, accreditation
  - Bibliographies
  - Expert databases
  - Project catalogues
  - Patent reports
  - Inventory of large scale research equipment
  - Adhoc-requests (international cooperation etc.)

Source: DOI [10.5281/zenodo.17491](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17491) (English)
Management recommendations for CRIS in German HE & research institutions
Position Paper, DINI AG-FIS (2016)

• Accept CRIS as **basic element in your IT environment** and develop it accordingly
• Look beyond immediate local needs and help to reduce barriers between systems **by using standards**
• Support the **mobility of researcher portfolios**
• Agree on a set of basic requirements and help to develop standards in Germany
  – Use the new **research core dataset** as common vocabulary
  – **Recognise CERIF** when developing internal data models and definitions
  – Provide **Linked Open Data** to support semantic web applications
  – ....

Source: DOI [10.5281/zenodo.17491](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17491) (English)
Strong points of the AGATE proposal

- Aims to re-use of database content as much as possible
- Is aware of existing models and concepts
- Thinks about scalability – beyond projects
- Recognizes the challenges, including sustainability
Challenges for AGATE project database

- Practical difficulties to connect
- Relevant project information vs. interconnectivity and reuse
- Actuality and accuracy of information
- Achieve participation of users (projects)
- Multilingualism
- Scalability
- Sustainability
- Data safety, whenever person-related information is involved
Participation of users/actuality of information

Roles and responsibilities: what has worked in our hands

- Making data curation a collective effort
- Establishing editor roles on institutional level
  - f.e. librarians, project officers
- Importing (or typing in) existing information as a service
  - From project applications/approvals, websites...
- Give scientists easy access to their content
  - Allow verification, completion + update of project information
- Make regular reports/statistics and circulate them!

Twitter: @barbebert
Connectivity/multilingualism
Some thoughts for a roll-out strategy

- Multiple languages: a challenge
  - Translations of project descriptions have to be organised
  - Data model has to support different languages
  - Need for multilingual common vocabulary

⇒ Simplify: Bilingual as a start?
  - German-English project database for D-A-CH
  - Collect experience with data curation concepts
  - Try connecting to OpenAIRE or another relevant resource to prove concept of data exchange and interconnectivity
  - Then team up with efforts in other countries
General advice for the project database

• Make the tool intuitive and easy to use
• Get a mandate from the Academies – you are funders!
  – Example: Database [GEPRIS](DFG), [EC CORDIS/CORDA](https://cordis.europa.eu)
• Create multiple ways to access and reuse the data:
  easy generation of simple lists, analytical tools, webservices
• Create opportunities to update the data (during the project lifecycle, for
  Academy reports etc.)
• Stay in the network of initiatives like OpenAIRE, euroCRIS and help
  promote connectivity – re-use is crucial

➢ If the data is attractive, it will be used.
➢ Only data that is used stays actual.
Thanks for your attention

Views presented are my own.
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More Information

DINI AG-FIS Community Collection at zenodo
http://zenodo.org/collection/user-ag-fis

DINI AG FIS Position Paper
DOI 10.5281/zenodo.14828 (German)
DOI 10.5281/zenodo.17491 (English)

Study on German CRIS Landscape
DOI 10.5281/zenodo.13841 (Master thesis/German)
DOI 10.5281/zenodo.17169 (Data set)

Research Core Dataset Recommendations of the German Council of Science and Humanities (document in German)
Drivers for research information management in Germany’s HE/research institutions

• One decade of practice in output-oriented management
  ➢ Professionalisation of (IT-supported) management in higher education and research

• Technical developments and Best Practice
  ➢ Tools for recording and analysis are available

• German Council of Science and Humanities (Wissenschaftsrat) recommends improvements in research documentation (2011)
  – Common standards of data acquisition
  – Harmonisation of reporting systems
  – Service-oriented administration
Core data set: An attempt to unify