L. Conditions related to open access to research data

Where indicated in the introduction of the work programme participants will engage in research data sharing, according to Article 29.3 of the Horizon 2020 Model Grant Agreement(s). This means that beneficiaries must deposit and take measures to make it possible for third parties to access, mine, exploit, reproduce and disseminate, free of charge for any user: (1) data needed to validate the results presented in scientific publications ('underlying data'); and (2) other data as specified by the beneficiaries in their Data Management Plan (DMP, see below).

Projects can "opt-out" of these provisions before or after the signature of the grant agreement (thereby freeing themselves from the associated obligations) on the following grounds:

  a) Incompatibility with the Horizon 2020 obligation to protect results that are expected to be commercially or industrially exploited

  b) Incompatibility with the need for confidentiality in connection with security issues

  c) Incompatibility with rules on protecting personal data

  d) Incompatibility with the project's main aim

  e) If the project will not generate / collect any research data, or

  f) If there are other legitimate reasons not to provide open access to research data

Any costs related to the implementation of these provisions are eligible for reimbursement during the duration of the grant.

A proposal will not be evaluated more favourably if the consortium agrees to share its research data, nor will it be penalised if it opts-out.

Further information on open access to research data is available on the Participant Portal.

A Data Management Plan (DMP) details what data the project will generate, how it will be exploited and made accessible for verification and re-use, and how it will be curated and preserved. The use of a Data Management Plan is obligatory for all projects that do not opt-out. Projects that opt-out are also strongly encouraged to submit a Data Management Plan if relevant for their planned research. Further information on Data Management Plans is available on the Participant Portal.