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CHORUS Forum: Open Access and Data Sharing in the Humanities and Social Sciences

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Publishers' data sharing policies

- Becoming more prevalent since the 2010s
- Standard requirements include sharing datasets, using data repositories, citing data, adding data availability statements to manuscripts
- Driven by community expectations; stakeholder policy; reproducibility and transparency of research

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Humanities and social sciences journals tend to have weaker data policies without data sharing mandates; few are written specifically to address the research practices of scholars in humanities and social sciences

Why is data sharing challenging for HSS scholars?



Humanities Research

- May not recognise the term “data” in relation to their work.
- Often involves copyrighted sources.
- Fewer dedicated humanities data repositories.



Social Sciences Research

- Concerns about data sensitivity and data misuse are common.¹
- Researching sensitive topics.
- Participant consent is required for data sharing.

How can HSS authors share data?

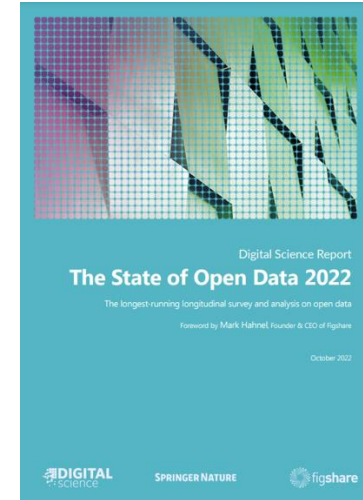
Survey of humanities authors on data sharing

89% of respondents believed that **data sharing** is **important** or very important in the humanities

81% recognise the term '**research data**' as a supporting output of their research process (sometimes or all of the time)

Commonly reported data sharing methods include **peer-to-peer transfer** (e.g. email), **data repositories**, and **websites**

What would improved data policies look like for HSS journals?



Read the report:
<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.21276984.v1>

Access the survey data:
<https://tinyurl.com/humanitiessurveydata>



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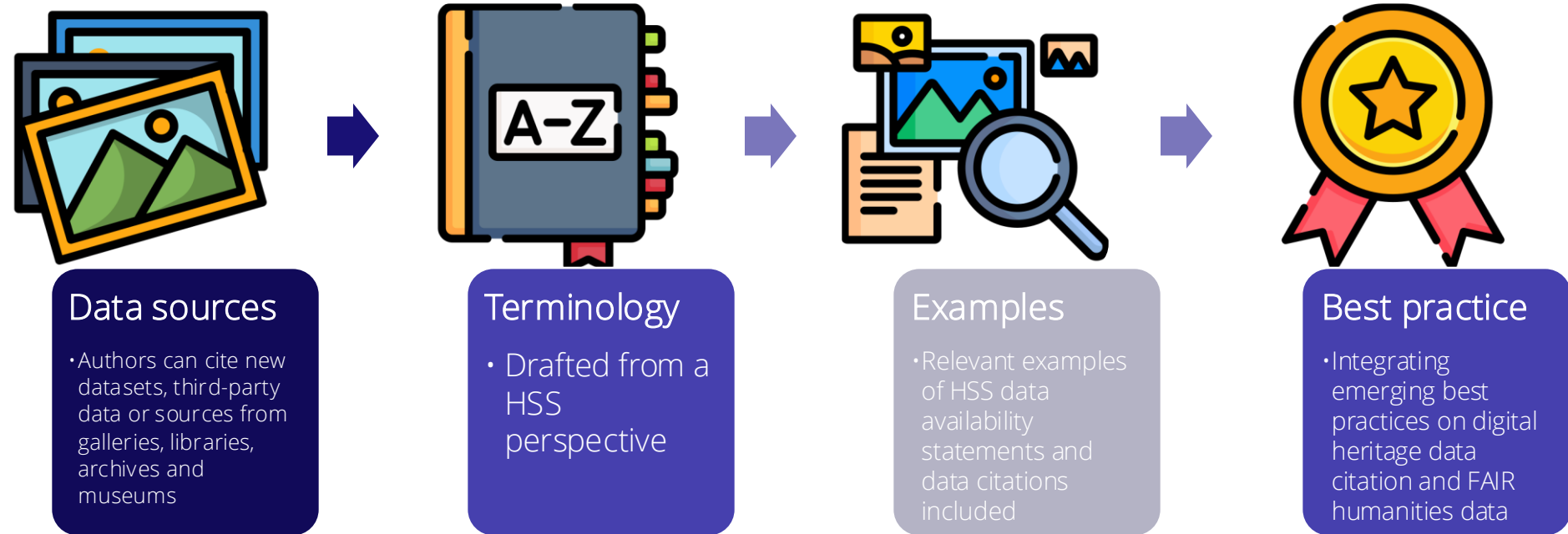
Supporting HSS data sharing in practice



Developing new HSS Open Data journal guidelines

- ✓ Better support HSS scholars to share data
- ✓ Ensure a clear understanding of what constitutes “data” in HSS
- ✓ Remove of life sciences focus and policy wording
- ✓ Build on existing work in the humanities stakeholder community
- ✓ Ensure alignment with emerging stakeholder policy e.g. US federal agencies (Nelson memo), Horizon Europe, UK’s AHRC

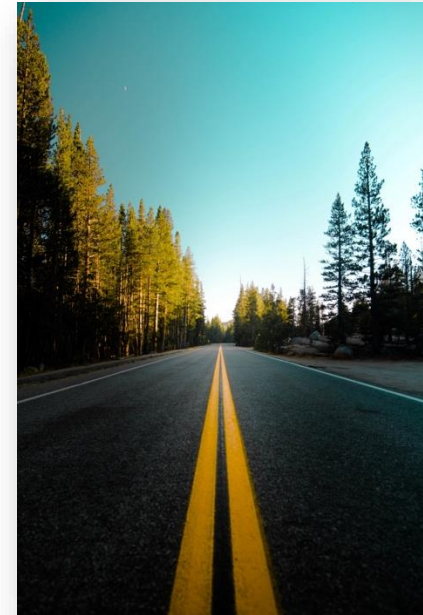
Our Open Data and Accessible Source Materials guidelines for HSS



View the new guidelines: <https://tinyurl.com/RORpolicy>

Learnings and next steps

- Good engagement with data availability statement requirements
- Rich variety of HSS data being shared
- Potential to implement across T&F HSS portfolio (already rolled out to Open Research Europe)
- Ready to address external stakeholder policy requirements
- Positive outcomes from (relatively) simple updates to policy wording



Read more about the development of the HSS data policy:
<https://doi.org/10.2218/ijdc.v17i1.820>



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Thank you!

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