

Title: Cooperation in Research Data Management across Base4NFDI, regional RDM initiatives, and beyond – considerations from SaxFDM

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Abstract:

Effectively disseminating and developing research data management (RDM) tools and services requires a multifaceted approach that leverages the expertise of various actors within the RDM landscape. This contribution explores how the activities of Base4NFDI, regional initiatives and other RDM actors can complement each other to contribute to this shared goal.

Building on the "Joint Plea for Close Integration of the State Initiatives for Research Data Management into the National Research Data Infrastructure" (<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4524655>), we examine the RDM landscape made up of its various actors: national consortia (NFDI), regional initiatives (e.g. SaxFDM), local institutional RDM support staff, as well as dedicated RDM personnel in research projects. As each of them plays a critical role in implementing RDM practices and fostering data literacy, we then delve into strategies to build fruitful and more elaborate relations between these actors. This can take different complementary forms, such as: clearly dividing responsibilities, collaborating in specific areas, and connecting those seeking support with experts.

We provide an overview of Saxony's RDM landscape, outlining resources and services offered by both Saxon research institutions and the SaxFDM initiative, and sharing our experiences with user involvement and distributed collaboration.

Based on a reflection on the types of users of RDM services and on developing services considering their respective needs, we then make suggestions for cooperation between Base4NFDI, regional initiatives, and other actors. Due to their integration in local structures, regional initiatives can help Base4NFDI to reach end users, and collaboratively develop and disseminate NFDI services according to the users' needs. An example of such cooperation could be jointly organized data literacy trainings in their respective regions.

Keywords: RDM services, regional RDM initiatives, data literacy, training, collaboration