



COST RECOVERY AND INCOME STREAMS FOR DATA REPOSITORIES

Translating RDA Interest Group analysis into Policy action



The RDA interest group

- Interest Group on Cost Recovery/Income Streams for Data Repositories.
- Co-Chairs: Anita de Waard (Elsevier Research), Ingrid Dillo (DANS), Simon Hodson (CODATA).
- Landscape survey of income streams of 25 data repositories, including detailed interviews.
- Typology of income streams. SWOT analysis of main business models.
- Final Report: Income Streams for Data Repositories
https://rd-alliance.org/system/files/documents/Income_Streams_for_Data_Repositories-FINAL-160210.pdf

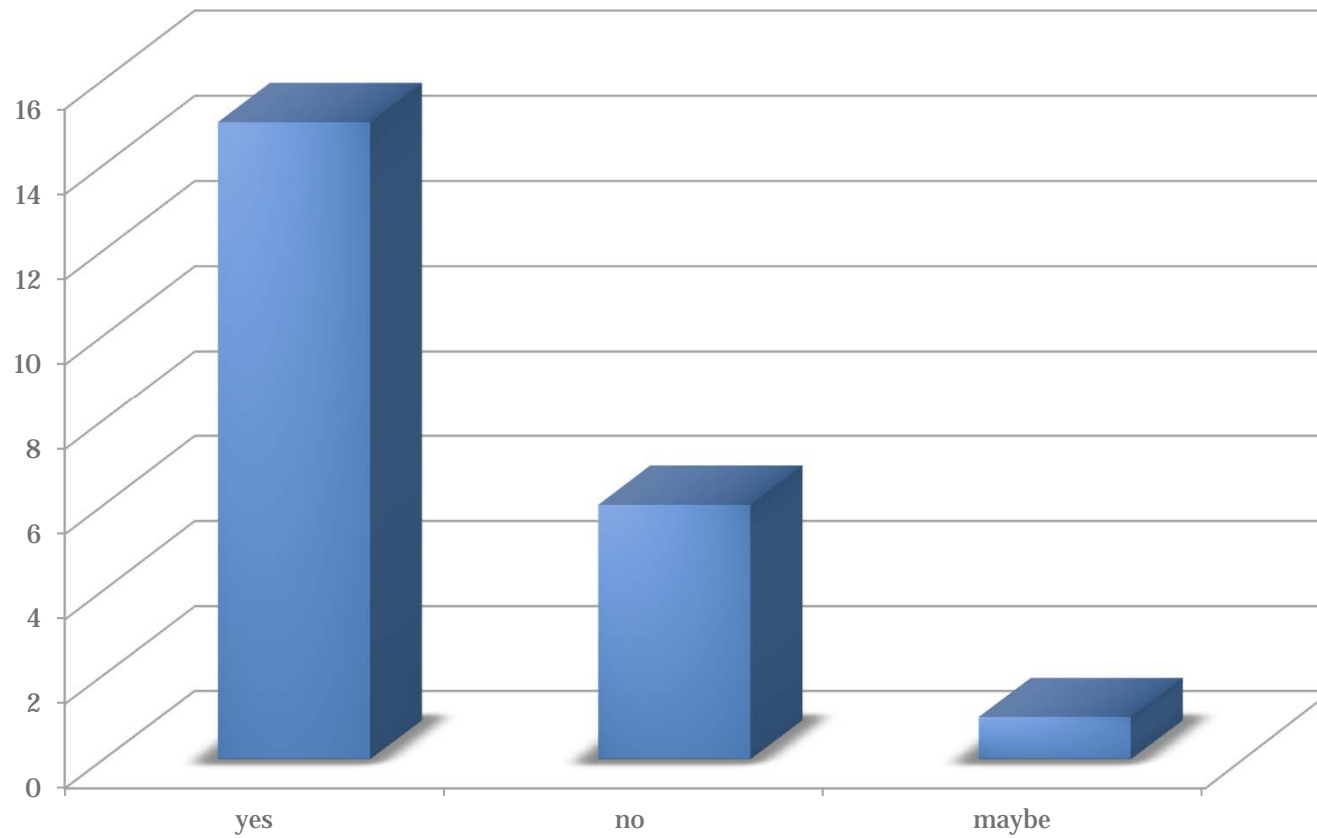


Preliminary Conclusions from Survey and Analysis

- Structural funding supports c.50% of repositories surveyed.
- Some concerns about flexibility and adaptability of structural funding and often supplemented with other incomes.
- Many data repositories participate in R&D projects, and are highly dependent on this grant income but overheads need to be considered.
- Concern about administrative overheads and that encourage cheaper, lower levels of curation.
- Many repositories interested in charging for value-added services.
- Data deposit fees are being explored by a small number of repositories.



Repositories exploring alternative income streams





Alternative Income Streams Under Consideration

- Increasing core structural funding (given priority for data)
 - Contracts for specific services offered (hosting, archiving, curation)
 - Expanding the number of affiliated institutions (services, member benefits)
 - Deposit fees
 - Charging for value-added data or services
 - Specific services for the commercial sector
 - Sponsorship
-
- SWOT analysis in RDA Session in Paris explored the pros and cons of various income streams and business models.



The big policy question

“How do I ensure sustainable funding for ‘state of the art’ data repositories?”

In the context where:

- Open Data should promote better science, spur innovation and have societal benefits
- Scientific data is massively expanding
- Public science budgets are (tightly) limited
- Some disciplines doing better than others
- Open data access is a policy priority



The OECD-Global Science Forum (GSF)

- Global science policy forum (33 countries + EU)
- Working Party of the Committee on Science and Technology Policy within the OECD Science, Technology and Innovation Directorate.
- Convenes national delegates from science ministries, funding agencies and academia
- Open to non-member countries and partners
- Venue for shared learning, bench-marking and consensus building.
- GSF reports can be influential – land on ministers' desks
- Possibility of OECD recommendations that are 'soft law', e.g. 2007 guidelines on access to data from public research



GSF-CODATA Project on Business Models

Key Questions:

Expanding on RDA descriptive work:

1. How are data repositories currently funded?
2. What innovative income streams are available?

New more focused policy analysis:

3. How do income streams match willingness/ability to pay of various stakeholders?
4. How do income streams/willingness to pay fit together into a sustainable business model?



GSF Project: Key features

- Builds on work of RDA Interest Group.
 - Broader landscape study of current funding models.
 - Focus group on innovative income streams.
 - In-depth economic analysis of business models.
 - Test business models with stakeholder groups.
- **Policy recommendations based on concrete business model options.**



GSF Project: implementation

- **Overseen by an International Expert Group:** comprising national nominees from GSF delegates and from CODATA, RDA and WDS.
- **Q1 April-June 2016:** Project set up; Expert Group virtual meetings; data repository interviews, inc. those identified by GSF.
- **Q2 July-Sept 2016:** Complete income streams landscape survey; focus group on innovative income streams; develop economic analysis of business models.
- **Sept 2016:** Present interim outputs at International Data Week, Colorado
- **Q3 Oct-Dec 2016:** Stakeholder Workshop (inc. GSF) on Business Models.
- **Q4 Jan-March 2017:** Iterate draft report and recommendations with Expert Group.
- **March/April 2017:** final report with policy recommendations on sustainable business models presented to GSF for final approval.