

RIS
SYNERGY

LESSONS LEARNED AND THE ROAD AHEAD: BUILDING ON THE SUCCESS OF RIS SYNERGY

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WIENER WISSENSCHAFTS-,
FORSCHUNGS- UND TECHNOLOGIEFONDS



KEY FACTS

- Launch in March 2020 at TU Wien
- Financed by the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research
- Project Partners: 14 universities and 4 funding organisations

GOALS

INTERFACES

Standardised exchange of metadata and research information to...

- reduce errors & double entries

Open metadata standards to...

- increase data quality, transparency & security
- facilitate the FAIR use of research information

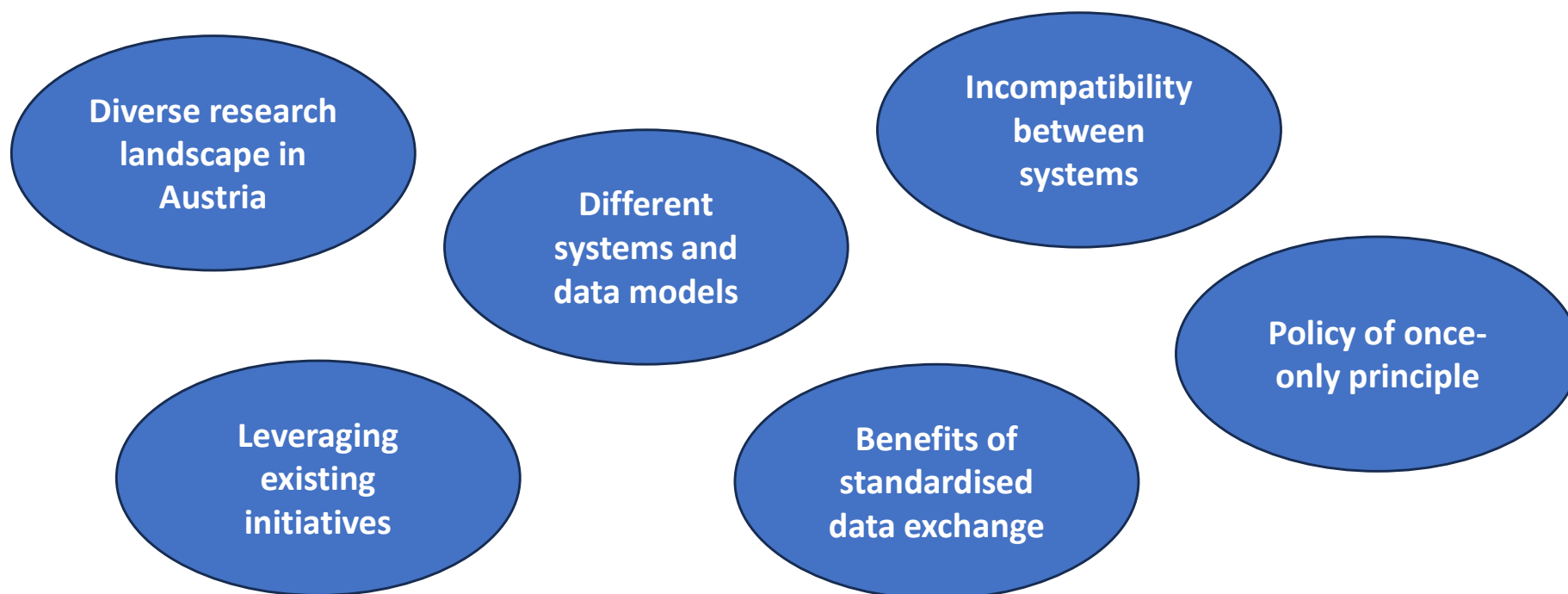
Saving resources in this way **increases the efficiency and time for high-quality support** in research projects!

CONCEPT STUDY AUSTRIAN RESEARCH PORTAL

Framework conditions and **recommendations** for the development of a national research portal

- which correspond with the **needs** of the Austrian research landscape
- utilising **synergies**
- providing the **content & technology requirements** for future implementation & development

THE NEED FOR RIS SYNERGY



OUTCOMES & LESSONS LEARNED

COMMON LANGUAGE BASED ON STANDARDS

- Adoption of international standards:
 - CERIF
 - OpenAIRE Guidelines for CRIS Managers
- Use of Persistent Identifiers:
 - Mandatory: Crossref Funder ID
 - Recommended: DOI, ORCID, ROAR
- Introduction of RIS Identifiers

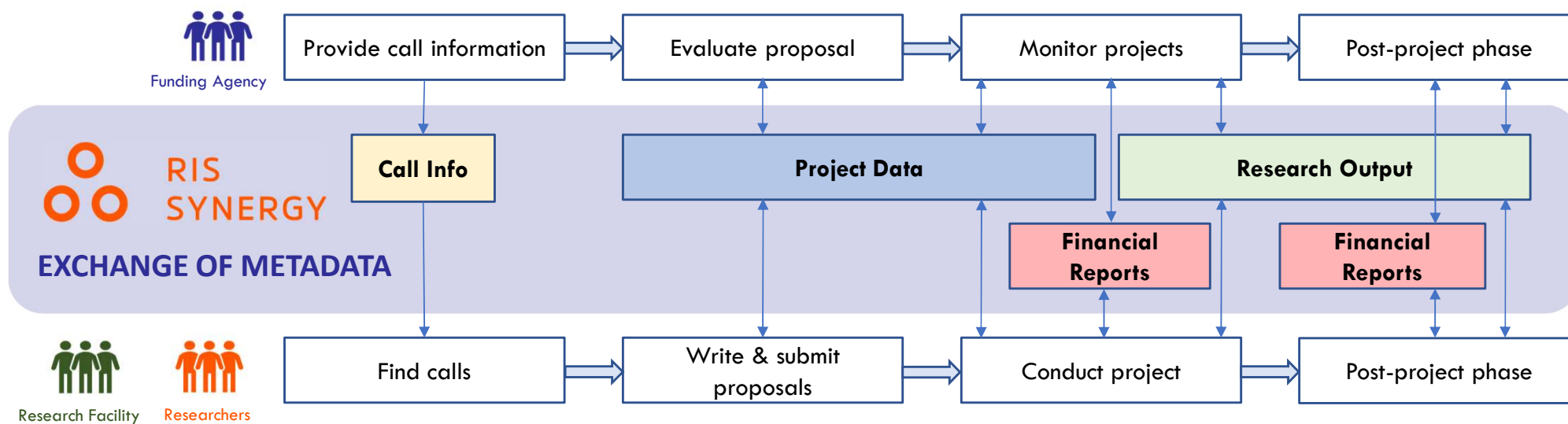
COMMON LANGUAGE BASED ON STANDARDS: LESSONS LEARNED

- **Adopting a common language based on international standards is crucial for a consortium with diverse systems**
- **Adapting standards** – Standards can be a foundation but need to be extended to meet specific project requirements without compromising the core structure
- **Challenges of persistent identifiers** – Existing PIDs might not perfectly align with project needs
- **Unique identifiers are still needed** – Additional unique and persistent identifiers may still be necessary
- **Sustainability of PIDs** – Continued collaboration is necessary to ensure the long-term usability of chosen PIDs

SHARED UNDERSTANDING OF THE META-PROCESS AND DATA EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS

- Agreement on a common meta-process
- Visualisation of project lifecycle workflow
- Development of use cases for data exchange
- Definition of requirements for interfaces
- Establishment of a common glossary

DEFINED META-PROCESS

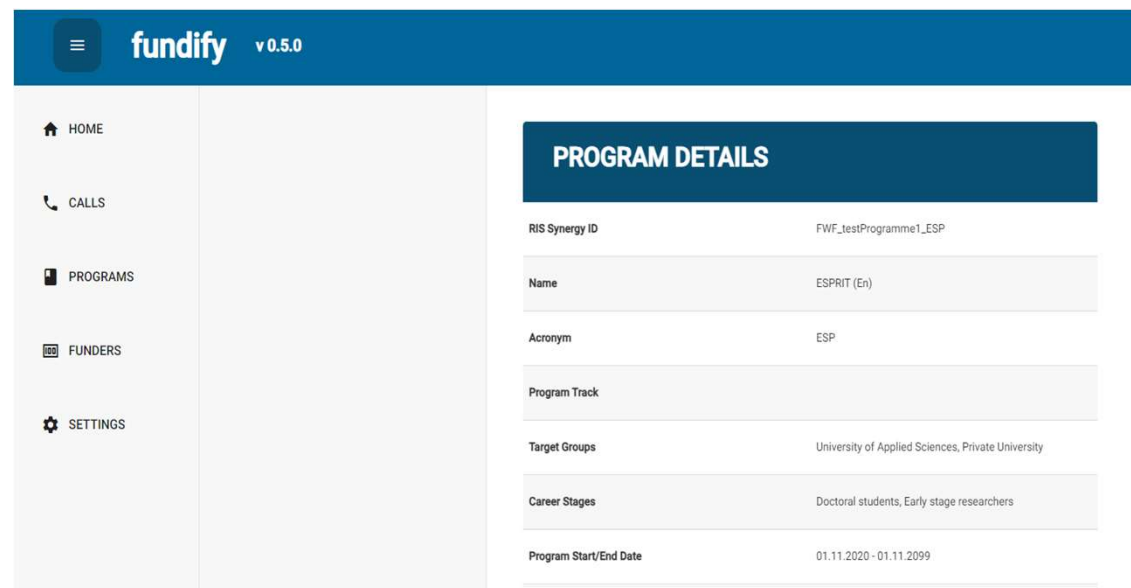


SHARED UNDERSTANDING OF THE META-PROCESS AND DATA EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS: LESSONS LEARNED

- **Collaboration and communication** are instrumental in developing shared understanding and requirements across all institutions
- **Development of user stories and use cases** – Requirements are based on the needs of researchers and research support departments across institutions
- **Identifying relevant metadata** – Definition of a minimum set of data fields required for each data exchange scenario based on institutional requirements
- **Analysis of local infrastructure** – Assessment of existing CRIS systems for their data exchange capabilities

TOOLS AND INTERFACES DEVELOPED

- Open & standardised interfaces for fundings, projects, finances, research outputs and organisations
- Service tool for the exchange and management of funding information



The screenshot displays the 'fundify v0.5.0' web application. On the left is a sidebar menu with options: HOME, CALLS, PROGRAMS, FUNDERS, and SETTINGS. The main content area is titled 'PROGRAM DETAILS' and contains the following information:

RIS Synergy ID	FWF_testProgramme1_ESP
Name	ESPRIT (En)
Acronym	ESP
Program Track	
Target Groups	University of Applied Sciences, Private University
Career Stages	Doctoral students, Early stage researchers
Program Start/End Date	01.11.2020 - 01.11.2099

VISION: AUSTRIAN RESEARCH PORTAL

Research success and competence are visible and searching for specific topics is possible:

- Finding experts and collaboration partners
- Identifying strong research topics
- Access research output (publications and data)
- Display research projects and initiatives

VISION: AUSTRIAN RESEARCH PORTAL

Additional added value by:

- Gaining international visibility
- Allowing networking for and between science, politics and business
- Providing information for the interested public and society

CONCEPT STUDY: NATIONAL RESEARCH PORTAL

- **Framework conditions** and **recommendations** for the development of a national research portal
- which correspond with the **needs** of the Austrian research landscape where synergies are used and existing projects are integrated and
- which provide the **technological** and **content requirements** as a basis for (subsequent) implementation and further development
- Design **based on RIS Synergy interfaces**

OUR WAY TO THE CONCEPT STUDY FOR A RESEARCH PORTAL

- **Lessons learned:** past Austrian initiatives towards a national research portal
- **Stakeholder analysis**
 - SWOT analysis
 - Survey
 - Discussion rounds and workshops
- Analysis of other international portals for **best practices**

CRISCROS - WORKING GROUP FOR NATIONAL AND REGIONAL RESEARCH PORTALS

- coordinated by euroCRIS and RIS Synergy
- offers a **platform for exchange** for organisations, projects and initiatives that deal with the topic of national/regional research portals and research information systems
- Share insights
- Learn from each other
- Recent output: Screencast on National Research Portals

LESSONS LEARNED

- ~ **Bottom-up approach** – no agreement / no consistent view on benefits of a portal by institutions
- + **Stakeholder communication** – created awareness for the topic, stimulated interest on part of funding agencies
- ++ **Technical foundation** provided by RIS Synergy interfaces and ARI&Snet neutral zone
- ++ **Common services and infrastructure** – more awareness for benefits

FINDINGS

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

... talk about it!

- **Importance of communication** for project success
- Importance of **CRISCROS Working Group** on National and Regional Research Portals
- **Ongoing stakeholder information** - balancing internal and external communication needs
- **Frustration tolerance** - accepting the results but pursuing the vision

A NEW ERA OF COOPERATION: RIS SYNERGY'S IMPACT

... keep it alive!

- New **model of cooperation**
- Successful collaboration and established standards – **respond to needs and react**
- **Collaboration** with ARI&Snet project
- Leveraging **synergies for further development**
- **Diverse** project **partners** ensure sustainability

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

... convince!

- Comprehensive **implementation**
- Long-term **utilisation** and onboarding
- Importance of **continued support**
- Updating **use cases**
- Closing the **gaps**

