

Field report documenting the implementation of the FWF's funding management system in conjunction with the national RIS Synergy initiative

Eurocris Conference 2024

15.5.2024, Susanne Springer-Briem



FWF Austrian
Science Fund

www.fwf.ac.at

*In 2023, FWF
funded
approximately
2,600
projects
involving
some 5,000
researchers.
The new
investment
total in 2023
was around
€349 million
Euros.*

What we do: Funding Management

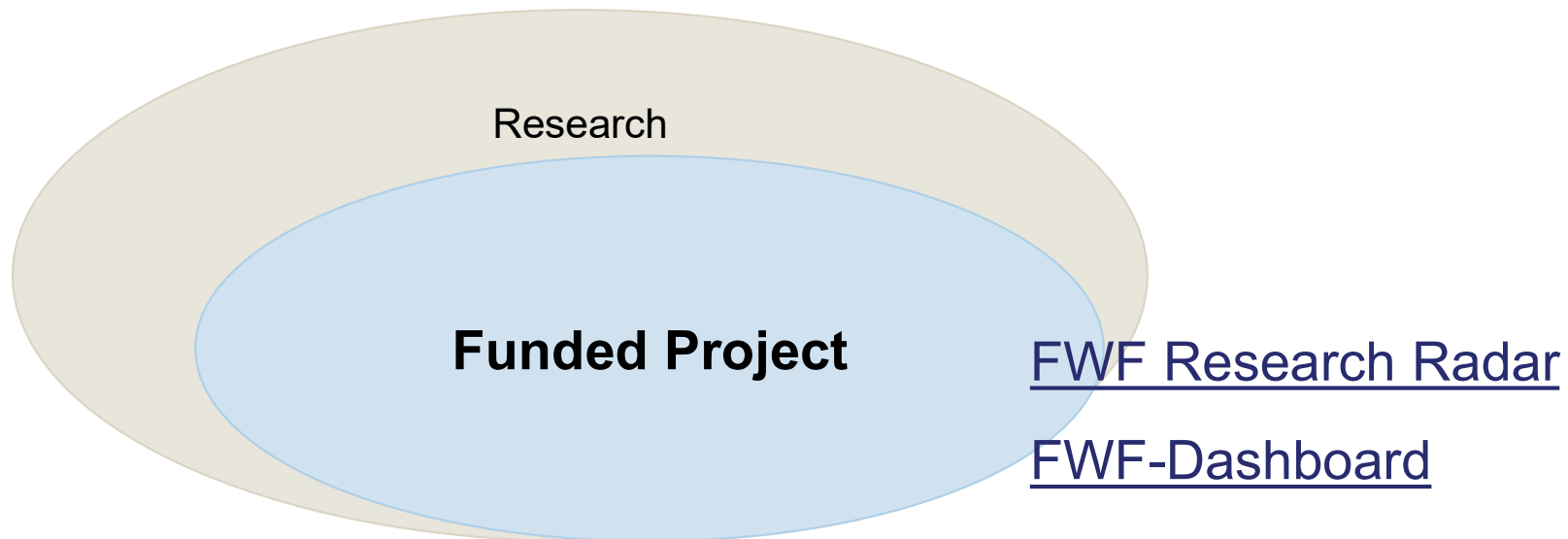
Workflow phase

- Scheme Set Up & Launch
- Application Process
- Assessment
- Approve & contract
- Manage payments
- Active Grants & Monitoring
- Evaluation & Closure

Stakeholders/Actors

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FWF-Employee<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Program Management• Scientific Department• Finance• Project Auditing• Data Management• Board Support• Legal• Executive Board• Scientific Consultant• Reviewer• Jury | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Principal Investigator• Research Institution<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research Department• Research Service• Finance• Persons involved in the project• International Funding Organisation• Publisher |
|---|--|

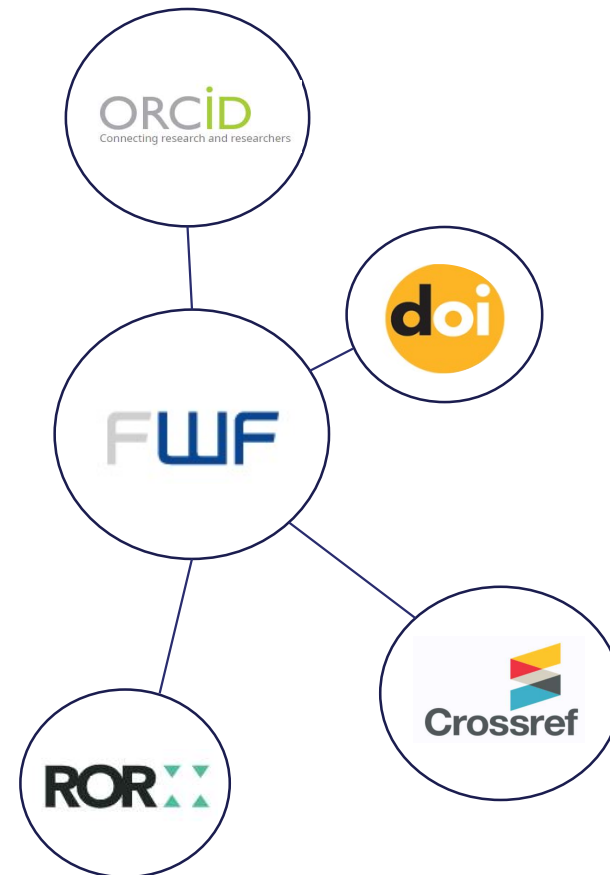
What we do: From a different perspective



- As trusted source we make research visible and identifiable in track records
- We enable information enrichment and information sharing by providing and using interfaces

FAIR Data – Persistent Identifier

- ORCID mandatory for FWF applicants since 2016
- Member of ORCID Austria
- Output reporting in final project report via Researchfish
- FWF-Output in Zenodo
- Funder ID
- Registration of project metadata (Grant DOI)
- Capturing ROR IDs



FWF Research Radar – Open Access

FWF Austrian
Science Fund

Open data practices in computational social sciences

Open data practices in computational social sciences

Katja Mayer

- # Grant DOI: 10.55776/V699
- 💡 Funding program: Elise Richter
- ✉ Project no.: V 699
- 🕒 Status: ongoing
- 📅 Start: March 1, 2019
- 📅 End: February 28, 2025
- 💶 Funding amount: € 346,070
- 🌐 Project website [↗](#)
- ✉ E-mail

Disciplines

Other Social Sciences (100%)

Keywords

Open Research Data, Politics Of Method, Computational Social Sciences, Social Studies Of Social Sciences, Big Data, Critical Data Studies

Abstract

Open access to research data promises far more than transparency and participation in the research process. The better usability of the data should increase the productivity of the scientific system. Science policy thus embraces the vision of innovation and the possibility of more effective commercialization of scientific results. In science, however, opening research data is often met with concern. There is, for example, the fear of being scooped. Others see a threat for their scientific careers or want to avoid inappropriate or unethical use of scientific knowledge. The research project aims to investigate how

BARCELONA DECLARATION ON OPEN RESEARCH INFORMATION

Source: barcelona-declaration.org

FWF Field Report Digitalisation

15.05.2024

Two interconnected digitalisation initiatives launched

- RIS Synergy provides relief and increases visibility for science by standardising and digitising services, along with building expert networks.
- Duration: March 2020 – December 2024
- The project develops open access and exchange opportunities for the systems of funding organisations, research institutions and the public administration, thus building a sustainable foundation for digitising the research landscape in Austria.

The Austrian Science Fund FWF is digitalising its services for researchers, research institutions, employees, and stakeholders with the FWF4.0 project.

FWF4.0 was initiated in 2020 and is in the software development phase in 2024. The aim of the project is a service-oriented processing of basic research applications, considering the FWF's surrounding committee landscape.

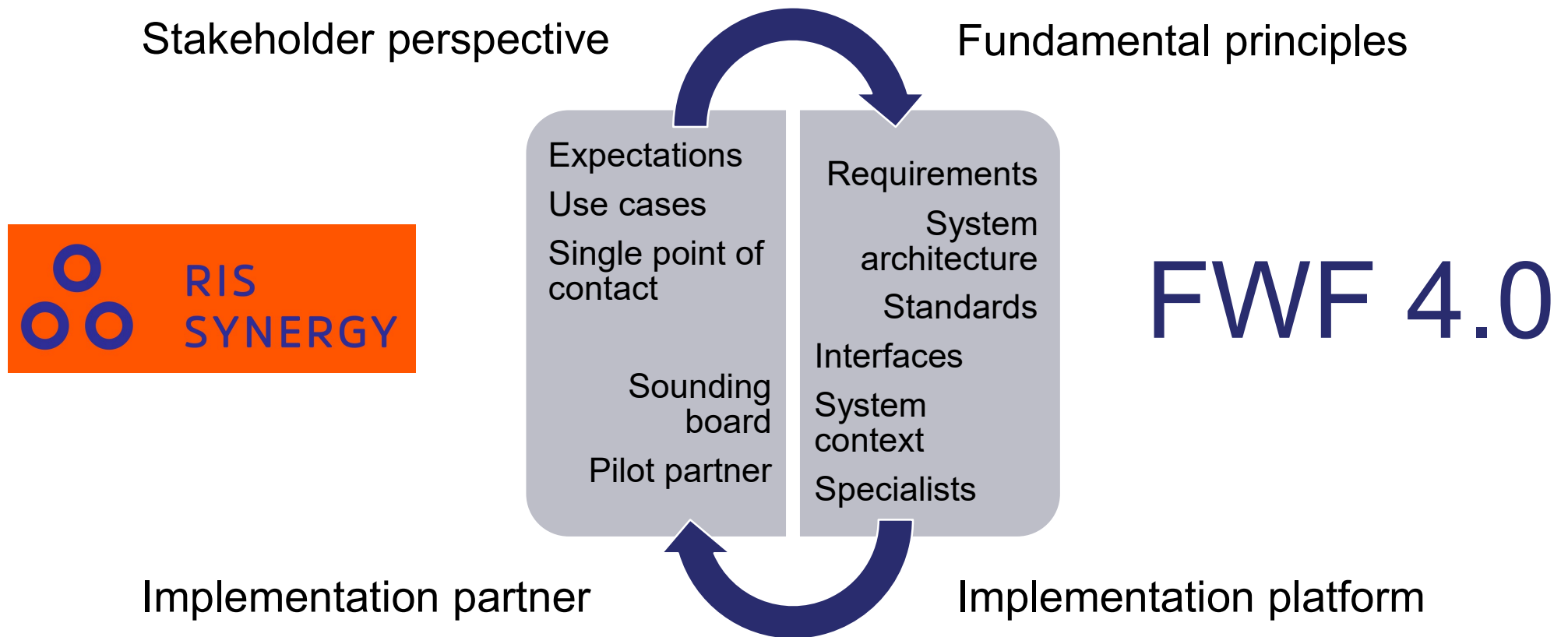
RIS Synergy Goals

- Digitisation and increasing the effectiveness of administrative support for research projects in the spirit of “debureaucratisation in the higher education sector”
- Saving resources and increasing the competitiveness of researchers through qualitative support
- Increase in data quality and transparency for research institutions, funding organisations and public bodies (national and international)
- Standardised, open interfaces
- Implementing the once-only principle
- Sustainable handling of data in accordance with the GDPR
- Representation of input and output of the research landscape according to international standards (CERIF)
- Development of a common position regarding a national research portal

Goals - The new system is...

- ✓ ...simple and efficient: Service-orientated, simple and smart administration of applications and subsidies. Manage applications and subsidies with just a few clicks.
- ✓ ...clear and centralised: All information on the status of an application or grant in one place.
- ✓ ...transparent: Comprehensible communication and high standards in administration
- ✓ ...secure: Fulfils all security and data protection standards.
- ✓ ...networked: Thanks to new interfaces, the automatic, cross-organisational transfer of data with all research institutions is made possible
- ✓ ...sustainable: Paperless funding administration, less mail and a smaller ecological footprint

Parallelism enabled mutual potentials



Challenges of Digitalisation for our organisation

- Multi-layered functional and technical requirements
- A large number of different involved user groups
 - E.g. different authentication processes are required (SSO -> keycloak -> Login with ACOnet/ORCID/E-Mail/ActiveDirectory -> Dynamic Authorization Management)
- Relatively small organisation (150 employees)
- Moving targets because of a constantly changing environment
- Digitalisation means Change!

Learnings for wide-ranging digitalisation projects

- Expect new possibilities but also unrest and high costs
- Involve people
- Explain the „why“
- Be realistic about time runs
- Bring in new knowledge
- Invest in Process-Analysis
- Put blinkers on during implementation

What we achieved so far

- Process model for intuitive steps for users and automated processes where possible and appropriate (Workflow-based).
- Technical interfaces to partners, research databases and research information systems based on standards (e.g. CERIF, OpenAIRE) and a common language.
- Identity- and Serviceprovider ACOnet; participating organisation eduroam
- Sustainable data provision (with PID for people, funding, organisations and outcome).
- A motivated group of people who are willing to grow with the challenges and dare to try new things.