

Strategic Priority Themes Knowledge Exchange in 2019-2021

1. The vision of Knowledge Exchange

Our vision is to enable open scholarship by supporting an information infrastructure on an international level.

2. Our mission

Knowledge Exchange shall increase the impact of the Partner Organisations' activities by creating synergies through international exchange of knowledge between experts in the area of digital infrastructure and services for research and higher education.

Knowledge Exchange builds on the results of the expert exchanges to make an impact on developments in the field of information infrastructure. The information infrastructure that Knowledge Exchange aims to support includes technical as well as organisational, policy and economical aspects. Best practices, solutions and innovative approaches will be exchanged between the partners and where relevant with the partners' communities to push their contributions in support of open scholarship by improving their performance at all levels and creating more effective and efficient solutions.

By all its efforts Knowledge Exchange will support the individual agendas of the Partner Organisations and help to realise steps towards the shared vision.

3. Our strategy

Focus areas

The Knowledge Exchange (KE) will continue to conduct work on themes the focus areas [Open Access](#) and [Open Scholarship](#). While these two areas are closely inter-connected, they will be treated as separate strands of activity.

Strategic Priorities

The Knowledge Exchange initiative is a unique collaboration between six partners that value Open Scholarship and have an important – albeit different for each partner – role in realising, supporting or funding digital infrastructures and services for research and higher education. Once every three years partners reconsider the renewal of the Collaboration Agreement. This moment is used to re-calibrate the strategic priorities for the coming year.

4. KE Open Scholarship Framework

The [KE OS Framework](#) brings together three dimensions, i.e. 'granularity' levels (e.g. individual, organisations, national governments), various arenas (e.g. political, economic, social) and research lifecycle phases (e.g. grant, dissemination). The established KE OS Framework will be used to outline challenges and opportunities as well as possible activities that experts will be working on. In the coming period, after paying much attention to economic perspectives of Open Scholarship, KE will broaden its focus and look at technological and social aspects as well.

5. Priority themes

For the coming years four themes have been identified that Knowledge Exchange will focus on, within the focus areas Open Scholarship and Open Access and with the economic, technological and social aspects of the KE Openness Framework in mind.

Changing Evaluation in the context of Open Scholarship

KE will continue to work on the theme Changing Evaluation in the context of Open Scholarship. Current work on research evaluation (the Openness Profile) started from a more economic perspective but will touch on social and technological aspects. We will study the implications of shifting different roles within organisations

to more alternative approaches of impact appraisal, we aim for a more comprehensive understanding of what infrastructure providers could do in order to foster Open Scholarship.

Scholarly Communication and Publication Models of the future, including Plan S principles and implementation

The launching of Plan S to implement OA has spurred debate on the methods and speed of changing to a full open access system as many European countries have vowed to reach in 2020. KE partners will track the strategies and implementation plans in the six partner countries, sharing good practices and lessons learned to help increase take-up, possibly amplifying Plan S related success mechanisms. New publication models, challenging current economic practice, require a broader view as well. Emerging developments and explorative work will be pursued.

FAIR data and software supporting reproducibility of research

The transition to digital in the sciences and humanities changes the way research is performed, although main scientific principles do not change. One of these principles is reproducibility, which is due to various reasons often very difficult to achieve, whereas digital technologies in fact should make it easier.

Publications, data and software (code) are key to digital research and are not independent from one another, they are rather dichotomous. KE wishes to investigate subject-specific needs to reproduce research results that are based on the use of research data and research software. Mechanisms supporting the reproducibility of research, e.g. the potential and challenge of application of FAIR principles to data and software, in all phases of the research lifecycle, will be explored.

The data science eco system

The (improvement of) the data science eco system belongs to the core content of projects and initiatives such as EOSC and RDA, with KE partners often involved in as stakeholders. Partners support integrated infrastructure approaches and acknowledge that the changing science data eco system will affect the partners. Within the trusted environment of Knowledge Exchange, partners will pro-actively keep a close eye on developments, discuss concerns, positions and strategies.