

DATA MANAGEMENT SESSION FEEDBACK

How results from 3C session organised in 2025 were used

Christophe DEBAYLE

ASNR, France

EURAD-2 second annual event, September 2026



Co-funded by the European Union under Grant Agreement n° 101166718



CONTEXT

- **Between 2020 and 2024, the EURAD-1 Work Package 11 produced a complete requirements and design corpus for a portal knowledge management system (p-KMS): a requirements survey (D11.1), an architectural and functional specification (D11.9), an implementation life cycle (MS242), and a prototype with lessons learned (MS245 and MS333). No operational platform resulted from this body of work.**
- **At the beginning of EURAD-2, a data management plan was published (D1.3), and the KM platform initiative was restarted with an analysis feedback of what was done before (MS22). In parallel, the sustainability of such a KM-Platform was discussed through the hosting purpose with EC.**
- **A data management session was organised during the first annual event of EURAD-2 to establish which practices, tools, rules, habits should be kept, stopped or developed through a CEASE – CONSERVE – CREATE interactive session.**

METHODOLOGY

Participants were asked three questions in breakout groups, and the responses were consolidated verbatim before categorisation. The protocol deliberately avoided asking what an ideal system should contain, since that question had already been asked in 2020 and had produced a specification that could not be implemented.

CONSERVE

Which current practices are effective and should be protected?

9 items

CEASE

Which current practices generate inefficiency or risk and should be discontinued?

9 items

CREATE

What is missing, and what should be built or introduced?

14 items

The output is a qualitative, non weighted record of expressed needs. Items were not ranked by participants, frequency of mention was not systematically recorded, and the population is self selected among annual event attendees. The consolidation is therefore an interpretation, and it is presented as such.

CEASE : GENERATING RISK OR INEFFICIENCY

ITEM	SUBSTANCE OF THE FEEDBACK
Local and personal storage	Retention of raw data and results on personal computers, local servers or consumer file sharing services, identified as the root cause of the silo effect and as a permanent loss risk
Data exchange by electronic mail	Assessed as insecure and as a primary source of fragmentation and version inconsistency
Non standardised and proprietary handling	Management of data in spreadsheets without metadata, multiple proprietary formats, and retention of data until the moment of publication
Locally invented procedures	Development of data management procedures at work package level without central guidance, producing parallel repositories
Proliferation of portals	Creation of new, unconnected platforms rather than improvement and connection of those already in service
Restricted internal access	Differential access rights to workspace levels, reported as an obstacle to information flow between partners

CONSERVE : PRACTICES OR TOOLS ASSESSED AS EFFECTIVE

ITEM	SUBSTANCE OF THE FEEDBACK
Shared collaborative workspace	ProjectPlace, with its existing structure, labelling and version control, assessed as substantially superior to exchange by electronic mail
The principle of a Data Management Plan	The existence of the plan is not contested; its training and its enforcement are identified as the deficiency
Open science commitments	Open access publication and release of raw data alongside papers, considered necessary for transparency and for dialogue with regulators and civil society
Benchmark exercises	Cross partner benchmarks act as a de facto standardisation mechanism for data formats
Open archiving with complete metadata	Use of established repositories for datasets, and retention of large volumes in slow storage rather than deletion
Community practices	Mentoring and senior to junior transfer, and knowledge management activity embedded within each work package

CREATE: EXPRESSED NEEDS, GROUPED INTO THREE DEMANDS

A. Custody and preservation

- A repository with a lifetime beyond EURAD-2
- Central custody by a European institution rather than by a project
- Migration of historical data to open archives
- Digitalisation of legacy material held on paper or obsolete media
- Persistent identifiers so that outputs become citable

KM platform

B. Discoverability

- An assistant to navigate and search the document corpus
- Machine assistance for synthesis, tagging and classification
- A searchable directory of experts and their domains
- A benchmark database usable by modelling teams

Data management
plan (~ guidance)

C. Governance of practice

- A systematic metadata procedure common to all work packages
- Training material and a condensed, usable version of the plan
- Peer review of data entries
- Named responsibilities and allocated resources
- Unified guidance for KM Ambassadors

Training

Community

eurad²

ALLOCATION OF THE RECORDED ITEMS

Each of the thirty-two items was allocated to a destination and recorded in a traceability register, so that the treatment of every item can be audited and no item is discarded without a documented reason.

Data Management Plan (D1.3)

Rules, formats, metadata, roles and training. Items concerning the governance of practice.

Revised at the next annual update

Platform specification (D2.1)

Custody, discoverability, preservation and the retrieval layer. Items requiring a technical system.

Issued September 2026

WP 02 KM and WP 01 PMO

Workspace access rights, meeting discipline, reporting practice. Items resolved by procedure.

Continuous

Items deferred rather than adopted are held in an exclusion register (D2.1, Section 5.7) together with the condition under which each is reconsidered.

WHAT THE FEEDBACK DOES NOT ESTABLISH

- **Limitations of the evidence**

- Participation was self selected among annual event attendees
- Items were not ranked and frequency was not systematically recorded
- Categorisation into the three headings was performed after the session
- The 2020 baseline cannot be re-analysed, as its raw material is unavailable

- **Questions referred to governance**

- Endorsement of the public only scope of the first release
- Endorsement of the hosting recommendation
- Allocation of continuing resource to the curator function
- Editorial responsibility for the corpus after the end of EURAD-2



WE NEED YOU !

- **WP leaders, Task 2 leaders, other contributors**
 - Read carefully data management plan and provide feedback
 - Read future KM platform specifications in D2.1 and provide feedback
 - Participate to KM Ambassadors meeting organised by WP Knowledge Management
 - Consider data as the pillar of the knowledge you are creating and take care about it
- **We care about your needs, your contribution and your opinion and try to establish the best compromise with EC rules and needs.**