

Working Group 4

Incentives for Open Science



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Aim

To monitor and support the responsible uptake of incentives for open science practices.



Report from the past year

- Internal workshop to explore concepts of open science (hybrid meeting)
- Exchange of experiences with development and implementation of Coara action plans (hybrid meeting)



Main learnings and take-aways so far

- Tension between ideals and career incentives: Why are we doing science? For society or for personal advancement?
- Inequities in access and cost: open access publishing expensive and also accessing journals.
 - Suggested solutions: publish dataset, code, protocols in institutional repositories.
 - Use persistent identifiers to link to an article in a journal.
- Structural changes is slow but needed: Academic culture and evaluation systems are slow to evolve. Open science should be incentivized in hiring, promotion, and funding.
- Understanding of research output: not all fields rely on journal publications. Open science is not only about publications but includes all research processes.
- Metrics and evaluation: bibliometrics overused for evaluation. A more nuanced and qualitative approach is needed.

Activities to deliver by end of 2026

- Webinar(s) on international progress, good examples, etc
- Pilot projects/good practice examples by institutions
 - SciLifeLab: follow-up and monitoring of open science practices etc
 - Mittuniversitetet: working group and support to researchers



Menti questions

Question 1: What kind of incentives for open science do you think could be implemented in your organization?

Question 2: What would be required in order for you to implement a new incentive for open science?

