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# Research Data Management in the Social Sciences

RDM basics, challenges and support

Have data? Need data? | [www.ausdda.at](http://www.ausdda.at)

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# Research Data Management

## Basics

Have data? Need data? | [www.ausoda.at](http://www.ausoda.at)

# Research Data Management

*“Research data management concerns the organisation of data, from its entry to the research cycle through to the dissemination and archiving of valuable results.” (Whyte, A., Tedds, J., 2011)*

- \* Planning data management in all stages of the research project
- \* Goal: making data FAIR

# Additions to the research cycle

- \* Planning of data management
- \* Archiving and publishing the data – making the data FAIR



# The FAIR principles

**F**indable



assigning PIDs, enriching with meta data, using standardized vocabularies, registering data in a searchable catalogue, etc.

**A**ccessible



transparent access options, AAI, as open as possible etc.

**I**nteroperable



allow interoperability with other data, tools and systems through API, proper documentation or different and common formats, etc.

**R**eusable



clear reuse regulations (licensing), additional documentation materials, etc.



Repositories cover most aspects

# Benefits of RDM for researchers

- \* **Comply to policies and regulations**
  - \* From funders, institutions, journals etc.
- \* **More visibility and impact for your research**
  - \* Data becomes citable through persistent identifiers
  - \* Fostering collaboration
- \* **Securing and preserving your work**
  - \* Including your data and documentation
- \* **Get access to more research data**
  - \* Easier to find and reuse data of others



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# Challenges for social science data

## Data sharing vs. data protection

Have data? Need data? | [www.ausoda.at](http://www.ausoda.at)



# Personal data

\* Social science data is often personal data → GDPR applies



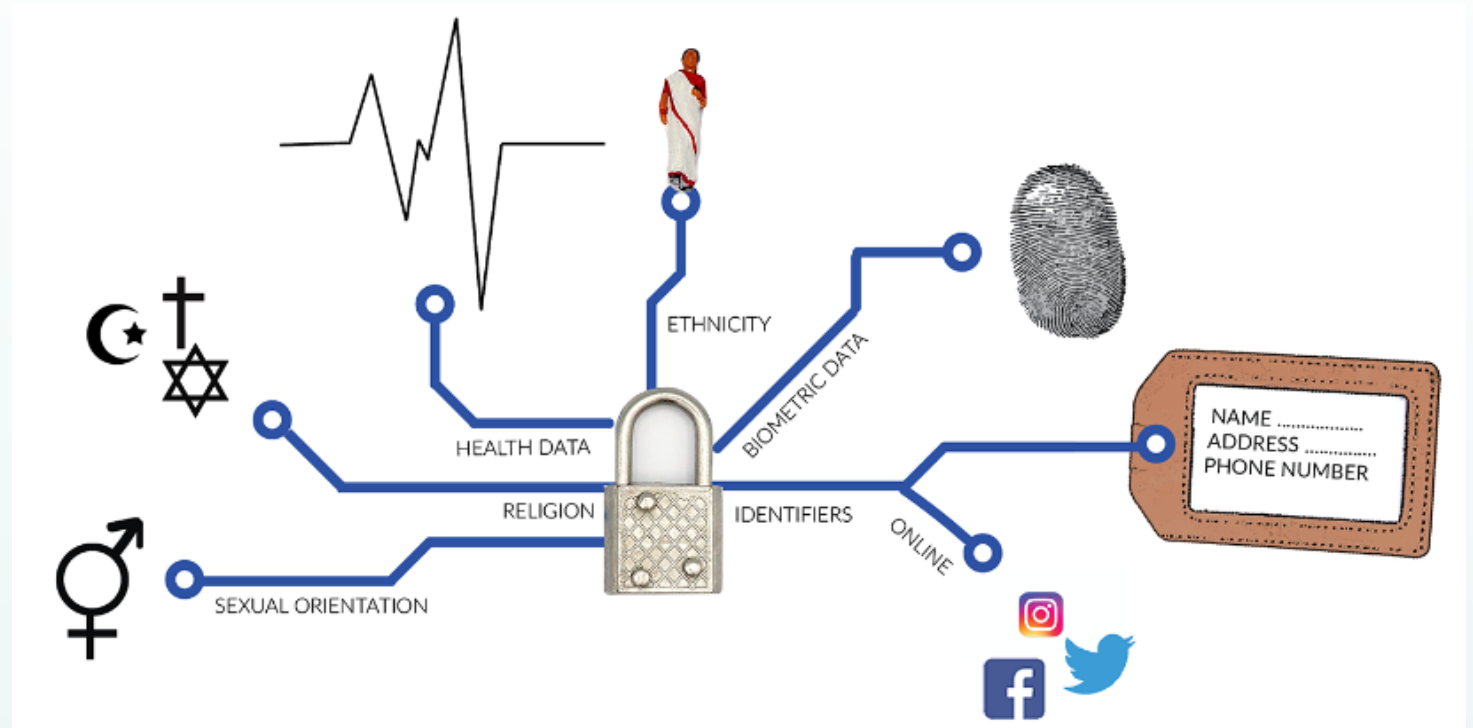
\* Personal data:

*'personal data' means any **information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person** ('data subject'); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, **directly or indirectly**, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a **name**, an **identification number**, **location data**, an **online identifier** or to one or **more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity** of that natural person; (Art. 4 (1) GDPR)*

# Identifiers and special categories of personal data

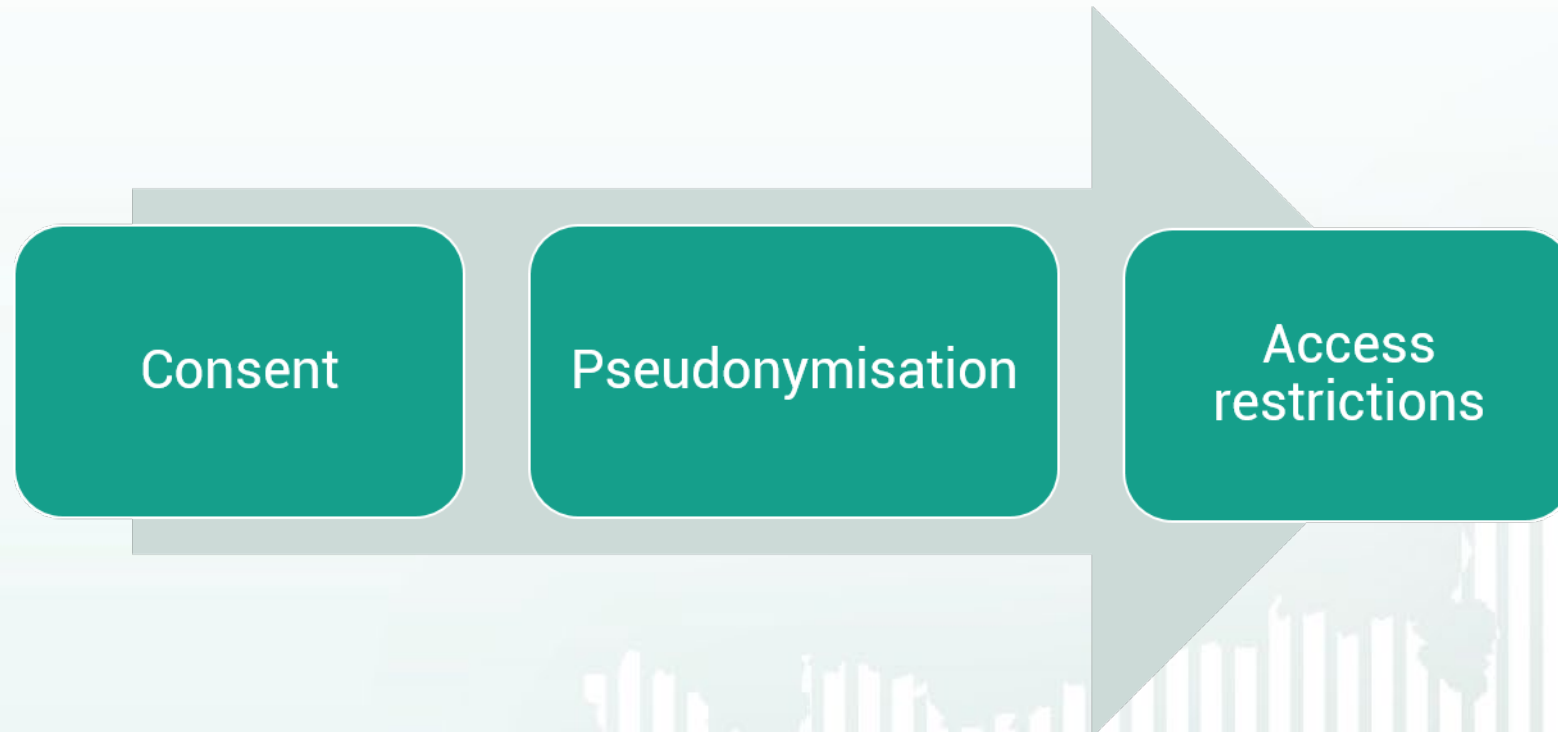
- \* Special focus on indirect identifiers in social science data (through aggregation of information)
- \* For special categories of personal data: necessary to **provide for suitable and specific measures to safeguard the fundamental rights and the interests of the data subject.**

(Art. 9 (2) lit. j. GDPR)



Source: <https://www.cessda.eu/Research-Infrastructure/Training/Expert-tour-guide-on-Data-Management>

# Making data sharing possible



# Informed consent

- \* Legal basis to process personal data (Art. 6 lit.a GDPR)
  - \* giving information: which data is collected and how is it processed?
  - \* getting active and voluntary consent: based on comprehensive and easy to understand information
  - \* **To include: information about the archiving and publishing of data**
- \* Ethical aspect of research
  - \* Informing participants on how their data is used and what rights they have

# Informed consent for data sharing - examples



"The data collected will be used exclusively in the research project and will not be passed on to third parties. After completion of the project, the collected data will be deleted."

"The data and information collected by this project will not be published in any individualized form and individual details from the study will not be disseminated in any form in order to protect your privacy and the privacy of other study participants. Only aggregated summary results without identifying information will be communicated."

"The data will only be published in aggregated form."



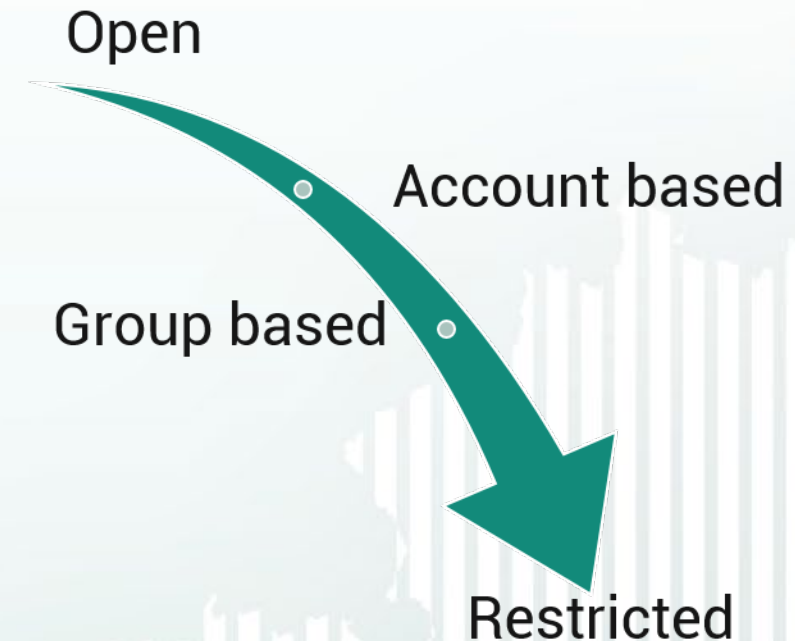
"To protect your privacy the data will be pseudonymised. That means that it is not possible for people external to the research project to identify you. Access to the non-pseudonymised data will be limited to the researchers involved in this project. In addition, the pseudonymised data will be transferred to AUSSDA, a social science data archive, who will archive the data and make it available for scientific reuse."

# Pseudonymisation of personal data

- \* Removing direct and indirect identifiers by:
  - \* Deleting the information
  - \* Substituting the information with a pseudonym (more relevant for qualitative data, e.g. interview transcripts)
  - \* Aggregating the information (more relevant for quantitative data, e.g. numeric data set)
- \* Storing key for reidentification safe and separate
  - \* Ensuring adequate technical and organisational measures (TOMs)

# Access restrictions – making data available for scientific reuse

- \* Restricting access to enable data sharing
- \* Following the principle: „as open as possible – as closed as necessary“
- \* Raising awareness of allowed use of data and data protection





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# Support

## AUSSDA – The Austrian Social Science Data Archive

Have data? Need data? | [www.ausdda.at](http://www.ausdda.at)

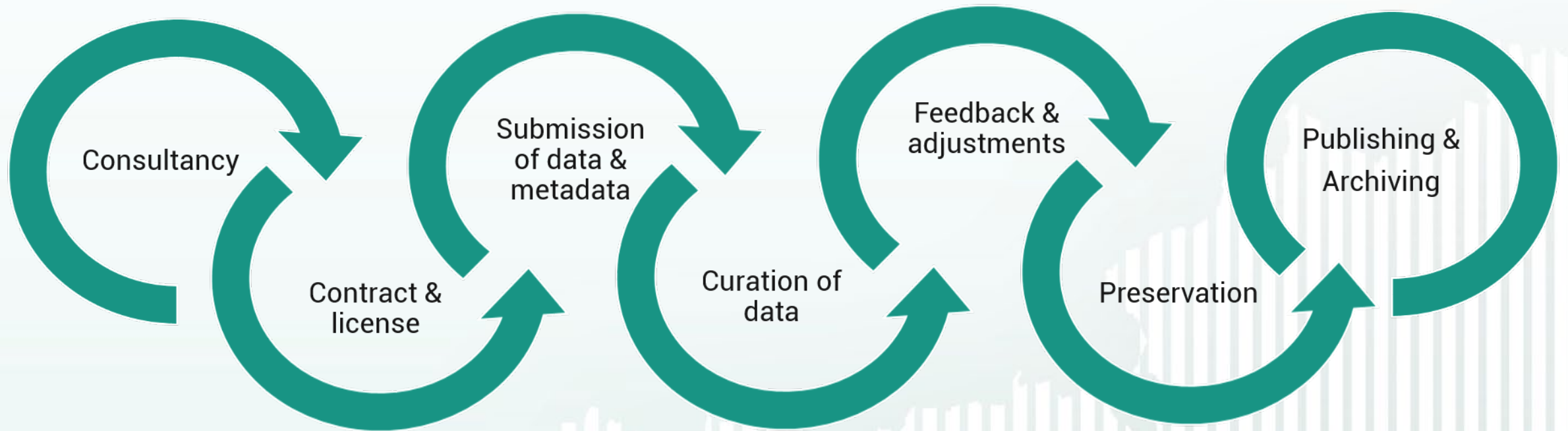


# AUSSDA services for researchers

-  DOI, data licence management, secure and long term archiving
-  Pseudonymisation checks
-  Data access – from open to restricted
-  Support with data management und data search
-  Promotion of data reuse & increasing visibility



# Archiving with AUSSDA – from first contact to publishing



# Opportunities to get ahead

**Avoid problems through good planning!**

Planning data management throughout the research project

➔ DMP

**Use a trustworthy repository for your social science data!**

Disciplin specific, certified repository for social science data

➔ AUSSDA



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# Thank you!

For questions or comments, please contact us:

<https://www.aussda.at>

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