

Advancing Open Science through 'Recognition & Rewards': the Dutch approach

Hans de Jonge | UEFISCDI Conference 2025 | November 14 2024
| Bucharest





Overview

- Policy context: two converging agenda's
- Why recognizing and rewarding Open Science?
- How? Some examples from the Dutch context

Policy context: converging agenda's



Open access and open science to become the norm



National Open Science Plan



NWO joins cOAlition S Implementation of Plan S



NWO signs and Implements DORA



Launch Open Science Fund



Government investments and launch Open Science NL



2013

2017

2019

Open Science

2021

2023



National program on Recognition and rewards

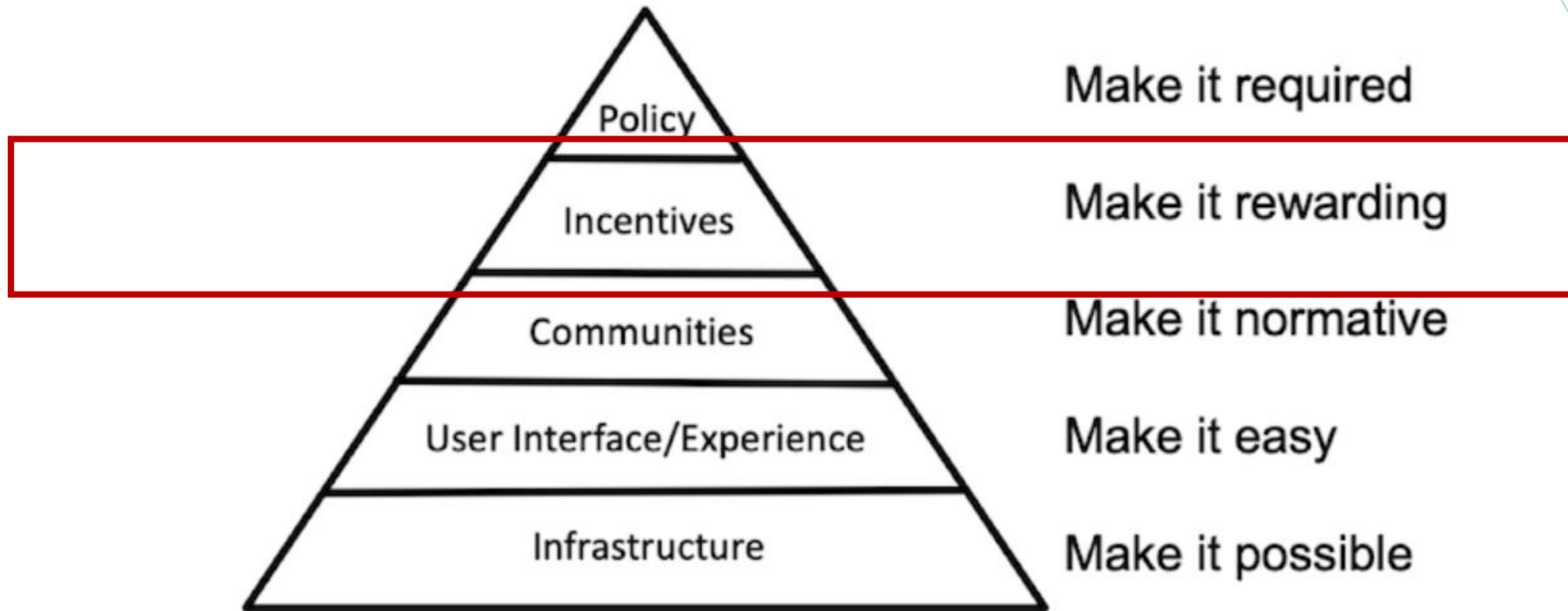


European initiative to reform Research assessment

Recognition and rewards for Open Science



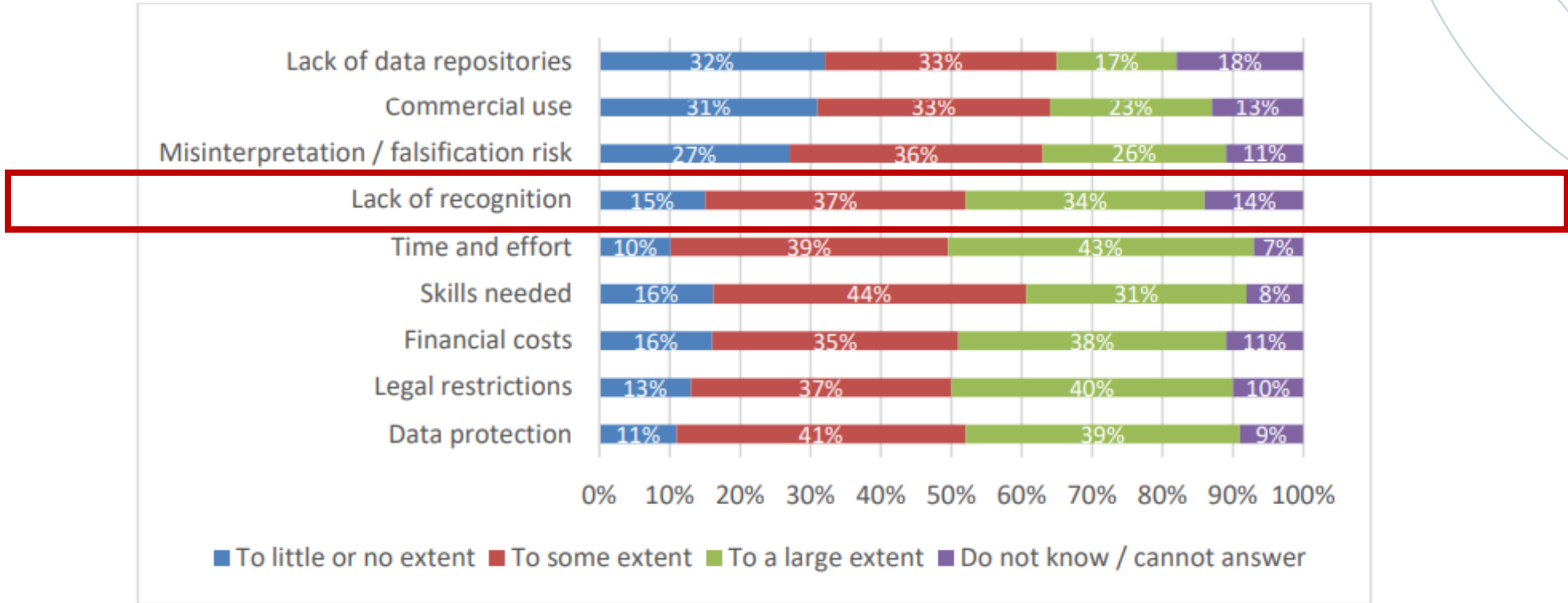
Why is R&R for Open Science important?



Brian Nosek, *Strategy for Culture Change* (2019): <https://www.cos.io/blog/strategy-for-culture-change>

Barriers for sharing data

Figure 21. Obstacles to the management and sharing of research data

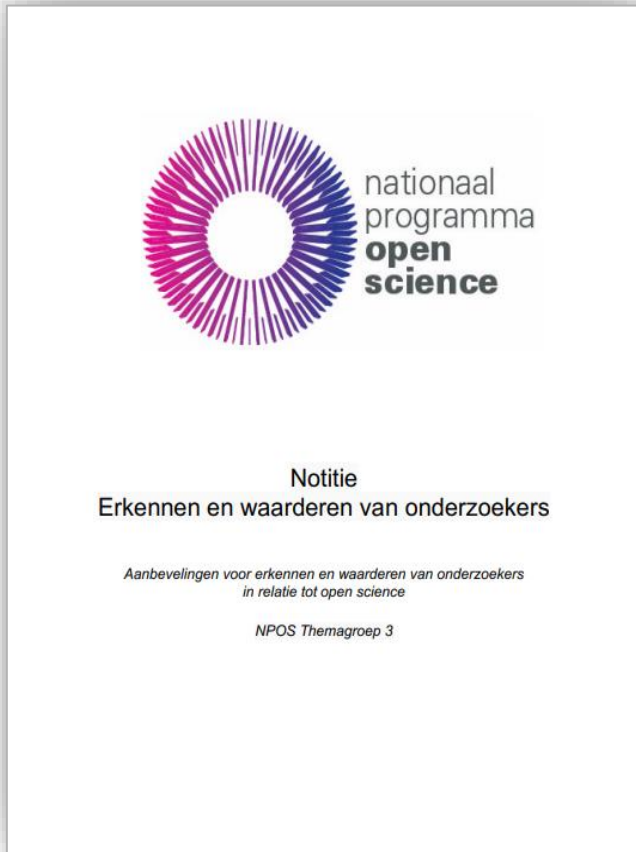


<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/03b5562d-6a35-11ed-b14f-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

But how?
What role for institutions,
funders?



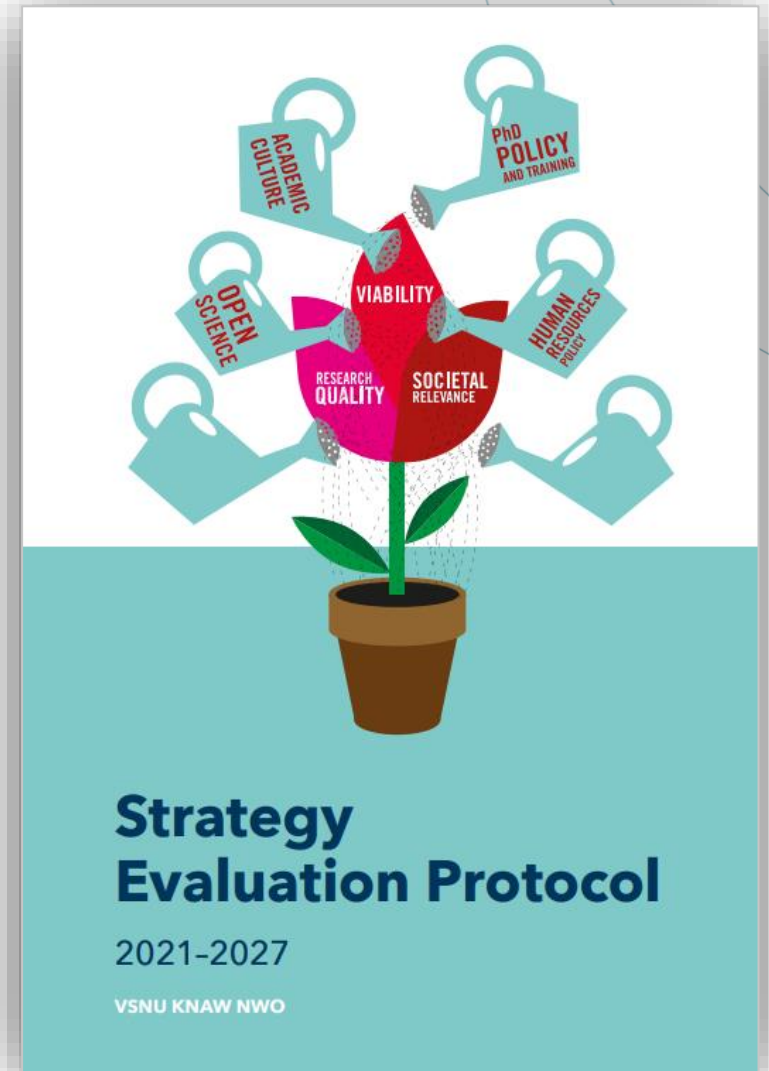
Recognizing and rewarding OS at three levels



Level	Include OS in:	By whom?
Research groups	Criteria for national evaluation / assessment protocols	Institutions / government / assessment agencies
Research funding	Criteria when assessing funding proposals	Funders
Individual researchers	Criteria for hiring, promotion and tenure at institutional level	Institutions

National level research assessment

- Framework to be used by all universities and research institutions in the NLs
- Once every 6 years
- Developed and owned by Association of Universities, NWO and Royal Academy
- Three main criteria:
 - 1) research quality;
 - 2) societal relevance;
 - 3) viability of the unit.
- Four specific themes:
 - 1) Open Science:
 - 2) PhD Policy and Training:
 - 3) Academic Culture:
 - 4) Human Resources Policy



How to R&R OS as a funder?

4. Curriculum Vitae (weight: 40%)

4a. Academic profile ⓘ

(Min 400 words - max. 700 words)

Wordcount:

4b. Key output ⓘ

(Max. 10 items. Min. 400 words - max. 700 words, excl. output titles and references to the out

Wordcount:

↳ Expand for Explanatory Notes on section 4

5. Administrative details

5a. Personal details

Title(s), initial(s), surname(s):	
Postal address (for full duration of the round):	
Telephone:	
Mobile phone:	

Narrative CV format

- Where Open Science activities can be listed
- Key outputs are limited
- Openness of outputs should be indicated
- JIF and H-index are no longer allowed
- Guidance for reviewers how to assess open science
- But... no formal assessment criterium yet

Open Science Fund

- Funding scheme for small (50k) Open Science projects
- To recognize and reward researchers who are at the front of putting Open Science into practice
- Open Science track record part of the assessment



Section 4 – Open Science track record of the main applicant

Briefly outline your track record and broader interest in the Open Science domain (max 200 words). This is one of the assessment criteria. You can highlight specific activities you have undertaken to make your own research outputs openly accessible; contributions to developing resources, tools or policies to enable open research practices; or evidence of a broader passion and interest in the potential of Open Science approaches.

Description:

Word count (max 200):

The European Commission is leading the way

Evaluation of proposals and Open Science

“Excellence” criterion (methodology)

- ✓ Evaluation of the quality of open science practices
- ✓ E.g. 1 page to describe Open Science practices + 1 page to describe research data/output management

“Quality of implementation” criterion (capacity of participants and consortium as a whole + list of achievements)

- ✓ Explain expertise / track record OS (if no OS practices are involved then no expertise required)
- ✓ List publications, software, data, etc., relevant to the project with qualitative assessment and, where available, persistent identifiers

Publications expected to be open access; datasets expected to be FAIR and ‘as open as possible, as closed as necessary’.
Significance of publications to be evaluated on the basis of proposers’ qualitative assessment and not per Journal Impact Factor

R&R for OS on institutional level: case of Utrecht University



- TEAM
- RESEARCH
- IMPACT
- PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE
- LEADERSHIP
- EDUCATION

CAREER NEWS | 25 June 2021

Impact factor abandoned by Dutch university in hiring and promotion decisions

Faculty and staff members at Utrecht University will be evaluated by their commitment to open science.

Utrecht University withdraws from global ranking as debate on quantitative metrics grows

12 Oct 2023 | News

[Universities](#) [Assessment](#) [R&D Policy](#)

The Dutch university has opted out of the Times Higher Education league table this year, adding further momentum to the research assessment reform movement that is pushing for universities and researchers to be judged on quality not quantity

Openness

Recognise and reward openness in all domains

- 1 • Prioritise openness in all aspects of education, research and professional performance
• Work towards a safe, open work environment

Accelerating change

- New initiative to incentivize institutions to include Open Science in their assessment policies.
- 50k euro per institution in a non-competitive call
- Three conditions:
 - a convincing plan to embed Open Science in the institutional hiring and promotion policies for researchers and professional support staff.
 - Active participation in national alignment activities (also funded from this call)
 - Guarantee that outcomes will be implemented sustainably.
- Current status:
 - 24 (out of 25) proposals submitted
 - Projects to be awarded end of this year



In conclusion

- Changing recognition and rewards is essential to make the transition to Open Science.
- A lot is already happening
- Practical steps and experiments are needed
- And international collaboration!

Hans de Jonge | h.dejonge@nwo.nl |
 @HLdeJonge |  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1189-9133>

Thanks? Questions?

