



Scientific and Technical Information Department - CNRS

## White Paper – Open Science in a Digital Republic – Strategic Guide Study Review and Proposals for Implementing the Act

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# Creating a network of digital data curation entities

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## Conceptualising a typical digital data curation entity

- 1 There are already bodies in France that curate digital data and make it available: the Strasbourg Astronomical Data Centre, and Huma-Num for data in the human and social sciences.
- 2 In order to conceptualise a typical digital data curation entity, we propose undertaking a precise analysis of these existing data repositories, especially in terms of structure, security, power, capacity, staff, features, use by the scientific community, and indicators.

## Forming a network of digital data curation entities

- 3 We propose building on these existing structures to create similar structures in each of the scientific disciplines.
- 4 These structures must have the following features in common:
  - preservation of the discipline's scientific data;
  - distribution and availability of the discipline's scientific data via a platform;
  - enrichment of the data and the provision of processing tools;
  - maintenance in operational condition;
  - maintenance of a catalogue of the discipline's data.
- 5 In addition, in order to enable transdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research and analysis, priority should be given to the establishment of what has been called "networked science."<sup>1</sup> Although there are already some exchanges of theory and corpora, if data repositories can be created for each scientific discipline and networked together, this will facilitate the sharing of knowledge.
- 6 Finally, these digital data curation entities could be responsible for archiving data and ensuring its long-term preservation, with the support of the CINES.

- 7 This networking and the construction of computer hubs between the digital data curation entities of each scientific discipline implies the definition of standard formats and decisions on how to ensure the interoperability of the data.
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## NOTES

1. Florence Millerand, “La science en réseau. Les gestionnaires d’information ‘invisibles’ dans la production d’une base de données scientifiques” (Networked science: The ‘invisible’ information managers in the production of a scientific database), *Revue d’anthropologie des connaissances*, 6(1), 2012, pp. 163–190.