

Permanent Access Issues in the Social Sciences

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CESSDA (Council for European Social Science Data Archives)

- Umbrella organisation of European Social Science Data Archives;
 - Improve access via joint R&D projects; expert seminars, etc.
- CESSDA-PPP (Preparatory Phase Project) in process of completion;
- Main aim is to developing the research infrastructure of CESSDA;
- PPP is:
 - planning the future development of CESSDA;
 - resolving a number of strategic, financial and legal issues;
 - aiming to allow social science researchers to have access to the data they require.

CESSDA-PPP

- Major work packages
 - extending the coverage of the CESSDA RI;
 - strengthening the CESSDA RI;
 - investigating standards;
 - developing common authentication and access middleware tools;
 - developing metadata standards;
 - creating thesauri management tools;
 - improving data harmonisation tools.

UK Data Archive

- Another “umbrella” organisation;
- Provides infrastructure and shared services for:
 - Economic and Social Data Service;
 - census.ac.uk;
 - Secure Data Service;
 - RELU-DSS.
- Existing customer base;
- Continuous research and development;
- Standards compliant (various levels);
- 40 years experience;
- Legal Place of Deposit since 2005.



Stakeholders I

- Research Funders (Research Council)
 - Access to funded research outputs
 - Access to other data allowing research
- Government
 - Open Access (publicly funded research)
 - Accountability
 - Data Protection / Privacy
 - Legal Deposit

Stakeholders II

- Data Creators / Owners
 - Researchers
 - Verifiability / Validation
 - Good sharing culture
 - Visibility
 - Rewards?
 - Government
 - Open / Accountable
 - All
 - Security from data loss

Stakeholders III

- Data Users
 - Core users from social sciences in Higher Education
 - Others from wider research environment (university, government, public bodies.)
- Growth of customer base foreseeable
 - Public
 - Democratization of data

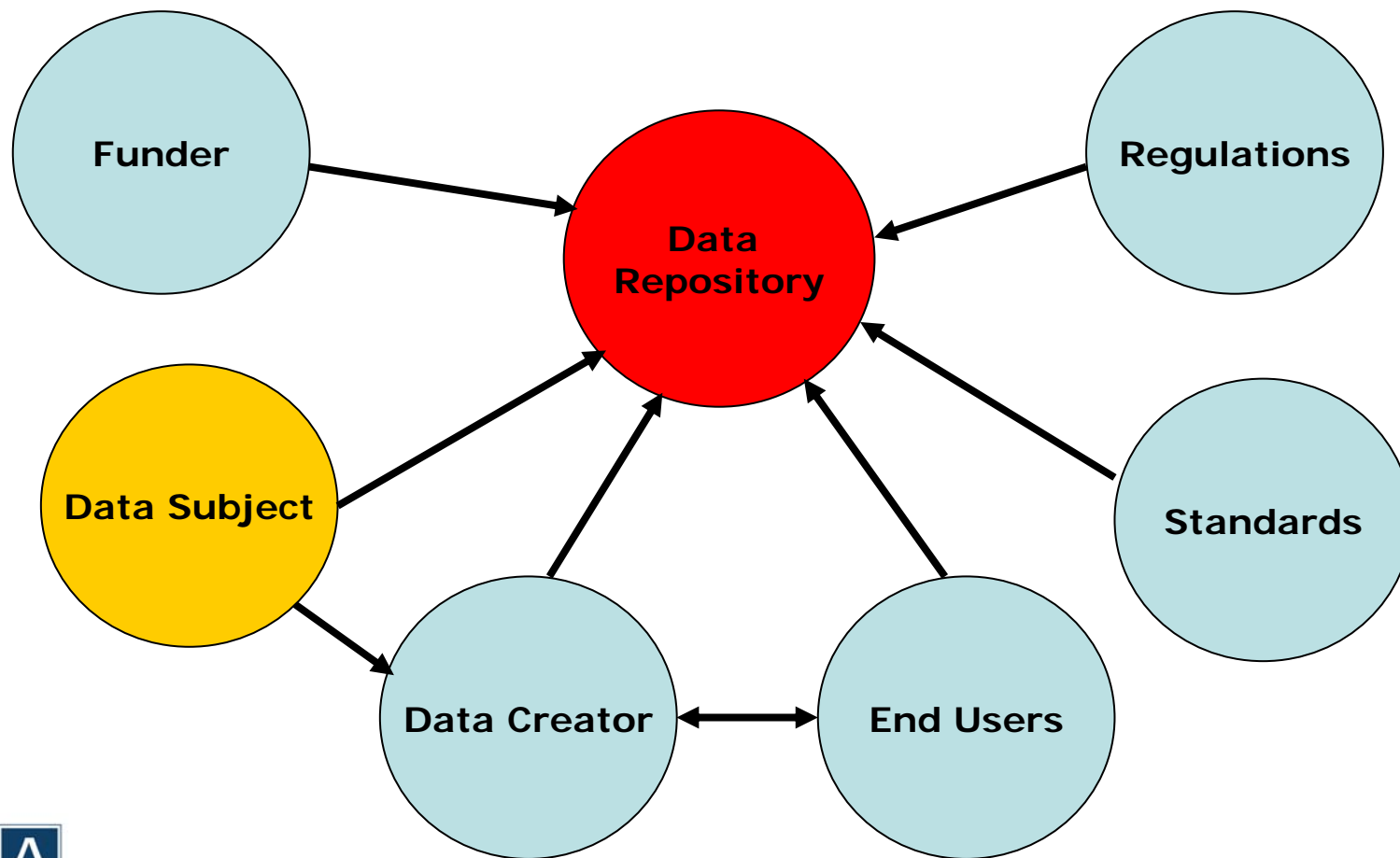
Changes ...

- Changing policies of funding organisations
- Changing publishing environment
- Changing attitudes towards sensitive data
- Changing user base

Policy

- Selection policy
 - Cost-benefit analysis
 - Ingest costs
- Social science issues
 - Consent
 - Disclosure
 - Identifiability
 - Security
 - Virtual Research Laboratory

Trust



Certification / Accreditation

- Standards / protocols
- Best practice
- Interoperability

- Clear assessment criteria
- Proportionality

Legacy

- Longevity of Social Science Data Archives
 - Selection
 - Licences
 - Metadata
 - Registration
 - Integrity
 - Usability
 - De-archive / De-accession policy

Future

- Enhanced data manipulation online
- Enhanced data visualisation
- Seamless data publication
- Improved finding aids
- New and interoperable Authentication, Access control and Accounting methods / tools
- Bi-modal approach to access?
- Secure mode providing access to “secure” data
- Proportionate and relevant accountability measures
- Ability to deal with legacy issues