

# Make Data Count's commitment to the Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure

May 2024

Make Data Count endorses the [Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure](#). We strive to work on infrastructure that aligns to these principles and is open, sustainable, and community governed.

We have completed a self-assessment of Make Data Count's infrastructure and activities against the principles, which we outline below. For the items marked in green, we mean that Make Data Count has processes and frameworks in place that uphold the principle (while recognizing that these may not be perfect). Items marked in yellow refer to points where Make Data Count already addresses the principle partially but we have noted areas of improvement to fully align to its aspirations. Items marked in red designate where we know that Make Data Count has not yet made sufficient progress toward the principle. We will use this self-assessment to guide areas of work for Make Data Count over the few years.

Governance		
Status	Principle	Make Data Count
●	Coverage across the scholarly enterprise	Make Data Count focuses on establishing standards and practices that can be applied broadly across research and administrative datasets and repositories. To enable a meaningful comparison of usage across platforms, our tools and activities are relevant to repositories and platforms of any scope and discipline.
●	Stakeholder Governed	Make Data Count is a community initiative and not a standalone organization, consequently it has no formal mechanism for board governance. However, the <a href="#">Make Data Count Advisory Group</a> , which provides guidance on the initiatives strategic direction and activities, comprises members from across the stakeholder sectors involved in the data ecosystem, including academia, publishing, and funding organizations. Anyone in the community with an interest in data metrics and data evaluation can contribute to Make Data Count.

●	Non-discriminatory participation or membership	Make Data Count is not a membership-based initiative, instead, we welcome collaboration and participation from all interested stakeholders. Anyone in the community can engage with Make Data Count by contributing to resource development, participating in community discussions, or implementing Make Data Count standards.
●	Transparent governance	Make Data Count operations are managed by a dedicated team, guided by the Make Data Count Director. The initiative is also guided by an Advisory Group, comprising community members. Information about the initiative's governance is available on the <a href="#">Make Data Count website</a> , where the <a href="#">Advisory Group's charter</a> is also publicly available.
●	Cannot lobby	Make Data Count was set up and continues to run as a community initiative. Make Data Count provides infrastructure and resources for the development of data metrics that can be implemented across the data ecosystem to address the communities data evaluation needs. While we regularly engage in outreach and awareness activities to drive adoption, Make Data Count does not lobby.
●	Living will	Make Data Count has deployed infrastructure for data metrics through community partners such as DataCite, COUNTER, and others. The services in place would be sustained by those community partners should Make Data Count discontinue its activities. However, we recognize the need for a better documented plan for an eventual transition of governance and resources for Make Data Count and we will work on developing such documentation.
●	Formal incentives to fulfill mission & wind-down	Make Data Count operates as a community initiative and not as an independent organization, providing flexibility in its operations, and preventing a need to dissolve a dedicated entity. While the data ecosystem has changed substantially over the last decade, infrastructure development has mainly focused on data sharing, the evaluation of open data is still in its infancy and there is a very clear community need for tools and resources to collect and report data usage.
<b>Sustainability</b>		
●	Time-limited funds are used only for time-limited activities	Make Data Count's operations are sustained via project funds and in-kind contributions by community groups and organizations. In the past, leadership roles and outreach activities have been supported by in-kind contributions from California Digital Library,

		<p>DataONE, and DataCite, Throughout our existence, the initiative has also been funded by grants for the development of specific infrastructure and resources work, and key projects of the initiative will be sustained by such funds for at least a couple of additional years.</p> <p>We are working on sustainability plans aimed at diversifying financial and resourcing support for the initiative.</p>
●	Goal to generate surplus	<p>Make Data Count has depended on grant funds for sustaining many of its activities over the years and thus has not yet generated a surplus. One of the strategic areas of focus for the initiative for the next three years is to develop a sustainability model that reduces dependency on grant funds.</p>
●	Goal to create financial reserves	<p>Make Data Count infrastructure for data metrics is deployed through community partners such as DataCite and COUNTER. The Make Data Count workflows and services will therefore continue to be sustained via these community partners should Make Data Count discontinue its activities. However, we recognize the need to develop dedicated financial reserves to account for an eventual transition or wind down of activities, and this is one of the areas we will work on as part of sustainability plans for the initiative for the next three years.</p>
●	Mission-consistent revenue generation	<p>Make Data Count's tools, standards, and resources are freely available to the community. Make Data Count is exploring various sustainability models, but regardless of the approach taken, the tools developed and the data collected are and will always remain open.</p>
●	Revenue based on services, not data	<p>Data usage information collected and stored via Make Data Count infrastructure is and will remain open under a CC0 waiver.</p>
<b>Insurance</b>		
●	Open source	<p>Make Data Count technical infrastructure is created by community organizations and hosted on GitHub (example: <a href="#">Data Citation Corpus</a>). All Make Data Count software is available under the fully permissible MIT license.</p>
●	Open data (within constraints of privacy laws)	<p>The information collected for data citations, views and downloads via Make Data Count infrastructure is hosted by DataCite and is openly available under a CC0 waiver.</p>

●	Available data (within constraints of privacy laws)	The information on data usage collected via Make Data Count infrastructure and hosted by DataCite is accessible by both humans and machines via open tools and services including a REST API and public data file.
●	Patent non-assertion	<p>All standards and approaches are created and published publicly by Make Data Count for implementation and customization by the community. Data usage information collected via Make Data Count infrastructure is fully open. As facts, data citations, views and downloads stored in the public data file cannot be patented.</p> <p>Make Data Count makes no copyright, related or neighboring rights claims to the aggregated data.</p>