

## Finding reputable data repositories

Transcript of video

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The Registry of Research Data Repositories, also known as re3data, is a multidisciplinary Open Science tool that indexes existing international repositories for research data. As per 2020, re3data lists well over 2,500 data repositories. In order to be listed in re3data, a repository needs to meet certain requirements. It needs to be run by a legal entity, such as a sustainable institution (for example a library or a university), and the repository needs to clarify access conditions to the data and repository as well as the terms of use, and have a focus on research data. Re3data is a rather user-friendly tool, which allows users to quickly navigate between an array of different data repositories, all over the world. In this session we will go through some of the basic features of re3data. We will start off by using the browse function. Here you can choose between three categories: 'subject', 'content type' or 'country'.

If you click the 'country' option, a world map appears, where all the areas in green mark all the countries from which data repositories are included in the registry. By hovering over a country, you will see the number of repositories included in the registry from that particular country. If you prefer, you can also click the 'text' tab, in order to display a list over the countries and the number of repositories from each country, listed according to alphabetical order. Once you click a country, a list with the repositories from the selected country appears. This is particularly useful if you are looking into using a repository from a specific country or region.

If we go back to the start page, we will look at another feature of the browse function. This time we will try the subject browser.

Once you click on the 'subjects' button a colourful wheel appears, which features the major disciplines

included in the repository registry. If you click one of the overarching disciplines, for example the humanities and social sciences, the wheel changes, and the subjects become more specialised. Every time you click on a subject on the next level, the wheel changes, until you reach the final level. You can always go back by clicking at the centre of the wheel. Once you have reached the last sub-discipline a list appears, which features all the repositories specialising in that particular topic. If you

prefer, you can also browse using the 'text' version, instead of the graphical version, which simply lists all the subjects available.

If you know what you are looking for already from the start, you can skip taking the detour via the browse function and instead go directly to the search function on the start page. Here you can enter keywords, geographical terms or subjects. If you type 'linguistics' for example, a list of repositories welcoming datasets within the field of language studies will appear. Be mindful of your search criteria. Sometimes you may involuntarily exclude relevant results by being too specific.

Now, we will take a closer look at the search results. At the top you will see the name of the repository followed by the name of the associated institution. For each of the repositories listed you will be able to see the subjects they specialise in, the different types of content they work with, and the geographical scope. Each of these words or terms are clickable, and by clicking them you will generate a new search which will list all the repositories in that category. At the bottom you will find a brief introduction to the specific repository. At the top right corner of every repository post you will find a list with six different icons. Each of the icons represents a particular service or feature, which allows you to quickly determine for example if the repository provides open access to their data, if it is certified or if they use the DOI as a persistent identifier system. The icons immediately show if the repository offers a service or not. If the box is colourised the repository is offering a specific service, if it remains grey, it does not.

If you click the name of the repository you will find additional information regarding the repository. Here you will find a list containing contact details, a direct link to the repository, and information about the institution and the terms and standards used.