

The COOPEUS data sharing principles

Global and interdisciplinary collaboration is essential to encounter the scale and complexity of scientific and social challenges related to ecosystem, climate and earth dynamics of our planet. Therefore, significant observational capabilities exist at environmental research infrastructures on both sides of the Atlantic producing large amounts of research data. Strong new synergies and new scientific insights could be reached by enabling efficient access to and the open sharing of these data.

COOPEUS aims at facilitating access to research data within its infrastructure network according to the following principles:

1. Research infrastructures under the umbrella of COOPEUS strongly support free and open access to data produced by their facilities and feel committed to work towards the realisation of this principle.
2. Access to data provided by COOPEUS research infrastructures depends on national and international legal as well as ethical frameworks¹ as well as on their own data policies. COOPEUS infrastructures acknowledge potential reasons to restrict public access to each others data resulting from these obligations.
3. COOPEUS infrastructures commonly aim to identify unnecessary or obsolete barriers towards open access to their data and will continuously work towards the stepwise elimination of these obstacles.
4. Undisclosed research data shall be made available on demand to researchers representing COOPEUS infrastructures - as far as possible within the legal, ethical and policy framework of the data holding infrastructure. Each COOPEUS infrastructure shall nominate 'data stewards' to help to accommodate such internal data requests.
5. Free and open access without any restrictions shall be granted to the metadata of the data holdings of each COOPEUS infrastructure in order to enable and ease the discovery of the data holdings of each infrastructure.
6. Metadata of COOPEUS related data shall contain the necessary information to attribute identification, authorship, geographical and temporal coverage, classification of measurements and observations, access constraints as well as the responsible organisation or principal investigator (PI) for each data set.
7. If data or information from COOPEUS research infrastructures is used in published or unpublished work, attribution for the used resources is required. Data citations shall exclusively use the information provided within the metadata of each data set. Data which is not publicly accessible but has been disclosed to individual researchers through COOPEUS requires explicit allowance of the responsible PI prior to the publication of results derived from this data.

¹ [such as ...Aarhus Convention, Biodiversity Convention, Directive 2003/4/EC, the ICSU Declaration on Science and the Use of Scientific knowledge] .