

Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft

International Perspectives:

German Policies and Approaches

German Policies and Approaches
Stefan Winkler-Nees / London, February 26 2009



The German Research Foundation



Mission Statement:

The German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG) is the central, **self-governing** research funding organisation that promotes research at universities and other publicly financed research institutions in Germany.

The DFG serves **all branches** of science and the humanities by funding research projects and facilitating cooperation among researchers.

The German road towards effective management and curation of digital research data

- **1998: DFG Principles: “Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice”**
Primary data as the basis for publications shall be securely stored for ten years in a durable form in the institution of their origin.
- **2003: DFG signs the „Berlin Declaration”**
... Open access must satisfy ...a free, irrevocable, worldwide, right of access to, and a license to copy, use, distribute, transmit and display the work publicly and to make and distribute derivative works, in any digital medium for any responsible purpose, subject to proper attribution of authorship...
- **2006: DFG Position Paper**
Scientific Library Service and Information Systems - Funding Priorities through 2015
- **2007: DFG / ESF Workshop in Padua**
Shared Responsibilities in Sharing Research Data Policies and Partnerships
- **2008: National Priority Initiative „Digital Information“ by the Alliance of German Science Organisations**
Working group on primary research data managed by DFG

Funding through the Department for Scientific Library Services and Information Systems

- Coordinated national licensing and hosting
- Digitisation
- Electronic publishing and Open Access
- Virtual Research Environments
- Primary Research Data

Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft

**Scientific
Library Services and
Information Systems**

**Funding Priorities
Through 2015**

DFG Position Paper

published in June 2006

http://www.dfg.de/forschungsfoerderung/wissenschaftliche_infrastruktur/lis/download/pos_papier_funding_priorities_2015_en.pdf

Funding through the Department for Scientific Library Services and Information Systems

*DFG supports the systematic
collaboration of scientists
with information specialists.*

Funding Options

- individual grants
- authors fees or other publication support
- long term projects with exploratory character
- round tables and expert meetings

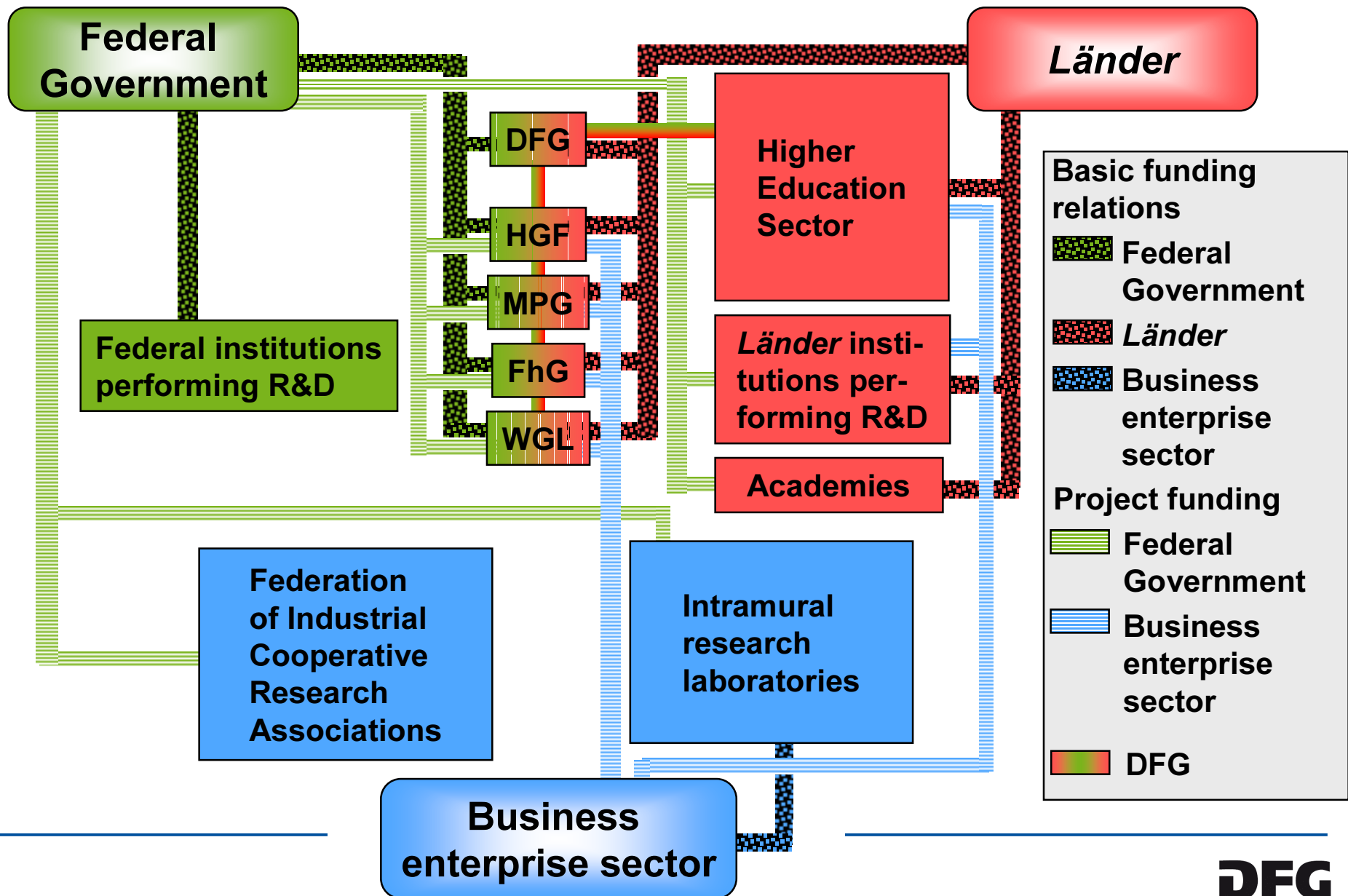
Applicants

- Scientific libraries, archives, museums, IT centres, research institutions, scientists

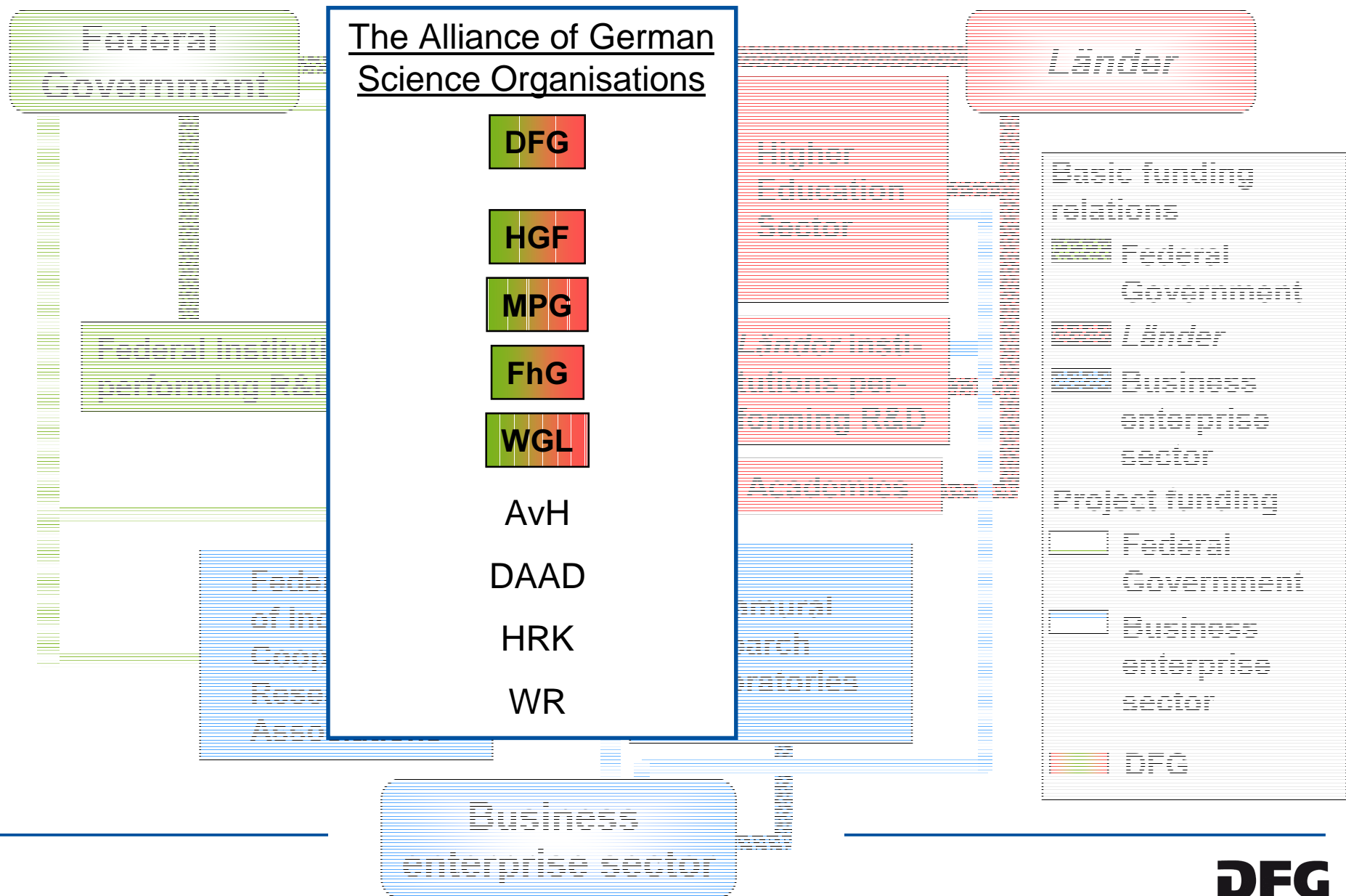
Criteria of Funding

- added-value for a supra-regional information service for science and research
- contribution to an enhancement of scientific infrastructure
- scientific relevance, future use and sustainability
- guarantee or concepts for long-term continuation of the service

Structure of German Research Funding



Structure of German Research Funding



The Alliance of German Science Organisations

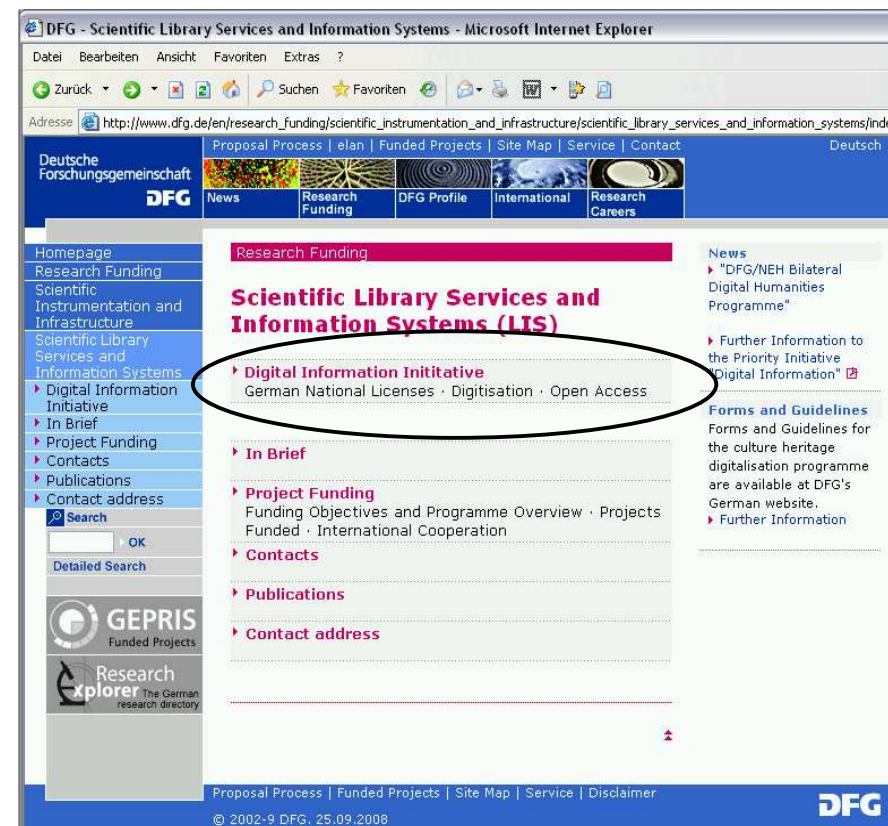
DFG together with other Alliance Partners:

- Max Planck Society
- Helmholtz Association
- Leibniz Institutes
- Fraunhofer Society
- and others

**June 22 2008: National Priority Initiative
„Digital Information“**

The topics are:

- Licensing
- Open Access
- National Hosting
- Primary Research Data
- Virtual Research Environments
- Legal Frameworks



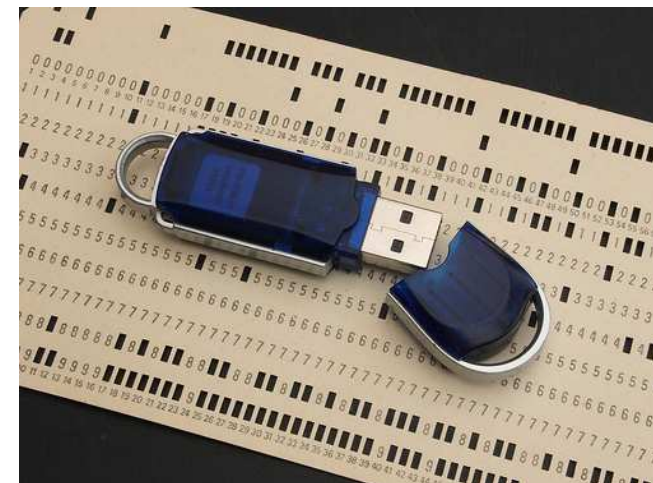
The Priority Initiative on Digital Information

One of the six priority areas is Primary Research Data:

“... Even after a relatively short phase of scientific evaluation by individual researchers or small groups, much of this data is forgotten and/or allowed to deteriorate. All scientific institutions therefore see an urgent need for action in order to ensure the systematic backup, archiving and provisioning of scientific data for subsequent (re-)use by third parties ...”

Working Group on Primary Research Data

Current Activity: drafting of an Alliance wide policy
“... in order to promote both the need for action and to demonstrate the usefulness of primary data infrastructures ...”



Ian-S; <http://www.flickr.com/photos/ian-s/2152798588/>

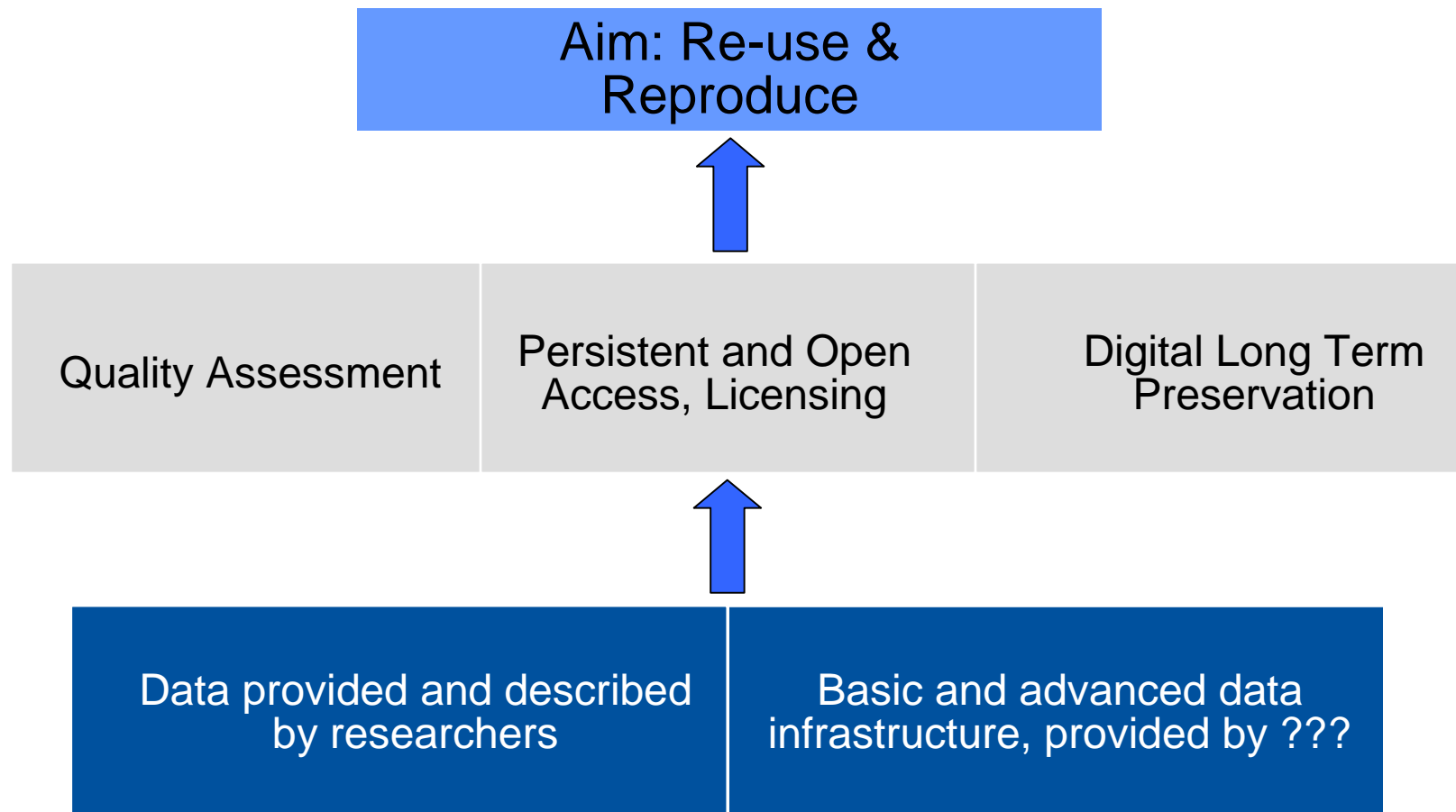
The Prime Objective

transparency, traceability and follow up use

Can we define common principles or recommendations, independently of scientific discipline and type of data?

- open access
- following the many rules and cultures of scientific disciplines
- honouring the principles of “Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice”
- necessity of and requirements for infrastructure
- organisation and funding

Preservation and Open Access to Data: Summary (1)



Preservation and Open Access to Data: Summary (2)

Access

- forms and conditions of access, discipline specific (Open Access?)

Differences of data in all the scientific disciplines

- form, quantity and diversity, life time cycles and utilisation characteristics

Scientific recognition

- making own data available for further use has to become a self-evident part of the scientific merits (culture of publication)

Teaching and qualification

Use of standards, development and allocation of infrastructures

- collaboration between scientist and information management experts
- securing interoperability with international and interdisciplinary networks

**Implementation through the individual partner organisations
in the Alliance**

What is the DFG doing and planning?

■ Policy Level

- Encouraging archiving and verification of data sets

realizing the DFG Principles: "Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice"

- Developing data policies or frameworks for data policies

■ Funding Level: Pilot Projects

- Publication and Citation of Scientific Primary Data

- Documenting, Archiving, and Presenting Primary Data

in various disciplines

■ Community Building

- Series of Workshops and Round Tables

Every scientific community has its own culture and set of issues, practices and cultures that must be understood and addressed when tackling data infrastructure issues.

■ Cooperation

- Alliance of German Science Organisations "National Priority Initiative

„Digital Information“ ”

- Knowledge Exchange

- ESF Members Forum on OA to Research Data

On our agenda for the coming years

■ Encouraging the publication of data sets

Within the scholarly communication cycle, the publication of data sets needs to be given a higher standing. Need infrastructure, development of legal framework, other incentives to make this possible.

■ Exploring the European Dimension to Data

Coordinated system to curate, archive and make data accessible would be an invaluable contribution to ERA. How to coordinate? ESFRI-like process? How to create long term financing? How to align policies, financing, etc.?

■ Working across sectors

Good opportunity to work together with publishers and other actors. On Data issues, there should be much common ground.

■ Think Disciplines

EU: Europe (or Germany, or the UK, or...) as the best possible home for global research communities. With data, this can be put into practice.

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