



## Session 2: Socio-economic and environmental impact of RI's:

*ELIXIR's approach to enabling socio-economic impact in the context of digitalisation and AI*



 @ELIXIREurope

 /company/elixir-europe

*Tim Hubbard  
ELIXIR Director*

Tuesday 04 June 2024

[www.elixir-europe.org](http://www.elixir-europe.org)

# ELIXIR Europe

ELIXIR is an intergovernmental organisation that brings together life science resources.



Databases



Training



Software tools



Data standards

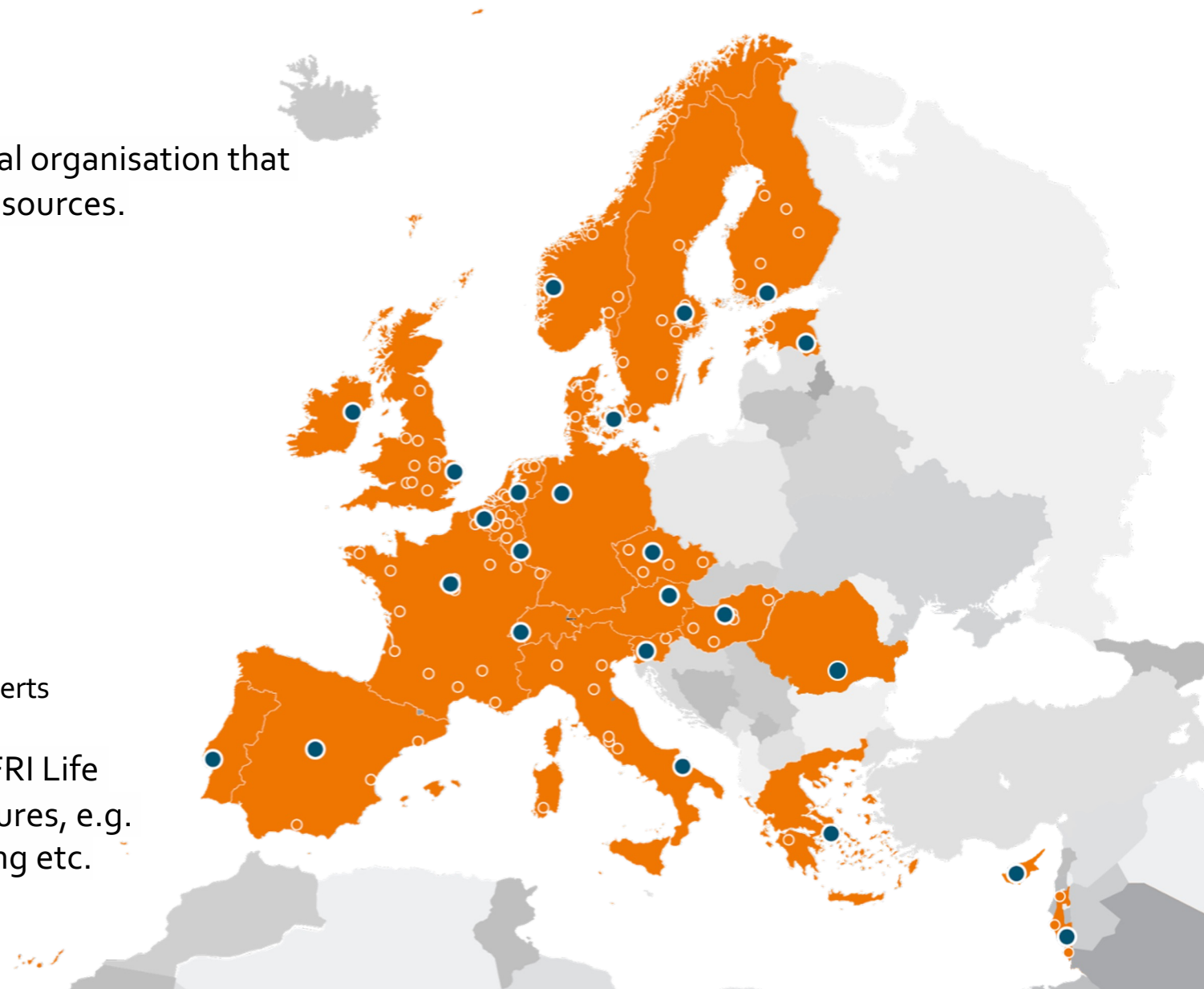


Compute resources



Scientific & technical experts

Works closely with other ESFRI Life Science Research Infrastructures, e.g. BBMRI-ERIC, Euro-BioImaging etc.

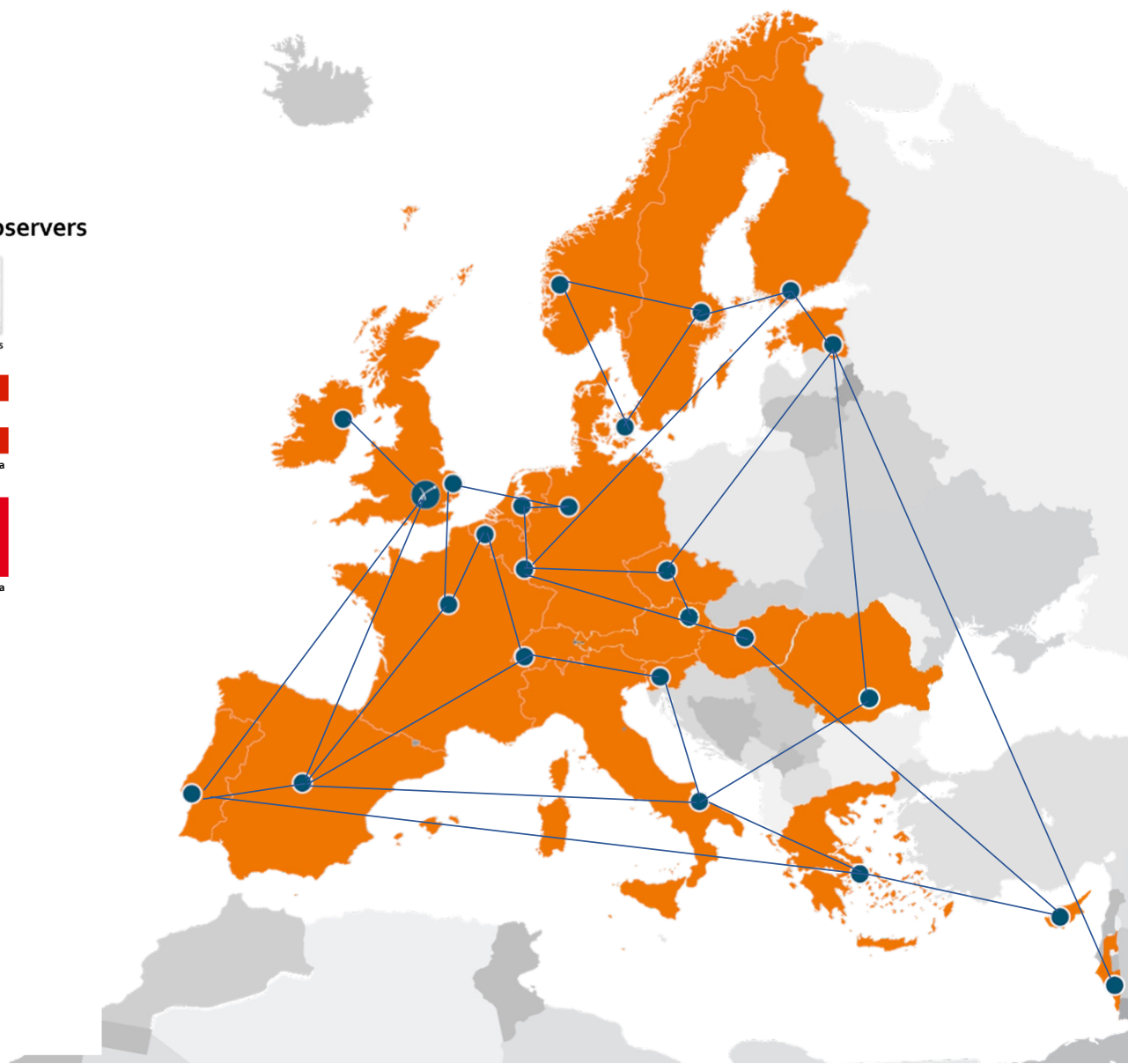


# ELIXIR Europe

## ELIXIR Members



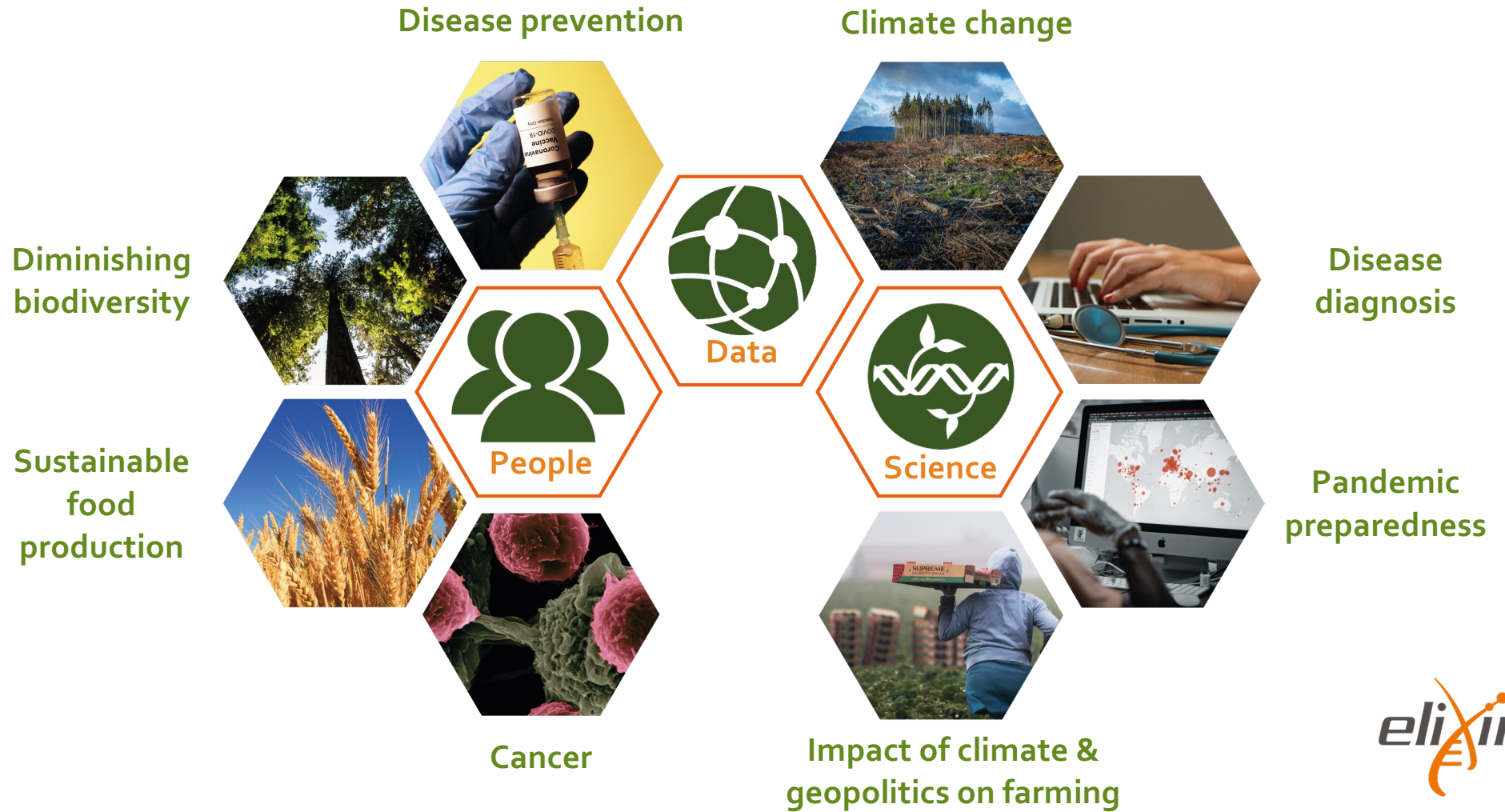
## ELIXIR Observers



# Societal challenges....



# ...and data-driven solutions



# Data management challenges in life sciences



Data growth



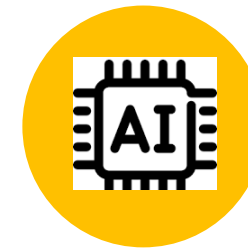
Data diversity



Data location



Data sensitivity



Artificial  
Intelligence



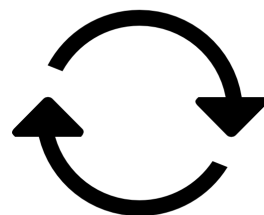


SCIENCE

Human data and translational research

Cellular & molecular research

Biodiversity, food security & pathogens



*Common & Shared Technology*



TECHNOLOGY

Research data management & knowledge sharing

Reproducible analytics & infrastructure

Federated service delivery

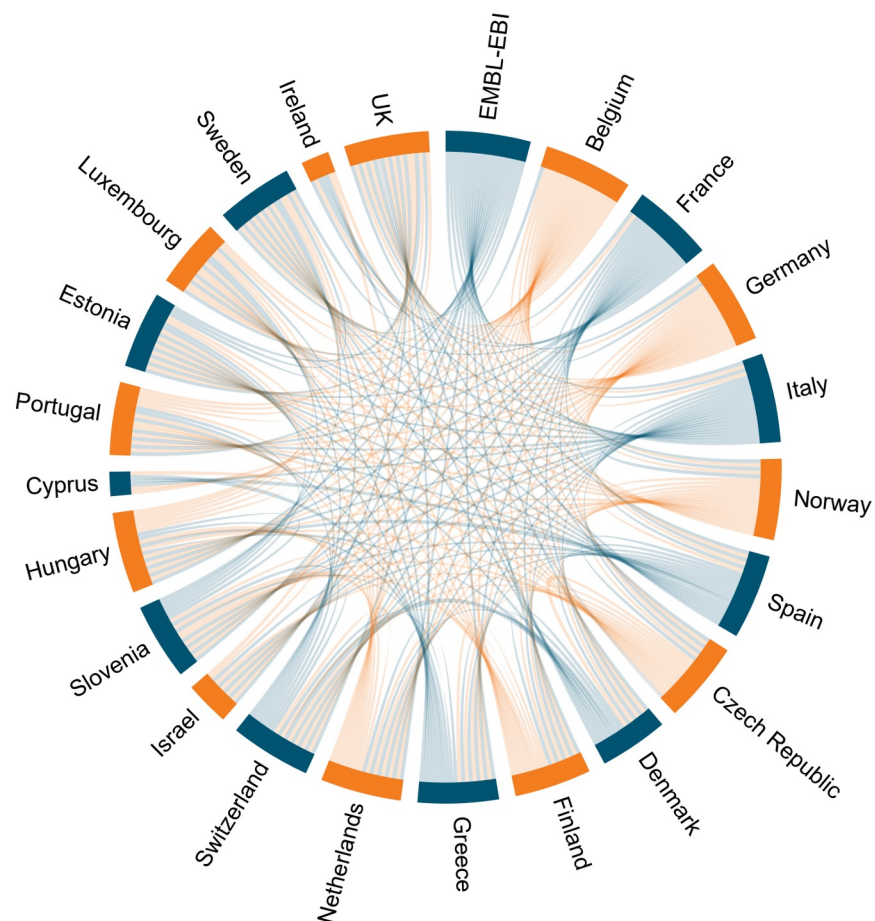


# ELIXIR Commissioned Services

Commissioned Services are technical projects that guide future service development, drive standards adoption and connect ELIXIR Nodes

## Building a single infrastructure by connecting Europe

- Over **120 projects** supported by **EUR 26 million**
- Improving **collaboration between ELIXIR Nodes**
- **Connecting, integrating and sustaining** life science data resources
- **Developing and improving services** used by life scientists globally



<https://elixir-europe.org/about-us/commissioned-services>





# ELIXIR Communities – connecting infrastructure & life science experts



Formed around domain experts in ELIXIR Nodes (including non-ELIXIR partners)



Provide a mechanism for long-term collaborations with other ESFRIs and large-scale initiatives



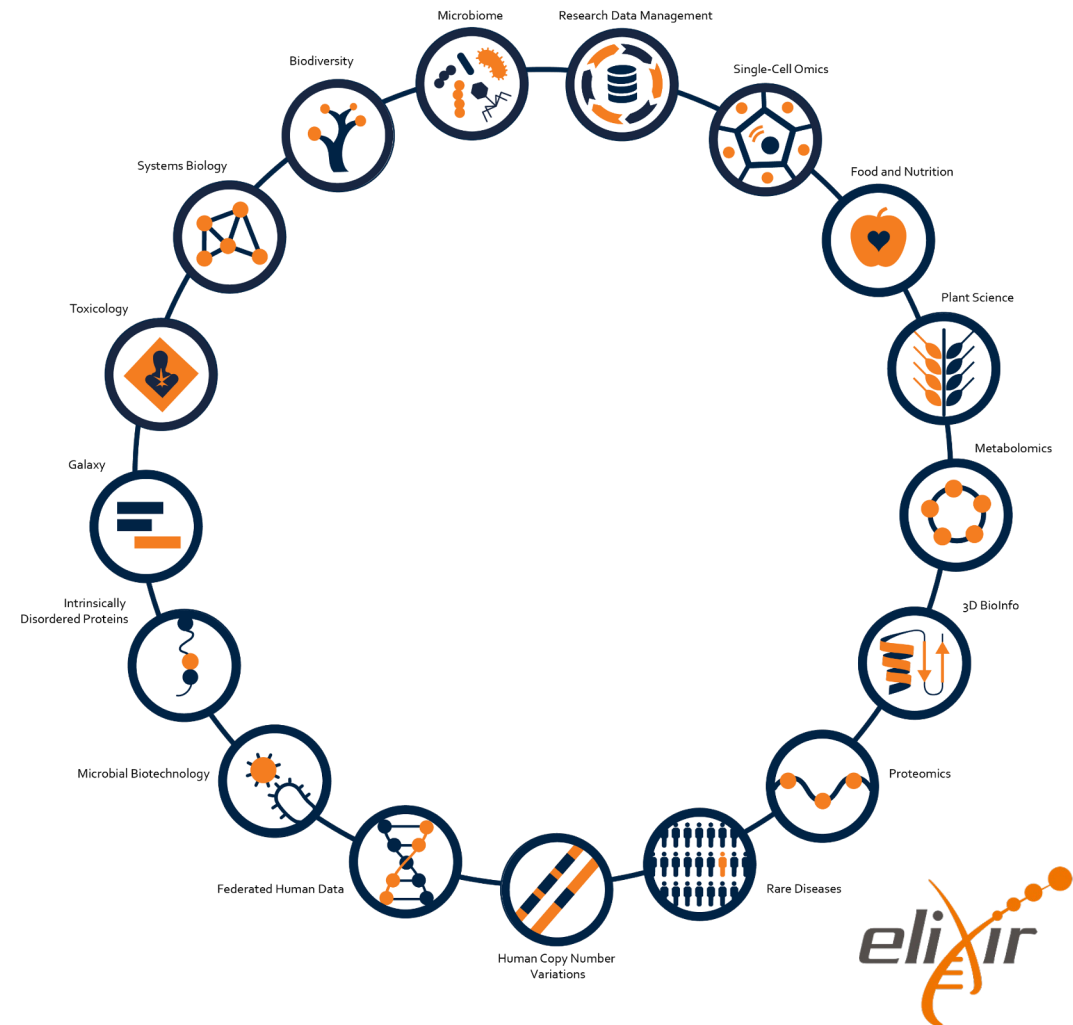
Drive service developments in the ELIXIR Platforms

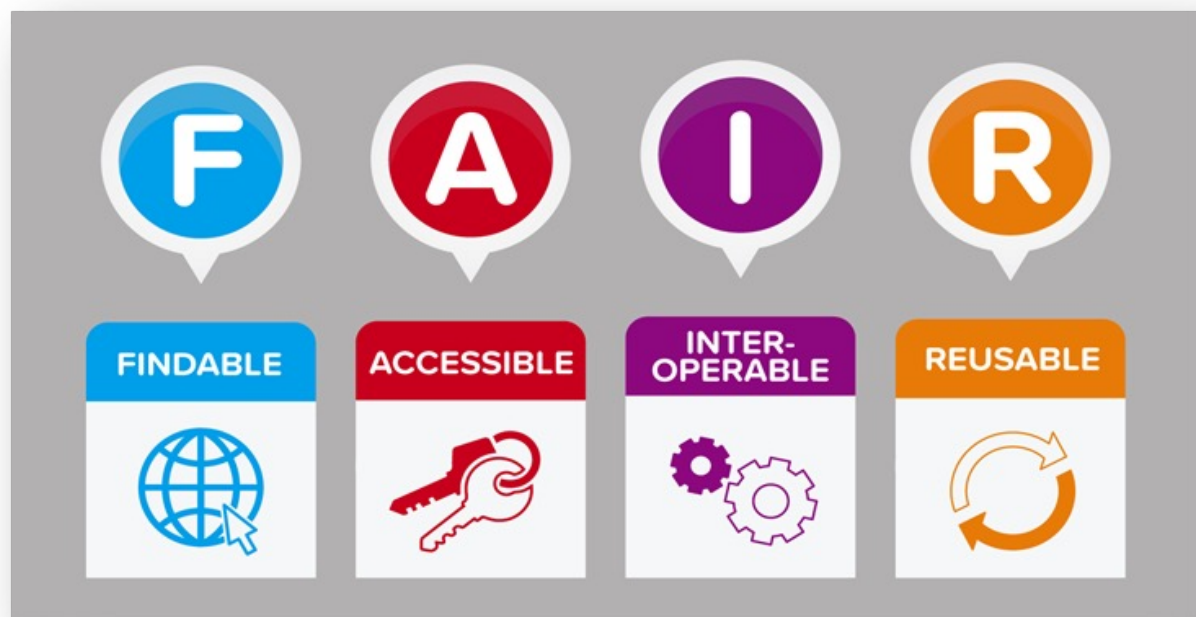


Provide a framework to develop and maintain community standards



The [ELIXIR Communities Handbook](#) tells you what a Community is, who can join, what the benefits are, and how Communities are structured.





Reproducible

# ELIXIR's support for FAIR data and software



## FAIR data services & resources

Open registries, ontologies, identifiers, data management platforms, stewardship tools, data FAIRification methodology, standards



## Trusted data resources

Open deposition databases and portals, scalable curation, sustainability



## Data analytics & platforms

Workflows, reproducible and portable processing, software and AI best practice, FAIR assessment, federated analytics



## Open & FAIR policy/advocacy

FAIR principles, FAIR leadership & partnering at the global, European and national level



## Specific communities

Human Data, Structural Bioinformatics, Rare Diseases, Plant Sciences, Microbial Biotechnology, Proteomics, Metagenomics, Systems Biology...

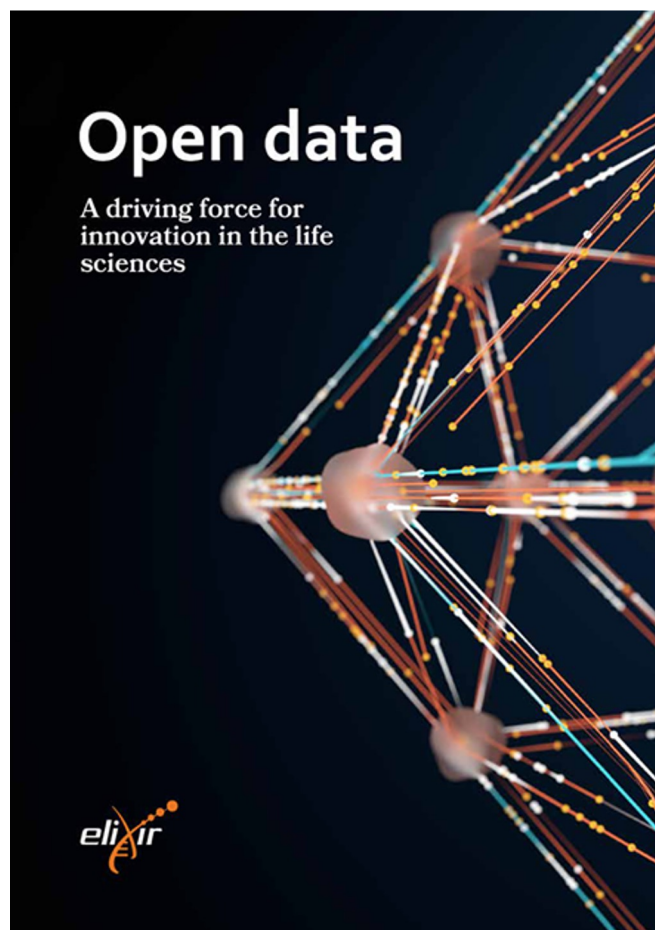


## Stewardship and training

Capability frameworks, skills, data managers network, training portal



# Open Data drives innovation



**76%**

of respondents stated that without data shared on open repositories, they would not be able to offer their product or service.

**89%**

of respondents stated that a product or service has more features because of access to data shared on open repositories

**63%**

63% of respondents stated that without access to registries, ontologies, and dictionaries published on open repositories, they would not be able to offer their product or service.

**92%**

of respondents stated that a product or service has more features because of access to registries, ontologies, and dictionaries shared on open repositories.

<https://elixir-europe.org/sites/default/files/documents/sme-report-2021.pdf>

# ELIXIR's innovation and industry programme

## External outreach

Since 2014

17	12	~1,000	308
SME forums in...	European countries with over...	participants from...	companies

## Engagement

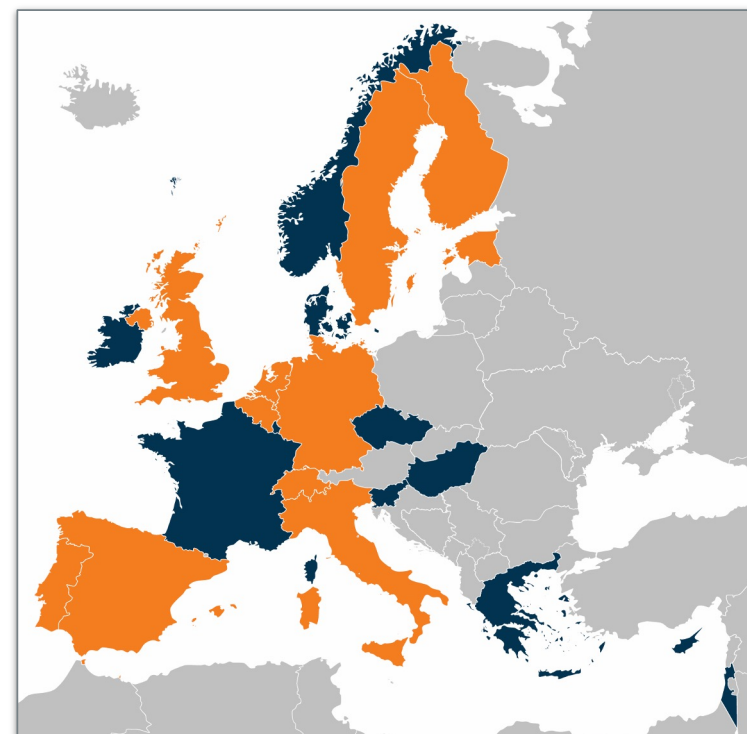
41% Nodes with industry engagement, more coming online

38% Communities with industry engagement, more coming online

## Patents

>11,000 patent applications filed mentioning ELIXIR's resources

22 countries in which these patent applications have been filed



■ ELIXIR member active in industry; ■ ELIXIR member;



# Resources to access knowledge and curated digital objects

bio.tools



bio.tools helps you find and select bioinformatics software and connect it in workflows.

BioContainers



Search a repository of containerised software that you can build into workflows.

WorkflowHub



A registry for sharing and publishing scientific computational workflows.

FAIRsharing.org



FAIRsharing.org allows you to search for databases and data policies by aspects such as domain, species and country.

TeSS



Search for training courses, webinars, training materials and workflows in TeSS, ELIXIR's training portal.

COMMENT | FOCUS

## DOME: recommendations for supervised machine learning validation in biology

DOME is a set of community-wide recommendations for reporting supervised machine learning-based analyses applied to biological studies. Broad adoption of these recommendations will help improve machine learning assessment and reproducibility.

Ian Walsh, Dmytro Fishman, Dario Garcia-Gasulla, Tiina Titma, Gianluca Pollastri, ELIXIR Machine Learning Focus Group, Jennifer Harrow, Fotis E. Psofopoulos and Silvio C. E. Tosatto

With the steep decline in the cost of many high-throughput technologies, large amounts of biological data are being generated and made accessible to researchers. Machine learning (ML) has come into



Check for updates

OPEN ACCESS

Citation: Brack P, Crowther P, Soland-Reyes S, Owen S, Lowe D, Williams AR, et al. (2022) Ten

NATIONAL BIOLOGY

EDITORIAL

## Ten simple rules for making a software tool workflow-ready

Paul Brack<sup>1</sup>, Peter Crowther<sup>2</sup>, Stian Soland-Reyes<sup>1,3\*</sup>, Stuart Owen<sup>1</sup>, Douglas Lowe<sup>4</sup>, Alan R. Williams<sup>5</sup>, Quentin Groom<sup>6</sup>, Mathias Dillen<sup>5</sup>, Frederik Coppens<sup>6,7</sup>, Björn Grüning<sup>8</sup>, Ignacio Eguinoa<sup>6,7</sup>, Philip Ewels<sup>9</sup>, Carole Goble<sup>1</sup>

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\* soland-reyes@manchester.ac.uk

### Introduction

In recent years, the volumes of data to be analyzed, as well as the complexity of that analysis, across many scientific fields (from genomics through to exoplanet exploration) have increased

SCIENTIFIC DATA

Amended: Addendum

OPEN

CATEGORIES  
» Research data  
» Publication characteristics

## Comment: The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship

Mark D. Wilkinson *et al.*<sup>#</sup>

10 December 2015  
12 February 2016  
15 March 2016

There is an urgent need to improve the infrastructure supporting the reuse of scholarly data. A diverse set of stakeholders—representing academia, industry, funding agencies, and scholarly publishers—have come together to design and jointly endorse a concise and measurable set of principles that we refer to as the FAIR Data Principles. The intent is that these may act as a guideline for those wishing to enhance the reusability of their data holdings. Distinct from peer initiatives that focus on the human scholar, the FAIR Principles put specific emphasis on enhancing the ability of machines to automatically find and use the data, in addition to supporting its reuse by individuals. This Comment is the first formal publication of the FAIR Principles, and includes the rationale behind them, and some exemplar implementations in the community.

### Supporting discovery through good data management

Good data management is not a goal in itself, but rather is the key conduit leading to knowledge discovery and innovation, and to subsequent data and knowledge integration and reuse by the



# Infectious Disease data mobilisation mission



**243 SARS-CoV-2 Data Hubs mobilised.**

**connected datasets** containing data from 3m+ samples. EMBL-EBI

**Standardised metadata framework** index across infectious disease resources & collect provenance.

samples in COVID-19 data portal **analysed, genomes annotated, automated monitoring** for allelic-variant surveillance, feeding dashboards, **distributed and federated analytics**

**Guidance** for pathogen characterisation, socioeconomic data, human biomolecular data, human clinical and health data



# Changing the source of data inputs for research

- Old sources of data:
  - 'cohorts' of data collected for specific research purpose;
  - mostly open, possible to centralise in databases (e.g. at EBI)
- New sources of data:
  - routinely collected data across society, industry: cheap enough to collect *everything*
  - maybe restricted, may be limited to national location and control
- Opportunity:
  - Routinely collected data noisy, but complementary and datasets much larger, good for AI
  - If data has already been collected and paid for, marginal cost in enabling research access
  - "Data visiting" rather than "data distribution" has a lower climate footprint
- Challenges:
  - Privacy, commercial ownership, culture, federation





# EC understands the idea



 English

Search

## Shaping Europe's digital future

[Home](#) | [Policies](#) | [Activities](#) | [News](#) | [Library](#) | [Funding](#) | [Calendar](#) | [Consultations](#) | [AI Office](#)

[Home](#) > [Policies](#) > [Common European Data Spaces](#)

## Common European Data Spaces

Common European Data Spaces will make more data available for access and reuse. This will be done in a trustworthy and secure environment for the benefit of European businesses and citizens.

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/data-spaces>



# Realising a practice of personalised medicine & health



Long-term strategy: cross-border access to genomic data, implementation of genomics-based health

1+MG Group, National Mirror Groups and Thematic Working Groups, Use Cases Working Groups: cancer, infectious diseases, rare diseases, common complex diseases, industry

## Design and testing



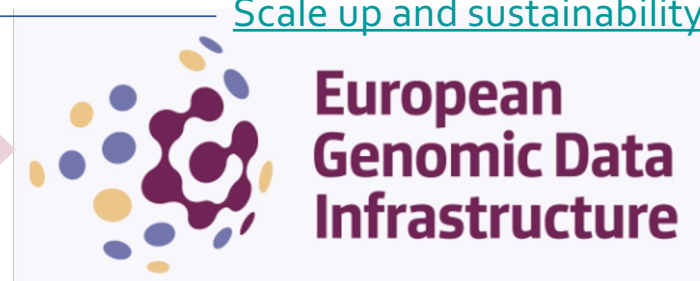
## 1+MG Trust Framework

- Data governance
- Standards and Quality
- Infrastructure
- Maturity model

## Scale up and sustainability



1+MG Cancer Use Case



# Convening a Data Ecosystem for Sensitive Data



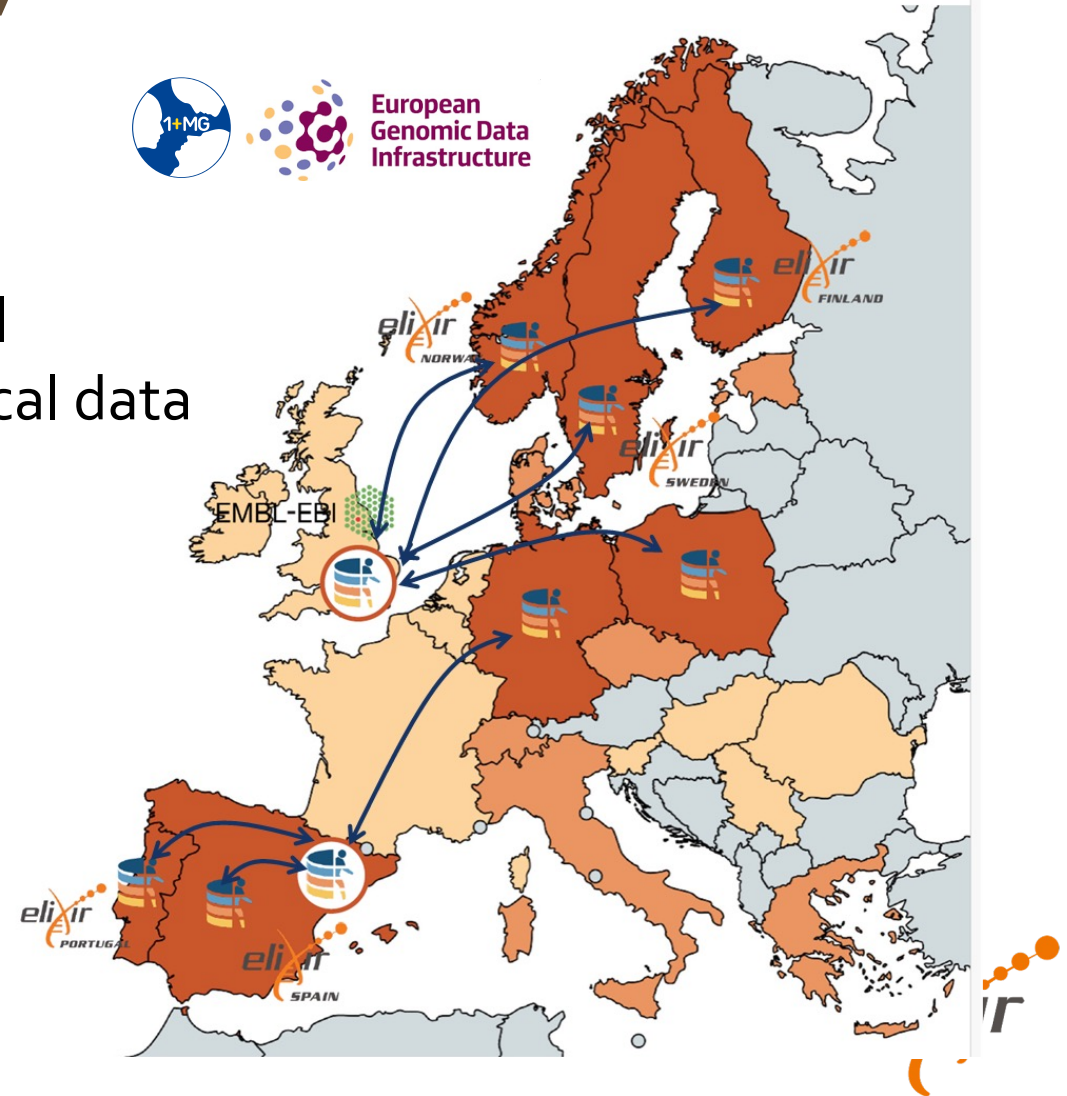
Federated Service Delivery

Secure cross-border access to national genomic data and corresponding clinical data  
data visited, metadata travels

distributed & federated analytics  
1+MG Framework toolkit



European  
Genomic Data  
Infrastructure



Global Alliance  
for Genomics & Health



Beacon



Data  
Use  
Ontology



EUROPEAN  
GENOME-PHENOME  
ARCHIVE

EMBL-EBI

<https://framework.onemilliongenomes.eu/>

# Changing the health outputs that Infrastructure enables

- Old translational mechanism:
  - New drug in 20+ years
- New translational mechanism:
  - Algorithms that can be applied immediately in direct care for individuals
- Opportunity:
  - EU countries spend about 10% GDP on healthcare
  - Public spending on biomedical and health research is only around 0.2% GDP\*
- Challenges:
  - Privacy, commercial ownership, culture, federation

\*Lancet, 2015



# Biological Information + Artificial Intelligence

## - *modelling in reality*

**Ecosystem**, system of interacting organisms

↑ predict

**Organism**, system of interacting organs

↑ predict

**Organ**, system of interacting cells

↑ predict

**Cell**, living system of DNA, RNA, Proteins

↑ predict

**Protein** (translations of genes, 3D structure)

↑ Predict (alphafold)

**RNA** (transcripts of active genes)

↑ predict

**DNA** (copy of genetic material in every cell)

← Environmental, ecosystem data

← whole organism data ← Clinical Medical Records

← organoid data

← single cell data

← Xray, NMR, cryoEM structures; MassSpec

← Expression, other omics

← Genomes

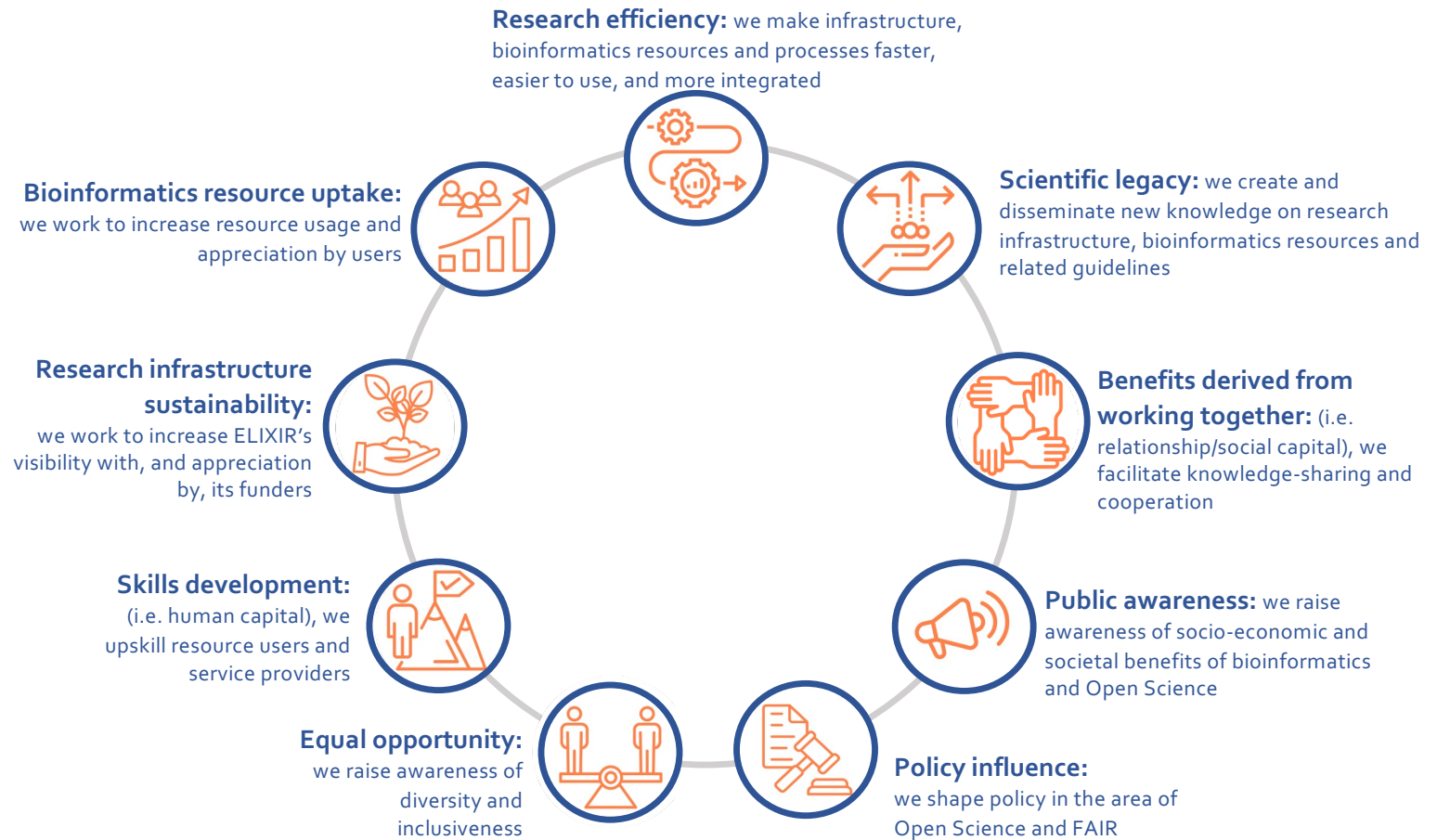
← Clinical Genome Sequences



# Main categories of direct impact for work funded by and through ELIXIR



Martin et al. (2021) Demonstrating public value to funders and other stakeholders — the journey of ELIXIR, a virtual and distributed research infrastructure for life science data. *Ann Public Coop Econ*, 00: , 1-14.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/apce.12328>



Adapted from Martin et al. (2021)  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/apce.12328>



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- Carole Goble





[www.elixir-europe.org](http://www.elixir-europe.org)

