



Engaging Researchers with Data Management The Cookbook

CONNIE CLARE, MARIA CRUZ, ELLI PAPADOPOULOU, JAMES SAVAGE,
MARTA TEPEREK, YAN WANG, IZA WITKOWSKA, AND JOANNE YEOMANS



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4.2. DuoDi: The ‘Days of Data’ at Vilnius University

Author: Elli Papadopoulou

Contributor: Ramutė Grabauskienė

Vilnius University engages with researchers about RDM through the effective promotion of a month of structured mini-events teaching best practice.

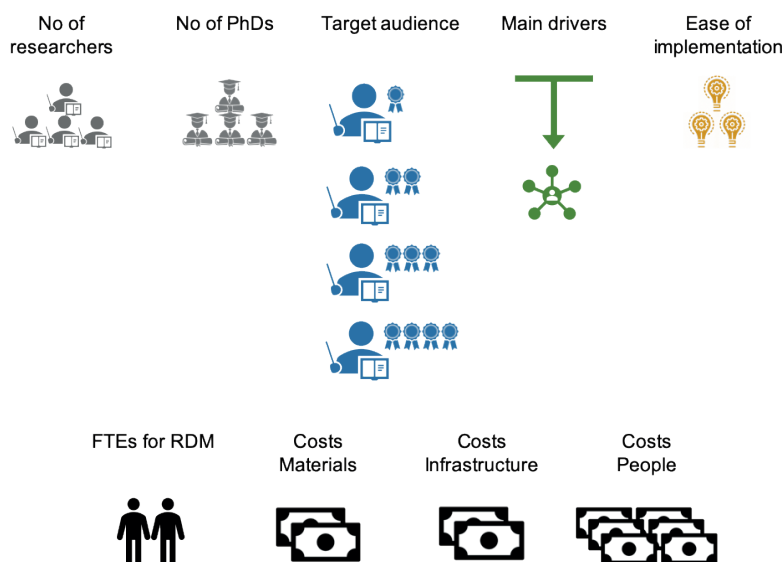


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Library Services from a Business Perspective

In the commercial world, enterprises develop products and services, then promote them to customers to facilitate wide adoption and uptake. Similarly, libraries have a pool of resources and services developed to support researchers, so why not promote them in the way that a business person would? That was the thinking that drove Vilnius University Library to build a community around their Research Data Management (RDM) support service.³

Their promotion took the form of five mini-events over the course of a month, called 'DuoDi'⁴ (an abbreviation of '**Du**omenų **Di**enos' or 'Days of Data', which creates an acronym meaning 'to give' in Lithuanian).

Each mini-event was a training workshop in three phases:

1. ACCEPT — increase participants' familiarity with the RDM support and resources available at the library, including data management planning;
2. ACT — learn how to use the National Open Access Research Data Archive, MIDAS,⁵ and its data analysis tool DAMIS;⁶
3. BREAK THROUGH — publish and share research data.

Success and the Need to Grow

The 'Days of Data' events were initiated after recognizing that researchers needed RDM support, and that the demand was increasing because Data Management Plans (DMPs) had become a requirement for research proposals submitted to in response to national calls in Lithuania. To address this growing demand for support, the Vilnius University Library organised 'Days of Data' in collaboration with one of the faculties.

'Days of Data' sessions last two hours and cover best practices in writing DMPs, as well as more theoretical issues around RDM. 'The approach has been much more effective [than previous approaches],

3 Vilnius University Library RDM, <https://biblioteka.vu.lt/en/science-and-studies/scholarly-communication/research-data-management>

4 DuoDi events, <https://www.midas.lt/public-app.html#/news?documentId=100681&newFields=Body&galleryField=GalleryImage&titleField=Title&lang=en>

5 MIDAS data archive, <https://www.midas.lt/public-app.html#/midas?lang=en>

6 DAMIS data analysis tool, <https://damis.midas.lt/login.html>

but requires effort to prepare the specific examples needed for different scientific disciplines each time, as well as to promote the event through multiple communication channels: we even reach out to the Public Relations Office!’ explains Ramutė Grabauskienė, former Data Manager.

She recognises the wider impact of the ‘Days of Data’: ‘Some researchers have already uploaded their data to the repository, however, sometimes they are not willing to openly share their data with others; there’s still work to do,’ and she can cite cases when people have come to the library after the events looking for further support.

The ‘Days of Data’ have been a start, but they are just one of the mechanisms by which the team at Vilnius hopes to increase engagement with researchers and develop knowledge. Ramutė presents their plans: ‘One of the things we are looking into at the moment, for example, is not only organising these group activities that take place at one moment during the year, but arranging individual consultations and personal meetings with researchers to truly increase researcher engagement.’

