EOSC Compatible National PID Strategies

Initial set of recommendations

Project Leads: Dr. Michelle Doran, Royal Irish Academy & Jenny O'Neill, HEAnet

This project, funded by RDA TIGER Cascade Grants and delivered through a collaboration between Ireland's National Open Research Forum and HEAnet (Ireland's National Research and Education Network and EOSC Mandated Organisation), is developing a National PID Recommendation aligned with EOSC frameworks. This ensures that national PID practices are harmonised with European standards, facilitating cross-border interoperability and supporting EOSC's ambition of a federated, researcher-centric infrastructure.

The project builds on the work of the RDA National PID Strategies Interest Group, particularly their focus on regional alignment and updated use case templates. It will deliver a set of co-designed national recommendations aligned with EOSC PID policies to provide practical guidance for PID adoption in Ireland and beyond.

Below are an initial set of recommendations for EOSC-compatible extensions or enhancements to the existing national PID approach. These synthesise the comparative analysis of the RDA National PID Strategies Guide and Checklist, the EOSC PID Policy, and the Irish PID Strategy Roadmap, as well as actionable insights from FAIRCORE4EOSC and FAIR-IMPACT.

Initial Recommendations for EOSC-Compatible Enhancements to Ireland's National PID Approach

1. Formalise National PID Governance Aligned with EOSC

- Establish a national PID coordination board or forum, with clear roles and responsibilities, mirroring the EOSC PID Policy Board and Policy Forum.
- Ensure broad stakeholder representation (researchers, funders, institutions, infrastructure providers, and government).

2. Adopt and Regularly Use the RDA PID Strategies Checklist

- Integrate the RDA Checklist as a self-assessment and planning tool for ongoing alignment, maturity tracking, and transparent reporting.
- Schedule regular reviews to benchmark progress against EOSC and international best practices.

3. Expand and Standardise PID Coverage

- Ensure all key research entities and outputs (datasets, publications, people, organisations, projects, instruments, samples) are covered by mature, standardised PIDs (e.g., DOIs, ORCID iDs, RORs, RAiDs, IGSNs).
- Monitor and adopt emerging PID types as recommended by EOSC and the RDA.

4. Enhance Technical Interoperability and Infrastructure

- Integrate with EOSC core components such as the PID Graph, Meta Resolver, and Data Type Registry to enable machine-actionable, federated PID infrastructure.
- Align metadata standards and APIs with EOSC and FAIRCORE4EOSC technical guidelines.

5. Strengthen Sustainability and Long-Term Planning

- Develop a robust, long-term funding and support model for PID services, drawing on EOSC and RDA guidance.
- Use tools like the FAIRCORE4EOSC Compliance Assessment Toolkit (CAT) to assess and demonstrate sustainability.

6. Broaden and Document Use Cases

- Use RDA and FAIR-IMPACT templates to expand and document use cases across all research domains.
- Share Irish use cases and implementation stories with the EOSC and international communities to support broader adoption and visibility.

7. Implement Regular Monitoring and Compliance Assessment

- Adopt the EOSC requirement for compliance monitoring and certification of PID services.
- Use the RDA Checklist and FAIRCORE4EOSC CAT for regular self-assessment and reporting.

8. Promote International Alignment and Knowledge Exchange

- Actively participate in European and global PID alignment initiatives (e.g., EOSC PID Policy Forum, RDA Interest Groups).
- Share methodologies, templates, and lessons learned to contribute to the evolving international PID landscape.

These recommendations will help ensure that Ireland's national PID strategy is robust, sustainable, and fully compatible with EOSC and international best practices, supporting technical interoperability and Open Science.