Deliverable D2.2 – Training Plan

OPENing UP new methods, indicators and tools for peer review, impact measurement and dissemination of research results

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Author	Maria Boile, Electra Sifacaki, Eleni Toli
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Abbreviations

RRI - Responsible Research and Innovation

ESSS - European Summer School for Scientometrics

WP – work package

ERA – European Research Area

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Summary

Promoting Open and Responsible Science is a major objective for OpenUP. For doing this, the project will engage key stakeholders, such as researchers, publishers, institutions and funders, industry and citizens, in a multiple-level approach, which includes a broad range of events and activities. For OpenUP it is important not only to come up with a cohesive framework for the review-assess-disseminate process, but also to make sure that "the message" is understood and adopted. For this reason, the project has also included a training dimension in its work plan. Organising and delivering training activities is one of the vehicles OpenUP will use, in order to better explain the challenges and trends for the research lifecycle, in a transforming science landscape.

Primarily, this document sets the frame of the OpenUP training program, hence it identifies the training objectives and the target audiences. Subsequently, it outlines the training program and explains the distinction between physical and online training. Furthermore, this document describes analytically the training activities and summarises all information provided in an overall training overview. Finally, the consortium depicts the expected outcomes of the training program.

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1. Project Background

The OpenUP project addresses key aspects and challenges of the currently transforming science landscape and aspires to come up with a cohesive framework for the review-disseminate-assess phases of the research life cycle that is fit to support and promote Open Science. Its main objectives are to a) identify and determine ground-breaking mechanisms, processes and tools for peer-review for all types of research results (publications, data, software), b) explore, identify and classify innovative dissemination mechanisms with an outreach aim towards businesses and industry, education, and society as a whole, and c) analyse a set of novel indicators that assess the impact of research results and correlate them of channels of dissemination. To achieve these objectives, the consortium will follow a user-centred, evidence-based approach, engaging all stakeholders (researchers, publishers, funders, institutions, industry, public) in an open dialogue through a series of workshops, conferences and training, and validating all interim results via a set of seven pilots involving communities from four research disciplines: life sciences, social sciences, arts & humanities, energy. The project will also involve surveys, interviews, case studies, workshops and focus group activities. The final result of the project will be a set of concrete, practical, validated policy recommendations and guidelines for national and European stakeholders, including EU institutions, a valuable tool in advancing a more open and gender-sensitive science system.

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2. Training in the frame of OpenUP

2.1. Training objectives

Young academics, especially at an early stage of their carrier, are often confronted with many difficulties and questions related to the evaluation and publishing of their work. It is therefore essential to offer them the necessary theoretical and practical knowledge, which will guide them through the "publishing jungle".

OpenUp will do this through a number of training activities, which will provide practical guidance to young academics to better understand the peer review mechanisms and processes, to implement novel dissemination practices for promoting their work and to understand how the impact of their research is measured. While covering these three major steps in the Research Lifecycle, young researchers will be in parallel introduced to the notions of Open Science and Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) and the importance of gender equality in quality research.

The specific objectives of the OpenUP training are the following:

- **Objective 1 –** Deliver two targeted training workshops

Young academics will be the main audience of the workshops. They will be introduced in peer review, novel dissemination and impact evaluation. The workshops will take place in two different European cities to reach as many different researchers as possible.

- **Objective 2 –** Prepare training material based on the outcomes of WP3 – 5

The outcomes of the work packages that provide the underlying theoretical basis for OpenUP will be transformed and packaged in a way suitable for training purposes.

- **Objective 3 –** Create coaching video series on impact indicators

The short, didactic video lectures will explain the use of altmetrics[1] and traditional indicators to beginners up to intermediate level audience. They will additionally promote openness and transparency by presenting and using Open Source software solutions.

- **Objective 4 –** Promote altmetrics in the bibliometric community

The topic "Altmetrics for Impact Measurement" will be put forward to be included in the curriculum in the European Summer School for Scientometrics (ESSS)

- **Objective 5 –** Use the OpenUP information hub as central point for finding support and useful information

The OpenUP hub will be a dynamic and collaborative Knowledge Repository, which will collect, structure and present rich material related to the important aspects of the research lifecycle and can, thus, serve as a self-studying tool.

Finally, as it is the case for all OpenUP activities, training activities will be as well sensitive to the outcomes of the open dialogue the project will establish with the communities. Plan, content, format and

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[1] "alternative metrics" or altmetrics are typically article-level metrics, e.g. downloads, mentions on social media platforms, social bookmarks, etc.

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tools will be adjusted, if needed, on the basis of input and feedback received through the OpenUP conferences, interviews, questionnaires, studies and focus groups.
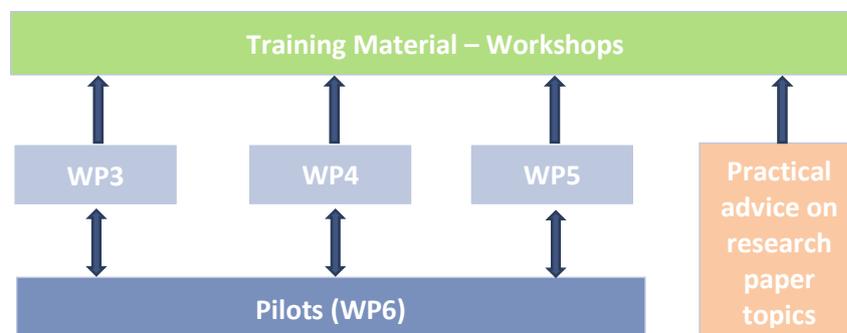
2.2. Target audience

OpenUP reaches out to a broad number of different research communities and stakeholders to raise awareness of the RRI review – dissemination – assessment aspects. Most of the project activities have been planned in a way to address multiple audiences in parallel. The training dimension, however, will be targeted mostly to certain groups of interest. OpenUP will direct its focus on the training needs of researchers, especially young ones, and academia administrators in order to support them in understanding peer review, applying novel dissemination practices and measuring the research impact. In addition, OpenUP will provide customized training activities for the bibliometric community and especially young bibliometrics to support them understanding and using novel and traditional methods on impact assessment.

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3. Structure, tools and focus of the Training Program

3.1. General description of the training work plan

OpenUP will offer two types of training, physical and online, and will make use of the appropriate channels for each of them. The physical training, the gathering of people in a certain place and for a concrete time, has the benefit of the direct interaction with the participants. They have the possibility to discuss on site any open questions, while the project can get immediate feedback on the outcomes of the training. On the other hand, the online training has no time and space limitations and is, thus, open to broader audiences; practically, to anyone interested in the topic.

OpenUP has included two activities related to the physical training, the How-to workshops and the participation to the European Summer School for Scientometrics (ESSS)[2]. The online training will consist of a series of coaching videos and the online hub, as a central point for accessing guidelines, best practices, related papers, publications, etc.

Figure 1: OpenUP Training, input and content

The OpenUP training material will heavily rely on the input delivered by other project activities and findings, mainly those resulting from the "theory-creation" work packages of the project, dealing with the review-assess-disseminate phases of the research lifecycle. The training will be therefore intensified in the second half of the project, to incorporate all previous project findings.

3.2. Physical training

3.2.1. How-to Workshops

OpenUP will organise two training workshops. Each workshop will have a different focus, analysing different steps of the research lifecycle, but also including practical recommendations. Based on the research and analysis related to the three project pillars (review – dissemination – assessment), the OpenUP team will gather all validated project findings (individual frameworks, consultations, feedback from validation activities and use cases, policy reviews, outcomes of the OpenUP pilots) and transfer them in a training-suitable format. The workshop topics will be among the following ones:

- methods and tools of open scholarship to strengthen core principles of research integrity (e.g. reproducibility)
- RRI and gender dimension in research

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[2]http://www.scientometrics-school.eu/

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- practical advice and mentoring on how to prepare a good paper

- the review process formalities

- the differences between open access and traditional publishing

- how to increase the impact of a publication and research

- how to introduce novel channels for dissemination, appropriate for each setting

OpenUP will make an effort to organise the training workshops before, after, or alongside big community events, so as to build synergies, facilitate participation and maximise impact of OpenUP training. The minimum requirements for selecting the concrete venue, will be the availability of hardware (desktops or laptops) and of internet connection.

The workshops will be planned and announced well in advance, so that there is ample time to promote them within the relevant communities and increase their interest in participating. Moreover, they will be conducted in different European cities, to reach as many different researchers as possible.

The organisation of the workshops will be done in three distinguished phases:

a. Planning and preparation: the core topics, place, venue and time will be defined. Target audiences will be identified. Announcement and invitation will be drafted and sent out. Registration website will be set up. Training material will be prepared and made available to the participants in the form of an online "training-kit".

b. Delivery: the workshop takes place. OpenUP WP3- WP5 leaders and participants assume the role of mentors.

c. Evaluation and Follow-up: participants will be asked to evaluate the workshop. Contact with participants will be continued even after the workshop has taken place, to keep momentum and work towards the creation of an OpenUP community.

The workshop agenda will be a mix of keynotes, presentations and hands-on. The individual sessions will be conducted by the OpenUP academic partners who are working on the triptych review – assess – disseminate, who will pay attention to explain and present the concepts, but also to allow participants to test the gained knowledge. In general, the hands-on dimension will be an important element of the workshops.

After each workshop, the OpenUP partners will carefully evaluate the whole process and its outcomes and examine the success factors., such as the participants' feedback, the satisfaction rate, the quality of discussions, the number of the attendees, and other.

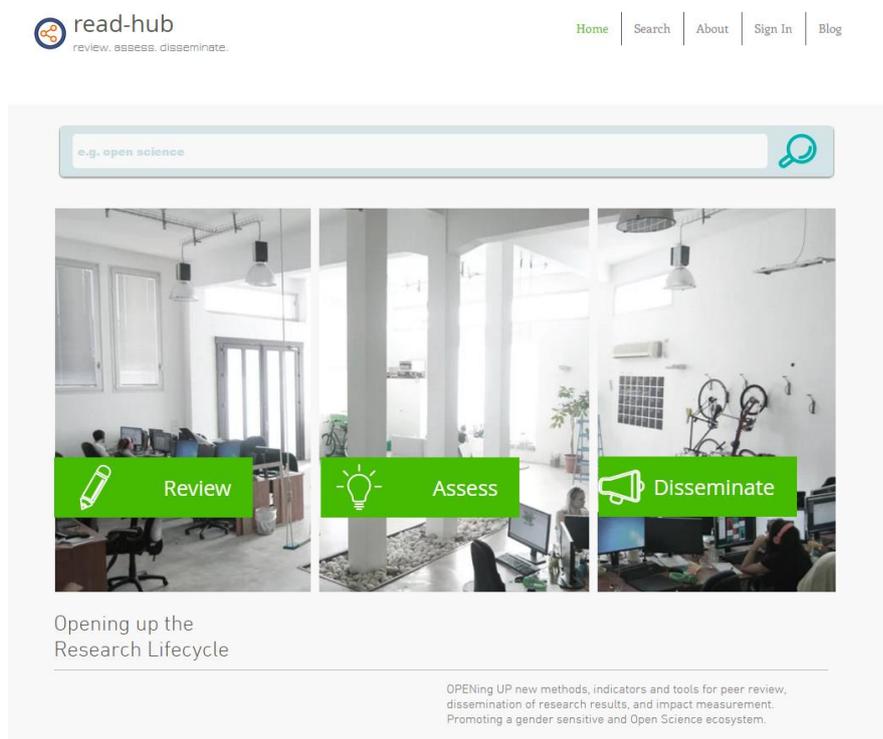## 3.2.2. Promoting altmetrics in the bibliometric community

This activity takes place in the frame of the European Summer School for Scientometrics (ESSS). This is a prestigious, yearly summer school addressing young scholars of bibliometrics as well as practitioners who want to engage in this topic. The aim of this action will be to diffuse the findings of WP5 (Impact Indicators Framework) and raise the awareness within the bibliometric community. Specifically, the topic of "altmetrics for impact measurement" will be put forward to be included in the curriculum of the summer school initiative focusing on the practical use and pitfalls of quantitative methods in research evaluation. Also, the project will introduce new perspectives regarding the most recent trends in altmetrics research, such as understanding altmetrics through user-centered motivational approaches, the potential of the narrative content of altmetrics and its content-based analyses. These perspectives

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will enable scholars to derive a deeper understanding of their impact based on the reasons which and why recicpients value their work as well as provide a backchannel through altmetrics into the community and society at large. Furthermore, altmetrics will be a specific topic covered in localized teaching activities, e.g. in the "Introduction to Bibliometrics" course at Humboldt University Berlin and further in-depth courses for advanced students.

3.3. Online training

3.3.1. Knowledge Base – Information Hub

OpenUP will create a dynamic Information and Collaboration Hub for collecting information and results produced by the underlying research conducted within the project's lifespan or other external entities such as third party projects, related initiatives and institutions.

Figure 2: Mock-up of the OpenUP hub

In the frame of the OpenUP training, the hub aspires to become a vehicle for online training, a learning environment for all key stakeholders engaged in the research lifecycle in the sense that:

- It will be an online database that systematically captures, organizes and categorizes knowledge-based information. In fact, it will collect and host scientific publications and articles on open science, alternative peer review and impact assessment, as well as innovative dissemination that are available in open access repositories, websites and open access journals. In parallel, scientific and reading material uploaded on the Hub will be also developed from the project partners through the OpenUP's lifetime, addressing key questions and topics of current interest that concern the academic community. All the reading material will be classified according to the three main pillars of the project –review, dissemination, assessment– so as the potential users to form an integrated view on these topics.

- It will host a moderated blog so that community members are able to express their opinions, put out new ideas regarding Open Science, and share digital learning resources. Users will have the

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opportunity to read, identify and discuss about relevant issues, challenges and best practices, and as a result they will enhance their knowledge and comprehension on the topic. Furthermore, OpenUP partners will contribute with blog posts, participation in online discussions and answers to questions or requests through the blog.

The hub will host a directory of available tools, best practices, and policies so as to become the reference point in all topics relevant to the triptych review-dissemination-assessment. Especially policy recommendations and practical, validated guidelines can serve as a useful training tool in advancing a more open and gender – sensitive science system.

3.3.2. Coaching videos

OpenUP will produce a video series about the use of altmetrics and traditional impact indicators. The video series will be based on the Taxonomy of channels of dissemination and altmetrics indicators. It will, thus, also contribute to the promotion of the taxonomy among academia and practitioners. Particularly, the topics of the videos will revolve around techniques for young academics on discovering who follows their work in order to get engaged with their followers, ask feedback for their work, improve it etc. Additionally, there will be reference in historical facts about metrics, with short stories about how all this has started and how the idea of altmetrics is actually in discussion since the mid-90s.

The video series will consist of short (max 15 minutes), didactic video lectures aimed at beginner to intermediate level and cover potentials and pitfalls, as well as starting points where to find further material and software solutions. To further promote openness and transparency, videos will aim to use and present Open Source software solutions.

Moreover, exploiting the vast academic knowledge that exists within the consortium, OpenUP will produce some short length videos presenting main outcomes of the project and underlying research. The videos will focus on understanding peer review and the implementation of novel dissemination practices, presented in a simple (but not simplistic) way, appropriate to be consumed and understood also by non-experts and general public.

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4. Training overview

The following table summarises all OpenUP training activities, the main audience they address, the topics they will deal with, the project related work packages and the OpenUP partners who will lead and/or participate in this activity.

Table 1: Summary of OpenUP training

Training Activity	Audience	Related WPs	Topic	Leading and participating partners
1st How – to workshop	Young academics, University administrations	WP3, WP4, WP5, WP6	Guidance, Mentoring, Review process Open access and traditional publishing, Publication impact, Novel dissemination, Gender aspects, Responsible Science	UoA/UGOE, UvA, DZHW, PPMI, AIT, CNR, Frontiers
2nd How – to workshop	Young academics, University administrations	WP3, WP4, WP5, WP6	Guidance, Mentoring, Review process Open access and traditional publishing, Publication impact, Novel dissemination, Gender aspects, Responsible Science	UoA/UGOE, UvA, DZHW, PPMI, AIT, CNR, Frontiers
Promoting altmetrics in the bibliometric community	Young scholars in the bibliometric community, Practitioners	WP5	Altmetrics for impact assessment and establishing a personal narrative of merit	DZHW, PPMI, UvA, UGOE, KNOW
Coaching video series	Academia Practitioners (e.g. librarians) General public	WP3, WP4, WP5	Use of altmetrics & traditional indicators based on Taxonomy of Dissemination channels & altmetrics Promote openness & transparency videos	DZHW / UoA UGOE, KNOW, UvA, CNR
OpenUP Hub	Young academics Young scholars of bibliometrics Academia Publishers Policy makers SMEs Citizens / General public	WP3, WP4, WP5, WP6, WP7	Tools Best practices Guidelines Policy recommendations Collaboration Networking Support	UoA, All partners

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5. Expected outcomes

OpenUP builds an **advanced and shared knowledge – base** and **collaborative network** that will support the **transformation towards better and more open science and scholarship across Europe**.

Within this broader scope, the OpenUP training program is expected to establish a strong research community, aware about the principles of Open and Responsible Science and trained on innovative approaches related to the important aspects of the research lifecycle. The main beneficiaries of the training activities will be the researchers, as they will be empowered with innovative tools, comprehensive framework, and practical recommendations. OpenUP's online and physical training activities will especially help them to understand (open) peer review mechanisms and processes, experimenting with emerging methods in open science dissemination and evaluating the impact of their research with the use of novel tools. Researchers as authors and reviewers will be better able to apply good practices and comprehensively communicate the context information of their research. They will know better how to present research results and disseminate them to targeted audiences but also the general public, making use of appropriate tools and methods. Researchers will better assess the meaning of altmetrics as impact indicators for their research and can better relate their choice of dissemination channels with altmetrics impact indicators.

Moreover, librarians, research managers, university administrators, policy makers and other stakeholders will be in a better position in making choices on how to support researchers, e.g. through digital services that allow a comprehensive view on research processes and outputs. They will be equipped with up-to-date information about altmetrics and their relationship to dissemination, enabling informed decisions and choice when it comes to the design of reporting and assessment procedures.

All the work of OpenUP will converge to the Hub, which will hopefully become a reference point for the community, providing insights, support, recommendations, networking for all people interested in the triptych of review – dissemination – assessment. We hope that the outcomes of the OpenUP training will contribute to a better science and a more open science system through the optimal circulation of knowledge within the ERA.