FACCE-MACSUR

WP2 C2.3 Open data journal as a publishing and data sharing mechanism

Sander Janssen*

Wageningen Environmental Research, Wageningen UR, Droevendaalse steeg, Wageningen, The Netherlands

*Sander.janssen@wur.nl

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Background

This deliverable lays out the work as done as part of MACSUR CropM on data publishing, with the focus on improving data sharing and discovery and have shared data curation for future use. As part of the first phase MACSUR, The Open Data Journal for Agricultural Research (www.odjar.org) was started and documented in Deliverable C2.2 as part of Crop M. Odjar.org mainly focuses on long term data archival and citation of data sets, as input and outputs to the modelling work, as part of MACSUR, lead by Wageningen UR
This deliverable is a short update on the process of creating such a data journal by demonstrating a set of articles published through the journal, some of which are based on MACSUR results, as well as related networks. The deliverable does not further explain what the journal is, as this is part of the previous deliverable.

The purpose of the Open Data Journal for Agricultural Research is to provide citations to relevant data sets for food security research for researchers with a quality control mechanism through review. Such data journals exist for other domains, for example Geoscience Data Journal.

A data journal is mostly the same as normal journal for articles, but there are a few differences:

1. as the data can be in any form and of any size (in particular the size leading to special requirements in terms of storage space and transfer mechanisms, for example of large climate files);
2. as open data journals have to be open access with the copyright held by the author (and his/her institute) through a public licence. By submitting the data as a submission, the author authorizes the release of the data, and a final confirmation is given once the review procedure is completed. The data journal itself does not hold copyrights, but merely acts as an intermediate to make the data available. Subscription to the data journal is not necessary and is open to everybody. Other open access journals charge the author (who submits) with an amount (around 2000 euros) per submission for their services (i.e. review, ICT infrastructure).
3. as open data journals are not necessarily published by the large publishers (Kluwer, Wiley, Elsevier) and a paper version is not required.

Just to demonstrate that the mechanism of the Open Data Journal for Agricultural Research, here is a list of articles in the recent issue, with some data having been used in MACSUR Crop M simulation exercises:

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This is the third volume of the Open Data journal for Agicultural Research

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