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Context matters: balancing diversity and alignment in research assessment

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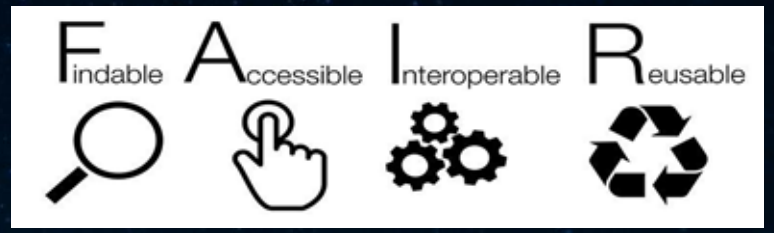
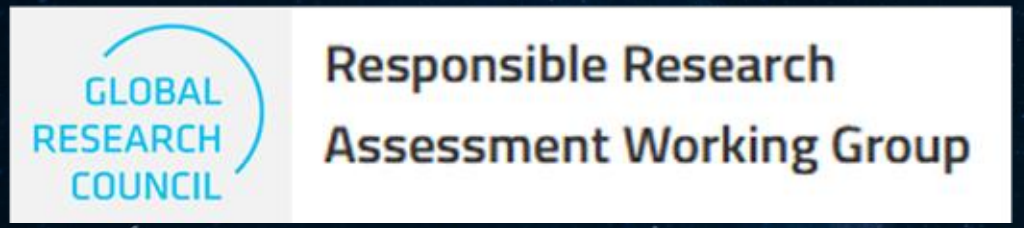
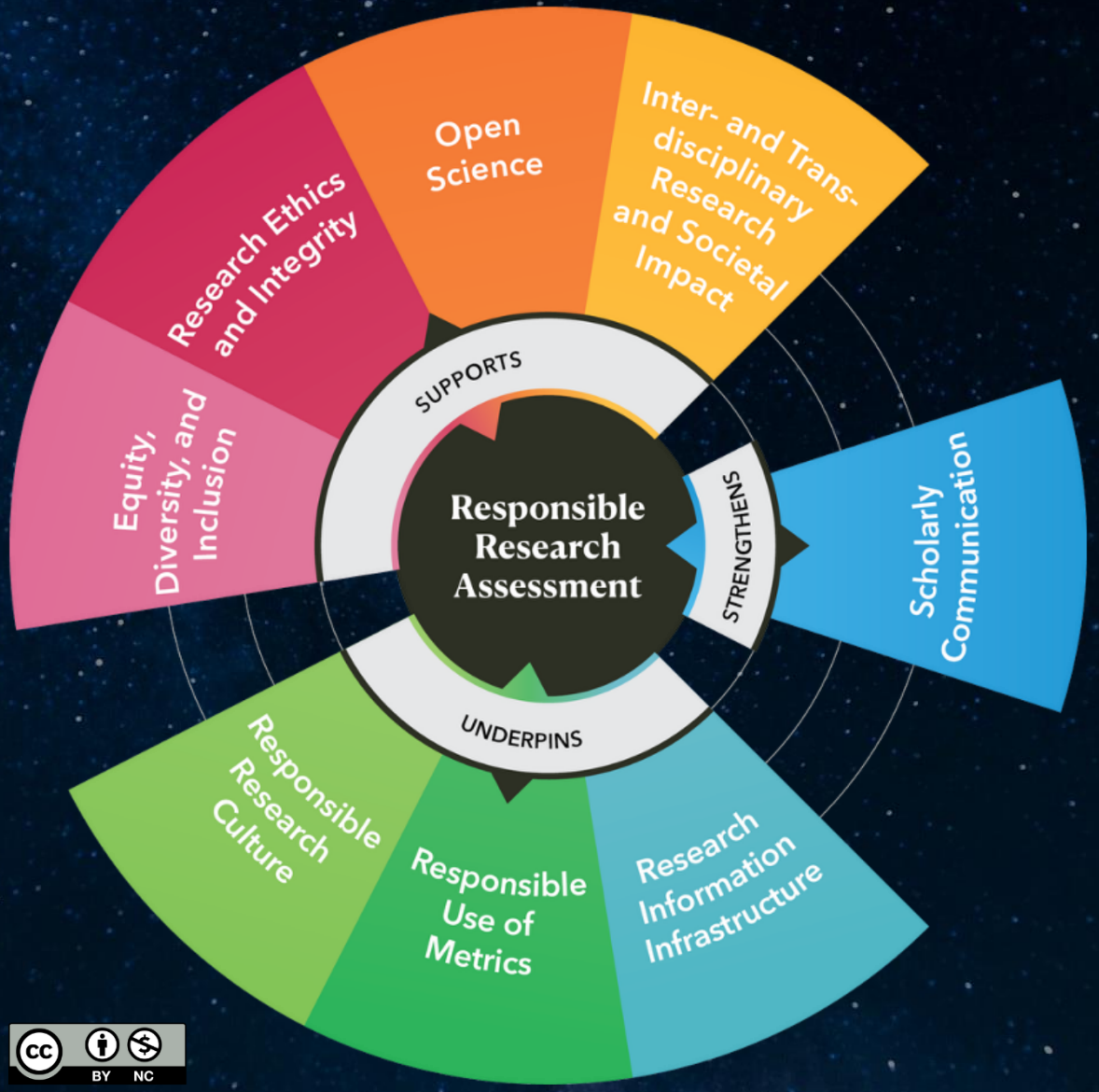
Better assessment promotes better research





RRA and its place in the research system



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Shared values and infrastructure

- Reform initiatives
  - Taking a holistic view of contributions and profiles: “who” and “what” we recognize
  - Valuing quality over quantity: “how” we value
  - Assessing on intrinsic merit: “where” we look
  - Promoting equity and mitigating bias: “how” we ensure fairness
  - Adopting transparency in assessment: “how” we build trust
- Coordinated action
  - National consortia & regional forums
  - Shared infrastructure

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No one size fits all

- National contexts
  - Level of centralization
  - Infrastructure disparities
- Disciplinary perspectives
  - Definitions of quality
  - Output types
  - Citation patters
- Organizational Mandates
  - Internal alignment
  - Identity
- Organizational Readiness
  - Stages of capability
  - Systemic constraints

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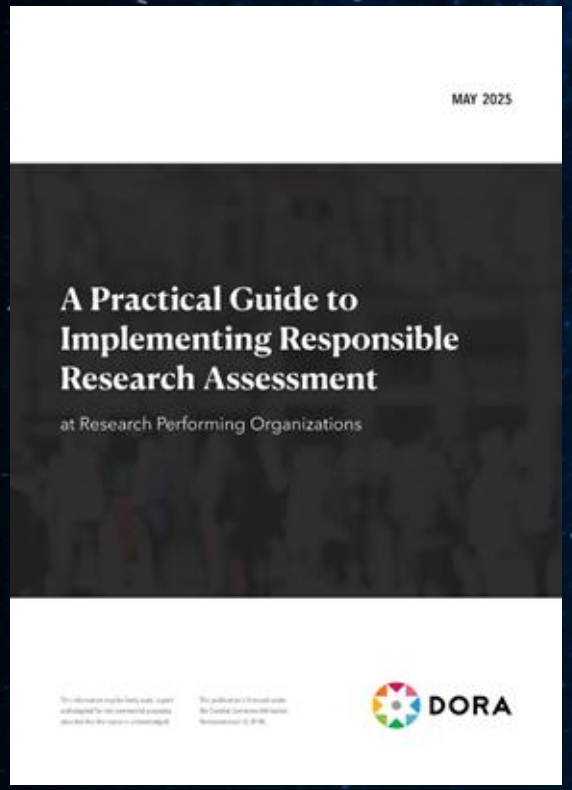
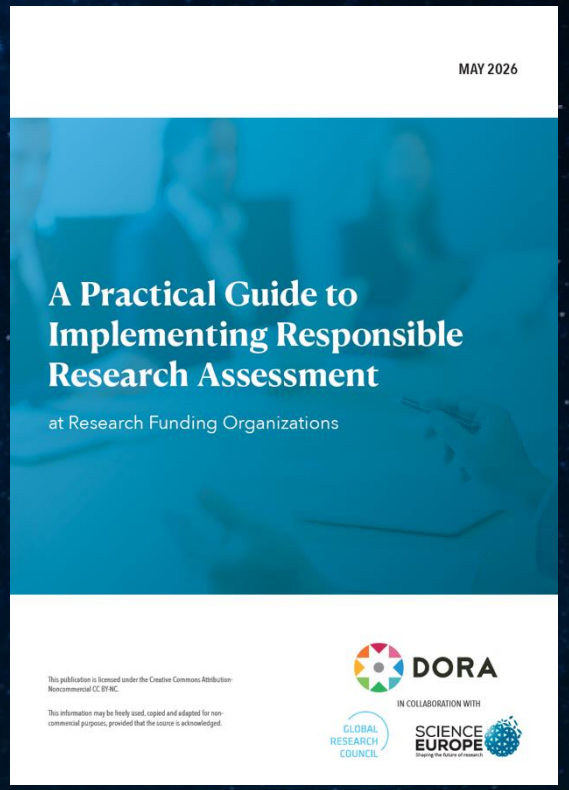
Research(er) Assessment moments





- Hiring, promotion and tenure
- Awards and grants
- Institutional funding
- Monitoring and evaluating
- Quality review
- Communicating about science

https://bit.ly/DORA-Guide

https://bit.ly/DORA-Funder-Guide

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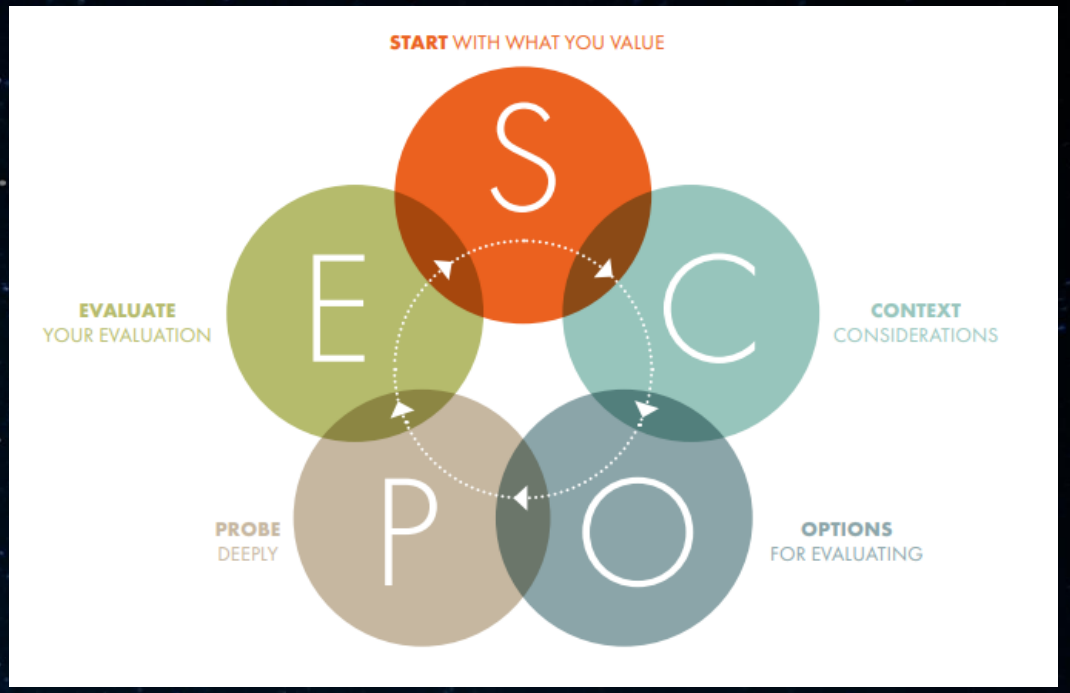
INORMS SCOPE Framework



		Country	HEI	Group	Individual
Analysis	To understand				
Advocacy	To show off				
Accountability	To monitor				
Acclaim	To b[illegible]rk				
Adaptation	[illegible]tivise				
Allocation	[illegible]ward				

DISCIPLINE

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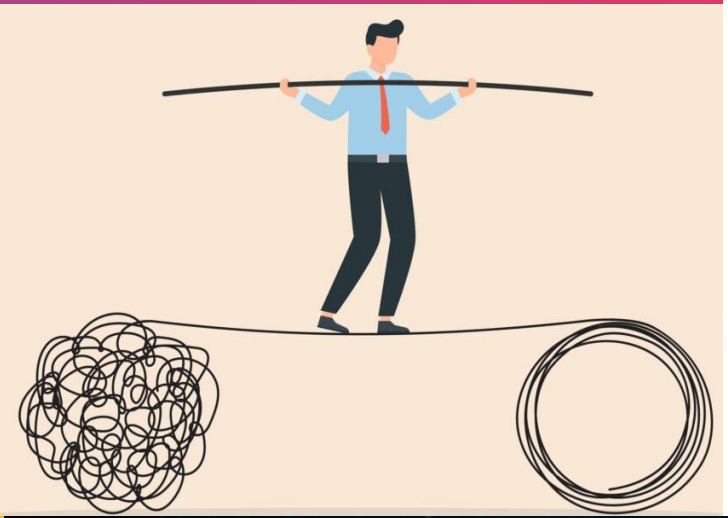
Metric fallacy: efficiency vs. rigor



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Guidance on the responsible use of indicators

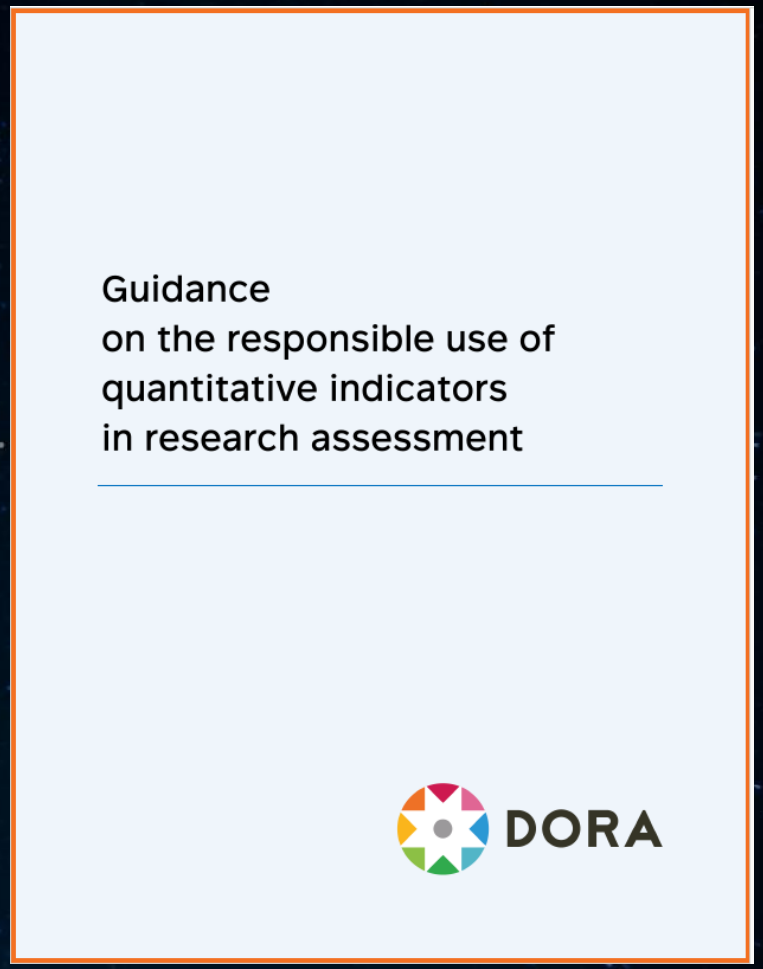
JIF and other commonly used quantitative metrics may be similarly problematic, e.g. H index, citations and citation-based metrics generally (e.g. FWCI, RCR), Altmetrics, etc

Important to use a basket of different metrics and recognise the challenges and biases with each of them.

When using quantitative indicators, follow these principles

- Be clear
- Be transparent
- Be specific
- Be contextual
- Be fair

These principles prioritize expert judgment over a simple reliance on numbers.



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Thank you

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