Data Use Agreement

Preamble

The individual subprojects of the DFG Research Unit RESPECT are collecting extensive datasets. These datasets shall be made available to all members of the platform, by using a central data warehouse system.

§1 Definitions

(1) “Project data” in the sense of this agreement are conventional measurements (data from measuring instruments, field surveys) which are generally in tabular form, images (digital photos, satellite data, maps, etc.), GIS-Data (digital maps and vectors), resulting data of LSM simulations as well as (digital) publications, thesis, proceedings and posters. This includes all other type of data considered as proprietary by the respective data owner.

(2) “Meta data” shall mean any data describing and documenting the project data.

(3) “Project members” are the “data owners” stated in the metadata which can be all principle investigators and employees of the individual subprojects of RESPECT and previous programs.

§2 Rights of project members

(1) Project members have a right of access to subproject data according to the following provisions. The right of access to project data is limited to scientific use.

(2) Furthermore, project members have a right, that their intellectual properties and their academic interest is respected with regard to the project data in accordance to §4.

§ 3 Duties of project members

(1) The project members commit to make their datasets available in an internationally common format which is implemented in the database (CSV, GeoTIFF, NetCDF, Shape files) directly after the field survey or its generation and required pre-processing (if any). The members of the project have to support the data warehouse manager and the coordinator in the project Z in all matters of joint data management according to the data management plan.

(2) Besides the project data, the project members provide EML metadata necessary for understanding the project data (e.g., coordinates, description of data structure, methods used, statements of the quality, etc.). Important is the quality check of the data by the project members. They are responsible for the quality statement in the metadata which they must provide. Project members will also update the attribute list if new attributes have to be introduced for their data.

§4 Use of project data

(1) During RESPECT, data are only accessible for the participants (= embargo time for potential external users). The project members are allowed to share their data, all project members commit that they will not pass any other data to third persons, nor give passwords to thirds that claim access to the database.

(2) If datasets from other subprojects are used for the own work, the principal investigator of this subproject (data user) has to inform the project member. To publish data from other project members in own work, approval in the sense of intellectual property rights has to be requested from the principal
investigator in whose subproject these data were collected, before a request for publication is filed to third parties.

(3) Project members whose unpublished data are used, have to be informed before the data are published in any form. In case of publication, they have to be included in the list of authors in a suitable way in accordance with the responsible principal investigator of the subproject.

§5 Implementation and enforcement

(1) The data warehouse manager arranges the modalities of the data transfer and the data processing with the principal investigators of the individual subprojects.

(2) Project data and metadata have to be made available directly after collection or generation, but at least three months after the request from the data warehouse administrator. The principal investigators of the subprojects are responsible for the data supply within the period stipulated.

(3) If any legitimate doubts of the cooperation of a project member will arise, the speaker of the Research Unit will be informed immediately.

(4) In cases of a serious violation of obligations under this agreement or in cases of a repeated misconduct, the speaker of the Research Unit may impose adequate sanctions.

The data management agreement shall enter into force upon the decision of the first RESPECT member assembly.