

# CERN Open Science Governance Framework

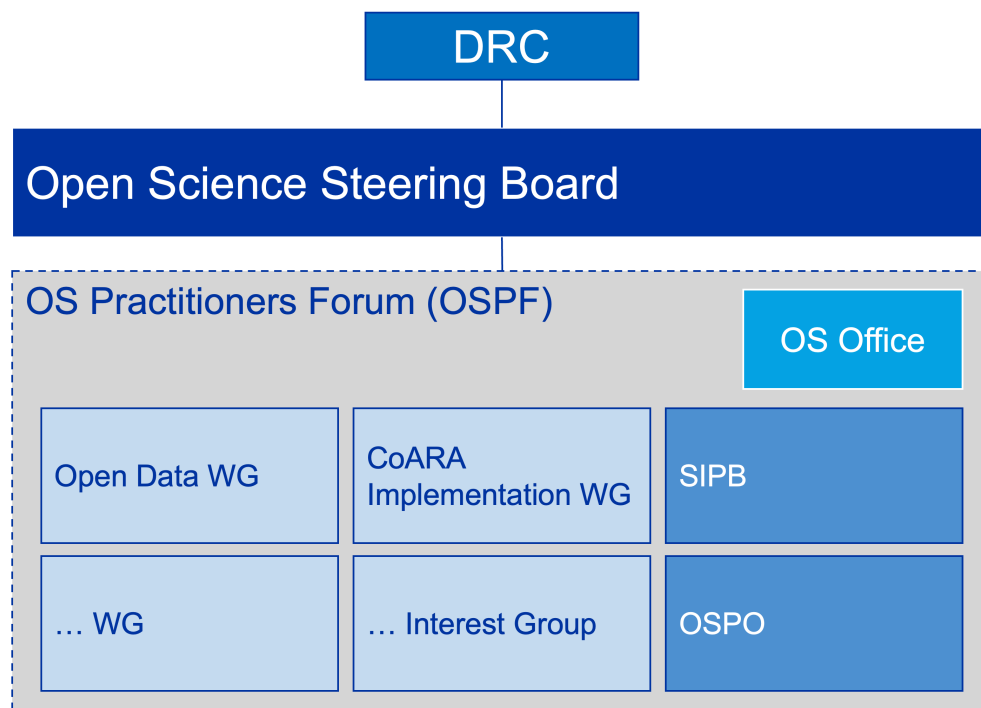
As approved by the Enlarged ED on May, 30<sup>th</sup> 2023

## Introduction

The Open Science Strategy Working Group (OSWG) was established in 2021 by the CERN Director for Research and Computing with the initial objective:

1. to create a framework for a regular and proactive exchange across all stakeholders in Open Science at CERN;
2. to develop an organizational Open Science Policy for CERN.

The CERN Open Science Policy<sup>1</sup> came into effect as of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, and the subsequent Open Science Implementation Plan<sup>2</sup> was publicly released on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023. CERN's Open Science Policy and its implementation received very positive feedback both from the worldwide open science community as well as funding agencies and research organizations in the Member States. With a comprehensive organizational Open Science strategy in place, the OSWG-led efforts need to transition into an operational governance structure to efficiently manage the implementation and further evolution of CERN's Open Science efforts. In order to address this evolution, the following governance framework is proposed, which replaces the OSWG.



<sup>1</sup> <http://dx.doi.org/10.17181/CERN.RTIF.Z8BO>

<sup>2</sup> <http://dx.doi.org/10.17181/CERN.LPJ3.1IHE>

# Open Science Steering Board

The Open Science Steering Board (OSSB) is an inter-departmental body reporting to the Director for Research and Computing. Its mandate is to oversee at the strategic level Open Science implementation measures, infrastructure, technology services, and outreach and education efforts related to the CERN Open Science policy.

The board meetings should serve as a forum for reviews, analyses, and assessments of the effective implementation of the CERN Open Science policy, including the respective sub-elements of Open Science. This includes specifically an obligation to review the CERN Open Science policy every two years in consultation with the CERN Open Science Practitioners Forum (OSPF – described below) and the sign-off of the biennial CERN Open Science Report. The OSSB will need to be informed about Open Science projects and implementation measures in order to ensure their alignment with organizational strategies and objectives.

The OSSB is convened by the Director for Research and Computing, who will appoint an OSSB Chair among its members. The Head of the CERN Open Science Office is an ex-officio secretary to the board with a managerial role in soliciting and compiling proposals, views and other inputs to the work of the board.

The composition of the board should provide a balanced representation of the CERN departmental organization, its experimental community and prioritized Open Science elements. The composition might evolve to reflect the evolution of the matters addressed by the board. The individual board members are expected to be appointed senior representatives of CERN departments and experimental collaborations. At least one member is appointed by OSPF at its own discretion.

The initial composition of the board is as follows:

- 2 Representatives from the ATS sector
- 1 Representative from the FHR sector (suggested: 1 from IPT)
- 1 Representative from the IR sector
- 2 Representatives of the RCS sector (suggested: 1 from EP, 1 from IT)
- 5 Representatives for the LHC experiments; 1 for each of the 4 large experiments + 1 representing the smaller experiments
- 1 Representative for the non-LHC experiments
- 1 Representative of the OSPF<sup>3</sup>

Ex-officio, the board will be joined by

- Director/Deputy Director for Research and Computing
- Head of the CERN Open Science Office
- Section Leader SIS Open Science (RCS-SIS-OS)

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<sup>3</sup> If the elected OSPF representative is already a member of the OSSB through its suggested composition, no additional representative will be nominated.

The board shall meet at least two times per year, normally to be scheduled well in advance. Extra meetings can be called if needed, on the initiative of the Chair or at the suggestion of members of the board. The board should collect reports at regular intervals from all topical working groups, organizational bodies, and practitioner interest groups regarding their respective contributions to the Open Science policy implementation.

## Open Science Practitioners Forum & Expert Groups

Representing de facto the continuation of the OWSG, the CERN Open Science Practitioners Forum (OSPF) is established to ensure organization-wide efficient communication among all entities driving the Open Science policy implementation. Given the increasing level of detail during the implementation of different open science practices, its membership is expected to increase over time. The OSPF comprises the expert group members described below and is coordinated by the CERN Open Science Office. The OSPF will elect a chair that will represent its interest in the CERN Open Science Steering Board.

To efficiently support the ongoing implementation of all Open Science elements at CERN, smaller topical expert groups (e.g. already existing Open Data Working Group), formal bodies (e.g. OSPO, the CERN Open Source Program Office or SIPB, the Scientific Information Policy Board<sup>4</sup>), and loose practitioner interest groups can be established for all policy elements, depending on their maturity in the Organization and their individual needs. The respective communities of practice at CERN will self-organize the required activities but will receive support from the CERN Open Science Office if required. Existing formal bodies that are tasked with the implementation of certain Open Science elements (initially: OSPO and SIPB) have their own independent mandates and reporting mechanisms which are not affected by the Open Science governance framework.

All topical working groups, formal bodies and practitioner interest groups are invited to report to the OSSB on their respective Open Science policy implementation progress and can receive related guidance and input from the OSSB. Upon request of the OSSB, they should provide input for central Open Science monitoring efforts and the biennial CERN Open Science Report.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://scientific-info.cern/about-us/sipb>

# Open Science Office

Within the CERN Scientific Information Service (RCS-SIS), a dedicated team has already been established to support various open science activities. This team was essential in successfully implementing the CERN Open Access policy and developing the LHC Open Data Policy and CERN's Open Science policy. To formalize the mandate of this team, to surface its activities, and to follow best practices in other organizations, the existing team forms the CERN Open Science Office as part of the overall Open Science governance framework.

The CERN Open Science Office is an independent support function that is tasked to coordinate the different Open Science policy implementation efforts across CERN. It supports the OSSB in the organization of its meetings, regular revisions of the OS policy, and the preparation of the biennial CERN Open Science report. The Open Science Office coordinates the OSPF meetings and other communication, and its services are available to all topical working groups and practitioner interest groups. The Open Science Office runs the <https://openscience.cern> website and is the focal point for all external communication related to open science.