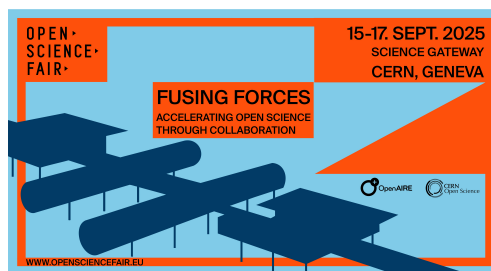


# Open Science Fair 2025



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## Valuing what matters: Developing new approaches to research assessment

Wednesday 17 September 2025 10:45 (30 minutes)

Advancing the quality and impact of science requires a fundamental reimagining of the practices and criteria used to evaluate researchers and their institutions. The Helmholtz Open Science Office supports the cultural shift toward Open Science within the Helmholtz Association, Germany's largest scientific organization. As a signatory of the Coalition on Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA) and coordinator of the CoARA National Chapter Germany, the Helmholtz Open Science Office is involved in several activities that aim to reform research assessment.

This contribution describes key initiatives that are currently taking place within the Helmholtz Association. Together, they aim to broaden the recognition of diverse research activities and output formats as valuable scholarly contributions, in alignment with the principles of research integrity and responsible research evaluation. We present the development of a "Quality Indicator for Data and Software Products", which is designed to capture quality of research outputs beyond traditional text publications and to promote their visibility. In addition, we present the implementation of an award for sustainable research software and the work of a new Helmholtz Task Group on Research Assessment, which provides a platform for the exchange and development of modern and quality-oriented research assessment practices.

Our contribution situates these activities within broader initiatives in Germany, such as the focus area "Digitality in Science" of the Alliance of German Science Organizations, and describes how they interact with international initiatives like CoARA and the Barcelona Declaration on Open Research Information.

### Tagline

This presentation by the Helmholtz Open Science Office showcases initiatives to advance responsible research assessment by broadening the recognition of diverse research activities and output formats as valuable scholarly contributions.

### Keywords

research assessment, indicator, award

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