Landscaping European Competence Centres: Skills4EOSC case study

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Skills4EOSC is setting up a pan-European network of competence centres to speed up the training of European researchers and harmonise the training of data professional profiles for scientific data management. To enhance the process of identifying the European competence centres, a comprehensive landscaping analysis is conducted. The analysis aims to identify and evaluate existing competence centres based on specific criteria. Once evaluated, the selected competence centres are documented and included in the Skills4EOSC Competence Centre Registry.

Skills4EOSC Project

Skills4EOSC aims at advancing Open Science skills by unifying the current training landscape into a common and trusted pan-European ecosystem, closing the three gaps identified in the EOSC Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda in relation to Open Science competences: lack of Open Science and data expertise, lack of a clear definition of data professional profiles and corresponding career paths, and fragmentation in training resources.

Skills4EOSC Competence Centres (CCs)

A Skills4EOSC CC represents a single point of reference in a specific Country/Region/Theme to find key competences to enable the practice of Open Science with adequate knowledge of standards, applications and tools and best practices for delivering, managing, re-using, sharing and analysing FAIR data, as well as other research digital objects.

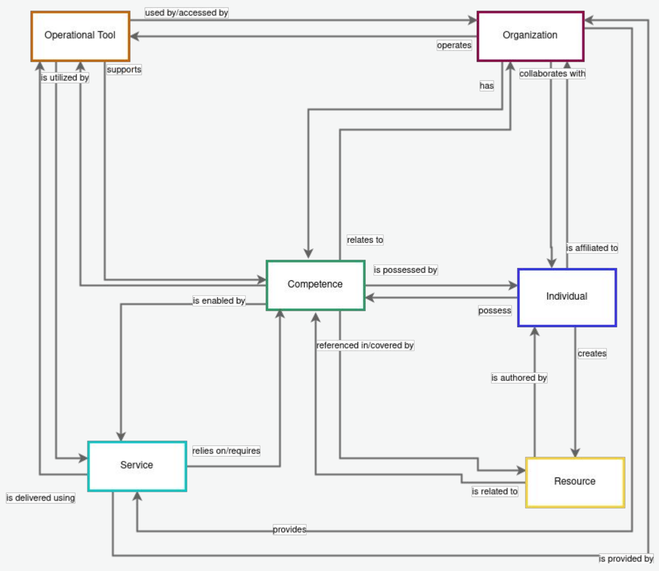


Fig. 1 Competence Centre concept model

Skills4EOSC CC Registry

The Skills4EOSC CC Registry is an organized collection of entries that serves as a comprehensive resource for finding the necessary competencies, standards, tools, and best practices for practising Open Science in a specific Country/Region/Theme. [2]

Purpose and objectives of the CC Registry

The Skills4EOSC CCs Registry serves as a platform for connecting and supporting Open Science CCs across project partners in Europe and promoting the adoption of Open Science practices.

The purpose and objectives of this registry is to facilitate the discovery and identification of Open Science CCs belonging to the Skills4EOSC network. It will also foster the collaboration with other initiatives in the EOSC and Open Science context.

Based on the registry content (new nodes are expected to be added during the lifetime of the project) we will be able to identify areas where there are gaps in competences, role profiles, and user support activities needed for open and data-intensive science.

Key elements of the CC Registry

- Name of CC Entry-Country code, Logo
- Link and contacts
- Establishment year
- History (+chairperson, +Coordinator)
- Skills4EOSC CC Entry year
- Organization/unit structure, e.g., legal entity
- **Competences**, e.g., Knowledge OS practices, Knowledge management etc.
- **Individuals and Institutions/Organizations**, e.g., People with specific role profiles affiliated to Institutions
- **Services offered**, e.g., Advisory: Consulting, Data repository, Training and Education
- **Resources**, e.g., training materials, publications, etc.
- **Operational Tools**, e.g., research and development facilities, communication tool, data management and analysis tool etc.
- Part of EOSC ecosystem? [Yes/No] E.g. As a member, observers, or mandated organization.
- Any user support offer? i.e, if the CC provides user support for a specific resource or service it offers. All those CCs that are marked yes will be considered an input for T7.4 in order to set up and coordinate the user support network activities.

Landscaping Analysis

The Landscaping of European CCs is an important task which aims is to identify and catalogue existing European CCs that comply with the Open Science framework and FAIR principles [3]

Methodology

To identify existing Competence Centres (CCs) for the landscaping activity of the Skills4EOSC project, we employed three approaches:

- **Firstly, we examined the collection of existing CCs based on the outcomes of T6.1 "Data Professional Networks" as documented in the previous deliverable D6.1 of WP6 [1].**
- **Secondly, we reviewed the findings from the FAIRsFAIR project on Landscaping Data Stewardship Centres.**
- **Lastly, to ensure inclusivity and comprehensive coverage, we conducted targeted searches using relevant keywords in the language specific to each country.**

Findings

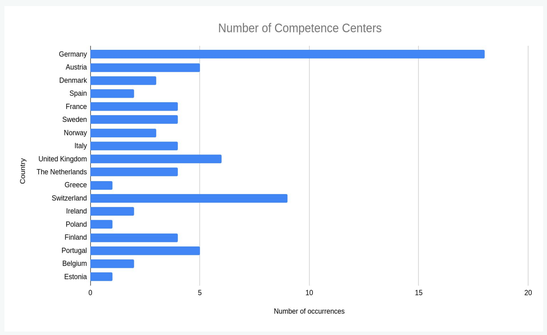


Fig.2 Number of Competence Centres per country

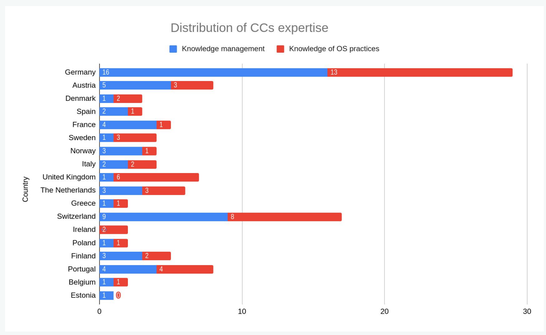


Fig. 3 Number of Competence Centres with the expertise on "Knowledge Management" and "Knowledge of OS practices" per country

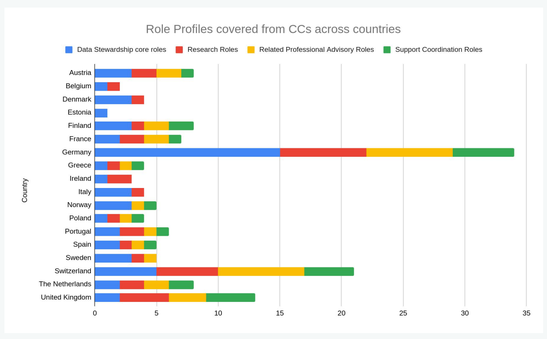


Fig. 4 Number of Competence Centres with the expertise on "Knowledge Management" and/or "Knowledge of OS practices" per country

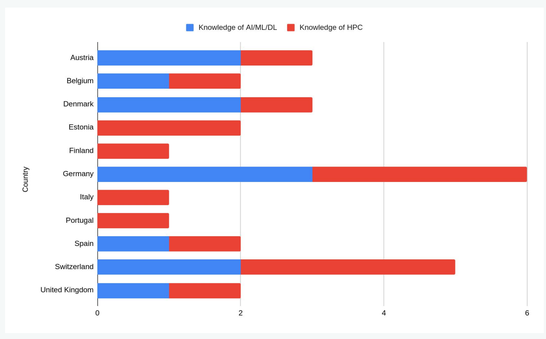


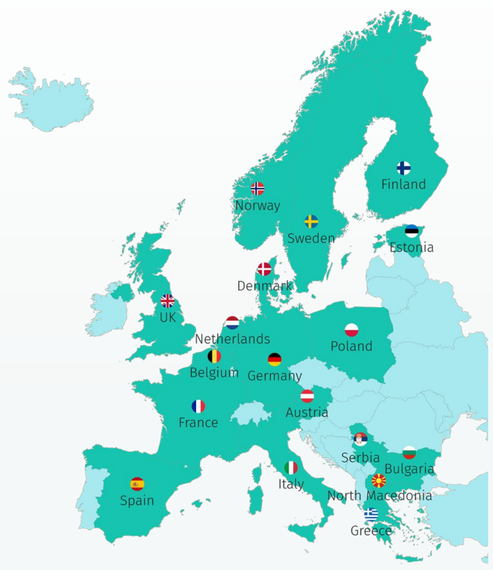
Fig. 5 Distribution of User Support Centres with the expertise on "AI" and/or "HPC" across countries

Skills4EOSC Consortium

Germany represented by KIT Karlsruher Institut für Technologie

- 44 **Participants**, 18 **Countries**

  Coordinator: Consortium GARR, Italy
- "**Key doers**" in Open Science in their Country/Region/Domain
- 2 ESFRI Research Infrastructures
- 7 million €
- September 2022 – August 2025



WP7.1 Timeline

References

[1] Skills4EOSC Project, https://skills4eosc.eu

[2] Skills4EOSC Network, https://www.skills4eosc.eu/network

[3] D7.1 Landscaping, https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.8305716

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