



# WDS response to the NIH Plan to Increase Findability and Transparency of Research Results Through the Use of Metadata and Persistent Identifiers (PID)

**Deadline: February 21, 2025**

Website Details:

<https://osp.od.nih.gov/comment-form-nih-plan-to-increase-findability-and-transparency-of-research-results-through-the-use-of-metadata-and-persistent-identifiers-pids/>

## **Plan overview:**

In this Plan, NIH presents a combination of efforts that are already underway and planned efforts that will increase the findability of research outputs and promote transparency in the research process, ultimately bolstering the impact of NIH's research while fostering trust in the research that NIH supports.

This Plan also addresses expectations from the 2022 White House Office of Science and Technology (OSTP) [Memorandum on Ensuring Free, Immediate, and Equitable Access to Federally Funded Research](#)

Specifically, NIH is outlining how researchers and institutions should use metadata to consistently identify themselves and their research outputs, as well as requirements for NIH-supported (i.e., both NIH-funded and NIH-managed) repositories to collect and make relevant metadata publicly available and searchable. These efforts are informed by NIH's experience in managing and hosting repositories and are intended to increase the findability and usability of all NIH research.

To view the full Plan, please click [here](#).

## **Response:**

Responses are voluntary and may be submitted anonymously. You may also voluntarily include your name and contact information with your response. Other than your name and contact information, please do not include in the response any personally identifiable information or any information that you do not wish to make public. Proprietary, classified, confidential, or sensitive

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### **WDS International Program Office**

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information should not be included in your response. After OSP has finished reviewing the responses, the responses may be posted to the OSP website without redaction. To ensure consideration, responses must be submitted by: February 21, 2025

I am responding: \*

Behalf of Myself

**Behalf of an Organization**

**Name:** Meredith Goins, on behalf of the WDS Scientific Committee and staff

**Name of Organization:** World Data System

**Type of Organization:**

- Not Applicable
- University
- Nonprofit Research Organization
- Biotech/Pharmaceutical Company
- **Professional Org/Association**
- Patient Advocacy Organization
- Health Care Delivery Organization
- Government Agency
- Other

**Role \***

- Member of the Public
- Scientific Researcher
- Patient Advocate
- Bioethicist
- **Institutional Official**
- Government Official
- Medical Provider

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Please provide your comments on the NIH Plan to Increase Findability and Transparency of Research Results Through the Use of Metadata and Persistent Identifiers in the box below. Additionally, comments can be uploaded as an attachment.

**DRAFT Comments:**

- Overall the document was well written and easy to understand.

**Background**

**NIH Actions to Increase Findability and Transparency of Research Results Through the Use of Metadata and Persistent Identifiers**

***I. Using and Submitting Metadata and PIDs***

*I.A. Obtaining an ORCID iD*

- Good plan, all researchers should have an ORCID

*I.B. Including Metadata and PIDs when Submitting Manuscripts*

- The benefits of including an ORCID are clearly indicated

*I.C. Submitting Metadata and PIDs when Depositing Scientific Data in Repositories*

- How will expectations for institutions to check for desired metadata for NIH-supported research differ from encouraging institutions to consider consistency for non-NIH-supported research?
- How does "NIH plan to continue to work to improve the options available to the scientific community"?

*I.D. Reporting PIDs to NIH*

- How will NIH ensure the cross-linking of these PIDs to the grant PID? What metrics and reporting will they do to confirm plan succeeds, and demonstrate its impact?

*I.E. Citing and Cross-Linking Metadata and PIDs*

- Agreed, community best practices should be followed
- How exactly will NIH encourage researchers to use available PIDs and add their research outputs to their ORCID iDs?

***II. Collecting and Making Metadata and PIDs Publicly Available***

*II.A. Collecting Publicly Available Metadata and PIDs for Publications at NIH*

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- Agree with the plan to continue ensuring NIH resources are indexed and made searchable for everyone

*II.B. Collecting Publicly Available Metadata and PIDs for Scientific Data in NIH-Supported Repositories*

- Agree with the plan, at a minimum the stated set of metadata is important to have included
- How will NIH enforce compliance to the stated minimum metadata?
- Agreed that consulting with other federal agencies to ensure consistent or compatible PID schemas are promoted will streamline efforts, and will be especially helpful in advancing interdisciplinary research such as with climate health research

**III. Assigning Identifiers for NIH Awards and NIH-Conducted Research Projects**

- Using PIDs for awards and grants instead of the current indexing system will greatly enhance abilities to track outputs and impacts with the PID graph.

**Conclusion and Next Steps**

- Encouragement and expectations are frequently indicated as their plan, but how would that unfold?
- What type of resources and support will be available for researchers to learn more about PIDs and the usage benefits? These requirements to make data more open and FAIR can hopefully increase trust within the research community and other stakeholders, with better traceability and accountability.
- We would suggest consultation with grant holders to move the discourse from compliance to a better understanding of the public good

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Attachment: The following file extensions are accepted: PDF, XLS, XLSX, DOC, DOCX

**Description:**

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If you would like to have a copy of your submission emailed to you, please check here

**Check yes**

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