# Requirements under the Open Policy for the Department for Climate, Nature and the Private sector in Norad

Version: 1.5. (September 23, 2024).

## Open Policy

The Department for Climate, Nature and the Private Sector in Norad has adopted an open policy that:

- Enables the unrestricted access and reuse of collected or produced digital data funded, in whole or in part, by the Department. This includes any underlying data sets in projects that collect or produce data.
- Enables the unrestricted access and reuse of software, algorithms and models funded, in whole or in part, by the Department.
- Enables the unrestricted access and reuse of peer-reviewed published research funded, in whole or in part, by the Department, including any underlying data sets.
- Enables the unrestricted access and reuse of educational resources funded, in whole or in part by the Department.

Selected projects will be included within the policy framework during an initial pilot period from 01.10.2024. The open policy is full effective for grants awarded from 01.01.2025. Project compliance is decided for each new contract.

The open policy is mandatory for the contracts where it is stated in the agreement. Agreements that seek exemption from the Open Policy must document and explain the exception.

General guidelines for this policy can be found at norad.no/openpolicy. As new practices emerge, the guidelines will be reviewed and updated as needed.

Any questions or suggestions to this policy should be sent to christer.solheim.gundersen@norad.no.

Support documentation for this Open Policy:

- Metadata spesification
- Policy accepted licenses
- The OpenAPI Specification (OAS)

## Open Policy for Data and Underlying Data

Data encompasses all primary data, associated metadata, all relevant aggregated data, and any additional relevant data necessary to understand and assess the data in question. For

research this must include any data needed to replicate and reproduce the reported study findings in their totality. For AI projects, this includes all training data.

The data must be available for reuse under the following conditions:
- All data must be published under a license accepted under this policy.
- All datasets must include metadata according to the policy metadata spesification.
- Data must be available in a publicly documented machine-readable format and through application programming interfaces (API) and bulk download. APIs should be developed based on the OpenAPI Specification (OAS).
- In the case of research articles, there should be immediate open access to the underlying research data upon publication of the article(s) or launch of the project.
- All documentation, learning resources and any other content related to the data must be made available under one of the licenses approved under this policy.

## Open Policy for Software, Algorithms and Models

The Open Policy for the Department for Climate, Nature and the Private sector at Norad requires that grantees openly license and make publicly available all source code, algorithms, models, components and, any training data sets to replicate production ready versions of the technologies developed under the grant.

The technology must be available for reuse under the following terms:
- Software, algorithms and models must be published under a license accepted under this policy.
- All source code, algorithms and models must be openly available for reuse from a publicly available repository like Github or Gitlab.
- The documentation included in the publicly available repository must give all the necessary information needed for re-implementation of the source code, model, component or platform.
- All documentation, learning resources and any other content related to the technology must be made available under a license accepted under this policy.

## Open Policy for Research

Funded research subject to the Open Policy should contain the following elements:
- Funded research, including articles accepted for publication, shall be published under a license accepted under this policy.
- Publications and underlying data will be accessible and open immediately. All funded research including articles accepted for publication shall be available immediately at publication, without any embargo period. All research data must be available for reuse under a license accepted under this policy.
- Grantees are encouraged to adhere to the FAIR principles to improve the findability, accessibility, interoperability, and reuse of digital assets.
- Publications must be available in an open repository.

# Open Policy for Educational Resources

Funded Educational Resources subject to the Open Policy should contain the following elements:
- All funded educational resources must be published under a license accepted under this policy.
- Grantees shall retain sufficient copyright in funded educational resources to ensure they have the necessary rights to share these works a license accepted under this policy.
- All funded content and educational resources shall be available immediately at publication, without any embargo period.
- Funded educational resources shall be deposited in an open educational resources repository.

# Availability statements

All grants covered by this Open Policy must include an open availability statement. This statement must be added to the title page of the research manuscript prior to submission for all types of research, and to the title page or landing page of the educational resource(s). For general data and software the availability statement must be published on the organisation's website and on any public repository used as part of the grant.

The availability statement must include:
- A description of the open data and their metadata, or the software, algorithms and models developed, underlying data to research articles, or educational resources
- A direct reference to where the data, source code, algorithms or models, research data or educational resources can be found for re-use
- A direct reference to any documentation of the above mentioned resources, including a list of data and content assets and the open license (or public domain dedication) on each (linked to the relevant open license)
- If relevant, a direct link to a reference implementation The availability statement should not refer readers or reviewers to a data responsible contact  or an author to obtain the data or resources, but should instead include the applicable details  where the data, software, algorithms, models and/or other content can be found

# Exclusions to the Open Policy

Generally, this policy implementation change will not apply to datasets that contain personally identifiable information (PII), datasets that contain information of relevance for national security interests, or review articles and other works of synthesis or opinion/analysis where the entity is invited to contribute on a specific topic.

There are many valid reasons to restrict data access. In addition to the above mentioned reasons, access may be restricted in cases where consent has not been given for release, when the data can be defined as confidential commercial information, or in situations where there are sound public reasons (e.g. protection of endangered species, archaeological sites). The use of anonymisation techniques, data sharing agreements, and safe havens where

data can be accessed in controlled and secure circumstances (e.g., data trusts) are key in such cases.

The greatest benefits come when data is open and complies with both the FAIR and CARE principles (for further reading on CARE: https://www.gida-global.org/care), supporting the widest possible reuse, and reuse at scale.