

NOV 6, 2023

Research Data Management Administration : Developing a connected solution

Network Research Data Support at VU Amsterdam

Business Project Lead:

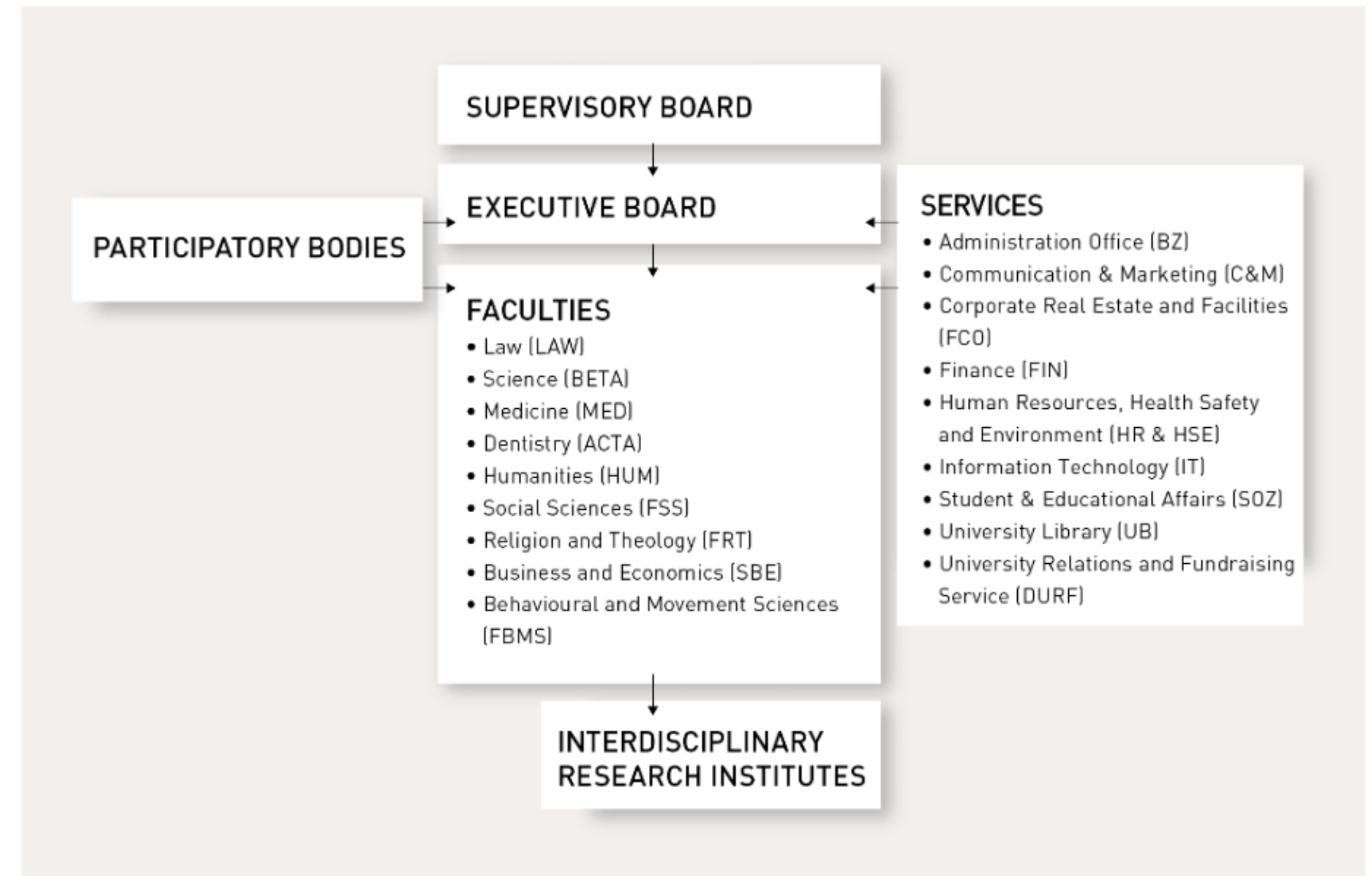
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ABOUT THE VU

- 31,700 students (> 18,000 bachelor and > 11,000 master)
- Off which are > 5,000 international students
- 450 PhD defences/year
- 9 faculties – 46 departments
- 8 Graduate schools
- 3,900 employees



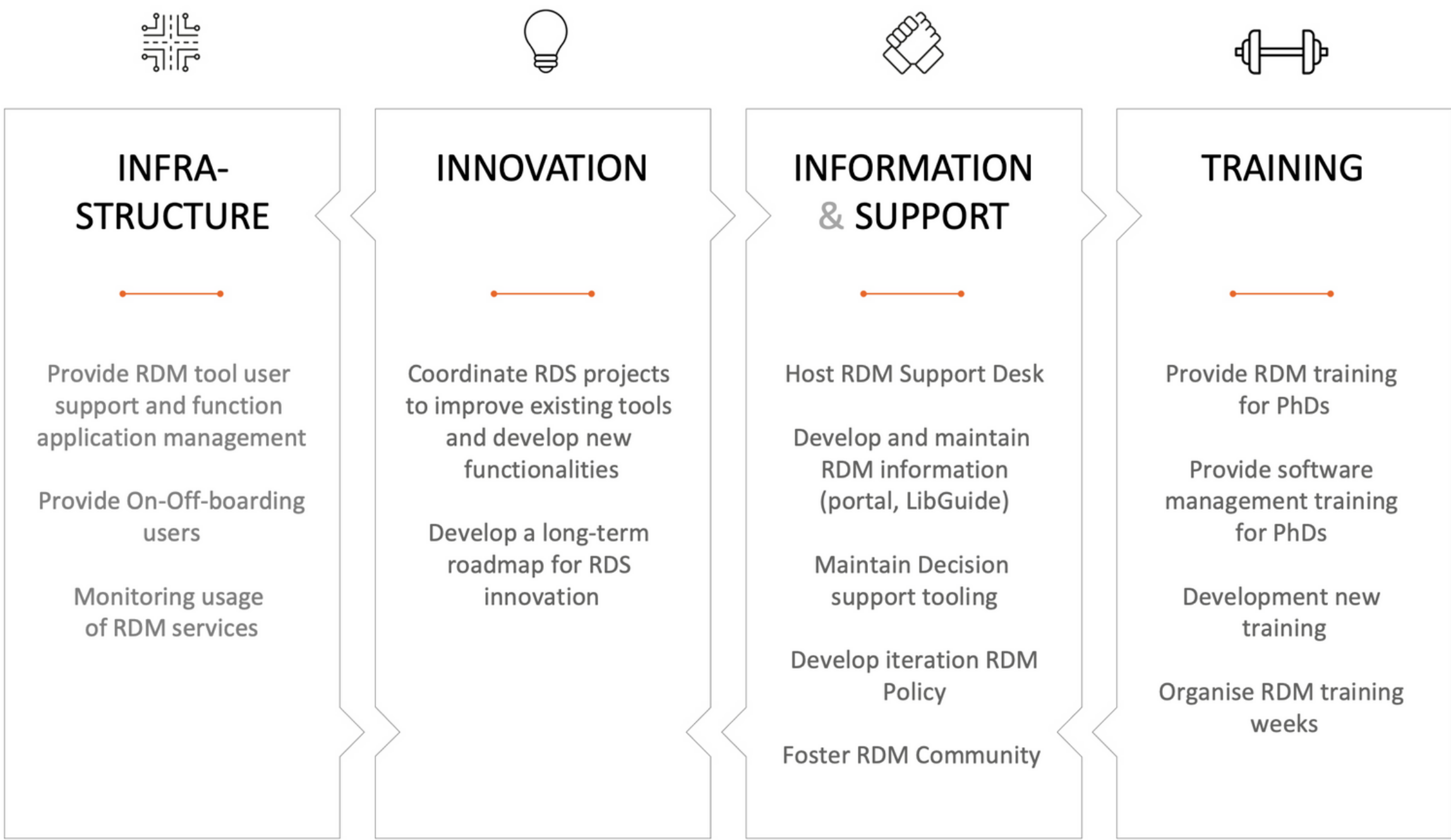
Support at VU Amsterdam

- Wide range of support available
- Faculty data stewards
- Faculty privacy champions
- Other faculty support staff
- UB RDM Support Desk
- IT for Research providing tailor-made solutions for researchers
- Legal advice
- IT security
- Grants office



RDM SUPPORT & SERVICES ORGANISED AS A NETWORK

(NeRDS)



The problem

- The RDM landscape is getting diverse as there is an increased focus on Open Science, Good research practice, GDPR, etc.
- More diversity however brings in more complexity
- Researchers often unclear about what steps they need to take during their research phase
- As a result, they are sometimes forced to look for solutions themselves
- Leading to under-utilization of the use of existing knowledge, best practices, model documents and support.
- This increasing complexity also leads to more administrative actions
- Leading to an increasing workload, both for researchers as well as staff.




The potential solution

- Developing a connected system where researchers are provided with a single platform.
- This platform will give them access to the different research tools and resources, all in one place, which they need during their research phases.
- By providing such a platform this will help in:

What is RDMA about?


- Research data management administration is basically developing a connected system where researchers can be provided within a single platform.
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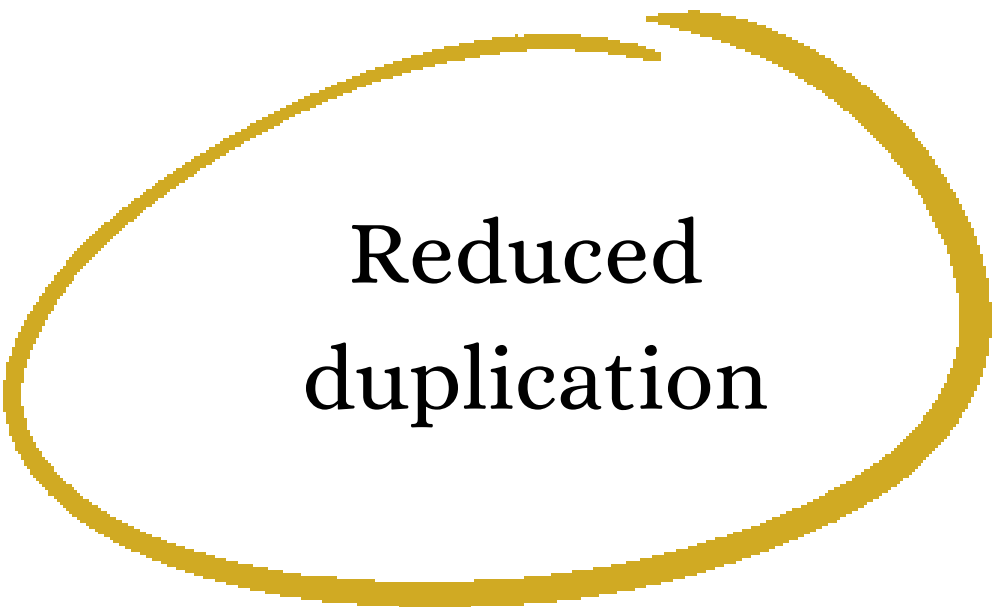
Provide
guidance

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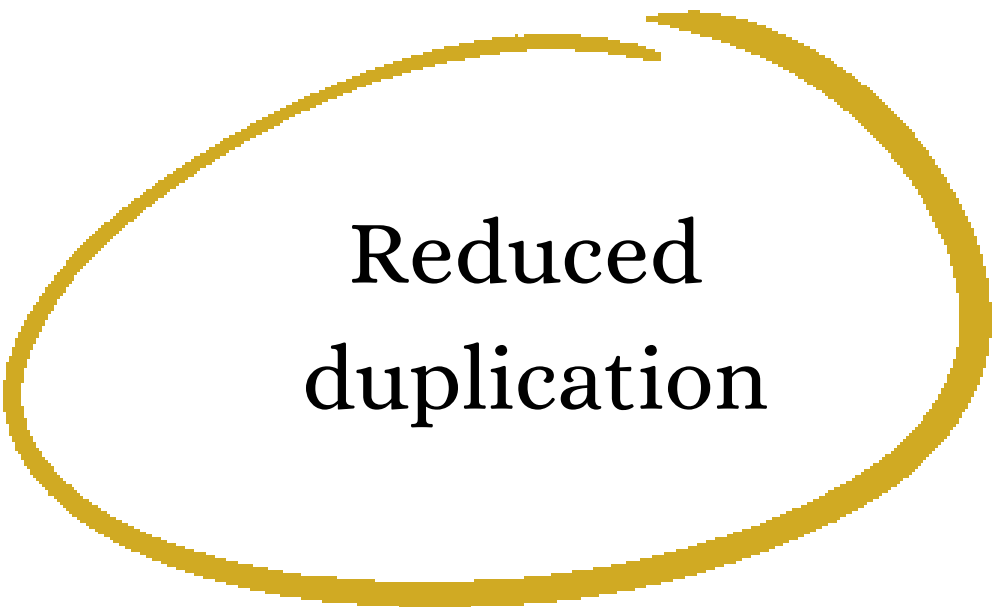
Reduced
duplication

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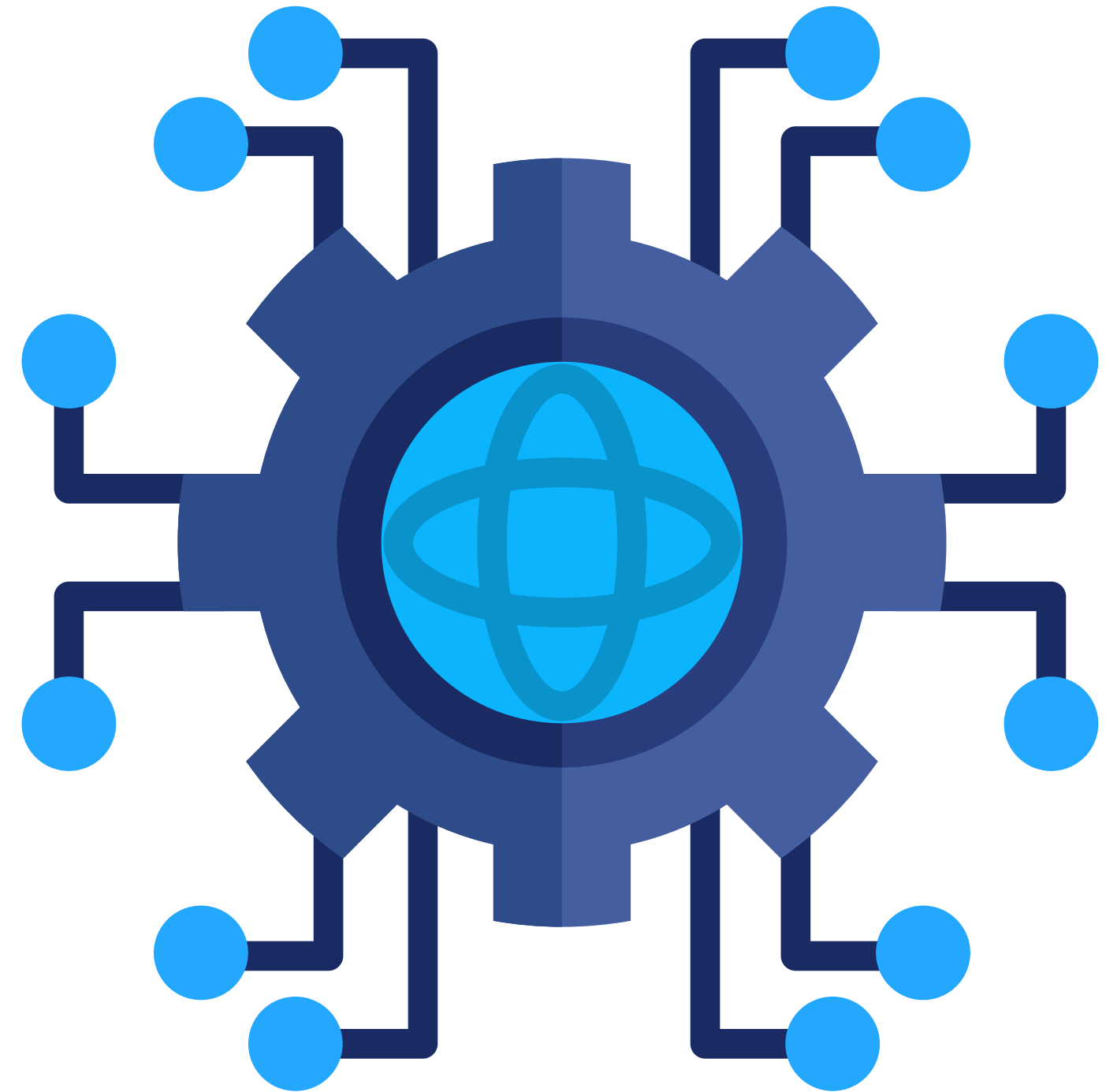
Reduced
duplication

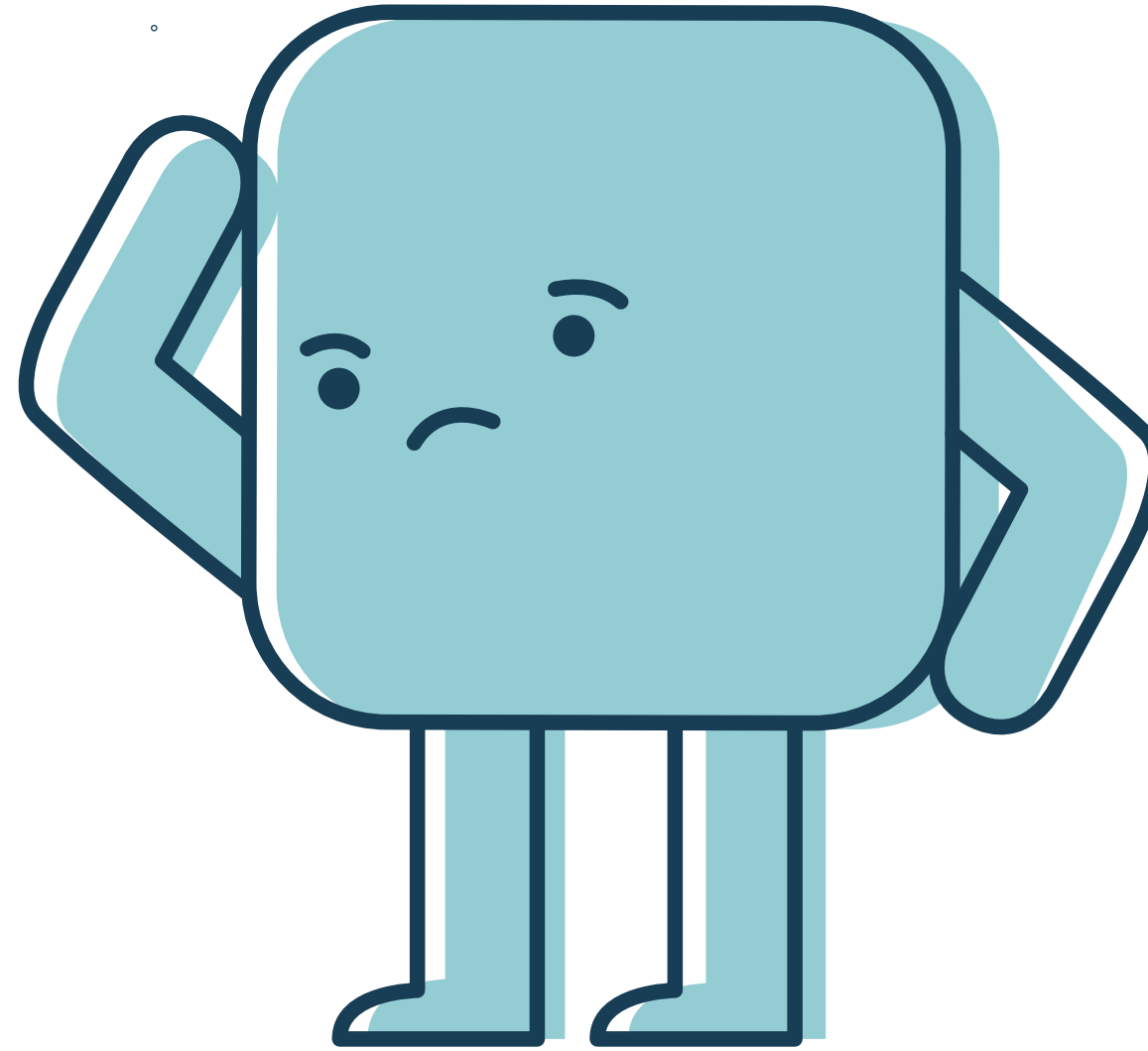


Create
awareness

What is a connected solution?

- An connected solution is like a hub that connects different things together.
- It combines various functions, processes, and information into one platform.
- For example, having the DMP online tool, the Ethical review tool, consent form etc in one location.





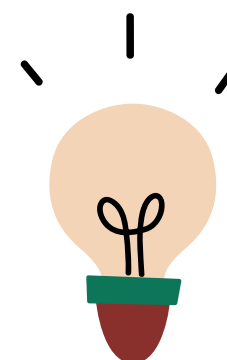
But how would this work?

Alice has a research idea



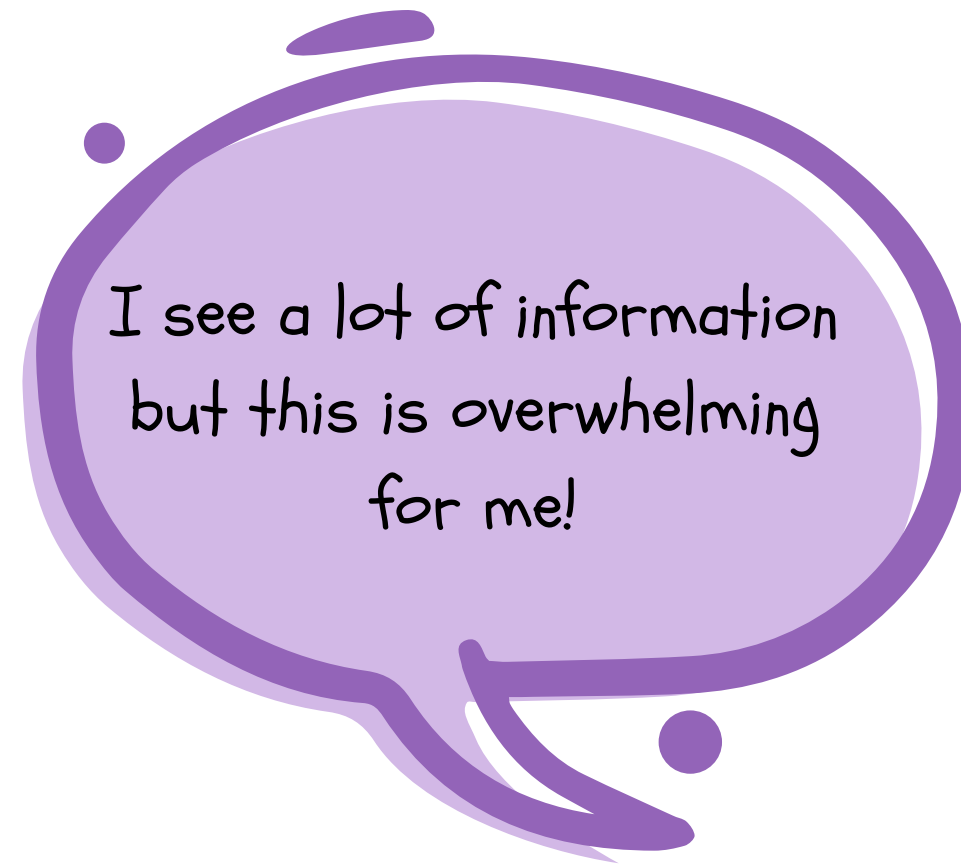
That's a great idea Alice!
But we need to apply for a
grant first to get the funds.

You can check the RDM webpage
it has a lot of information or
connect with the Data stewards.



How do I apply for
the funds?





DMP?

Consent
Form?

Ethical?

Where do I start
first?

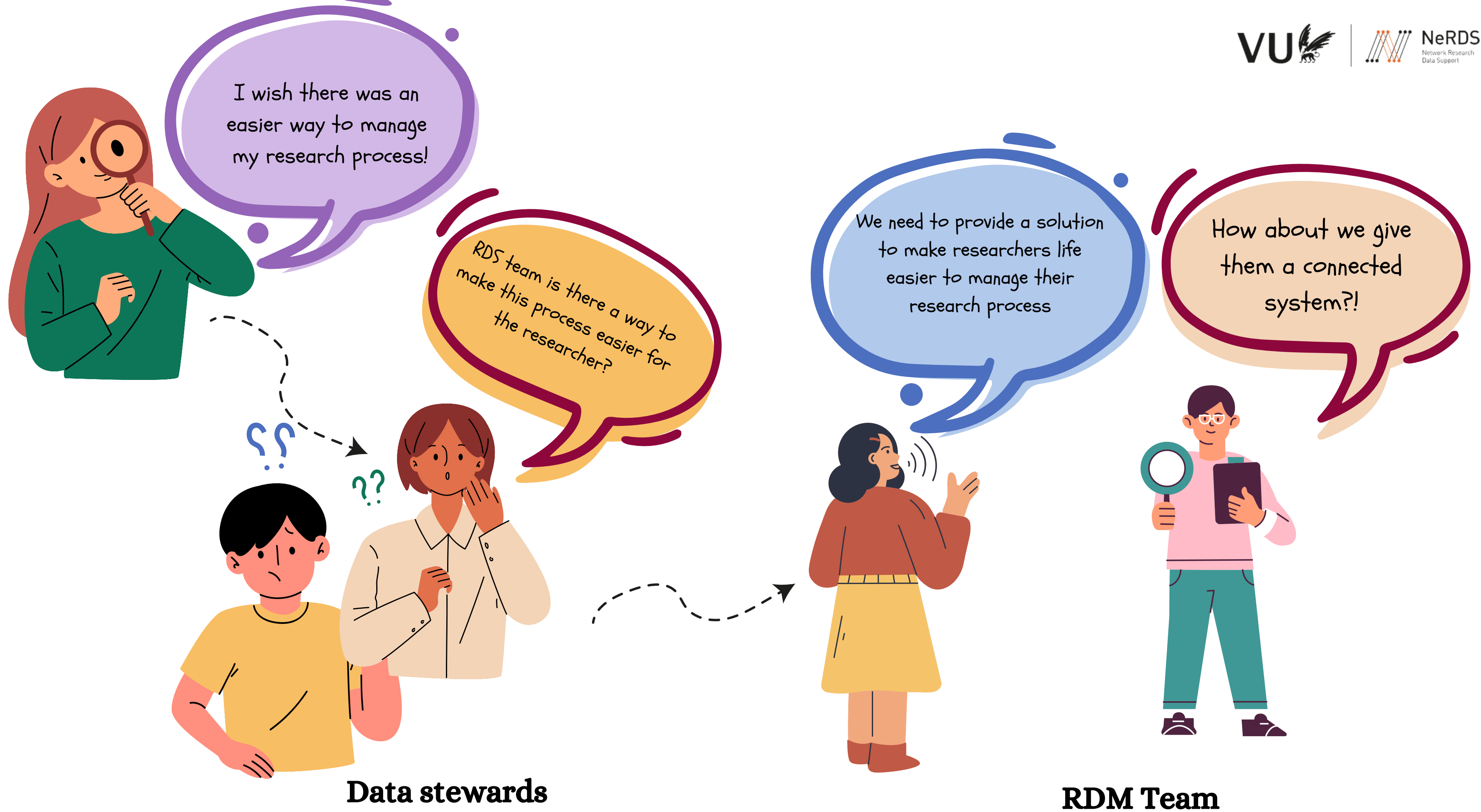


Do I need to fill all
these forms with
same information
again and again?









Potential solution!



Alice logs into the system
with her credentials

[Sign in](#) [Create account](#)

*** Email**

*** Password**

[Forgot password?](#)

☐ Remember email

[Sign in](#)

- or -

[Sign in with your institutional credentials](#)



Name

VUnet ID

Email

Department

IP

Project Name

Attach proposal 

SUBMIT

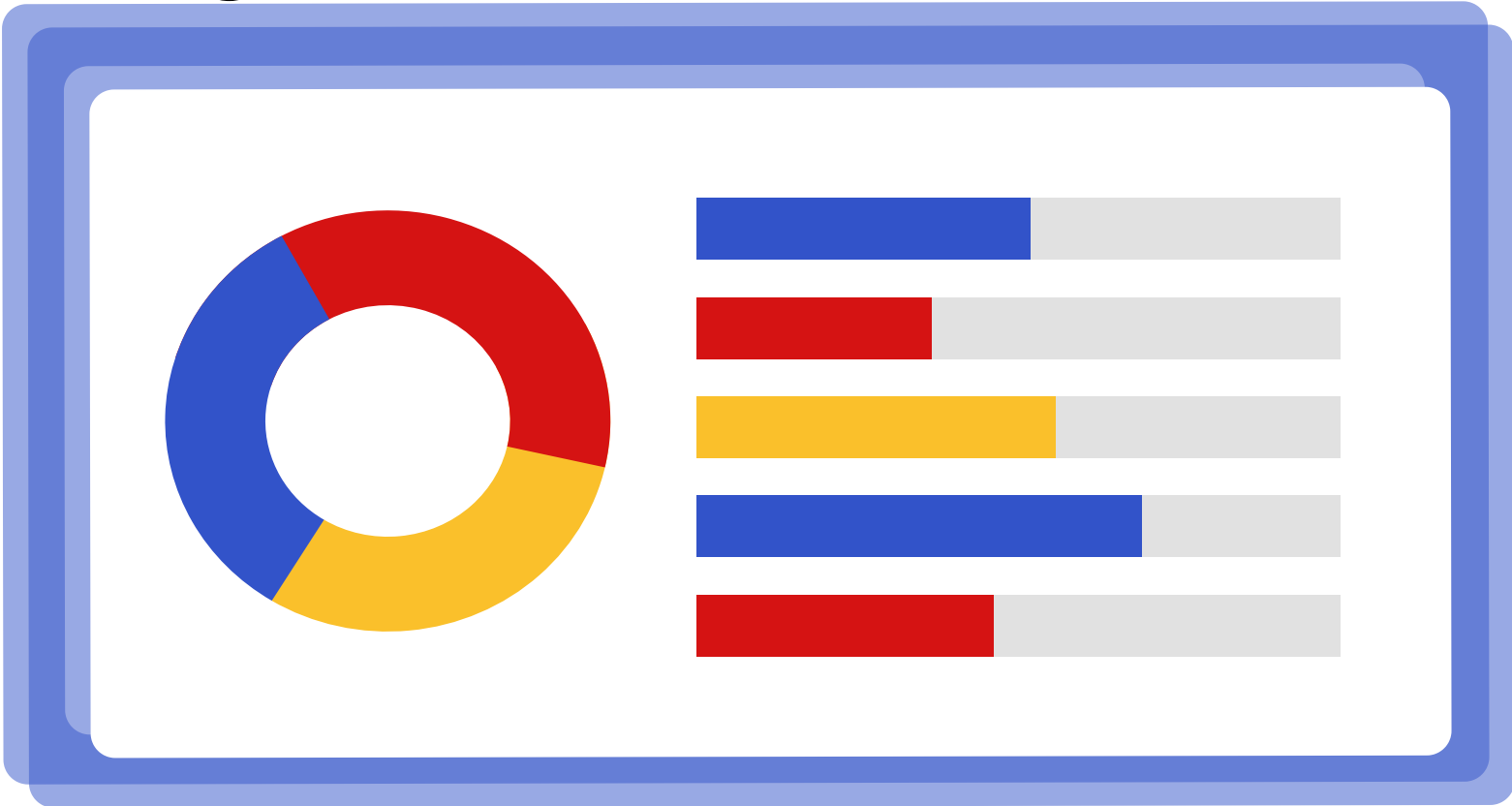
Information
added once only

Automation
pick up on
credentials

Hello Alice!

You have a new message in your inbox.

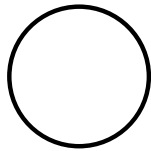
Progress



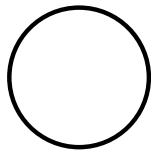
Data Management Plan



Informed Consent



Ethical Review



Inline comments/Chats/Data
stewards/IP/RDS

I really like the new solution. It helped me during my research phase and now I can spend more time on my research work..



Current updates: Developing the MVP

- Gathered requirements from stakeholders
- Developed a resource flow
- Developing an MVP with the team
- Deciding between two options: Service Now and Argos
- Both solutions have their own pros and cons
- By having both MVPs a decision can be made for the next phase

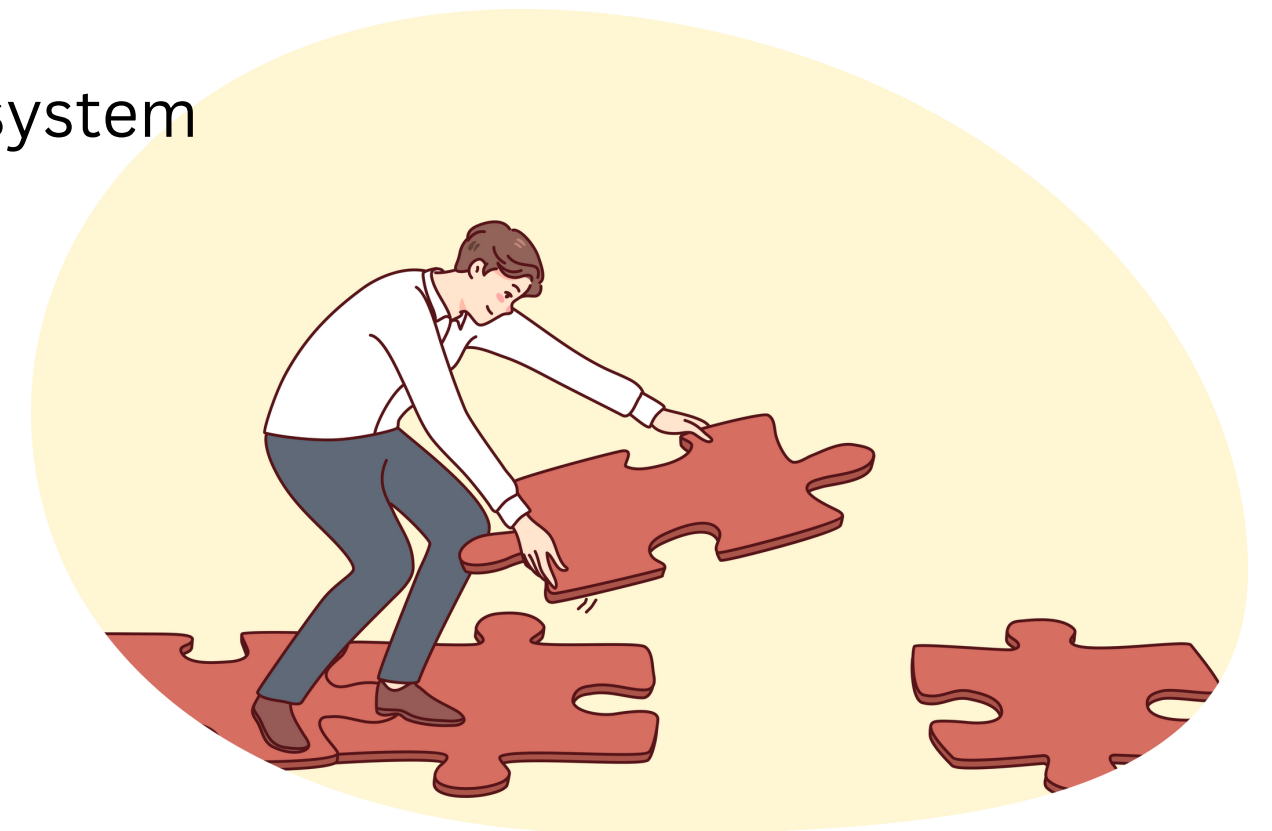


Options

<h2>Service Now</h2> <p>ServiceNow enables institutions to connect legacy tools and systems in one place, unifying operational and data siloes.</p>	<h2>Argos</h2> <p>It is an open extensible service - available as a standalone service (OpenDMP) and as a OpenAIRE service (ARGOS) - that simplifies the management, validation, monitoring and maintenance of Data Management Plans</p>
Pros: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Already a service used by RDS support Desk enabling seamless integration with existing services and service desk• Meets most of the functional requirements that are needed• Development team with expertise available	Pros: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developed in OpenAire so an open source option• EU partnership : more in alignment with EU laws and policies.• Open source product
Cons: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commercial vendor• Expensive in initial development and long-term costs	Cons: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not entirely sure about the administrative support• IT adoption of an open source system• Possibility of integration of other services unclear• May need experts

Challenges

- Selecting a system that supports our requirements and fits in our current (support) infrastructure.
- Enabling seamless integration of the various resources already available into one system
- Configuration of the new system that caters to the requirements each department/faculty at VU
- Adoption by the stakeholders and the VU environment of the new system



QUESTIONS & SUGGESTIONS WELCOME

