YERUN Open Science Awards
2023 Call

The YERUN Open Science Awards are aimed to encourage and reward Open Science initiatives across the YERUN network. We are excited to receive applications that demonstrate and/or support the fulfilment of Open Science objectives, such as:

- Making the output of research, including publications, data, software, and other research materials freely accessible.
- Using online tools and services to increase the transparency of research processes and methodologies.
- Raising awareness of Open Science e.g., through events, programmes, educational and training tools.
- Making scientific research more reproducible by increasing the amount and quality of published information that is necessary to reproduce research results.
- Using alternative models of publication and peer review to make the dissemination and certification of research faster and more transparent.
- Using open collaborative methods and tools to increase efficiency and widen participation in research.[1]

The awards will target initiatives by individuals or teams of researchers and/or administrative staff/professional services that demonstrate strong Open Science practices, and/or that support the scholarly community to adopt Open Science practices in their work.

Up to five initiatives will be awarded as inspiring practices that can serve as examples for others in fostering and implementing Open Science in their own contexts. Winners will bring in a monetary award to their institution/department (2,000€ for each award), which will be used to further advance the existing initiative or implement a new initiative on Open Science. The award-winning initiatives will be invited to be showcased an event organised by YERUN. All other initiatives, if eligible[2], will be showcased in a dedicated space on the YERUN website and newsletter. Please state in your application whether you would like to showcase your work on the YERUN website and newsletter.

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[1] University of Reading. Open Research Award Guidelines (link)

[2] Initiatives will be evaluated by experts from YERUN institutions and by a final evaluation panel. There will be a threshold agreed by the experts and only initiatives passing the threshold will be showcased.

Eligibility

To apply for the YERUN Open Science Awards, at the time of the application the applying individual or team should be either:

- **A researcher OR an administrative or professional support staff member** from one of the YERUN Universities. Teams can be composed either by only researchers, or only professional support staff, or both. Researchers from any discipline are eligible to apply. Researchers or staff members from non-YERUN Universities are not eligible to apply. Researchers or staff members are not eligible to apply with a project that has already won an Open Science (or related) award.

NB: In the case of applications submitted by a team, one researcher/staff member must lead the application and submit it on behalf of the whole team. In both cases (individuals or teams) applicants are invited to indicate also a deputy applicant who could take over the follow-up phase, if needed (e.g., in case the main applicant leaves the university). As a general principle, it is paramount that the person involved in the application phase and/or in the follow-up phase is enrolled at the university.

We are looking for particularly inspiring and innovative practices that go the extra mile to build a community that implements and fosters Open Science practices, to contribute to the university's overall Open Science culture and to raise awareness of Open Science.

At the time of applying, initiatives should be beyond the stage of planning and implementation; in other words, the initiative should be already up and running at the time of application. Applicants are also asked to indicate in their application how they would use the award to further foster Open Science behaviours and initiatives.

How to Apply

The online application form for the YERUN Open Science Awards should be filled out by an individual involved in the initiative.

If you are interested in applying, please follow this link to access the online application platform.

If you would like to encourage colleagues to apply, please follow this link where you will be able to include the email address(es) of the colleague(s) you would like to invite to apply to the awards. Please also share this call in your own institution.

The application should be understandable to readers from any field, avoiding discipline-specific jargon.

The online application form covers the following points:

1) Description: What is the Open Science practice/initiative about? *(max. 400 words)*

- *Introduction: Short overview of the initiative. What are its key Open Science objectives (and other objectives, if applicable)? Who are the target groups? What are the main activities organised (if applicable)?*
- *Context in which the initiative was implemented: What prompted you to develop this initiative?*
- *Obstacles and solutions: What challenges, if any, were encountered? Were they/how were they solved?*

2) Outputs: What has the initiative achieved so far? *(max. 400 words)*

- *Benefits: What benefits were realised (to date) through this initiative, and for whom?*
- *Lessons learnt: What knowledge have you gained (so far) through your work?*

3) Reusability: What steps have been taken for other to reuse this initiative? *(max. 400 words)*

- *What are the steps/actions you have taken/are taking to make the initiative available to others?*
- *Is the practice, its structure and output easily findable online? If yes, where?*
- *Can the practice be reused in other departments or institutions?*

4) Follow-up: How do you intend to use the award? *(max. 400 words)*

- *How would this award support you / your team in taking forward your current initiative, or would you like to initiate a new project with the financial resources from the award?*

Evaluation

Evaluations will take place after the end of the application period and the winners will be announced within a period of 2 months after the call closes.

Applications will be reviewed by an evaluation team with representatives from YERUN institutions. The evaluation process will consist of two phases. In the first phase, each application will be reviewed by two evaluators from YERUN institutions other than the one of the applicants. In case of strong discrepancy between the two evaluations, a third evaluator will be invited to assess the application. In the second phase, the applications passing the threshold will be reviewed by a final evaluation panel.

Call for applications

The 2023 call for applications opens on 6 November 2023 and will close on 5 December 2023 at 23:59 CET. Winners will be announced in February 2024.

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