



D13.4

- Development of public education/dissemination material on ethical and social issues

WORK PACKAGE 13 – DEVELOPING AN ETHICAL FRAMEWORK FOR RIs

LEADING BENEFICIARY: ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DI GEOFISICA E VULCANOLOGIA

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ABSTRACT

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PROJECT SUMMARY

ENVRIplus is a Horizon 2020 project bringing together Environmental and Earth System Research Infrastructures, projects and networks with technical specialist partners to create a more coherent, interdisciplinary and interoperable cluster of Environmental Research Infrastructures across Europe. It is driven by three overarching goals: 1) promoting cross-fertilization between infrastructures, 2) implementing innovative concepts and devices across RIs, and 3) facilitating research and innovation in the field of environment for an increasing number of users outside the RIs.

ENVRIplus aligns its activities to a core strategic plan where sharing multi-disciplinary expertise will be most effective. The project aims to improve Earth observation monitoring systems and strategies, including actions to improve harmonization and innovation, and generate common solutions to many shared information technology and data related challenges. It also seeks to harmonize policies for access and provide strategies for knowledge transfer amongst RIs.

ENVRIplus develops guidelines to enhance transdisciplinary use of data and data-products supported by applied use-cases involving RIs from different domains. The project coordinates actions to improve communication and cooperation, addressing Environmental RIs at all levels, from management to end-users, implementing RI-staff exchange programs, generating material for RI personnel, and proposing common strategic developments and actions for enhancing services to users and evaluating the socio-economic impacts.

ENVRIplus is expected to facilitate structuration and improve quality of services offered both within single RIs and at the pan-RI level. It promotes efficient and multi-disciplinary research offering new opportunities to users, new tools to RI managers and new communication strategies for environmental RI communities. The resulting solutions, services and other project outcomes are made available to all environmental RI initiatives, thus contributing to the development of a coherent European RI ecosystem.

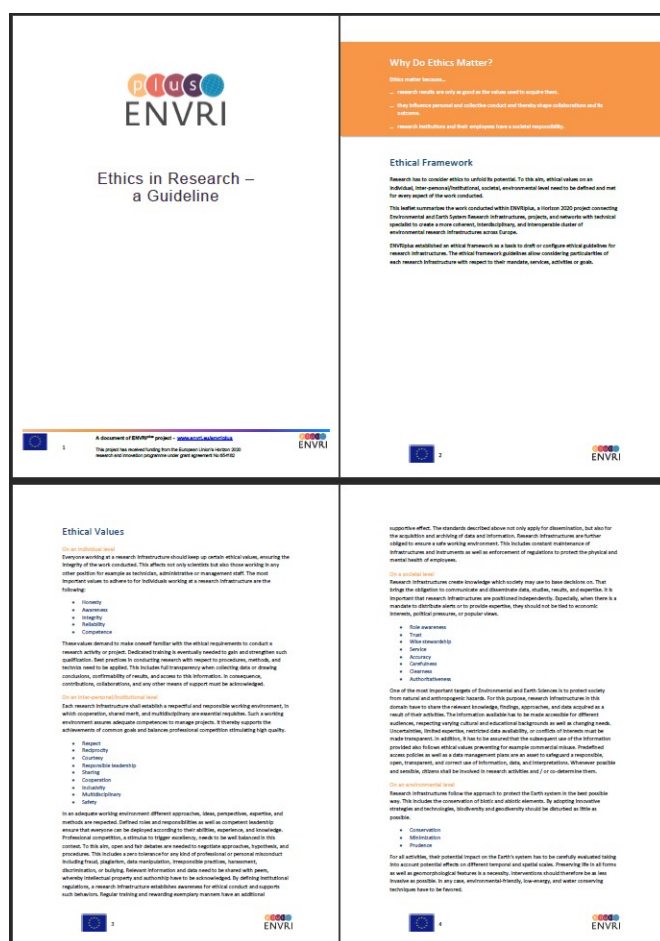


Introduction

The deliverables produced in work package 13 “Developing an ethical framework for RIs” were prepared for public dissemination as part of task 13.4. Different products were developed, and are described in the following, to facilitate for potential users the development and application of ethical guidelines. All materials will be made available on the [virtual platform of the ENVRI community](#).

Ethics in Research – a Guideline

The deliverable 13.3 “Ethical Guidelines (EGs) for Research Infrastructures (RIs)” (<http://www.envriplus.eu/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/D13.3.pdf>) presents a general framework of ethical values each research infrastructure of the ENVRI community shall use. The framework offers a basis to design or to shape ethical guidelines taking into account RIs’ peculiarities with respect to their status, duties, activities, and goals. In order to summarize the work conducted, the most important ethical values to consider on an individual, inter-personal/institutional, societal, and environmental level are now explained in a handy leaflet. It aims at making potential users familiar with important ethical values to adhere to when working for a research infrastructure. The following snapshot depicts the four pages of the leaflet.



Ethical Label Template Table

As part of the ethical framework, an ethical label (EL) template was developed and documented, in particular in deliverable 13.2 (<http://www.envriplus.eu/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/D13.2-Ethical-label-template.pdf>). The EL supports the disclosure of information concerning ethical, social, and environmental implications of a deliverable or any other project output. It adds value



to the usual technical-scientific focused description of a project outcome. It helps the end-user to better identify and describe the function of a project output with particular reference to its impact on science, society, and the environment.

To support and facilitate the disclosure of the ethical considerations taken, a preprogrammed table was developed. After having filled it in, a summary is generated, which can easily be integrated into any documentation.

The template will be made available online and accompanied by the following introduction:

Ethics matter! Disclose the impact your project output might have on science, society, or the environment and help end-users to understand which ethical considerations you have taken. To this aim, use the preprogrammed template. Different categories help you to characterize your product. You can always choose one or more of the predefined options and in case this is not sufficient, there is an additional empty field. All the selections you have taken will be automatically included into the summary table at the top. This is also the final information that you can include in your documentation.

The following screenshots shows the structure and layout of the preprogrammed table:

	Category	Selected labels
Summary	Type of product	0
	Field affected	0
	End-users	0
	Accessibility	0
	Potential impact	0
	Area concerned	0
	Potential misuse	0

Type of product	<input type="text"/>
Other:	<input type="text"/>
Field affected	<input type="text"/>
Other:	<input type="text"/>
End-users	<input type="text"/>
Other:	<input type="text"/>
Accessibility	<input type="text"/>
Other:	<input type="text"/>
Potential impact	<input type="text"/>
Other:	<input type="text"/>
Area concerned	<input type="text"/>
Other:	<input type="text"/>
Potential misuse (warnings)	<input type="text"/>
Other:	<input type="text"/>

Twitter Templates

In order to promote the ethical guidelines, we have designed some Twitter templates for the ENVIRplus account.

1. Tweet

#Ethics matter because research results are only as good as the values used to acquire them. Learn more about the ethical impact your work at a research infrastructure might have [LINK to leaflet](#).



2. Tweet

#Ethics matter because they influence personal and collective conduct and thereby shape collaborations and their outcomes. Learn more about the ethical impact your work at a research infrastructure might have [LINK to leaflet](#).

3. Tweet

#Ethics matter because research institutions and their employees have a societal responsibility. Learn more about the ethical impact your work at a research infrastructure might have [LINK to leaflet](#).

4. Tweet

Have you put a lot of thought into the ethical considerations of your work? Then disclose your considerations to the end-users by compiling an ethical statement. With our preprogrammed table, it only takes a couple of minutes [LINK to ethical template](#).

