Research Data Management policy

Main principles

- All SINTEF projects that generate research data shall have a Data Management Plan in place unless otherwise agreed with the client due to issues of confidentiality or other significant reasons.
- The extent to which research data and DMPs are made accessible, and to whom, shall be determined by the wording of the contract and/or the regulatory framework that governs the individual project.
- SINTEF makes every effort to adhere to the FAIR principles for data management.
- Research data that are wholly or in part owned by SINTEF shall be "as open as possible and as closed as necessary". We adhere to the Norwegian guidelines governing open access to research data.

Storage and archiving

- Research data storage systems shall have clearly defined access control mechanisms and must be considered sufficiently secure to meet the security needs of the data in question.

- Research data that are wholly or in part owned by SINTEF and are considered to have long-term value shall be archived appropriately and securely no later than after completion of the relevant project. Archiving shall take place either at the relevant SINTEF institute, or in national, international or domain related archives, unless this entails major financial or practical drawbacks.

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- Unless legislation dictates otherwise, the minimum archiving period for research data is ten (10) years after publication/release into the public domain. Data that are considered to have no long-term value shall be appropriately administered or deleted after a given interval.

Open access to research data

- Open access research data shall be equipped with standardised licences for access, reuse and further distribution. Research data that are to be made accessible should be shared at the earliest possible opportunity, but not before the quality of the data and metadata have been fully assured. Data that form the basis of scientific articles should be made available no later than on the date of publication of the relevant articles.

Metadata

- Metadata for open access research data shall be made accessible at no charge and published in such a way that they can be harvested digitally and used in searches for research data. Metadata shall adhere to prevailing international standards.

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