



**National Federated
Compute Services
NetworkPlus**



**National Federated
Compute Services**
NetworkPlus

CIUK -

**National Federated Compute Services NetworkPlus –
Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive DRI for the Future**

December 2025

**Prof. Jonathan Hays,
Queen Mary University of London**





Project team

Project Leads

Prof. Jonathan Hays, QMUL

Dr. Sadaf Alam, University of Bristol

Co-leads

Jo Beech-Brandt, University of Edinburgh EPCC

Adrian Hines, STFC RAL

Vassil Alexandrov, STFC Hartree

Project Team Members

Jeremy Yates, QMUL (Technical Coordinator)

Kieran Leach, QMUL (Technical Coordinator)

Rui Apostolo, University of Edinburgh EPCC
(Community Engagement Officer)

David Meredith, STFC Hartree

John Masih, QMUL (Programme Manager)

Gemma Hopton, QMUL (Admin & Events Officer)





Federated Research Network

A **Federated Research Network (FRN)** is a decentralized system that enables multiple institutions, organizations, or researchers to collaborate while maintaining control over their own data and resources. Instead of centralizing data in one location, an FRN allows participants to share insights, models, or results without exposing raw data.

(ChatGPT)

Federation, *noun*

1. *A country consisting of a group of individual states that have control over their own affairs but are controlled by a central government for national decisions, etc.*
2. *A group of clubs, trade unions, etc. that have joined together to form an organization*
3. *The act of forming a federation (Oxford English Dictionary)*

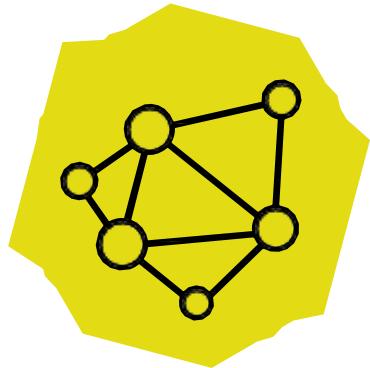
Our vision is a diverse and joined-up ecosystem of National Federated Compute Services, unlocking the UK DRI for all

Our mission is to create an inclusive roadmap to show the way to create a truly sustainable, inclusive and interconnected DRI

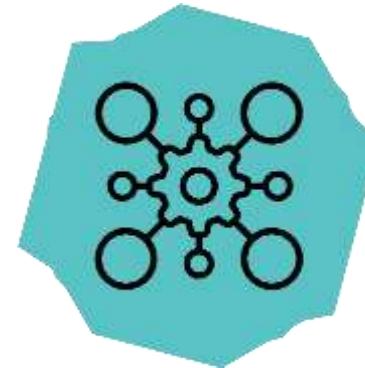
Our strategy is to leverage our portfolio of diverse and innovative flexible funding projects to generate the evidence and community needed to achieve our mission



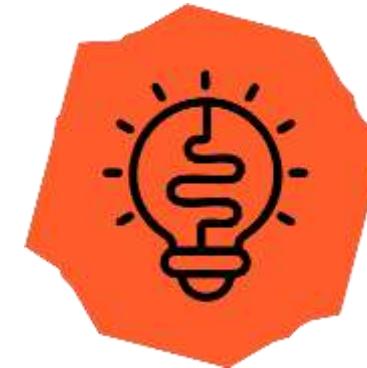
Key principles



Decentralisation



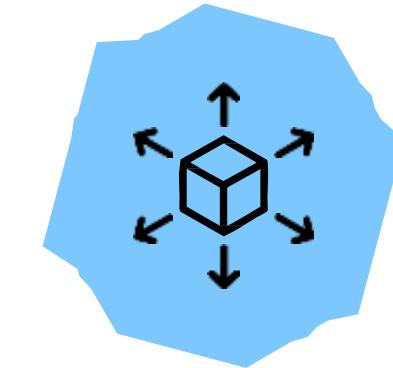
Interoperability



Autonomy



Security and Privacy



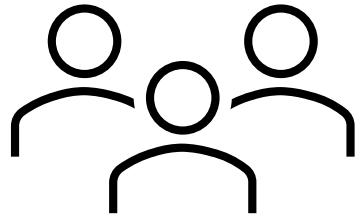
Scalability

**Federation is essential to efficient
exploitation of existing and future
investments in large-scale DRI**

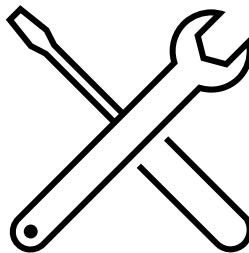




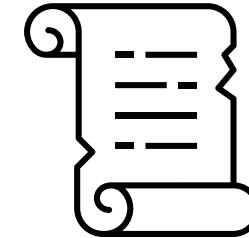
Three Pillars



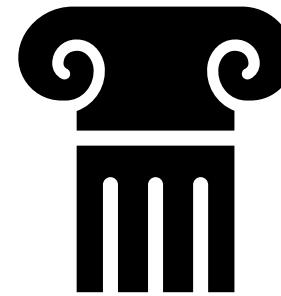
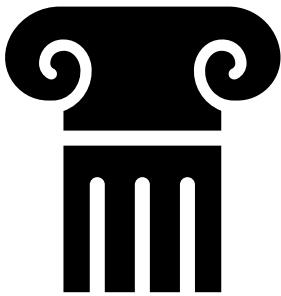
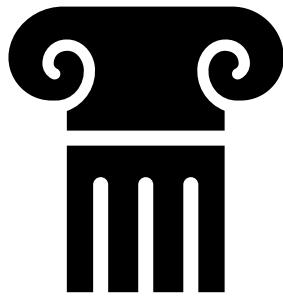
Community



Technology



Policy





Community



Building communities
Engaging with Stakeholders
Identifying existing and emerging user stories
Establishing common nomenclature and standards



Technology



Gather the state-of-the-art and existing practice
Knowledge exchange
Evaluating potential technological components
Identifying core federation services



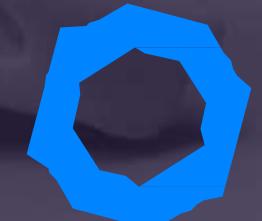
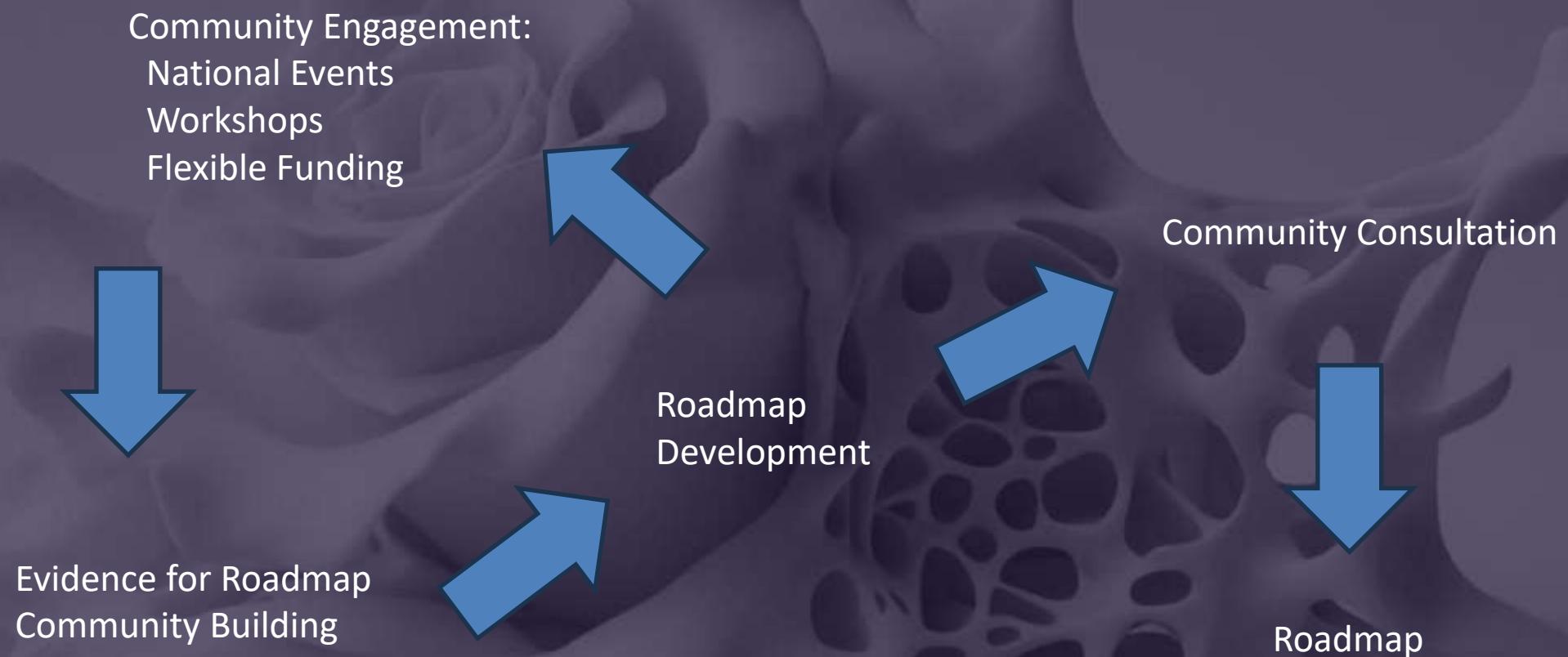
Policy



Identify existing and emerging governance and policy approaches

Identify policy requirements based on business cases and user stories

Develop outline policy framework



National Events

5th-6th March 2025

Launch Event - London

~50 participants online and in-person

22nd-23rd September 2025

Flexible Fund Project Launch Event – Edinburgh

100 in-person participants

26th-27th February 2026

NFCS and Flexible Fund projects reports and
Roadmap Update - Bristol

September 2026

Roadmap Launch – Birmingham TBC





Flexible Funding

13 projects funded

13 more starting up

Call for second round of funding now closed – 13 submissions - outcomes to be circulated soon.

-
- 1 Inclusive Futures: User stories and mapping pathways for National Federated Compute Services
 - 2 Federated AI application container platform / registry feasibility study
 - 3 Enhancing HPC adoption through user-centred design
 - 4 UKRI research data landscape survey
 - 5 Bridging the Gap: Aligning project administration with access to digital research infrastructure
 - 6 Federated Edge-HPC architectures for AI workflows in privacy-sensitive and real-time domains
 - 7 UNITED: A Framework for federated computing roadmaps
 - 8 Exploring the requirements and technologies for a data centre API
 - 9 Federation of compute and infrastructures in the arts and humanities
 - 10 Federated IAM for existing infrastructures
 - 11 Federated data movement
 - 12 Exploring the governance requirements for enabling UK DRIs to adopt MyAccessID
 - 13 ACCoRD (A Community for Contract Regulation for Data for the project name)



Flexible Funding

13 projects funded

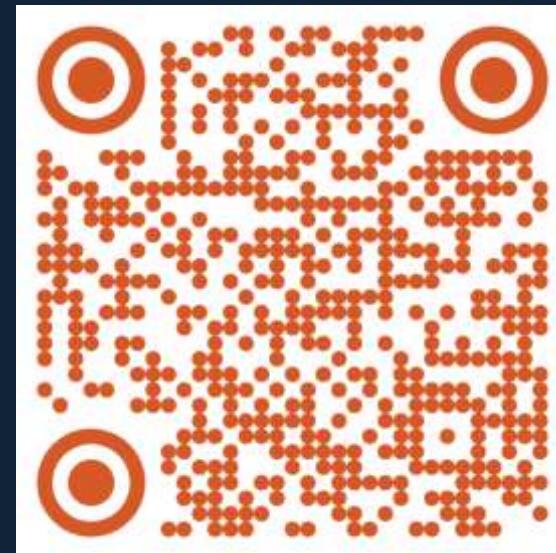
13 more starting up

Projects spanning an unprecedented range of disciplines and research councils:

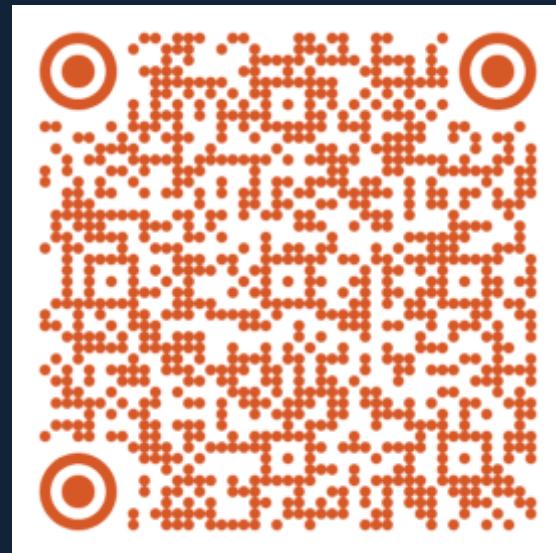
AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC, NERC, Research England, STFC

With coverage of all the pillars of the programme

Lots of activities being run through the flexible fund projects
Keep an eye on our LinkedIn and mailing list



LinkedIn



JISCMail



We have projects spanning an unprecedented diversity of disciplines and research

We are on track to deliver a roadmap for an inclusive, sustainable and interconnected DRI

Lots of opportunities to get involved!

