



ESMValTool

Earth System Model Evaluation Tool

ESMValTool Consortium Planning & reporting

Some initial thoughts to provoke discussion

Steering group responsibilities

(from [ESMValTool_Governance.pdf](#))

- Communication between the Consortium Partners and ESMValTool Teams (Technical and Scientific Lead Development and User Engagement Teams) defined in this governance
- Oversee membership of Steering Group and ESMValTool Teams (see membership below)
- Organize the Annual General Assembly (can be remote meetings)
- Define and oversee the annual shared work plan and long-term roadmap
- Decisions on changes to the ESMValTool governance.
- Define and oversee the ESMValTool license
- In collaboration with the User Engagement Team, balance the requirements of consortium members with the wider interest of the climate model evaluation and other interested communities.
- Promote ESMValTool to the climate model evaluation and other interested communities and seek funding opportunities for technical and science development work

Consortium agreement...

Following good practice learned from previous collaborations, the consortium agreement includes:

- Terms of reference for each group, reflecting [ESMValTool_Governance.pdf](#)
- Commitment to a shared work plan and annual reporting
 - Format & content of these is somewhat flexible, so we should now agree what would be useful
 - Before discussing details, let's decide what we want to achieve with these...

Let's agree some principles for how we work as a team

Initial ideas – please comment and add more

- **Trust:** a collaboration cannot work without it.
- **Fairness:** feelings of unfairness will erode willingness to contribute
- **Confidence** in capacity and capability: we will have interdependencies and need to know we can rely on each other
- **Transparency** of plans and activity: avoid duplication or gaps, and build trust and confidence
- **Understanding:** that each partner has different priorities, and that their capacity and capabilities will vary in time
- **Constructive challenge:** to raise concerns with each other and adjust course before trust and confidence break down

Without pre-judging our decisions on the above, some possible implications for planning & reporting...



Long-term strategy



Shared plan for
short-term work



Retrospective report on
consortium activity

Long-term strategy

- Why? Depends on audience:
 1. **ESMValTool consortium partners**: documents a common understanding of our ambitions and helping to align annual work plans with our *shared* goals
 2. **ESMValTool stakeholders**: captures the ways in which ESMValTool will operate within the wider ecosystem and facilitate the exploitation of Earth observation and model data
 3. **Funding bodies**: provides evidence that proposals align with a community vision
- Input from whole community, coordinated and owned by Steering Group
- Update as and when needed – mix of minor and full reviews?
- We have a [mature draft](#). Decide next steps at a future SG meeting?



A shared plan for short-term work

- Why?
 - so that we know what each other are working on right now & soon
 - to avoid duplication and be aware of gaps vs long-term strategy
- Structure: one section for each partner?
- Recognise that each partner has local priorities according to local project / customer
- How to demonstrate alignment with strategy?
- Include an estimate of person-months planned?
- Update annually as partner plans evolve?



Retrospective report on consortium activity

- Why?
 - To help build trust
 - To identify or highlight any issues
 - To celebrate and communicate successes
 - To inform an update to the short-term work plan
- Include achievements, issues, delays
- Include an estimate of person-months deployed?
- Report annually?

