The Turing Way Practitioners Hub

Related resources: **[Introductory slide deck](#)**, *[The Turing Way project summary - 2022](#)*, [Practitioners Hub proposal](#).

[The Turing Way](#) is a flagship project of [The Alan Turing Institute](#). Shared as an open source community-driven handbook on data science, the project promotes best practices for reproducible, ethical and collaborative research. To date, **400+ diverse contributors** from international organisations have collaborated to develop 300+ chapters and resources, which are available across **guides on reproducibility, project design, communication, collaboration, research ethics and community**. Hosted under the [Tools, Practices and Systems](#) Research Programme, the project draws expertise from the institute's Community Management, Research Application Management, Academic Skills and Research Engineering Teams.

To embed data science best practices and community expertise into different sectors, we are launching *The Turing Way* **Practitioners Hub** this year. The Practitioners Hub will provide a forum for cross-sector engagement, knowledge exchange and strategic collaboration with organisations across academia, research, engineering systems, government and healthcare-leading data science initiatives. Through the involvement of domain experts from these sectors, the Practitioners Hub will enable systematic approaches for building a shared understanding of open science, reproducibility, accessibility and research ethics to enhance quality, rigour and integrity in data science and AI.

What's in it for the partnering organisation:

In 2023, *The Turing Way* team is **partnering with five organisations in the UK to run the 6 months long inaugural cohort of the Practitioners Hub**. With an overarching goal to accelerate the adoption of best practices in the partnering organisations, the Practitioners Hub will: support the co-creation of case studies highlighting the impacts of data science; embed community practices in different teams; and foster a network of 'experts in residence'.

Initial engagements from the collaborators in the Practitioners Hub will lead to the following outputs:

- **Case studies and impact reports**: Our research team will support the co-creation of a case study highlighting examples, use cases and projects from your organisation capturing the application of best practices and their impact in your sector. These will be shared in *The Turing Way* and with the Practitioners Hub partners enabling cross-exchange of skills and expertise, as well as extending the impact of your work through their transfer in different sectors.

- **Specialised workshops and skill profiling:** Through consulting and workshops facilitated by *The Turing Way* team of Community and Research Applications professionals, we will co-develop a comprehensive report profiling stakeholders map, data skills landscape and pathways for your team to improve awareness and adoption of data science practices in your organisation.

All partners will have access to curated opportunities from the Turing's [Research Programmes](#) and [partnership network](#), which include events and collaborative projects; Funding and fellowship calls; training and skill-building events; and research and communication outputs."Expert in Residence" - Recognising champions from your network

Each organisation will have the opportunity to nominate a champion from their organisation, who will be awarded and recognised as an "expert in residence" at the Practitioners Hub. Each expert will be allocated a budget to be used towards honoraria, bursary or **part salary for up to 6 months**.

Serving as an ambassador of best practices for their organisation, the "experts in residence" will strengthen the representation of their organisations and meaningful engagement in the Practitioners Hub. As the main points of contact, they will carry out the activities of their interest to promote reproducible, ethical and collaborative data science skills in their organisations and beyond.

Who are Experts in Residence?

Our Experts in Residence are reproducibility and open source/science enthusiasts, advocates and practitioners in data science. They understand the importance of open, collaborative and ethical practices and apply them in their work. They are champions of those practices and often provide consultation and hands-on support or engage in capacity-building and training efforts in their teams, networks or organisations. Beyond their own area of work, they recognise the transferable and generalisable nature of data skills and want to collaborate with practitioners working across different sectors.

What do they gain from being part of The Turing Way practitioners hub?

The nominated/selected members from each organisation will join a cohort of Experts in Residence, each representing different sectors including academia, industry, healthcare, nonprofit and government sectors. The Turing Way Practitioners Hub will serve as a forum for knowledge exchange, collaboration and sharing of evidence-led best practices in data science. Designed for 6 months (*proposed to start in June 2023*), each cohort will have various opportunities and pathways to engage the cohort members. Through planned activities, events and customised consulting and capacity-building processes, they will learn, collaborate and share best practices, challenges and examples from different organisations/sectors.

Examples of activities include but are not limited to:

- Access to the Turing and The Turing Way resources, activities and collaborative opportunities curated for your organisation and network.
- Supported participation in Training and capacity-building efforts available through the Practitioners Hub.
- Development of impact-based case studies capturing the success and challenges of open source and reproducibility in their organisation, highlighting projects of their interests.
- Customised pathways for capacity-building, community engagement and unskilled data science through expert-led consulting to strengthen the interdisciplinary collaboration required in your organisation.
- Co-hosting a [Book Dash](#) (a hackathon-like event) and/or [Fireside Chats](#) (a virtual community panel), to enable collaboration and knowledge sharing in *The Turing Way* platforms and book, featuring selected topics, projects and experts invited from their organisations
- Consulting and support in organising training workshops with *The Turing Way* team to engage researchers from your organisation/network in data skills such as version control, programming skills, Open Science practices, computational reproducibility, Research Data Management and FAIR principles.
- Participating in Community of Practice training to build skills and gain frameworks for identifying stakeholders and engagement pathways to help your community collaborate and achieve shared goals in data science.

Joining *The Turing Way* Practitioners Hub:

We are delighted to invite you to join *The Turing Way* Practitioners Hub. To confirm your participation in the inaugural programme of the Practitioners Hub, please send us **the name and email of the contact person**. The contact person will be the primary connection between The Turing Way team and your organisation. Our Partnership Development Lead will be supporting the contract agreement process.

If you have any questions or if you would like to get more information about the programme, please contact us and we will arrange a call as soon as possible.

- Malvika Sharan: msharan@turing.ac.uk, The Turing Way Practitioners Hub - project lead, Senior Researcher - Open Research and Community (Tools, Practices and Systems)
- Alexandra Araujo Alvarez: aaraujo.alvarez@turing.ac.uk, The Turing Way - Research Project Manager

What to expect next:

1. Confirmation of participation from the invited organisation.
2. Setting an initial planning meeting with The Turing Way team
3. Agreement of participation - a participation guidelines draft will be sent once the organisation's participation is confirmed
4. Setting goals and roadmap for your organisation/team's engagement in the Practitioners Hub
5. A formal announcement of this partnership will be released on the project website with your organisation's details, logo and nature of participation. *The website is under development.*