A quick guide to DMP
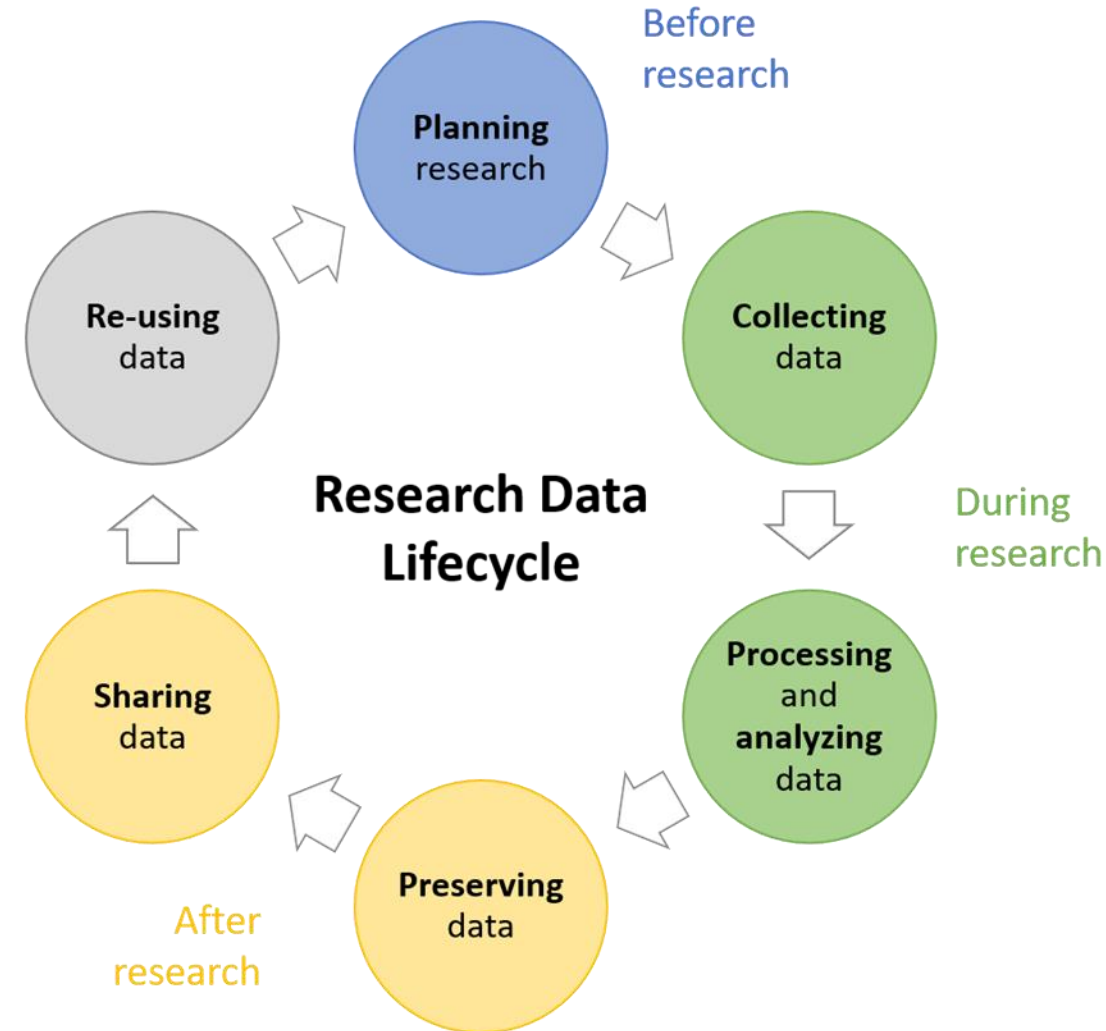
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What is a DMP?

- Needs to be written before you start your project

- "Living" document describing:
  - Your data and data documentation
  - Legal & ethical obligations related to your data
  - Data storage during and after your research project
  - Data sharing & reuse of your data
  - Responsibilities & budgets

Research Data Lifecycle

Before research — Planning research

Collecting data

During research

Processing and analyzing data

Preserving data

After research

Sharing data

Re-using data

How te create a DMP?

- Use the funders template (e.g. FWO, HE)

- In case you don't have a specific funder or they don't propose a template
  - Adviced to use Flemish DMP template

- Use [DMPOnline](#)

Why is a DMP important?

- For funders:
  - Mandatory requirement for certain funders, e.g. FWO & HE
  - Demonstrates responsible use of funding

Why is a DMP important?

- For researchers = plannings tool that saves headache later
  - Saves time later by organizing data handling early in the project
  - Reduces the risk of data loss, corruption, or privacy breaches
  - Makes your data easier to find and reuse
  - Simplifies sharing within teams and with external partners
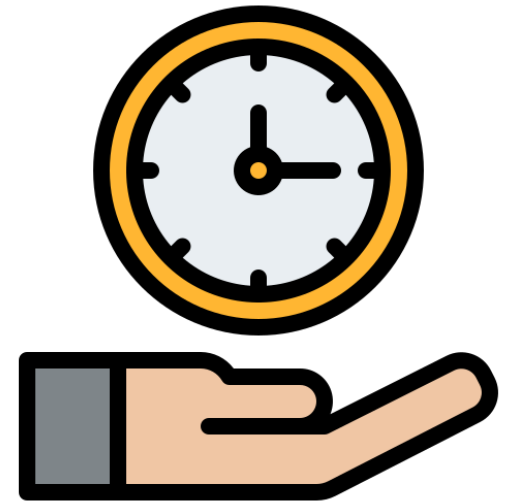
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Conclusion

- A DMP = planning for your data's full life cycle

- Required by funders, useful for researchers

- Saves time, prevents loss, increases impact

- Good data management = good research