

Please click on the following link to access the survey: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Sandrine Soeharjono  
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PS: Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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**2<sup>nd</sup> reminder e-mail**

Subject: 2<sup>nd</sup> Reminder: 5 min survey on open data for MSc research – please participate

Dear Dr. ...,

This is a reminder that I am conducting a short online survey of Canadian researchers' perspectives of open data as part of my Master degree at the University of Montréal. You have been selected for this survey because you are a faculty member in a biology department at a Canadian University.

Your participation in this survey (< 5 min) will contribute to helping us understand what costs and/or benefits researchers experience when publicly sharing their research data. I would be extremely grateful for your participation.

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Thank you for your cooperation.

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PS: Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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## Free and informed consent

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*When the participants click on the survey link received by email, they will be redirected to the online survey and this message will appear:*

Thank you for your interest in participating in our research. This multiple choice survey takes less than 5 minutes to complete. A box for text will be provided below each question if you wish to expand on your answer (note that this is optional).

Please note that:

- Your responses will be coded and treated **anonymously**. Your identity will not be known to the researchers at the time of analysis and will not be shared with any third party. The key to identify respondents will be kept on file by [Dr. Sandra Binning](#) (Université de Montréal), on a password protected USB key, for reproducibility purposes only.
- Your participation in this study is voluntary. You are free to terminate your participation at any time (by closing this tab in your browser), in which case your answers will not be recorded. You can also withdraw your answers from this research at any time until December 15, 2019.
- This study comprises minimal risks for participants: the questions you will be asked relate to data sharing practices in the context of academic research.
- There is no monetary compensation for participating in this survey. Your answers and input will contribute to our understanding of data sharing practices among Canadian researchers in ecology and evolution and will help us formulate policy recommendations which might directly benefit you in the future.
- You will be debriefed at the end of the survey and asked to confirm whether you agree to us using your answers for research purposes. The data collected will only be used for the purpose of this study and you will be sent a copy of the scientific article upon publication.
- For more information, please contact me at [sandrine.soeharjono@umontreal.ca](mailto:sandrine.soeharjono@umontreal.ca). If you have any questions on your rights as a participant and/or the responsibilities of the researchers leading this study, please contact the University of Montreal's "Comité d'éthique de la recherche en Sciences et en Santé (CERSES)" by e-mail at [cerses@umontreal.ca](mailto:cerses@umontreal.ca) or by phone at 514 341-6111 #2604.

Start the survey.

*A button will allow participants to begin the questionnaire*

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## Questionnaire

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**1. When (in what year) did you obtain your PhD?**

*A box will be provided for respondents to write their response.*

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**2. What is your gender?** (please skip this question if you do not identify as male or female)

☐ Female

☐ Male

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**3. Have you ever publicly shared (archived) ‘raw’ data associated with a published study (as supplementary material or in an online data repository)?** ‘Raw’ data correspond to data used in the statistical analyses or underlying the results (e.g. figures) presented in a published study.

☐ Yes

☐ No

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**4. Over the last 5 years, approximately what percentage of your published (empirical) papers have associated open data?**

- ☐ < 10 %
- ☐ < 25%
- ☐ 25-50 %
- ☐ 50-75 %
- ☐ 75-99%
- ☐ 100%

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**5. Are you generally supportive of mandatory open data policies by journals and/or funding agencies?** These policies typically require that authors publicly share the data necessary to reproduce the results and figures presented in a scientific paper.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I am indifferent

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**6. Do you believe that publicly sharing non-sensitive research data is beneficial for society?** Non-sensitive data are data that protect the identity of study participants and do not put organisms at risk of exploitation or disturbance.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

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**7. Do you tend to share your data publicly even if open data are not required by the journal in which you have published?**

☐ Almost always

☐ On occasion

☐ Never

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**8. Have you experienced positive outcomes (benefits) from sharing your data publicly?**

Examples of benefits include a personal sense of satisfaction, greater efficiency from adopting better data management practices, new collaborations, awards, accolades, etc.

☐ Yes

☐ No

*If the respondent answers no, the next question is skipped.*

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**9. What benefits have you experienced?**

- ☐ Personal sense of satisfaction from having shared/published a research product other than a scientific paper
- ☐ Greater efficiency from adopting better data management practices when conducting your research (e.g., when having to revise analyses, send your data to collaborators, or share data as a condition of publication)
- ☐ New collaborations with researchers having contacted you because of your shared data (whether to reuse these data or not)
- ☐ Offers of co-authorship from other researchers wanting to re-use or re-analyse your data
- ☐ Awards or a promotion (e.g. from a journal, society, government or academic institution such as a university)
- ☐ Accolades (e.g. praise from colleagues, your dean, head of department, or on social media)
- ☐ Positive reviews on a grant, fellowship or journal submission
- ☐ Other (please specify)

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**10. Have you experienced negative outcomes (costs) from sharing your data publicly?**

Examples of costs include, being ‘scooped’ on a paper, having your data misused or misinterpreted by others, experiencing public shaming from someone identifying errors in your data, analyses or conclusions, etc.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

*If the respondent answers no, the next question is skipped.*

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**11. What costs have you experienced?**

- ☐ Frustration from having to share data that you would have preferred to keep private
  - ☐ Being ‘scooped’ on a paper (i.e. a third party reused your data and published research that you had intended to carry out before you had time to do so)
  - ☐ Your data were misused or misinterpreted by a third party (for e.g., your data are used to address a research question for which your data are not appropriate)
  - ☐ Your data put humans or other species at risk of privacy infringement, disturbance or exploitation
  - ☐ You were not offered co-authorship on a study reusing your data and you believe that co-authorship was warranted
  - ☐ You experienced public shaming or reputational damage from a third party identifying errors in your work as a result of open data
  - ☐ Other (please specify)
- 

**12. Do you believe that mandatory open data requirements by journals/funders impose excessive time demands on researchers?**

- ☐ Yes
  - ☐ No
- 

**13. Do you believe that the time requirements and effort needed to share your research data have decreased over time** (for e.g., as a result of prior experiences sharing data and/or improved data management practices)?

- ☐ Yes
  - ☐ No
- 

**14. What measures or changes (by journals, funding agencies and/or universities) would likely increase your participation in open data?** (This question is optional)

*A box will be provided for respondents to write their response.*

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## Debrief and informed consent

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Thank you for your participation in this survey. Our research aims to evaluate the prevalence of potential costs and benefits of open data in the field of ecology and evolution. In addition, some of your answers will assist us in determining whether costs/benefits differ among men and women as well as among researchers at different career stages. Answers to the last (optional) question will help us formulate recommendations for improving editorial and funder policies on open data.

We intend to publish a peer-reviewed paper based on the information that you and other respondents have provided. The confidentiality of your personal data will be guaranteed by the removal of all identifying information. You may withdraw your answers from being included in this research at any time until December 15, 2019 by e-mailing [sandrine.soeharjono@umontreal.ca](mailto:sandrine.soeharjono@umontreal.ca)

If you agree to these terms, your answers will be recorded. If you do not agree to these terms, your answers will be deleted.

Do you consent to the use of your anonymized responses in our study?

- ☐ I consent
- ☐ I do not consent

End of Questionnaire

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