Aalto Open Research Network

Annual report 2025

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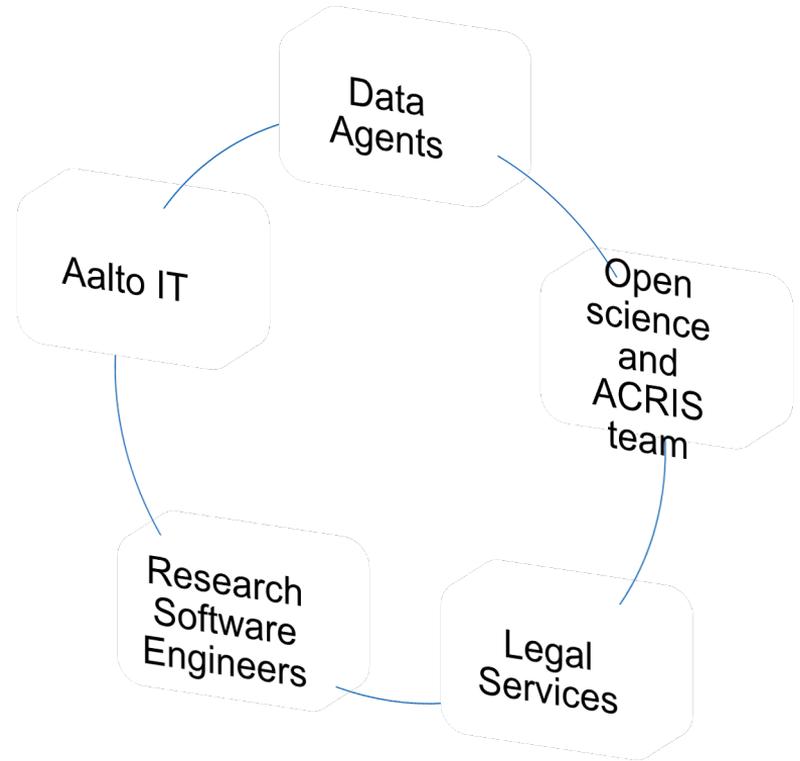**Aalto-yliopisto
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Contact persons

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Aalto Open Research Network

- **Data Agents** – researchers working part-time to advance RDM and OS
- **RDM&OS Information Specialists** in OSA (Open Science and ACRIS) team
- **Research Software Engineers**
- **Legal Counsels**, esp. Lawyer of the ethics committee and Lawyer that specializes in OS and copyright
- **Aalto IT**, esp. the solution owners for RDM services and research infrastructures

Network results for 2025

Action: In 2025, a greater share of network activities were focused towards **developing and testing Aalto's RDM tools and services and streamlining what is seen as bureaucratic**

- The integration of machine-actionable data management plans into Aalto Project List continued in 2025 (same DMP model will also be integrated into Doctoral Student Study Plan)
- Network members test-used the AI Data Management assistant
- Network members participated in data governance pilots
- Network members participate in REDCap survey tool's support group, which is to be launched in Aalto during 2026
- Network members partook in planning of Digital Preservation Services for research data
- 2025 also saw the highest number of produced RDM learning materials yet (n=6), see: https://www.aalto.fi/en/services/rdm-learning-materials-and-guidelines

Network results for 2025

Action: **Outreach** – outreach in the forms of training and group visits were also done in 2025, but less than during 2023-2024. The research data governance pilot's group meetings were included in 2025 numbers.

1 Training and inclusion of RDM info for personnel
- o Aalto RDM&OS trainings are consistently revised and receive high amounts of registrations
- o 2023: 31 webinars, 2032 registrations
- o 2024: 25 webinars, 2413 registrations
- o 2025: 21 webinars, 2201 registrations

2 Documented research group visits
- o RG visits 2023: 24
- o RG visits 2024: 8
- o RG visits 2025: 6

Results 2025 - other support measures

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Feature videos	0	0	0	2	1	1
RDM learning materials	Data not collected	Data not collected	0	3	3	6
Documented RG visits	Data not collected	Data not collected	4	24	7	6
researchdata@aalto.fi solved tickets	59	181	180	174	174	156
researchdata@aalto.fi commented DMPs	Data not collected	72	54	71	77	68
DMPs to privacy notices pilot	0	0	0	0	5	2
Number of ACRIS data sets* (metadata)	90	158	155	172	173	119
Number of ACRIS software* (metadata)	12	34	43	32	38	25
Data Hub Data Sources** (total amount)				51	57	64

*The yearly research output metadata collection for 2025 is ongoing 28.1.
**Non-RES initiative, led by Dept. of Finance, data source: https://datahub.aalto.fi/

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Training metrics 2025

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of OS&RDM trainings	25	27	31	31	25	21
Number of registrations to OS&RDM trainings	421	2092	1672	2032	2413	2201
RES OS&RDM YouTube channel views	159	1200	2000	2600	3700	2100+
Number Code Refinery workshops*	4	1	2	3	2	2
Number of registrations to Code Refinery workshops*	307	128	559	868	619	883

+= The amount of published YouTube content dropped in 2025 due to lack of resources
*= non-RES initiative, run by Aalto RSEs, funded by NeIC, data from:
https://coderefinery.org/about/statistics/

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Additional training metrics 2025

	Registrations	Aalto registrations	Registrations from other Finnish universities	Other Unite! Universities	Other registrations from abroad
2023 Spring	1098	366	307	77	348
2023 Fall	934	463	291	42	141
2023 Total	2032	829	598	119	489
2024 Spring	777	366	283	41	87
2024 Fall	1636	688	409	178	361
2024 Total	2413	1054	692	219	448
2025 Spring	1378	475	523	118	182
2025 Fall	823	308	251	30	185
2025 Total	2201	783	774	148	367

Aalto Data Agents Highlights 2025

https://www.aalto.fi/en/services/data-agents

Credit: Unto Rautio

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Data Agent 2025 highlights

Udayanto Atmojo (Electrical Engineering and Automation) <u>udayanto.atmojo@aalto.fi</u>

- Administering the Aalto Factory of the Future infrastructure's software repository (https://version.aalto.fi/gitlab/afof) and consulting in data and software publishing

- Work with ELEC Data Management Cheat sheet

- Work with the Finnish open methods policy

Enriqueta Noriega Benitez (Department of Bioproducts and Biosystems) <u>enriqueta.noriegabenitez@aalto.fi</u>

- Handbook of Machine Learning Analysis: <u>https://zenodo.org/records/15554474</u>

- Moved to University of Jyväskylä during summer of 2025

Data Agent 2025 highlights

Richard Darst (Computer Science) <u>richard.darst@aalto.fi</u>

- Running the <u>Aalto Research Software Engineers</u> group: now at 11 staff with continuing data and OS emphasis: new connections to AI-DOC program and ELLIS.

- CodeRefinery instructor trainer and advisor; new RSE training.

- Organization of and support during the Scientific Computing garage ("data systems" responsible person)

- Research Software Engineer support focused on data management planning and research software.

Enrico Glerean (Neuroscience and Biomedical Engineering) <u>enrico.glerean@aalto.fi</u>

- Mandatory research ethics course (with Essi and Annukka): 500+ dr.students. Continuous course development.

- Continued work on responsible use of generative AI in the research process (with Pedro)

- Consultations with handling of personal data, best practices with ethics, and security of research

- Development of a study curriculum for developing AI systems compliant with the GDPR (published at the <u>European Data Protection Board website</u>)

- "CodeRefinery" workshop on reproducibility with many other partners (800+ participants) and "Hands-on Data Protection" workshop with Essi Viitanen and CSC (early 2026)

- "Digital Compliance Made Easy" process for research (with ITS for Research and Aalto Security, work is ongoing)

- Various talks on responsible AI, personal data, data sharing, etc... see <u>https://eglerean.github.io/</u>

Data Agent 2025 highlights

Dan Häggman (Built Environment) dan.haggman@aalto.fi

- ENG Data Management continuing. Visited three PI groups in the data management clinique pilot (ENG data governance pilot). Development of concept for cliniques.

- Two webinars, one on storing research data in general and one on sensitive data together with others.

- Consulting in data management and storage in ENG.

Clemens Icheln (Electronics and Nanoengineering) clemens.Icheln@aalto.fi

- Editing and revising the ELEC Data Management Cheat sheet

- Promoting opening data (at Zenodo.org) to researchers at ELE department

Mika Jalava (Built Environment) mika.jalava@aalto.fi

- Webinar on AI and reproducible research

- Consulting ITS with research data metadata

- Driving open data publishing for the research group

- Consulting in data management plans, data governance and reproducible research at the BE department and co-operating institutions

Data Agent 2025 highlights

Tanesh Kumar (Information and Communications Engineering) <u>tanesh.kumar@aalto.fi</u>

- Webinar on cybersecurity and research data management

- Research advisor for implementing Machine-Actionable Data Management Plans for Aalto Project list grant management system

- Returned fully from leave during fall 2025

Xiaolong Liu (Electronics and Nanoengineering) <u>xiaolong.liu@aalto.fi</u>

- Individual open data consultant for research group

- Work on metadata of published data sets

- Driving open data publishing for the research group (six data sets published during 2024-2025)

- Work on how data stewardship should be assessed as a career merit

Data Agent 2025 highlights

Antti Rousi (Research Services) antti.m.rousi@aalto.fi

- Coordinating the Aalto Open Research Network

- The integration of Machine-Actionable Data Management Plan into Aalto Project List

- Partook in planning of Digital Preservation Services for research data

Pedro Silva (Chemistry and Materials Science) pedro.silva@aalto.fi

- Open lectures Research Work and AI (with Enrico)

- Lecture in CHEM Toolkit for Doctoral Students course

- Practical research data management cheat sheet (https://zenodo.org/records/17093028, part of EU Open Research Repository and FAIR-IMPACT communities.

- *Data documentation: Naming conventions, folder structures, data dictionaries, codebooks, and README files* (https://zenodo.org/records/15515217, lecture of a Data Steward course by Tampere University)

- Consulting data management with a new PI at CHEM (Ville Jokinen)

Data Agent 2025 highlights

Henni Tenhunen (Industrial Engineering and Management) henni.tenhunen@aalto.fi

- Webinar on RDM in research-2-business projects

- Testing of REDCap survey tool

- On leave starting from summer 2025

Antti Valkonen (Economics) antti.t.valkonen@aalto.fi

- Project manager of Aalto Data Hub

Essi Viitanen (Research services, ARTS) essi.Viitanen@aalto.fi

- Providing RDM training for doctoral researchers

- Teaching FAIR principles at the Unite! Research School held by University Grenoble Alpes

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New Data Agents for 2026

- **School of ARTS: Sara Hulkkonen and Johanna Wartio**
- **School of CHEM: Hossein Baniasadi, Jorge Velasco, Nikolai Ponomarev**

Aalto Open Research Action plan 2025-2026

Credit: Unto Rautio

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AORN actions 2025-2026

Outreach
- RG visits
- Info sessions for Doctoral researchers
- Data management and cleaning clinics
- School meetings

Training
- Network: Open OS&RDM webinars RSEs: CodeRefinery
- Partaking in mandatory responsible research training for Doctoral Researchers
- 1 ECTS Open science online course (FinDocNet)

Streamlining what is perceived as too bureaucratic
- Researcher friendly web content
- DMPs converted into privacy notices

Data management planning
- Research group RDM cheat sheets
- Example lifecycles and SOPs for different data types
- Group specific metadata instructions for published data sets

Supporting RDM tooling and processes
- APL data management planning
- Data storing governance renewal
- Mid-term preservation development
- RDM process development, e.g., support for metadata, value definitions

AORN goals 2025-2026

Aalto fosters a culture of good data practices across all disciplines and all levels of personnel

Help the doctoral pilot project and other stakeholders to succeed with guidelines, SOPs, and even hands-on help when needed

Identify critical gaps in RDM practices

Aalto uses in-house developed and national and regional federated infrastructures to provide world class tools for all research personnel

Vision of the Aalto Open Research Network

Aalto is a leading European university of responsible and sustainable research and its support and tooling

This vision supports Aalto's strategic aims of strengthening the clusters of excellence in Aalto's key research areas, helps Aalto to achieve a greater societal responsibility in teaching and continuous learning, and becoming a greater global node of impact