

# FAIR Process Framework

## – Factsheet 3

### Step 3 — Identifying data assets

The FAIR Process Framework provides a series of bite-sized activities to take project leaders, and their partners, from concept, through planning and strategy and into implementation of a customized FAIR and responsible data plan.

There are six steps:

- Step 1: Discovery
- Step 2: Understanding
- Step 3: Planning
- Step 4: Co-developing
- Step 5: Strategy
- and Step 6: Implementing.

This factsheet has been designed as a companion to Workbook 3, offering additional context to the approaches considered in the workbook and providing examples of real-world applications.

## About

Step 3 helps you manage your investment's data assets effectively, create an inventory to clarify data types, ownership, and future use, supporting data sharing and long-term impact.

## Approaches used to develop the content

This sheet offers additional context to the approaches considered in this step and provides examples of real-world applications. Read this document if you are interested in understanding the underlying approaches that the resources in Step 3 are built upon.

One main approach was used:

### Stakeholder collaboration

## Stakeholder collaboration

Stakeholder collaboration is essential for implementing the FAIR principles, as it helps communicate their importance and outlines stakeholders' responsibilities. An article in Scientific Data, '[The FAIR Cookbook](#)', highlights collaboration as a critical, yet often unmet, need for FAIR implementation and increased adoption. The article discusses the challenges of conveying FAIR's value to stakeholders and the significant resources needed for implementation. Even when stakeholders see the value, they need proper guidance on best practices.<sup>1</sup>

The paper '[Developing ICT Services in a Low-Resource Development Context](#)' explores the value of collaboration through **workshops or focus group discussions** (FGDs) with local stakeholders, helping understand end users' needs and potential obstacles.<sup>2</sup> Although the paper focuses on ICT adoption, its collaborative approach applies to FAIR implementation. Stakeholders in AgDev projects, like end-users unfamiliar with ICTs, may not know about FAIR considerations and principles. Collaborative efforts, such as workshops and FGDs, educate stakeholders about FAIR's utility and address their unique constraints, which are often overlooked by larger organizations.

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<sup>1</sup> Rocca-Serra, P., Gu, W., Ioannidis, V. et al. (2023). The FAIR Cookbook - the essential resource for and by FAIR doers. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41597-023-02166-3>

<sup>2</sup> Bon, A., Akkermans, H., and Gordijn, J. (2016). Developing ICT Services in a Low-Resource Development Context. *Csimq* 9, 84–109. doi:10.7250/csimq.2016-9.05

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Additionally, stakeholder collaboration fosters buy-in and enhances engagement. The paper '[Advancing Asset-Based Practice: Engagement, Ownership, and Outcomes in Participatory Design](#)' explains how participatory design (PD) can use asset-based approaches (ABAs). These strategies leverage community **strengths, resources** and **capabilities**, giving communities control over the design and development process.<sup>3</sup> This method not only facilitates community interaction but also integrates existing resources into project design. The paper shows that an asset-based mindset and PD approach can **enhance engagement, ownership and outcomes**, supporting the importance of participatory and collaborative efforts emphasized throughout the workbooks.

Stakeholder collaboration is a fundamental concept throughout the FAIR Process Framework, especially in Step 3. It emphasizes the importance of collaboration, possibly through **workshops or training**, for creating a comprehensive data inventory. These efforts allow for sharing best practices on providing accurate metadata and clarifying data usage.

## Framework applications

The principles of collaborative design and stakeholder collaboration are broadly applicable and present in countless agricultural development projects. Some illustrative examples are as follows:

**[Grameen Bank's Agricultural Credit Project, Bangladesh](#)**: Grameen Bank initiated agricultural credit projects aimed at providing small loans to farmers, particularly women, in rural Bangladesh. The project involved collaboration with local communities, NGOs, and government agencies to identify the needs of farmers, design appropriate loan products, and provide necessary training and support.<sup>4</sup>

**[Kenya Agricultural Productivity and Agribusiness Project \(KAPAP\)](#)**: KAPAP aimed to improve agricultural productivity and promote agribusiness in Kenya. The project involved collaboration between the Kenyan government, international development agencies, research institutions, and local communities. Stakeholders worked together to identify priority areas for investment, develop agricultural technologies and practices, and provide training and support to smallholder farmers.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Broadley, C. (2021). Advancing Asset-Based Practice: Engagement, Ownership, and Outcomes in Participatory Design. *The Design Journal*, 24(2), 253–275. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14606925.2020.1857050>

<sup>4</sup> Auwal, M. A., & Singhal, A. (1992). The Diffusion of Grameen Bank in Bangladesh: Lessons Learned about Alleviating Rural Poverty. *Knowledge*, 14(1), 7–28. <https://doi.org/10.1177/107554709201400102>

<sup>5</sup> Republic of Kenya. (2009). Environmental and Social Management Framework for Kenya Agricultural Productivity and Agribusiness Project (KAPAP). The World Bank. <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/461601468273277435/pdf/E21210v10revis110ESMF1final1version.pdf>

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**The Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP)**: SRP is a global multi-stakeholder partnership that aims to promote resource efficiency and sustainability in rice production. It brings together rice producers, traders, researchers, NGOs and governments to develop and promote standards and practices for sustainable rice cultivation. Stakeholder collaboration is fundamental to driving adoption of sustainable practices, sharing knowledge, and addressing environmental and social issues associated with rice production.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Sustainable Rice Platform. (2023). Sustainable Rice Platform Standard for Sustainable Rice Cultivation. <https://sustainableice.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/NO-202308-ST-FN-SRP-Standard-for-Rice-Cultivation-V2.2.pdf>