

Newsletter August 2026



The banner is split into two main sections. The left section has a red background with the text 'Dutch Data Prize' in large white font. Below this, a dark grey bar contains the text 'Nominations are open now!' with a right-pointing arrow. A small blue button with the text 'researchdata.nl' and a right-pointing arrow is also present. The right section has a light grey background and features a stylized graphic of a sphere with a dotted pattern, set within a white triangular frame. The RDNL logo is in the bottom right corner.

**Dutch
Data
Prize**

researchdata.nl →

► Nominations are open now!

rdnl ResearchData
Netherlands

The [Dutch Data Prize 2026](#) is now open for nominations until 30 September. Awarded every two years by RDNL, the prize celebrates excellence in research data management across Social Sciences and Humanities, Natural Sciences and Engineering, and Life Sciences and Health.

Each winner receives €3,500 to further improve the FAIRness of their research outputs. New this year, the prize also recognises code and software supporting data reuse and transparency. Winners will be announced on 3 December 2026 at the KNAW Trippenhuis in Amsterdam.

[More info & how to nominate](#)



From Image Access to Research Reuse

IIIF for the Natural and Engineering Sciences

At the 2026 IIIF Annual Conference, 4TU.ResearchData showcased how the International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF) supports the reuse of scientific images in the Natural and Engineering Sciences. By enabling scalable access to large image datasets through standardized web services and enriching IIIF manifests with repository metadata, IIIF improves interoperability, supports FAIR principles, and facilitates computational reuse and collaboration. While challenges remain, IIIF provides a strong foundation for more accessible and reusable scientific image collections.

[Continue reading](#)

Spotlight

Sharing stories that shape our work

In our Spotlight series, we highlight the work of Jan, our data curator who will soon retire after many years of ensuring the quality and FAIRness of deposited datasets. It's a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge the essential role of data curation—reviewing the structure and context of data and improving its reusability by others in the future.

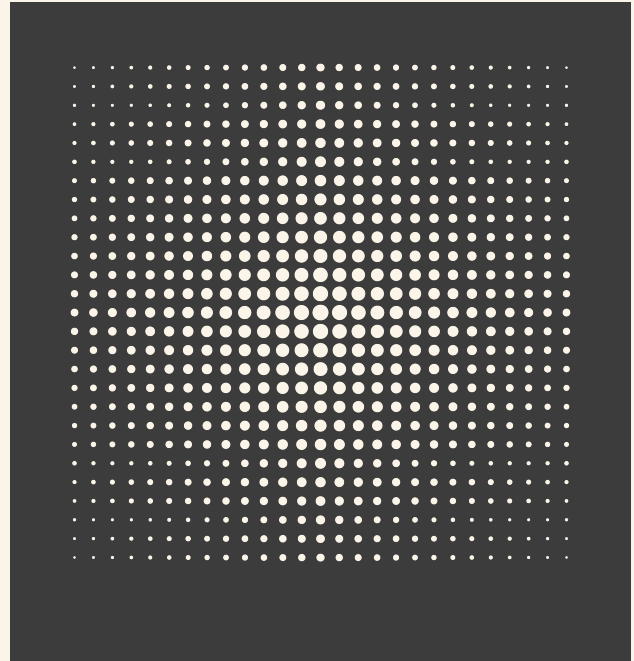
[Read more](#)

WE ARE HIRING

Software Engineer
(Open Source - 4TU.ResearchData)

Help shape the future of open science by developing open source software that makes research more transparent, reproducible and reusable. As a Software Engineer at 4TU.ResearchData, you'll contribute to innovative national projects at the intersection of research software, AI.

[Read more](#)



RESEARCH DATA NETHERLAND - NEWS

What data professionals need: insights from the RDNL user panel

RDNL is a partnership between 4TU.ResearchData, DANS, Health RI and SURF. With funding from Open Science NL, RDNL is developing a national training and community platform for research data professionals in the Netherlands. To make sure this work connects to daily practice, RDNL has recently set up a user panel, consisting of data professionals from universities, universities of applied sciences, university medical centers and other research organisations across the Netherlands. The user panel recently had its first meeting which resulted in useful feedback to incorporate in the national training and community platform. Read more [here](#).

Mapping the training landscape and identifying gaps for research data professionals

RDNL has published a new report mapping the current training landscape for research data professionals in the Netherlands. The report is an important step in the development of a national training programme based on the RDNL Competency Framework. By identifying which competencies are already well-supported and where important gaps remain, RDNL aims to help research data professionals develop the knowledge and skills they need in a rapidly evolving research landscape. Read the findings [here](#).



Enabling FAIR for AI

The 4TU.ResearchData-led project Enabling FAIR for AI: Infrastructure for Transparency and Reproducibility of Research Software, aims to build trust in software models and ML/AI tools deposited in the 4TU.ResearchData repository. This involves implementing a reproducibility service in Djehuty, the in-house open-source platform on which the repository runs, supporting transparency in software models and recognising and rewarding rich metadata and documentation. The project kick-off took place on 9 July 2026 at TU Delft Library with representatives from 4TU.ResearchData and partners Nikhef, NL eScience Center and University of Twente contributing to spirited discussions on the vision and expedition of the project. The project also includes several relevant cooperation partners, for example, the Dutch Reproducibility Network (NLRN), WUR modelling initiatives, SURF reproducibility initiatives, as well as some international communities. Early involvement of communities is an essential aspect of the project. The first of four community workshops is planned for late 2026.

TDCC-NES CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2026 IS OPEN FOR IDEAS!

The TDCC-NES Governing Board is seeking collaborative projects addressing shared challenges across the Natural & Engineering Sciences domain. The projects should be embedded within relevant communities. The challenge topics prioritized in the [TDCC-NES work programme of 2026-2027](#) are:



- Coordinating domain expertise
- Professionalising data stewardship
- Operationalising FAIR
- Improving cross-domain knowledge sharing

Ideas for current or new challenge topics are welcome year-round.

[Explore the full process](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 15 September – [Meeting Git workshop \(Open Science Week\)](#)
- 15 September - 13 October 2026 – [Research Software Support Training](#)
- 17 September - 10 November 2026 – [Essentials 4 Data Support training](#)
- 1 October - 12 November 2026 – [GDPR 4 Data Support trainin](#)
- 14 October – [National Open Science Festival](#)
- 27 October - 29 October – [PIDfest 2026](#)

Contact

Do you have any questions, suggestions, events or ideas for 4TU.ResearchData? Please contact: researchdata@4tu.nl.

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