



Workshop Planning and Convening Process

The seven-person workshop planning team consisted of representatives from NOAA (Gina Eosco, Alison Agather, Jonathan Mote, and Cassandra Shivers-Williams) and the Natural Hazards Center (Lori Peek, Mary Angelica Painter, and Jennifer Tobin). The planning team spent many months clarifying the overarching goal and primary objectives for the meeting. It was imperative to the team that all participants have space to participate and that the meeting itself would lend itself to specific actions. These visions influenced the number of participants who were invited, how sessions were organized, and the way the meeting was organized facilitated.

The final [Agenda](#) featured seven interactive sessions. After welcoming remarks and self-introductions from in-person and virtual participants, the opening session laid the foundation for the workshop by highlighting the federal policy updates on data publication, sharing, and reuse. Subsequent sessions focused on interconnected topics: advancements in social science and multidisciplinary data infrastructure, new and ongoing data-focused training and mentoring initiatives, challenges to publishing and reusing social science data and instruments, and opportunities to provide ethical and equitable leadership in the areas of open data and weather research. Each session provided ample time for questions and discussion, offering participants time to provide feedback, make connections, share resources, and learn from fellow participants.

A total of 39 people attended the in-person meeting at the University of Colorado Boulder and an additional 12 people participated online. The participants represented three primary groups:

- Social science researchers with experience in multiple data types, sensitive data issues, publishing social science instruments and data, and multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary collaborations in multiple hazard- and disaster-focused investigations.
- Data scientists and data librarians with expertise in data governance and creating and/or maintaining the repositories necessary for securely managing, storing, and publishing social science data.
- Federal agency representatives from NOAA and National Science Foundation (NSF) who evaluate and fund social scientific and interdisciplinary research.

In preparation for the workshop, the planning team met every three to four weeks for more than six months. The planning team also reviewed federal policy documents, academic publications, and reports focused on open data and data publication.

In advance of the workshop, participants were asked to provide brief biographies that emphasize their experience and/or expertise related to the focus of this workshop. This allowed participants to share their backgrounds, while also preparing them to connect with others (see the [Participant List](#)). All participants were required to read the [2022 OSTP guidance](#) before discussions began. The planning team provided an extensive list of [resources](#), which was updated after the meeting with additional websites, publications, and other materials shared by participants. Panelists were encouraged to prepare [brief presentation slides](#) to prompt discussion. For example, each social scientist in attendance created one slide describing a key challenge or issue they have faced or anticipated related to the new policy guidance. These slides were used as a basis for an “[Elephant in the Room](#)” lightning talk presentation session.

The meeting was facilitated by Dr. Lori Peek and Dr. Gina Eosco. During the meeting, participants were encouraged to follow a set of [Participant Guidelines](#) to help maintain a respectful and interactive environment for idea sharing. For example, participants were asked to actively listen and respect others’ experiences, make a concerted effort to get to know other participants, take group work seriously, and be fully present. Participants also had the opportunity to offer their own suggestions for participant engagement and contributions.

The insights from the meeting were captured in several ways and then synthesized into this report. Three planning team members took extensive notes during each session to help capture key insights. A shared file/discussion prompt sheet was used during the breakout sessions, allowing participants populate the key issues and opportunities they brainstormed as ways to create progress in the data publication and reuse space. Finally, all slides, planning documents, and other materials generated as part of this meeting, such as shared resources and “muddy points,” were reviewed to develop the key themes included in this report (for further details, see the [Thematic Challenges and Recommendations](#) document).

The primary deliverable from this workshop is the final report, which summarizes key observations and community-developed recommendations. The primary audiences for this report are NOAA and NSF leadership, representatives from data repositories, and social science researchers in academic or other institutional settings. Beyond this report, and as described in greater detail in the report, the workshop also served as a catalyst in that it prompted additional (and previously unimagined) actions among the meeting participants (see the [Participant Commitments](#)). It was the first in what is hoped will become a rich and ongoing dialogue among those who are interested in making social science data more transparent and accessible in accordance with new OSTP guidance, as well as broadening ethical commitments to equity in science.

All materials referenced in the final report are available at: <https://hazards.colorado.edu/research/weather-ready-research/open-data-workshop>. We encourage others to reproduce or update these materials, with proper citation of the report and attribution to the webpage linked here.