

The national board of Science for Life Laboratory

Minutes from Board Meeting no. 84, April 15, 2026

Zoom meeting

Present board members

Ylva Engström (SU, chair), Anna Arnqvist Björklund (UMU), Martin Bergö (KI), Jonas Larsson (LU), Mikael Lindström (KTH, §§3-11), Lena Mäler (SU), Christoph Varenhorst (Astra Zeneca), Gunilla Westergren-Thorsson (LU), Andreas Muranyi Scheutz (GMS, Region Stockholm)

Other participants

Jan Ellenberg (Director), Sandra Falck (OO, Head of operations), Annika Jenmalm Jensen (Infrastructure Director), Mia Phillipson (Co-Director), Maria Thuveson (OO, Vice-head of operations), Titti Ekegren (OO), Åsa Westeson (OO, secretary), Anna Lidin (OO, §§2-3), Carina Gustafsson (OO, §§2-3), Isolde Palombo (OO, §§2-3), Ulrika Wallenquist (OO, §§4a-4b), Olga Vinnere Pettersson (Planetary Biology Scientific Lead, §8), Josefin Lundgren Gawell (OO, §9)

Absent

Mats Larhed (UU), Carina Mallard (GU)

1. Meeting formalities

Ylva Engström welcomed the participants and opened the meeting. Ylva Engström notified that items §4a and §4b will require immediate adjustment.

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab Board appointed Martin Bergö to approve the minutes of the meeting, in addition to the chair.

The SciLifeLab Board approved the minutes from meeting no 83, February 11, 2026.

The SciLifeLab Board approved the agenda.

1a. SciLifeLab Directors' decisions

Ylva Engström informed about decisions made during the period January 1 – March 31, 2026, by the SciLifeLab director, the DDLS program director and research school directors and the SciLifeLab Head of Operations.

Onwards, this process for approval will take place at each meeting, instead of once a year.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board approved the information to be noted to the minutes.

2. Update from Director

Jan Ellenberg presented the ongoing work within SciLifeLab, highlighting the following:

- The advancement of the efforts to become a truly national organization
- The integrated and data-centric infrastructure
- Recruitment within data science
- DDLS program moving from starting-up and recruitment phase, to research collaboration and impact

2a. Alpha Cell update

The Alpha Cell project is a new scientific research program at SciLifeLab, launched in January 2026. The program aims to create predictive models that explain how human cells function, adapt and transition in disease. It makes use of the convergence of large inventories of molecular data and disruptive imaging technologies to map cells at unprecedented molecular scale. The program is funded 2026-2034 with 590 MSEK by a series of donations from the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation.

Jan Ellenberg summarized the start of the program, including the donations, communication strategy, visual identity, project organization and international collaborations.

3. Finance & Budget

3a. Financial update

The overall budget framework for 2027 was presented, describing the planned relative funding distribution between the different sections of the budget (Infrastructure, SciLifeLab Initiatives, and National Operating Costs). These demonstrate a balanced distribution in line with previous years. A tentative distribution of allocations towards strategic initiatives was presented, showing emphasis on data/AI as well as continued focus on technology development initiatives.

Continued budget discussions will take place at the coming meetings as budget planning progresses and preliminary figures will be presented at the June board meeting, in preparation of the decision during fall.

3b. Alpha Cell budget

Jan Ellenberg presented the draft budgets for Alpha Cell, based on two donation letters, concerning 135 MSEK and 100 MSEK respectively. The budgets are to be submitted to the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation. (Of note, the two new Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation donation letters, received by SciLifeLab in March 2026, are not addressed in these budgets.)

Overhead costs not covered by the KAW funding will be handled according to each host university's existing mechanisms for KAW projects, pre-agreed with the involved departments where the Alpha Cell staff will be employed.

The rapidly moving nature of this research area requires flexibility when it comes to long-term financial planning for the project. Detailed budgets will be provided yearly, with subsequent reporting.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board approved the suggested budgets for the Alpha Cell donation letters KAW 2024.0268 and KAW 2024.0271, for grant periods 2025-2030, and 2025-2038 respectively, according to §3b Appendix B and §3b Appendix D, for submission to the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation.

4. Data, AI & IT

4a. DDLS-WASP call

DNR: HS-2025-0853

The Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation has allocated funds within DDLS in order to form multi-disciplinary collaborations between life science and data science. Following up on two previous successful joint calls in 2021 and 2022 between WASP (Wallenberg AI, Autonomous Systems and Software Program) and DDLS, a third call is suggested to be launched in April 2026. Suggested projects are planned to be starting in April 2027.

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab Board approved the call text and the process for the DDLS and WASP joint call for research projects 2026.

The SciLifeLab Board delegated to the DDLS director(s), in agreement with the WASP management, to finalize any remaining issues with the call text, the evaluation process and the composition of the evaluation panel

4b. DDLS-WASP-HS call

DNR: HS-2026-0852

The Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation has allocated funds within DDLS in order to form multi-disciplinary collaborations between different research communities. Three previous calls have been conducted together with WASP-HS (Wallenberg AI, Autonomous Systems and Software Program – Humanities and Society), and a new joint call is suggested to be launched in April 2026. The projects are planned to start in June 2027.

Decisions:

The SciLifeLab Board approved the call text and the process for the DDLS and WASP-HS joint call Research initiation grants for data-driven life sciences and society.

The SciLifeLab Board delegated to the DDLS director(s), in agreement with the WASP-HS management, to finalize any remaining issues with the call text, the evaluation process and the composition of the evaluation panel.

4c. Terms and Conditions for DDLS Fellows funding

DNR: HS-2026-0883

The Terms and Conditions agreement for DDLS Fellow funding in Phase 3 needs to be revised in accordance with the new donation letter. Jan Ellenberg presented the suggested revisions. The Board noted that the wording regarding external funding and the requirement for full-time commitment from the funder is unclear. Accordingly, Condition 4 on page 2 has been revised to clarify this, in line with the Board's request.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board approved the presented Terms & Conditions for DDLS Fellows funding in Phase 3 (§4c Appendix A). The Board also mandates the DDLS Director and the responsible project coordinator (T. Ekegren) to make any minor final adjustments to the agreement if needed.

5. Campus Solna Director

DNR: HS-2026-0874

The mandate for the current Campus Solna Director, Per Ljungdahl, will end on April 30, 2026. A recruitment process to find his successor has taken place, and is close to finalization. Jan Ellenberg informed about the process and outcome, and the need for an interim solution before the final decision can be made at the next Board meeting on June 2.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board mandated the Director of SciLifeLab, Jan Ellenberg, together with the Chair of the Campus Solna Committee, Catarina Rydin, to decide on interim directorship of Campus Solna for a period of maximum four months (May 1 – August 31, 2026) as needed.

6. Beta Building update

Sandra Falck updated about the ongoing work to expand into the third building (Beta) at Campus Solna. The Beta project was started in 2024 following several investigations pointing towards the need of expansion. The plans and budget framework have been approved in the Campus Solna Committee, the Beta project steering group, the Rectors' Council (SciLifeLab's founding universities rectors) and the SciLifeLab Board.

The negotiations with Akademiska hus regarding the lease agreement are now complete and both the lease agreement and the project budget remain within the projected and previously approved financial framework.

A preparation meeting with KTH rector, who is mandated signing authority, is planned April 7, 2026 ahead of the lease signing. Formal contract signing with Akademiska hus is expected late April 2026. When the lease agreement has been signed, rebuilding and adaptation will begin. Inauguration of the Beta building is scheduled for mid-2027.

Discussion followed concluding that this is a milestone and an important necessary step in SciLifeLabs growth and development. At the same time a worry about high rental costs was raised, including the effect this can have on research depending on how these increased costs are covered.

7. National SciLifeLab Committee

DNR: HS-2026-0872

A new organizational structure for SciLifeLab was launched June 1, 2025, with the establishment of the Strategic Management Group, which is a fully national advisory body to the director. Following this development, the National SciLifeLab Committee has been discussing and evaluating their role, and unanimously agrees that it has fulfilled its mandate and accomplished its assigned task, and therefore no longer is needed as a separate body.

Should the SciLifeLab Board decide in line with the suggestion to dissolve the National SciLifeLab Committee at the next board meeting, a revision of the SciLifeLab Arbetsordning will follow.

8. Planetary Biology, new scientific lead

DNR: HS-2026-0873

Olga Vinnere Pettersson provided the background and reported on the process to recruit a new scientific lead for Planetary Biology. The suggestion is to assign Christopher Wheat on 20% until December 31. The scientific lead appointments follow the yearly budgets for the SciLifeLab Strategic Areas and are thus yearly appointment with possibility for extension.

Decision:

The SciLifeLab Board approved to assign Christopher Wheat (SU) as scientific lead (20%) for the Planetary Biology strategic area from May 1 to December 31, 2026.

9. Excellence Cluster application update

The VR and Vinnova joint call opened on April 1 with deadline June 3. Mia Phillipson and Jan Ellenberg reported that intensive work is ongoing to consolidate and reshape the proposal: merging phase 1-initiatives, defining core breakthrough technology and AI areas, selecting “moonshot” translational projects and aligning universities, hospitals, industry and authorities to meet the criteria before the deadline.

A discussion followed on the merge of initiatives from phase 1, as well as the assignment of PI and co-PI.

10. Infrastructure update

Annika Jenmalm-Jensen provided an update from the infrastructure, focusing on:

- Facility Forum June 16-17, 2026
 - theme: Technology Development
 - conceptual theme: Light
- Infrastructure Strategy Group
- SciLifeLab Instrument call
- Midterm Checkup of the infrastructure, meeting to be held in Solna September 23-24

11. Other items

No other items.

Closure of the meeting

Ylva Engström thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

Upcoming meetings


- Tuesday June 2, 2026 (Uppsala)
- Tuesday September 22, 2026 (Zoom)
- Wednesday October 21, 2026 (Zoom)

Åsa Westeson, secretary

Minutes approved by:

Ylva Engström, chair


Martin Bergö

 WALLENBERGSTIFTELSENA <i>stödjer svensk forskning</i>		Sammanställning budget	
Ärendenummer:	(ifylls av Stiftelsen)	Lärosäte/organisation:	KTH SciLifeLab
Projektnamn:	KAW 2024.0271		
Huvudsökande:	KTH Jan Ellenberg		
Projektstart (åååå-mm-dd):	2025-01-01	Projekt Slut (åååå-mm-dd):	2030-12-31
Upprättad av/datum/version:	Carina Gustafsson	Granskad av/datum:	(ifylls av Stiftelsen)

tkr

Projektkostnader*Summa hela anslagsperioden*

	flik 5	flik 4	flik 6
	Fullkostnads kalkyl	Samfinansiering avgår	Stiftelsen sökt belopp
Direkt lön	60 557	-2 182	58 375
Driftskostnader	34 633	0	34 633
Avskrivning	15 000	0	15 000
Lokaler	6 476	-640	5 836
<i>delsumma direkta kostnader</i>	<i>116 666</i>	<i>-2 822</i>	<i>113 844</i>
Indirekta kostnader	21 156	0	21 156
Summa projektkostnader	137 822	-2 822	135 000

 WALLENBERGSTIFTELSENA <i>stödjer svensk forskning</i>		Sammanställning budget	
Ärendenummer:	(ifylls av Stiftelsen)	Lärosäte/organisation:	KTH
Projektamn:	KAW 2024.0271		
Huvudsökande:	SciLifeLab Jan Ellenberg		
Projektstart (åååå-mm-dd):	2026-01-01	Projekt Slut (åååå-mm-dd):	2038-12-31
Upprättad av/datum/version:	Carina Gustafsson	Granskad av/datum:	(ifylls av Stiftelsen)

tkr

Projektkostnader*Summa hela anslagsperioden*

	flik 5	flik 4	flik 6
	Fullkostnads kalkyl	Samfinansiering avgår	Stiftelsen sökt belopp
Direkt lön	0	0	0
Driftskostnader	30 000	0	30 000
Avskrivning	70 000	0	70 000
Lokaler	0	0	0
<i>delsumma direkta kostnader</i>	<i>100 000</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>100 000</i>
Indirekta kostnader	0	0	0
Summa projektkostnader	100 000	0	100 000

SciLifeLab & Wallenberg National Program for Data-Driven Life Science (DDLS)

Conditions for funding of DDLS Fellows in phase 3

Background

The SciLifeLab and Wallenberg National Program for Data-Driven Life Science (DDLS) is a 14-year initiative funded with a total of 3.55 billion SEK (about 336.5 MEuro, 377.7 MUSD) from the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation. The purpose of the program is to recruit and train the next generation of data-driven life scientists and to create globally leading computational and data science capabilities in life science in Sweden. As a major activity, this program recruits internationally outstanding early career group leaders (DDLS Fellows). Eleven Fellows will be recruited during phase three of the program (2026-04-01–2028-03-31), to the following strategic data-driven research areas:

- Cell and molecular biology
- Evolution and biodiversity
- Precision medicine and diagnostics

Purpose of this agreement

This agreement stipulates the specific conditions for funding for each of the 11 recruitment packages during phase three of the program. The funding for the DDLS program is provided by the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation (KAW) and regulated by the KAW donation letter (KAW 2020.0239), and all decisions regarding allocation of funds are taken by the SciLifeLab Board as outlined in the donation letter.

Even though this agreement has a non-binding status, abiding by it is of importance both for the program and the DDLS Fellows to be successful. The parties of this agreement are the hosting department/University/Swedish Museum of Natural History (NRM) hiring the Fellow, the DDLS Fellow and SciLifeLab and KTH Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) representing the program.

The hiring department/University/NRM have the personnel and work environment responsibility of the DDLS Fellow. In addition, we expect the hired DDLS Fellow to commit to the Terms and Conditions of funding of the DDLS program that are outlined in this agreement and connected to the funding received.

All questions regarding the DDLS Fellow's position and this agreement must be directed to KTH/SciLifeLab using this email address: ddls@scilifelab.se.

Conditions for funding: DDLS Fellow recruitments, phase 3

By signing this agreement, the following terms and conditions are approved:

1. Each DDLS Fellow/Recruitment package is supported by 17 MSEK of KAW funding for a 5-year period. The host organization guarantees co-financing of the DDLS Fellow package for the entire period in accordance with the terms and conditions stated in the KAW donation letter (2020.0239).
2. The host organization typically recruits and hires the DDLS Fellow as Biträdande lektor according to the Higher Education Ordinance (Högskoleförordningen (1993:100 chapter 4, §4a)) and agrees to this commitment in accordance with these regulations. The position at universities will be tenure-track with a right to be evaluated for promotion to tenured associate professor. The position at NRM is a research position and not formally a tenure-track appointment.
3. Each university or organisation hosting a DDLS Fellow shall appoint a local contact person for the DDLS Fellows. This individual will serve as the designated and mandated senior representative at the host University/ organisation, acting as the primary liaison between the DDLS Programme and the University's/ organisation's leadership. Furthermore, this person will serve as a confidential point of contact and mentor for DDLS Fellows regarding local matters related to the DDLS Fellowship.
4. The DDLS Fellow is expected to contribute to this program with a full-time effort. Part-time arrangements will only be possible during the first 6 months to enable transitioning at the start of the DDLS Fellowship, otherwise Swedish labor law is applicable. Each DDLS Fellow position formally belongs to and is placed under one of the four DDLS research areas.

Another exception to the full-time commitment rule applies when the Fellow has teaching duties at a partner institution. In these situations, the Fellow is allowed to dedicate up to a maximum of 20% of their time to teaching and can thus receive funding from the government's teaching grant for this service

Additionally, throughout the 5-year DDLS funding period, Fellows have the option to apply for other external funding. Fellows are encouraged to contact KTH/SciLifeLab well in advance to prevent any funding issues that might conflict with the requirements set by KAW particularly regarding the full-time effort requirement. Each case will be evaluated individually, and the decision-making process will be initiated for each case only through contacting KTH/SciLifeLab.

5. Each DDLS Fellow's funding package will be financed for a maximum of 5 years in accordance with the funding conditions in the KAW donation letter. The maximum requested KAW funding cannot exceed 17 MSEK. Extension of the 5-year funding limit is only possible based on leave acceptable according to Swedish labor law. If there is a need for 6-year positions before tenure evaluation, the funding of this last year is the responsibility of the department/University/NRM. Long-term commitment of salaries of tenured group leaders is also the responsibility of the hosting department/ University/NRM

Eligible costs within the DDLS program covered by the support from KAW with pre-defined funding conditions could typically be: direct salary costs for the DDLS Fellow

for 5 years (for exceptions see clause 3), and direct salary costs for other members of the Fellow Package (for example for two PhD positions for 4 years and two postdoc positions for two years), as well as part of payroll taxes and social security contributions (LBK/LKP/LKT), running costs, depreciation and, premises and overhead/indirect costs. However, KAW has a limit on how much of the funding can be used to cover payroll taxes and social security, premises and overheads. For all cost and budget related details see Appendix A.

6. Each DDLS Fellow and their group members are expected to actively participate in the national DDLS program and in the DDLS research community, including the specific DDLS research area in question. The Fellows and their teams should make efforts to contribute to a variety of activities in DDLS, such as collaborative research programs, national training activities, policy actions, and outreach.
7. Each DDLS Fellow will be expected to participate in teaching and organizing courses for the national DDLS network, including participation as faculty for the national DDLS research school. The PhD students of the Fellows are expected to register and participate in the same school.
8. The DDLS Fellow's host department is expected to provide the DDLS Fellow with a supporting research environment with possibilities for local research interaction, research collaborations and adequate space for the research group. The department is expected to support the Fellow to set up the necessary working conditions and infrastructure for carrying out their work, including fulfilling the expectations of Fellows outlined in points 5 and 6 above. It is possible and recommended to engage the DDLS Fellow in teaching at the home department and organization. Any teaching duties assigned to a DDLS Fellow must not interfere with their research responsibilities or their expected participation in national DDLS training and community activities. In Stockholm, the DDLS Fellows from KTH, KI and SU will have their primary location at the SciLifeLab Campus Solna.
9. The DDLS Fellows will join the national DDLS Fellow program, and will in addition to the local host university career development programs be offered mentoring, as well as interactions with other Swedish Fellow programs (e.g. The Program for Academic Leaders in Life Science ([PALS](#)), an official collaboration aiming to connect PIs of the DDLS, SciLifeLab and WCMM Fellow programs.).
10. The DDLS Fellows are expected to follow the SciLifeLab data policy (Appendix B), including FAIR principles for research data, as well as making all data generated as part of the program as openly available as possible (with restrictions for e.g. sensitive human data or industrial collaborative programs). DDLS Fellows are responsible for ensuring that all their DDLS-funded team members also abide by the data policy.
11. All DDLS Fellows are expected to list SciLifeLab as a secondary affiliation, in alignment with the affiliation regulations of their respective host university. More information and examples of affiliations at the partner universities can be found here: <https://www.scilifelab.se/community-pages/resources/#affiliations>

DDLS Fellows must also include the following sentence: "This work was supported by the SciLifeLab & Wallenberg Data Driven Life Science Program (grant: KAW 2020.0239)", as an acknowledgement in all publications, research and educational presentations, popular science appearances and press releases. Acknowledgements are expected as long as the Fellow is associated with the DDLS program, or if their

research is otherwise funded by the program, or the KAW grant

12. DDLS Fellows and their host departments are expected to provide bibliometric, personnel and financial data (national and international grants etc.) upon request to KTH/SciLifeLab for annual and other reporting, as well as take part in international evaluations and advisory meetings regarding DDLS/SciLifeLab.
13. Once the DDLS Fellow has become tenured by the host department/university/NRM the DDLS Fellow will transition to become a senior DDLS Fellow of the DDLS alumni community and will enjoy continued affiliation with the DDLS program. Senior alumni Fellows will take part in peer mentoring of the next-generation of DDLS Fellows and other DDLS scientists (during the years 5-12 of the DDLS program). The senior alumni Fellows are expected to continue to be active members in the program (where the points 4-8 above will apply to some extent but these details will be available once applicable).
14. The DDLS Fellow and the representatives of the host organization/department have read and agreed to the terms and conditions of this agreement. The department Finance Officer will forward the financial/requisitioning information as described in the attached appendix to the SciLifeLab finance coordinator (SFC) who is responsible for coordinating the overall DDLS funded activity/project cost reporting and requisitioning and transfer processes centrally at the host university/NRM (Appendix A. Financial specifications and instructions for requisition of costs).

Name of hosting department/University/Organization:

Date:

Date:

Director of the DDLS program

Head of department/unit

Name:

Name:

Date:

Chair of the Board at SciLifeLab

Name:

Read and agreed by the DDLS Fellow

Date:

DDLS Fellow

Name:

Appendices:

A. Financial specifications and instructions for requisition of costs

B: SciLifeLab data policy

Appendix A. Financial specifications and instructions for requisitioning of costs

1. The KAW funding allows a maximum of 20% of the approved KAW funding (17 MSEK) to be used for overhead (indirect costs) and premises costs. Additionally, there is a maximum coverage of 52,5% for LKP (payroll overhead) on gross salary costs.
2. The DDLS program and KTH/SciLifeLab will not provide additional funding if the requested amount of the entire Fellow package action-period exceed the approved KAW funding amount.
3. During the DDLS Fellow package funding period large deviations (+/- 30% per cost type) that may occur from the submitted budget need to be communicated to KTH/SciLifeLab. The cost distribution across different direct cost items can only be modified after approval.
4. Only KTH/SciLifeLab can contact KAW regarding the DDLS funding conditions, budget and requisition questions.
5. The DDLS Fellow's hosting department will appoint a finance officer who will report the financial results for the DDLS Fellow package internally to the partner organization's assigned SciLifeLab Finance Coordinator (SFC) twice a year. The SFC serves as a central figure in managing and overseeing the financial procedures related to all the SciLifeLab/ DDLS funded activities within the partner organization. The Finance Officer is advised to contact the partner organization's SFC for guidelines on internal reporting deadlines and the procedures for transfer of requested funding to the institution. Details about the reporting periods and the corresponding final submission deadlines to KTH/SciLifeLab is specified later in point 10.
6. The grant will be transferred retroactively twice a year corresponding to the reported actual costs, provided that all the cost elements and the supporting documentation are approved. At the end of the 5th year, the requested total funding should not exceed the approved 5-year budget of the DDLS Fellow package (17 MSEK).
7. The requisitions will be supported by actual DDLS Fellow package cost information (profit and loss statement/resultaträkning) that is extracted from the universities'/NRM's accounting system for each reporting period defined below.
8. Every unit that cooperates within the same DDLS Fellow package will have its own dedicated and single project number created in the partner's accounting system.

All related costs that incur for that specific Fellow package at the cooperating unit need to be registered on that single and unit-based project number.
9. In the case that the DDLS Fellow's position is discontinued, or if the DDLS Fellow leaves the program before the end of the 5-year funding period, a case-by-case decision will be made by the SciLifeLab board on the continued support. We expect that continued support to the DDLS Fellows' research group members may be possible until the end of their contracts, with minimal running support and other fixed costs. No new hires or major costs can be made after the DDLS Fellow is no longer employed and/or supported by the DDLS program. If the DDLS Fellow transitions elsewhere, but wishes to continue part-time, this will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis and approved by the SciLifeLab board.

10. The SFC sends one compiled requisition to KTH/SciLifeLab for all the DDLS funded activities occurring at the partner organization per period defined as below. The requisitions will also include the requested funding for the DDLS Fellow package per period with the cost report derived from the accounting system. The deadlines below refer to the compiled results from each host university/NRM that the SFCs submit to KTH/SciLifeLab. Internal deadlines for finance officers may therefore be earlier than the dates listed. Please contact your SFC to obtain the correct timeline for each reporting period.
- For the period January 01 – June 30 by August 20 of the same year the latest
 - For the period July 01 – December 31 by February 20 the following year the latest

KTH/SciLifeLab can at any time during the year ask for additional financial reports for the DDLS Fellow package if needed.

For any inquiries related to the financial processes of the DDLS Program, please direct your questions to the following email address: ekonomi.ddls@scilifelab.se.

Appendix B: SciLifeLab data policy

SciLifeLab Data Policy (version 1.2)

As the national infrastructure for life science and operator of the large life science research program (KAW-funded Data Driven Life Science, DDLS), SciLifeLab has a leading role in shaping the future of research data practices. In line with this responsibility, we hereby express our firm commitment to the values of 1) Open Science, 2) Transparent research, and 3) FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) principles as described in the following documents:

- 1) The EU open science policy: https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/strategy/strategy-2020-2024/our-digital-future/open-science_en
- 2) Research Transparency definition <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/research/strategy-and-policy/research-transparency>
- 3) Wilkinson, M., Dumontier, M., Aalbersberg, I. et al. The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship. *Sci Data* 3, 160018 (2016). <https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18>

SciLifeLab will contribute to the international life science research community according to these principles and engage with Open Science/FAIR initiatives. This document will refer to all research programs driven or coordinated by SciLifeLab, including services operated by SciLifeLab infrastructure platforms and research carried out in the context of the DDLS program.

This document lays down our guiding principles, expectations and assurances towards pursuing the highest standards of scientific research and data management. We prioritise these principles in our interactions with researchers, infrastructure users, and SciLifeLab stakeholder organizations, and these principles shape our expectations on the service units and users of the national SciLifeLab infrastructure services. A fundamental principle is that data and results from publicly funded research should be made publicly available to the greatest extent possible, as open as possible, as closed as necessary.

SciLifeLab is a collaboration between Swedish academic organizations, and while this document is not legally binding upon the academic community, it will set up expectations for SciLifeLab associated programs. This document does not override or take precedence over current data policies, regulations or obligations that may be in place by other organisations or funders, including data policies at the Swedish universities hosting SciLifeLab.

The commitments and expectations outlined here will have concrete consequences through their application in different contexts, such as terms and conditions for funding, project prioritization, or evaluation criteria. The principles outlined aim to ensure conformity with other legal and ethical obligations as well as official recommendations including;

- Swedish Government's Research and Innovation Bill
[Forskning, frihet, framtid – kunskap och innovation för Sverige \(prop. 2020/21:60\)](#)
- UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science
<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000379949.locale=en>
- Swedish Research Council recommends open access to research data
<https://www.vr.se/english/mandates/open-science/open-access-to-research-data/the-swedish-research-councils-recommendation.html>
- Swedish Research Council recommendation on data management according to FAIR
<https://www.vr.se/english/mandates/open-science/open-access-to-research-data/fair-research-data.html>
- EU General Data Protection Regulation
<https://gdpr-info.eu/>

SciLifeLab will support national infrastructure units, research programs, affiliated researchers, and users of SciLifeLab services in making their data more widely available "as open as possible, as closed as necessary", in accordance with the European Commission for Open Data principle. We strive to achieve the highest level of reusability of SciLifeLab generated data in line with the FAIR principles.

We will work with our infrastructure, its users and SciLifeLab research programs (including DDLS) to define how these guiding principles can be integrated in future SciLifeLab operations.

SciLifeLab commits to providing the IT services, resources and support required to facilitate adherence to this policy and further promoting high quality, open and reproducible research practices.

SciLifeLab expects all activities organized or funded by SciLifeLab to contribute to building broad national capabilities for life science, such as through making all research output available and as open as possible, including; research data, any material created in the course of research work, output from services platform, records, source research, experiments, samples, measurements, surveys and interviews, methods/protocols, metadata, software and code.

SciLifeLab will join international initiatives for Open Science, in line with the commitments from the SciLifeLab partner universities, for example [CoARA](#) and [ADORE.software](#). Such initiatives will also enable SciLifeLab to engage and develop operations in line with the international community.

Examples of potential activities motivated by this Data Policy, that may be developed in the future:

National platforms - part of SciLifeLab infrastructure:

- Require supported projects to commit to FAIR data sharing, and maintain Data Management Plans (DMPs).
- Provide the support and tools necessary for user projects to adhere to FAIR data sharing, including providing platform specific meta-data required for reproducibility and data sharing.
- Make methods and software workflows publicly available.
- Operate in a way that ensures reproducibility and the ability to trace and audit projects.
- Make operational data publicly available when specified in SciLifeLab reporting requirements.

Research programmes, including the DDLS program, projects, and users of infrastructure:

- Manage research data with re-use and reproducibility in consideration throughout the entire research process, and as open as possible, as closed as necessary.
- Ensure that research involving human biomaterial and data is performed at the highest level of integrity, with appropriate protection mechanisms and ethics review, and in a manner that enables FAIR sharing of data and results through access control mechanisms on secure IT infrastructure.
- Ensure that projects have an active Data Management Plan.
- Commit to FAIR data sharing and ensure necessary resources (funding and staff) for this.
- Publish research results as Open Access, when these have been achieved through SciLifeLab research programs, including DDLS, or through support by SciLifeLab infrastructure¹.

SciLifeLab board, management and operations office functions:

- Transparently provide information about operations, including publicly sharing formal protocols, decisions, evaluations and strategies.
- Make operational data publicly available.
- Steer research activities towards Openness and FAIRness

¹ <https://www.vr.se/english/mandates/open-science/open-access-to-publications.html>

Document information:

Version	1.2
Date of this version:	2024-01-31
Date for original version:	2022-03-01
Host Departments:	Data Centre
Status:	Revision under review
Comment:	This policy will be reviewed and adjusted to reflect recent advances in the field.

Signature page

This document has been electronically signed
using eduSign.

eduSign