

Scientific Discourse in the Digital Era: A Statement

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AWI 



Talking Points

- **Open Science**
- **Publishable Objects Multiply**
- **Return for the Taxpayer**
- **Bibliometry as Instrument of Evaluation**



Science as an Open Enterprise, Royal Society 2012

- **Open enquiry has been at the heart of science** since the first scientific journals were printed in the **seventeenth century**. ...
- Science's capacity for **self-correction** comes from this openness to scrutiny and challenge.
- **RS take on data:**
Intelligent Openness





Publishable Objects Multiply

- **Standing on the shoulders of ...**
- **ESSD, GMD, ...**
 - Data and software **require as much scrutiny** as interpretations and hypotheses
- Data (and software) as a “first class citizen”
 - **not just supplements**
- “Open Discussions” as published part of the discourse
 - **Will the anonymous reviewer (need to) fade away?**



Return for the Taxpayer (mostly inter-, cross-, ... disciplinary problems)

- “Jobs and Growths” (EU, Horizon 2020)
- Innovation (G8, in the context of Open Data)
- The Stakeholder

- Note that the
Global Carbon
example was
sponsored by
BNP Paribas and
design outsourced

GLOBAL CARBON ATLAS

The Global Carbon Atlas is a platform to explore and visualize the most up-to-date data on carbon fluxes resulting from human activities and natural processes. Human impacts on the carbon cycle are the most important cause of climate change.

Outreach

Take a journey through the history and future of human development and carbon

Go



Emissions

Explore and download global and country level carbon emissions from human activity

Go

Research

Explore and visualize research carbon data, and get access through data providers

Go



Bibliometry as Instrument of Evaluation

- **Will the abuse of bibliometry destroy the scientific discourse?**
 - **The citation is no longer a way to establish the provenance of an insight**
 - **But a way to increase the h-index**
- **There is an “arms race” between bean counters and the pre-tenure scientists**
 - **The “least publishable unit” strategy has no future (made obsolete by the h-index)**
 - **Impact Factor had created a perverse incentive (Nature seeking spectacular articles ...)**