

PRACTICE RESEARCH VOICES (PR VOICES): A CASE STUDY

Holly Ranger Research Data Management Officer and Nina Watts Repository and Open Access Manager (University of Westminster)
Adam Vials Moore (Col) (Jisc)

PERSISTENT IDENTIFIERS AND PRACTICE RESEARCH

“Practice research is a new way of thinking about and engaging in research and so needs new structures and systems to maximise its impact within and outside the academy. The infrastructure for the communication and codification of research emerged with textual outputs in mind. Different approaches are needed to handle the richness and diversity of practice research.

Responding to this need is essential not only for practice research but also for the potential enrichment of the whole research endeavour. Embracing a diversity of research outputs is something that all researchers should consider to maximise their work's reach and impact. Practice researchers are already used to working with diverse outputs, and there will surely be lessons for all research areas to learn.”

*Steven Hill, Director of Research, Research England
Foreward to the PRAG-UK Reports <https://doi.org/10.23636/1347>*



PRACTICE RESEARCH: SOME DEFINITIONS

Practice research

“An umbrella term that describes all manners of research where practice is the significant method of research conveyed in a research output. This includes numerous discipline-specific formulations of practice research, which have distinct and unique balances of practice, research narrative and complementary methods within their projects.”

Research narrative

“In a practice research output, a research narrative may be conjoined with, or embodied in, practice. A research narrative articulates the research enquiry that emerges in practice.”

Bulley, James and Şahin, Özden. *Practice Research - Report 1: What is practice research?* P1. London: PRAG-UK, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.23636/1347>.

PRACTICE RESEARCH VOICES (@PRVOICES)

- **Scoping a national practice research repository using** (as a foundation) the Haplo (now Cayuse) **repository that embedded practice research (primarily in art and design) from the beginning.**
- Moving to a **repositories, discoverability and interoperability landscape** in which **practice research disciplines are embedded** rather than an afterthought (OTHER).
- **Bringing together voices** from many interested communities to form the **PR Voices Choir** and working with them to identify what **Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Re-usable (FAIR) and transparent** research (which may also be **open**) looks like for these disciplines and which respects all contributors and their intellectual property.

PR VOICES PROJECT TEAM

Jenny Evans: Research Environment and Scholarly Communications Lead, University of Westminster

Prof Neal White: Co-Director of the Centre for Research and Education in Arts and Media, University of Westminster

Prof Helen Bailey: Deputy Vice President Global Business Development, Kings College London

Dr Adam Vials Moore: Product Specialist for Persistent Identifiers, Jisc

Rachael Kotarski, Head of Research Infrastructure Services, British Library

Nina Watts, Repository and Open Access Manager, University of Westminster

Dr Holly Ranger, Research Data Management Officer, University of Westminster

Dr Jenny Basford, Repository Services Lead, British Library

Taylor Mudd, Senior Software Engineer and Product Owner, Cayuse

Joshua Mead, Researcher Development Officer, University of Westminster



BUILDING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR PR VOICES

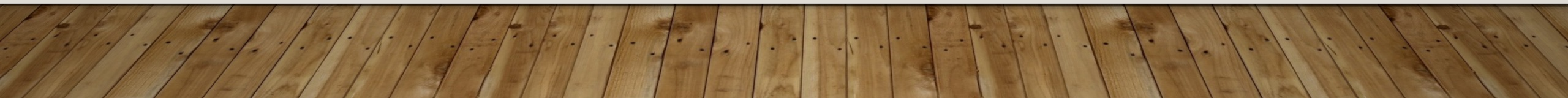
Development of the Haplo (Cayuse) repository at Westminster **built in art and design and architecture practice research outputs from the beginning** (in co-design with community) <https://doi.org/10.1629/uksg.582>

Worked with Jisc (and then the British Library) to raise awareness that practice research outputs were not adequately reflected in the open standards landscape

FORCE11 2022 <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5767094>

NISO Plus 2022 <https://doi.org/10.34737/vv0z9>

PRAG-UK reports published – included definitions of practice research and research narrative and made recommendations <https://doi.org/10.23636/1347>



FEATURES OF 'NON-TRADITIONAL' RESEARCH OUTPUTS?

- Often (not always) non-text
- Changes over time
- Can include multiple files (of different formats) which are closed and/or open
- Representation of performance or other live event (remediation)
- Research element can be embodied in the work or needs evidencing by a narrative
- Process as significant as product
- Can be linear or non-linear
- Time-based
- Often involve a range of contributors that deserve acknowledgement and recognition

PRACTICE RESEARCH VOICES (PR VOICES)

1. Define the technical & academic challenges of an open library of practice research that will effectively share and disseminate practice research to academic and non-academic audiences
2. Determine the most efficient and successful route by building on existing open-source technology and open standards



1. Repositories

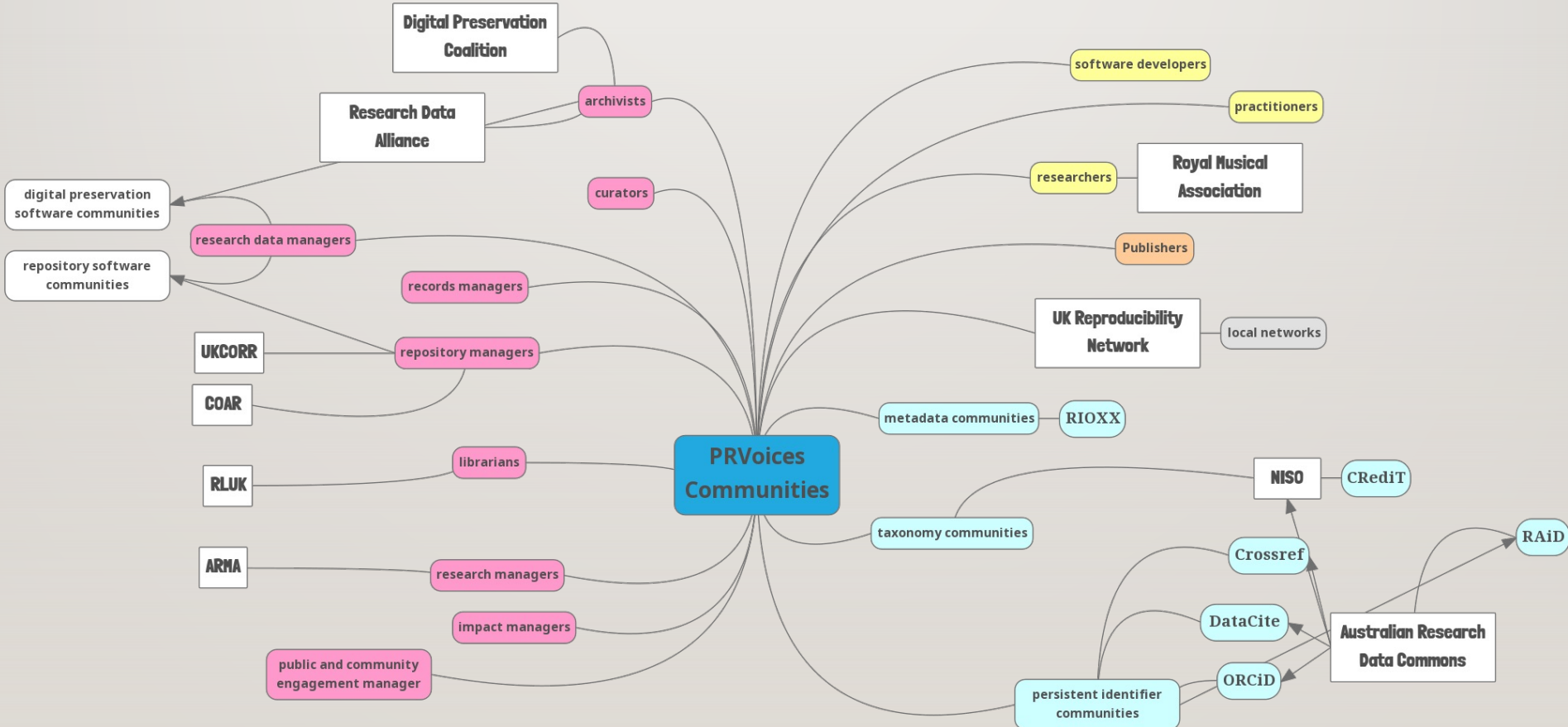


2. Metadata & Persistent Identifiers



3. Creating a Practice Research Community of Practice

CREATING THE INTERSECTIONAL PRACTICE RESEARCH COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE



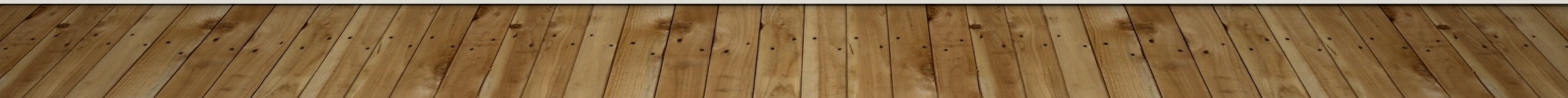
**PR VOICES FINDINGS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS
(WITH A LITTLE SPARKLE)**

PR VOICES FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Findings

- Ongoing community engagement is key to success
- Platform needs to be interactive (capture alongside the project not retrospectively), embedded in community, respect form and function, enable discoverability, citation and preservation, recognize contributors, process AND product
- Open standards must underpin this work
- Challenges include sustainability, expertise, preservation

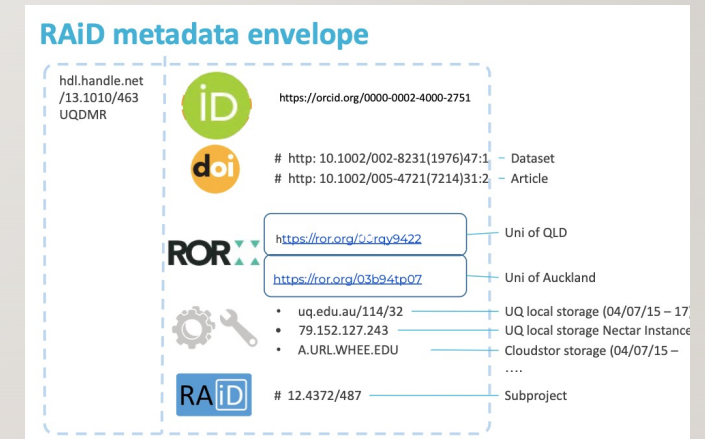
Recommendations

- Co-design with community
 - Embed Practice Research in open standards
 - More than retrospective archive
 - Need for training programme
 - Investment in capacity, people and infrastructure
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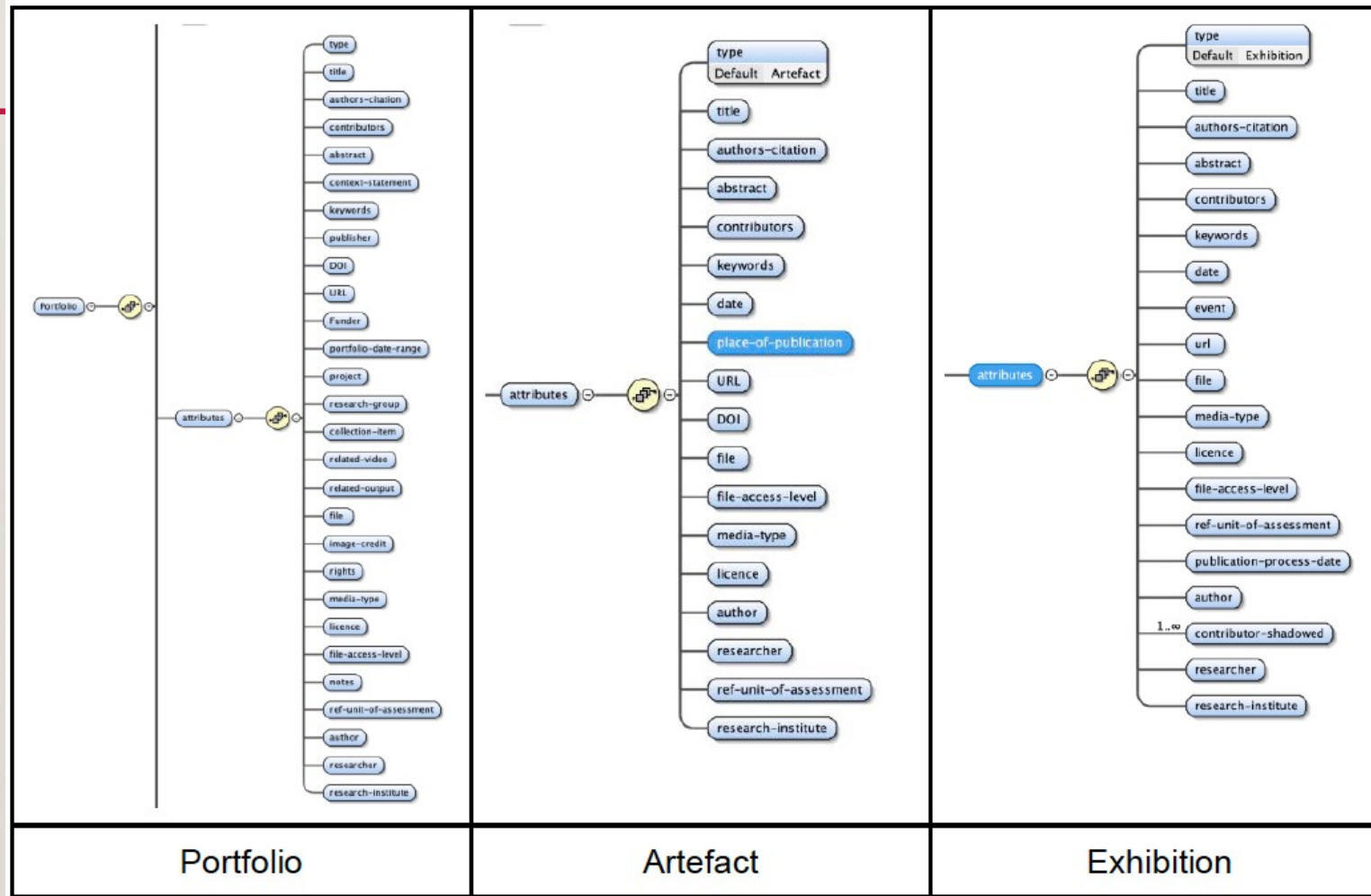
THE PR VOICES FRAMEWORK: IS PORTFOLIO THE SAME AS COLLECTION?

We investigated the suggestion recommended by the PRAG-UK 2 Report: *How can practice research be shared of a project item type - also known as a collection or portfolio* (p15).

We have identified the need to (1) capture individual objects on an ongoing basis (2) bring those together (collection) and that (3) a portfolio (theme) builds on the idea of a collection, and overlays narrative and context.



HAPLO (BY CAYUSE) SCHEMA: PORTFOLIO, ARTEFACT, EXHIBITION



METADATA AND PERSISTENT IDENTIFIERS PRIORITIES

Work with existing open standards (rather than creating new ones)

Resource types: DataCite

resourceTypeGeneral has 28 permitted values plus Other.

Exhibition maps to Event?

Does Portfolio/Collection map to Collection?

How does the portfolio record evolve over time? Is RAiD more appropriate?

Creator vs Contributor - where does collaborator map? Work with CRediT on this?



Project item type: Research Activity Identifier (RAiD)

RAiD allows the collection of other persistent identifiers and output objects by acting as an “envelope” identifier.

Each object connected to the RAiD also has a date-stamp for the beginning and end of the connection.

This allows the RAiD to encapsulate narrative, chronological view of activity.



Contributors: Contributor Roles Taxonomy (CRediT)

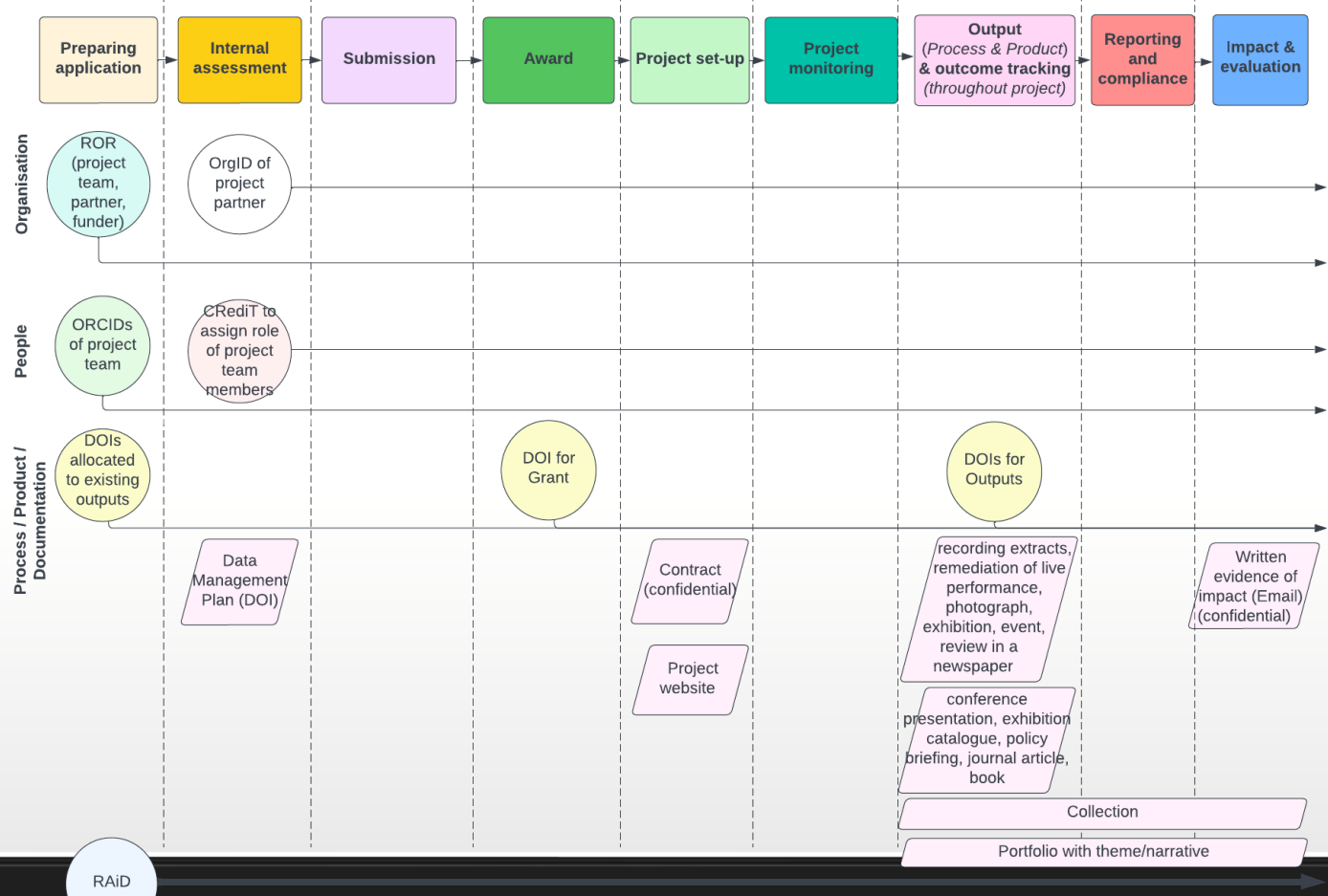
Founded in scientific research
Embedding the practice research voice in CRediT discussions.
Potential to work with CRediT community on contributor roles that reflect practice research.



Metadata, Persistent Identifiers and a Taxonomy workshop: researcher/practitioner perspective plus presentations from all three communities

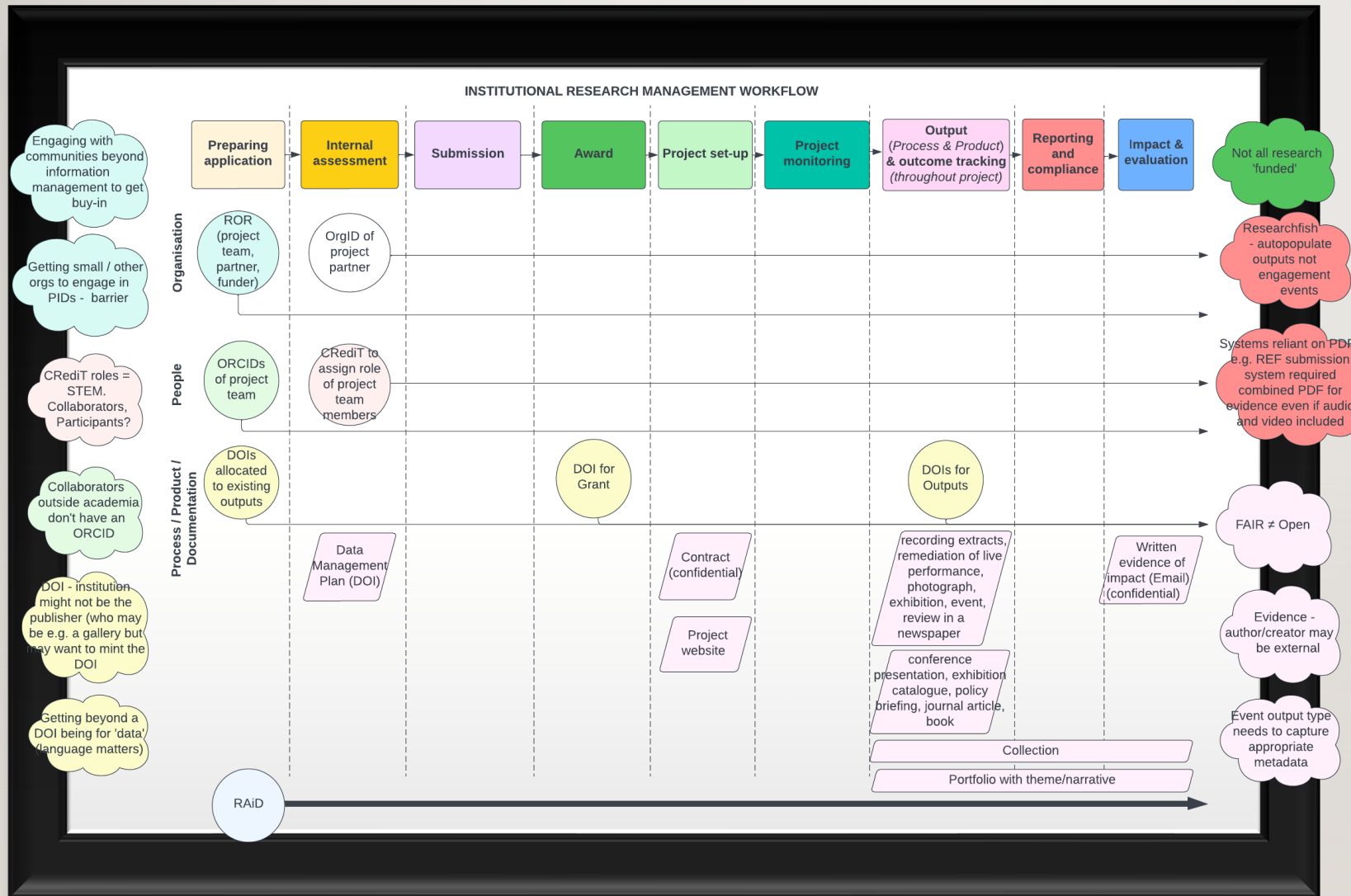
<https://blog.westminster.ac.uk/prvoices/workshop-metadata-persistent-identifiers-pids-and-a-taxonomy/>

INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH MANAGEMENT WORKFLOW



THE INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH MANAGEMENT WORKFLOW AND PRACTICE RESEARCH

PR VOICES FINDINGS RELEVANT TO INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH MANAGEMENT WORKFLOW





THANK YOU, QUESTIONS...AND CONTACT US

@PRVOICES

[HTTPS://BLOG.WESTMINSTER.AC.UK/PRVOICES/](https://blog.westminster.ac.uk/prvoices/)

H.RANGER@WESTMINSTER.AC.UK

WATTSN@WESTMINSTER.AC.UK

ADAM.VIALSMOORE@JISC.AC.UK @ADAM__MOORE