

NBN Data Sharing badges

The following document outlines a proposal to implement a system of promoting NBN data partners within their data capture sites (online recording site, app or website) by awarding data sharing badges. This will also make it easier for partners, volunteers and potential funders to see which projects contribute to the NBN.

Background

Within the UK there are over 196 different online data capture sites, apps, recording groups and organisations. The data flow between these groups and the NBN is unclear and it can be extremely challenging for participants to clearly see if, and at what resolution their data will flow to the NBN for wider use. For example, 50% of the 196 projects in the [NBN database of recording schemes and projects](#) don't yet share data via the NBN Gateway. Additionally, for many projects, such as HLF funded projects, sharing data via the NBN Gateway is a funding requirement and the audit process for this is unclear.

The need to clarify data flows, and also to celebrate the commitment of NBN data partners to sharing their data as part of this national Network is well overdue. The NBN Strategy consultation process, and the Online Recording Working Group has highlighted the need to implement a system of 'NBN data sharing badges' which can be embedded into online recording sites, project websites and promotional literature.

This initiative contributes to Strategic Action 2B.3 Develop and deliver incentives for visible, open data.

Badge awarding

It is proposed that a tiered badge system will be implemented for NBN Data Partners.

NBN Data Partner Badges will be presented to projects and organisations who have already shared data with the NBN Gateway. These badges will be awarded once the full project dataset is shared with the NBN Gateway and will reflect the level of openness.

For projects who intend to share data once it has been collected, these data partners will receive a further badge to indicate that the data will flow to the NBN Gateway

Rating system

A three star rating system is proposed, outlined below.

3*** = sharing data which is fully open access and up to date

2** = sharing data but not fully open access and/or up to date

1* = intention to share data within a given timeframe

Display

Once awarded, these badges can be used on NBN data partner data capture sites. They will also be displayed on the NBN database of recording schemes and projects along with a link to the dataset metadata page on the NBN Gateway.

Updating the badges

A system is required to ensure that the badges are kept up to date. It is envisaged that, as the badge system becomes embedded within the NBN data sharing culture, data partners will strive to have their badges displayed and up to date.

The NBN Secretariat will maintain a list of the badges currently in use, and this will be embedded into the database of biological recording schemes displayed through the NBN website.

Once established, the awareness of these badges will be raised with funders, such as HLF and Esmee Fairbairn Foundation. Currently, HLF have good published guidelines on data sharing, but Esmee Fairbairn Foundation do not provide specific guidance on what should happen to records, although it may be something they look into and make recommendations on as part of their assessment.

Data Sharing Badge Consultation

The NBN, through the NBN Online Recording Working Group proposes implementing NBN Data Sharing Badges to allow data partners to highlight that their data are made available on the NBN Gateway.

The following document outlines key questions which we seek consultation on before this system can be fully implemented. The results of this consultation will be taken to a workshop at the NFBR conference for further discussion, approval and endorsement.

Questions

Name

Should the badges be known as

1. NBN Data Sharing Badge
2. NBN Data Partner Badge
3. NBN Data Partner Sharing Badge
4. Other...

Awarding

How should the badges be awarded?

1. When the data are on the NBN Gateway
2. When a data sharing agreement has been made with the NBN Secretariat

What about data which are shared to a LERC, National Scheme or Society or any public body and then mobilised onto the NBN Gateway?

Motivation

Will these badges motivate you to share your data with the NBN, via the NBN Gateway?

1. Yes
2. No

Badge structure

Below two different approaches are proposed.

Approach 1 Here it is proposed that three tiers of *** badges are awarded.

- *** - Data on NBN Gateway at full resolution
- ** - Data on NBN Gateway at blurred resolution
- * - Intention to share data

Approach 2 Here it is proposed that three different badges are awarded depending on the route of data flow.

- Institutional badge (for LERCs, Societies, Wildlife Trust etc)
- Badge for Online Recording Systems that share data directly
- Platinum Badge (i.e. full resolution, fully open, shared within two months of data capture)

1. Which approach would be most suitable?
2. Are there other options we could consider?
3. Do we need to reflect the age of the data by including an 'up to date' as a category? What is 'up to date'?
4. Do we need to show the level of data resolution in the badge or is this over complicating the scheme?

Data licenses

Data licenses (CC0, CC-BY, CC-BY-NC, OGL) all have their own 'badge' and so it is proposed that these are not incorporated into the NBN Data Sharing Badge

1. Do you agree that this is the correct approach?