

# OPERAS

open access in the european research area through scholarly communication

## Collaborative engagement on societal issues

### Abstract

A modular and interoperable environment following Open Science standards and requirements

#### With two specific objectives:

- **supporting and facilitating collaborative research projects** between researchers and socio-economic actors;
- **reporting on citizen science practices**, through those collaborative projects, by proposing recommendations, highlighting specific themes and enhancing scientific work.

#### Based on three distinct services:

- **linking stakeholders** (matching service).
- **access to funding sources** (international call for proposals database, international network of funders, crowdfunding tool);
- **collaborative project management tools** (management of user rights and profiles, connection to databases and data repositories, interoperability with other working environments, collaboration tools - in particular discussion and sharing - for text and multimedia data).



Conference pillar:

- Pillar 2: Structures & policies
- Pillar 3: Assessing Impact



Conference theme:

Impact generating processes and methods in SSH research



Keywords:

Collaborative research, public engagement, citizen science, open science, interoperability, funding

### Open Science

#### Give visibility and value to the entire research cycle

Fully integrated into the Open Science paradigm, this collaborative environment will fill the lack of impact visibility for the first phases of SSH researches.

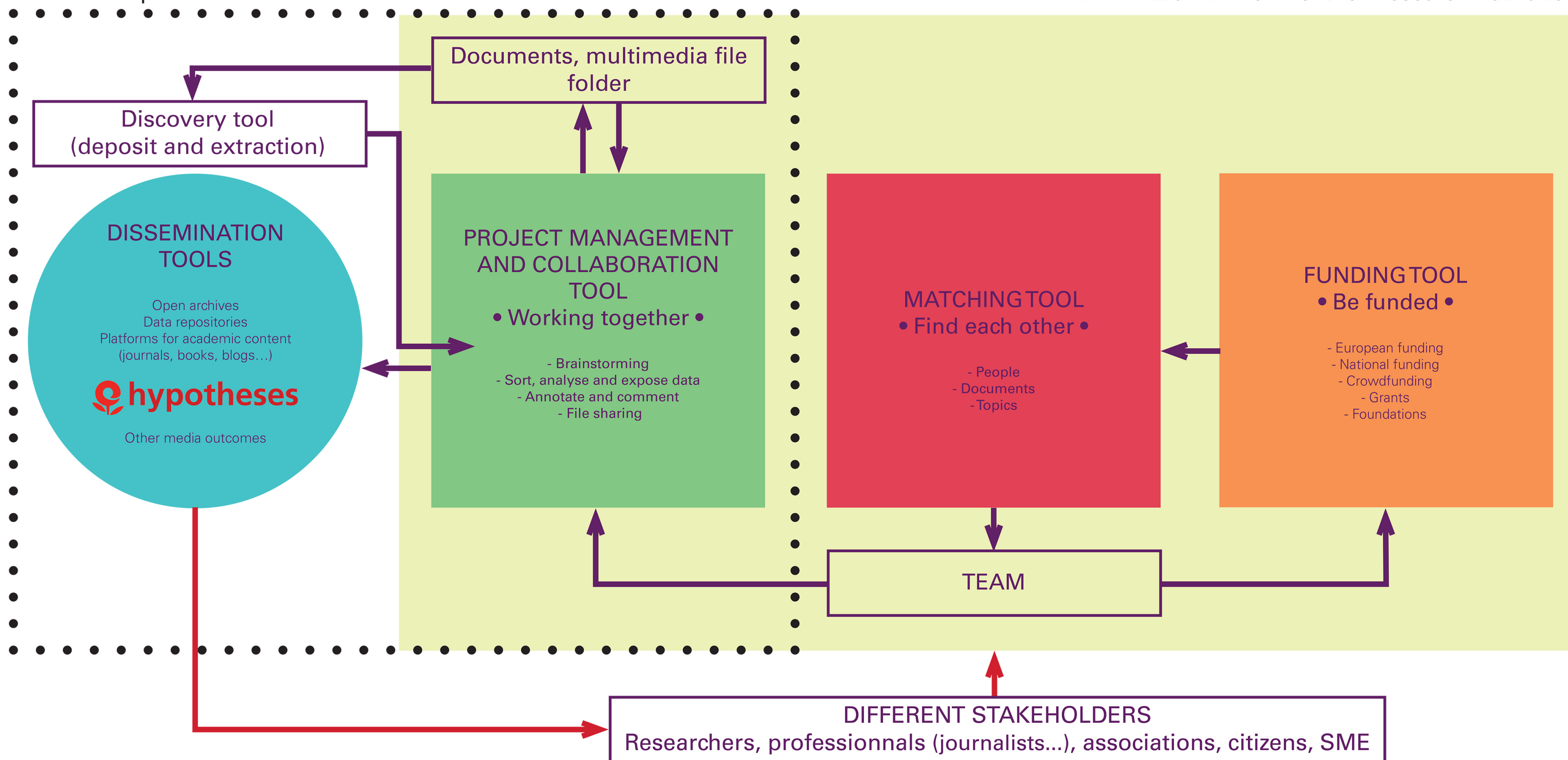
It will be possible through it to analyse the impact of SSH research on a broader scale, explore new forms of scientific communication, and reflect on the ethical and legal issues related to the publication and availability of research data according to FAIR

principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable).

This environment for collaborative engagement will furthermore **promote the transfer of knowledge and know-how** between the actors of the research and other socio-economic actors.

#### Extended impact area

#### VERA: Virtual Environment for Research Activation



### Citizen science and public engagement Renewing with a broader public commitment

Social actors carry out an important appropriation activity and scientific practice is engaged in relation to wider social networks, via devices — of realization, of communication — which can facilitate or hinder it. This is also true for **citizen science**, which should not be reduced to the only model of subcontracting minor tasks within big data projects over which citizens have no control.

In the SSH “citizen science” could perhaps overlay with “public engagement” as SSH impact are more often recognized within political activities rather than in SMEs innovations or in CSO activities and engagements. With this collaborative environment, SMEs and associations also will be able to work more closely with SSH, and SSH will **renew with a broader public commitment, based on the reflexive methods that the SSH themselves have developed**. This way public engagement of diversified stakeholders will benefit society as a whole.

### Impact through collaboration Rethinking the dissemination model

The low societal impact of research results is especially due to the dissemination process, particularly in the humanities and social sciences. To provide a solution, this collaborative environment will facilitate and support cross-cutting and interdisciplinary teams.

#### Promoting collaborative, interdisciplinary and cross-cutting inquiries

Open Science includes not only open debates, but also the **active participation of all stakeholders** in carrying out a research action. Promoting collaborative, interdisciplinary and cross-cutting inquiries, this environment will **support knowledge transfer and skills sharing, especially for small-scale projects**. It will follow the principles of Responsible Research and Innovation by engaging the research community with other socio-economic actors, integrating the ethical dimension, ensuring access to research results and encouraging formal and informal scientific education. In the renewal of solidarity between the world of research and other social actors, a democratic organisation is effectively built thus makes it possible to achieve social balance and justice.

#### A missing brick within the tools for dissemination of research

**Activating the impact of research earlier**, the platform will also promote the differentiation of research communication methods. In doing so, it will produce in turn an impact on the research itself, which is constantly resumed and readjusted from the communication of its data, partial stages, results. This collaborative environment brings a missing brick to the tools for dissemination of research. It will provide an account of scientific processes, explain how research is conceived and carried out from the beginning of a project: in particular, around the formulation of questions, the exploration and choice of methods, the constitution of the team and the stages of work.

**The scientific process that leads from an idea to an experiment or model, is very rarely a simple and linear one.** And in the humanities and social sciences, you want to add, it never is.

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#### Integration within OPERAS

This science for and with society platform finds its full scope in the environment of OPERAS (operas-eu.org) - European infrastructure working for putting Humanities and Social Sciences research within the paradigm of Open Science.

#### Layout

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