



**National Federated  
Compute Services  
NetworkPlus**



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**CIUK -**

**National Federated Compute Services NetworkPlus –  
Towards a Sustainable, Inclusive DRI for the Future**

**December 2025**

**Prof. Jonathan Hays,  
Queen Mary University of London**





# Project team

## Project Leads

Prof. Jonathan Hays, QMUL

Dr. Sadaf Alam, University of Bristol

## Co-leads

Jo Beech-Brandt, University of Edinburgh EPCC

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Vassil Alexandrov, STFC Hartree

## Project Team Members

Jeremy Yates, QMUL (Technical Coordinator)

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(Community Engagement Officer)

David Meredith, STFC Hartree

John Masih, QMUL (Programme Manager)

Gemma Hopton, QMUL (Admin & Events Officer)





# Federated Research Network

A **Federated Research Network (FRN)** is a decentralized system that enables multiple institutions, organizations, or researchers to collaborate while maintaining control over their own data and resources. Instead of centralizing data in one location, an FRN allows participants to share insights, models, or results without exposing raw data.

(ChatGPT)

Federation, *noun*

1. *A country consisting of a group of individual states that have control over their own affairs but are controlled by a central government for national decisions, etc.*
2. *A group of clubs, trade unions, etc. that have joined together to form an organization*
3. *The act of forming a federation*  
(Oxford English Dictionary)

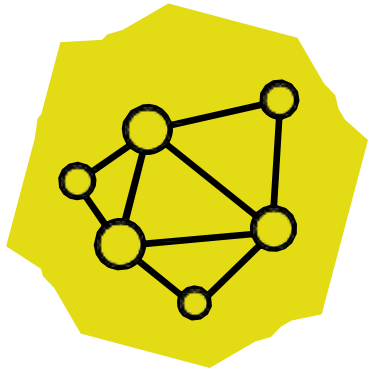
**Our vision** is a diverse and joined-up ecosystem of National Federated Compute Services, unlocking the UK DRI for all

**Our mission** is to create an inclusive roadmap to show the way to create a truly sustainable, inclusive and interconnected DRI

**Our strategy** is to leverage out portfolio of diverse and innovative flexible funding projects to generate the evidence and community needed to achieve our mission



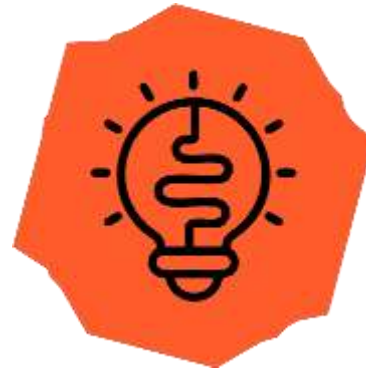
# Key principles



**Decentralisation**



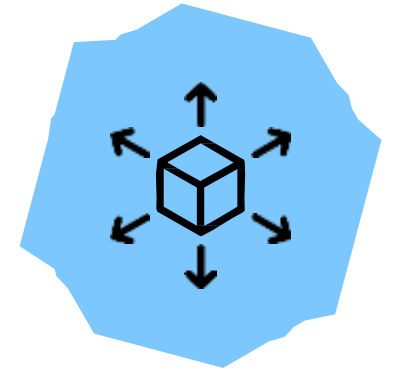
**Interoperability**



**Autonomy**



**Security and Privacy**



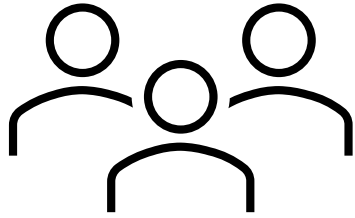
**Scalability**

**Federation is essential to efficient  
exploitation of existing and future  
investments in large-scale DRI**

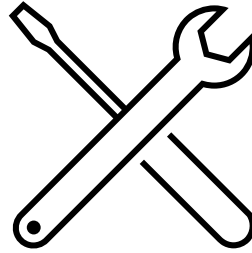




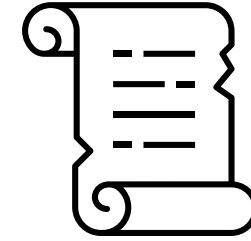
# Three Pillars



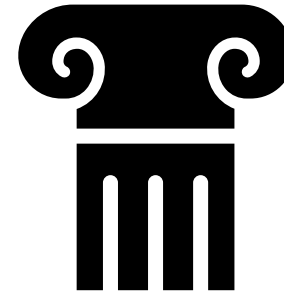
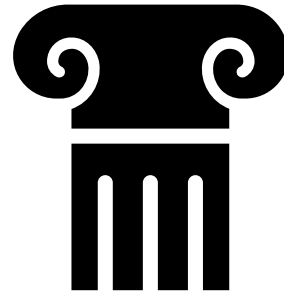
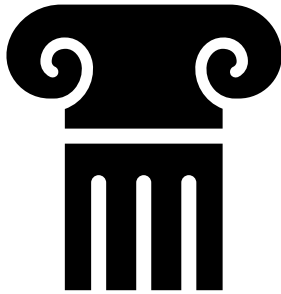
Community



Technology



Policy







Community



Building communities

Engaging with Stakeholders

Identifying existing and emerging user stories

Establishing common nomenclature and standards



Technology



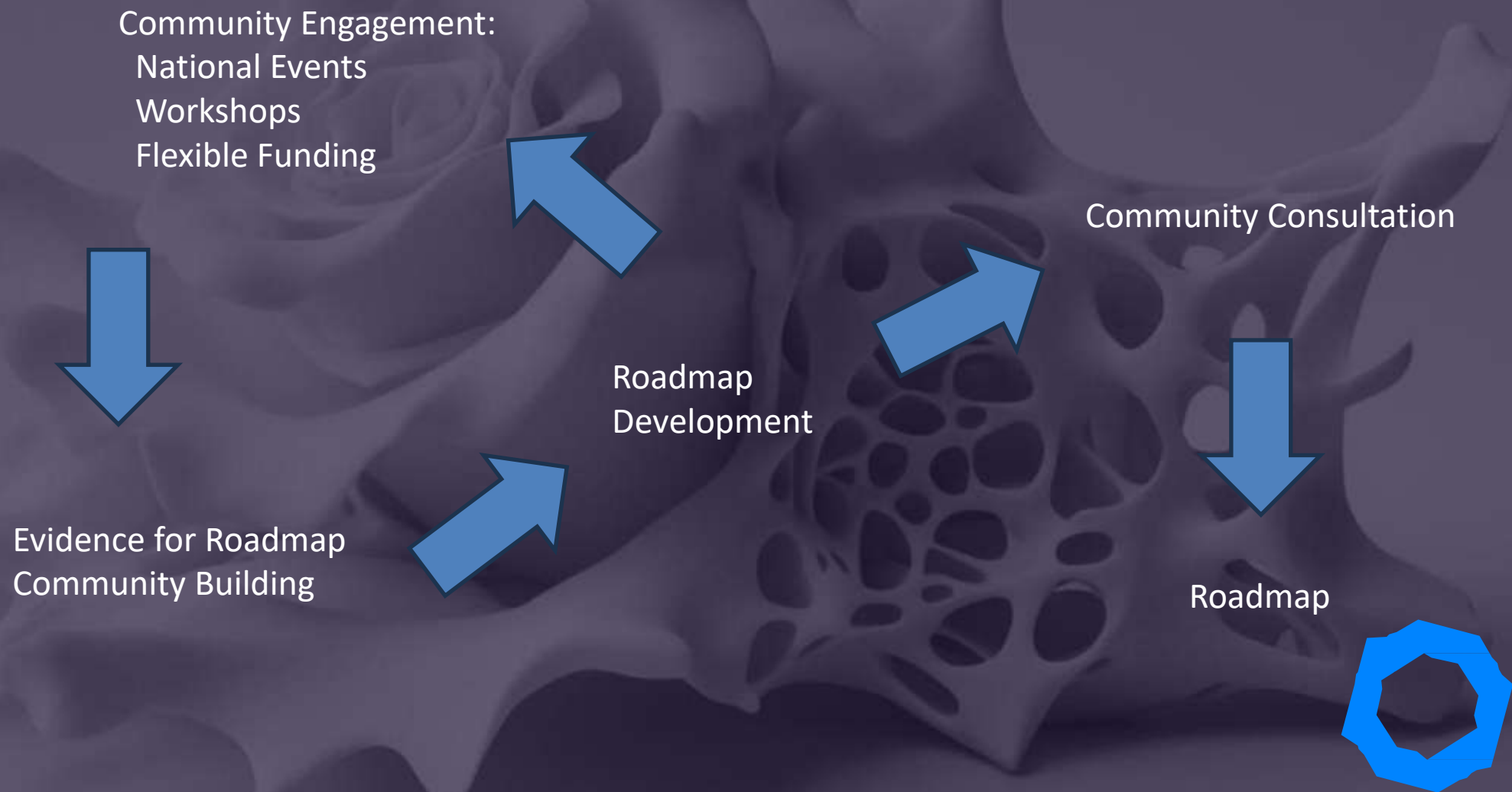
Gather the state-of-the-art and existing practice  
Knowledge exchange  
Evaluating potential technological components  
Identifying core federation services



Policy



Identify existing and emerging governance and policy approaches  
Identify policy requirements based on business cases and user stories  
Develop outline policy framework



# National Events

5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Launch Event - London

~50 participants online and in-person

22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> September 2025

Flexible Fund Project Launch Event – Edinburgh

100 in-person participants

26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

NFCS and Flexible Fund projects reports and  
Roadmap Update - Bristol

September 2026

Roadmap Launch – Birmingham TBC





# Flexible Funding

13 projects funded

13 more starting up

Call for second round of funding now closed – 13 submissions - outcomes to be circulated soon.



# Flexible Funding

**13 projects funded**

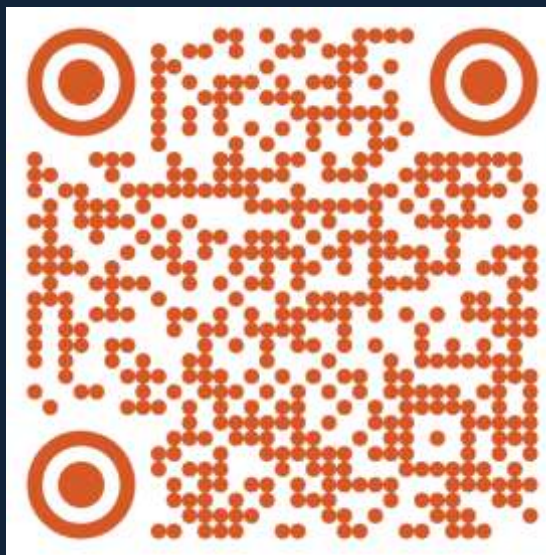
**13 more starting up**

Projects spanning an unprecedented range of disciplines and research councils:

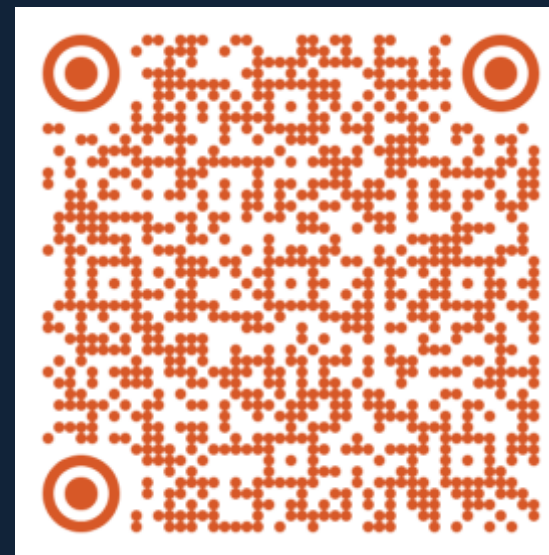
AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC, NERC, Research England, STFC

With coverage of all the pillars of the programme

Lots of activities being run through the flexible fund projects  
Keep an eye on our LinkedIn and mailing list



LinkedIn



JISC Mail

**We have projects spanning an unprecedented diversity of disciplines and research**

**We are on track to deliver a roadmap for an inclusive, sustainable and interconnected DRI**

**Lots of opportunities to get involved!**

