



**Strengthening the capacity of ERAIFT's regional Masters and PhD students in scientific data
management**

Friday, July 14th 2023

On Friday 14 July 2023, ERAIFT organised an attractive webinar on data management as part of a scientific research project. This hybrid forum was moderated by Dr Daniel FARIA from the University of Lisbon and brought together around twenty Masters students and ten PhD students.

This activity has been organised in the framework of the "Capacity building for biodiversity practitioners, scientists and policy makers for the sustainable management of protected areas and forest ecosystems in Africa" programme funded by the European Union with AGRINATURA as Project "Applicant".

The aim of this activity was to show the various researchers the interest and the strategy for managing and sharing the data resulting from their scientific studies. Dr Daniel FARIA began his presentation with a reminder of some basic concepts in scientific research: research, data, information and knowledge. He then mentioned the fact that the effectiveness and efficiency of research are closely linked to good data management.

It is important to note that, today, making data freely accessible and reusable by the general public is strongly encouraged in the scientific world - open science. To achieve this, the researcher must take particular care with data collection and the analysis process.

Dr Daniel FARIA highlighted the importance of data quality, standardised formats, long-term storage of primary data and the inclusion of metadata relating to the methodology used during the data collection phase. Data sharing must therefore extend beyond scientific articles. Researchers should normally document their research work on a daily basis, using the electronic notebook and corresponding code available on line.

ERAIFT sincerely thanks Dr Daniel FARIA and Ms Teresa Vaz of the University of Lisbon for this third webinar, which has strengthened the capacity of its learners in research data management. ERAIFT expresses its gratitude to the European Union and AGRINATURA for their support for this regional training course for the future African managers of the 21st century.