



**National Federated
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Bridging the Gap: Aligning Project Administration with Access to Digital Research Infrastructure

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Fragmented Provisioning Slows Down Research Access

- Access to compute and data services is often delayed
- Admin systems capture key metadata – but it's rarely reused
- Manual provisioning creates:
 - Duplicated effort
 - Inconsistent access
 - Security/compliance risks



Project Aims

- Create blueprints for connecting project approval systems directly to infrastructure provisioning
- Use federated identity so researchers log in with a single set of credentials
- Set the stage for replacing manual set-ups with automated, metadata-driven access



Project partners



Worktribe.TM





Project Plan & Timeline

12-month project, 4 phases:

- Discovery & Engagement (Months 1-3) – interviews, gap analysis
- Technical Design (Months 3-5) – whiteboarding, integration models
- Synthesis & Roadmap Development (Months 6-8) – roadmap drafting & validation
- Dissemination & Community Development (Months 9-12) – workshop, publications



Progress So Far

- Project launched: August 2025
- Completed: stakeholder mapping, interview framework
- Starting: structured interviews & landscape analysis
- Early signals: strong demand for reduced duplication & consistent policies



Expected Outcomes

- Step-by-step roadmap for institutions to streamline access
- Integration models mapping metadata to permissions
- Guidance on governance and policy alignment
- A community of practice around identity-aware infrastructure



Get Involved

Join a 20-30 minute interview if you are:

- A research administrator
- IT/infrastructure staff
- A data or service provider
- A governance lead

Share your experience and help streamline research access

Contact: laura.crawford@rfi.ac.uk



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Thank you for listening