PUBIN

DOAS Compatibility Pilot Project

NCC Portugal

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Universidade do Minho

Pilot Goals & Methodology

- ✓ Assess journal compatibility with DOAS to identify gaps and define improvement and corrective actions.
- ✓ Evaluate the tool suitability and potential based on the journals' real conditions.

- Selection of 6 journals (4 agreed to participate in the pilot)
- Structured questionnaire on Limesurvey
- **Offer 3 response options with comment space, promoting a self-assessment approach focused on continuous improvement.**

(1)
- Yes, implemented
- Not implemented

(2)
- fully implemented
- partially implemented
- not implemented, nonexistent

(3)
- Implemented
- in development
- not implemented

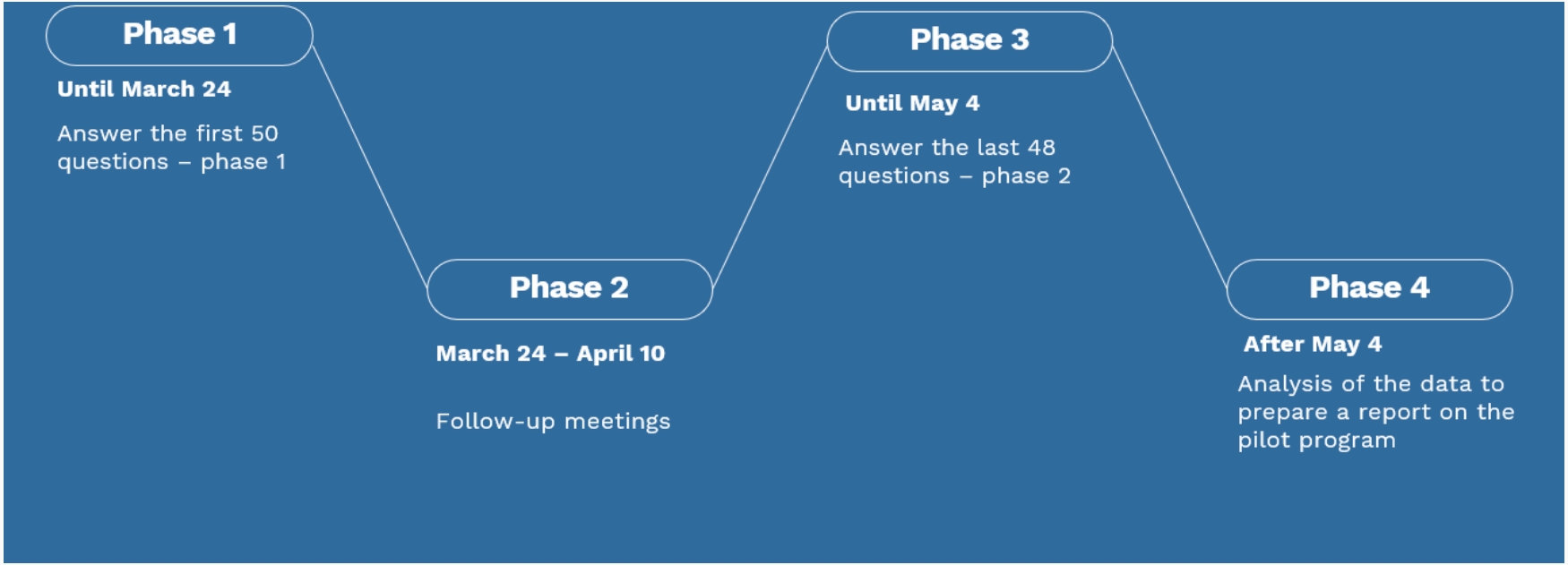
Divided into two response phases
to reduce complexity

1. Funding
2. Legal ownership, mission, and governance
3. Open science
4. Editorial management, editorial quality, and research integrity
5. Technical service efficiency
6. Visibility, communication, marketing, and impact
7. Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging (EDIB), multilingualism, and gender equity

Phase 1: Operational aspects

Phase 2: Governance and policy aspects

Pilot Timeline



Results

Dimension	Compatibility %	Compatibility rating
Legal ownership, mission, and governance	80	High
Technical service efficiency	78	High
Funding	78	High
Editorial management, editorial quality, and research integrity	77	High
Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging (EDIB), multilingualism, and gender equity	72	High
Open science	60	Moderate
Visibility, communication, marketing, and impact	52	Moderate

Highlights

Most established areas:

- Editorial independence.
- Existence of editorial boards and defined decision-making processes.
- Peer review proper implemented.
- Guidelines for authors and reviewers
- No article processing charges (APCs) or reader fees.
- Use of Open Journal Systems through PUBIN SARC.
- Assignment of persistent identifiers.
- Provision of essential metadata.
- Publication under open licenses.
- Mission, scope, and institutional contacts generally available.

Less established areas:

- Open peer review.
- Research data availability policies.
- Sharing of research protocols, methods, and software.
- Acceptance and management of preprints.
- Marketing and communication strategies.
- Monitoring of metrics, usage, and impact.
- Sustainability plans and operational costs.
- Formalized EDIP policies.
- Structured support for translation and plain-language summaries.

Ambiguities or difficulties in interpretation

- Interoperability protocols.
- Text and data mining.
- Analytical tools.
- Digital preservation and self-archiving.
- Third-party copyrights.
- Retention of rights and CC licenses.
- Distinction between owner, publisher, publishing house, and service provider.
- Concept of “plain language summary”.

The main challenge lies not only in meeting the criteria, but in understanding them, contextualizing their meaning, and systematizing existing practices.

Lessons learned from the pilot project and recommendations for the development of DOAS

- **DOAS is useful as a tool for standardization, self-assessment, editorial reflection, and continuous improvement.**
- **Non-binary logic has proven to be appropriate and necessary, along with the space for comments.**
- **Its implementation should be progressive, context-sensitive, and closely monitored, guided by a principle of inclusivity.**

Recommendations

- Clarify technical and editorial concepts.
- Include practical examples as appropriate (or make publicly available results of assessments).
- Make the “not applicable” option more visible and clearly justified.
- Avoid excessively broad criteria that merge multiple concepts into a single item.
- Link to support materials, glossaries, and guidelines tailored to journal types.