# DataCite Use Cases Around the World: Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas

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**Abstract**

*DataCite use cases around the world: Welcome to our blog series shining a spotlight on how research institutions integrate DataCite infrastructure into their systems and workflows.*

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*DataCite use cases around the world: Welcome to our blog series shining a spotlight on how research institutions integrate DataCite infrastructure into their systems and workflows. Join us as we explore real-world examples, best practices, and the impact of the DataCite community.*

Montserrat García Guerrero is a research professor in the Master's program in Educational Information Technology, specializing in Open Science and support for scientific production. She manages the Caxcán Institutional Repository and the Open Science Office at UAZ (Autonomous University of Zacatecas, Mexico).

She is the lead of the project "Open Science Manual for the Latin American Region: Experiences, Best Practices, and Future Paths," which is funded by the 2024 DataCite Global Access Fund.

A headshot Arturo Garduño-Magaña

**Arturo Garduño-Magaña:**
What were the reasons at your institution for joining DataCite as a member?

A headshot of Montserrat Garcia

**Montserrat García Guerrero:**
The academic community of the institution requested persistent identifiers (PIDs) for the academic documents generated by the institution, derived from the requirements of different quality measurement institutions and colleagues from other institutions with which they collaborate. When looking for an organization that could provide this service, we found that DataCite has a way of working through consortia and provides usage indicators (DataCite Commons). For us, it is an advantage to have the support of eScire (DataCite Consortium Lead in Mexico) every time we need support on a topic related to the repository or the journal platform and the possibility of having those indicators that the institution did not have before.

A headshot Arturo Garduño-Magaña

**Arturo Garduño-Magaña:**
How are DataCite services currently used at your institution?

A headshot of Montserrat Garcia

**Montserrat García Guerrero:**
We register DataCite DOIsfor graduate theses and academic documents (books, chapters, conferences, articles) that are uploaded to the institutional repository and the journals platform, where there are approximately 20 journals and the number continues to grow. The use of DataCite DOIs has allowed a greater presence in the digital world, counting the work's citations.

A headshot Arturo Garduño-Magaña

**Arturo Garduño-Magaña:**
What were the most important steps in integrating DataCite infrastructure into your systems/ workflows?

A headshot of Montserrat Garcia

**Montserrat García Guerrero:**
The support of eScire was extremely important to update the versions of the systems used so that the service could be added since we had very outdated versions of OJS and DSpace. There has always been constant support, which allows us to continue adding journals as the work progresses. We had an initial training session when we joined the Consortium and the biggest effort to date has been to manually add the  historical metadata into DataCite Fabrica.

A headshot Arturo Garduño-Magaña

**Arturo Garduño-Magaña:**
What challenges did you face during the implementation and how did you address them?

A headshot of Montserrat Garcia

**Montserrat García Guerrero:**
As already mentioned, the first challenge was the incorporation of the legacy metadata manually, which was done by a team of three people. Another challenge has been to explain to the researchers the nature and use of the DOIs since there are some misunderstandings among researchers unfamiliar with the use of persistent identifiers. In general, the use of DataCite's services has been very good.

A headshot Arturo Garduño-Magaña

**Arturo Garduño-Magaña:**
What kind of outreach, communication, and training did you do for staff and researchers at your organization before, during, and after adopting DataCite services? What worked, what didn't?

A headshot of Montserrat Garcia

**Montserrat García Guerrero:**
The Open Science Office has a catalog of courses offered to the community of researchers and lecturers at UAZ. At the time of joining DataCite, a course on digital identity and PIDs was added, which has worked successfully. During this period, a follow-up project has been underway to count the increase in citations, once researchers work with PIDs.

The training received for the integration of the DOI was straightforward, given that the team comprises three people. We attended approximately three sessions where the usage was explained to us. Furthermore, we also receive support for resolving doubts via email and WhatsApp from the consortium lead.

A headshot Arturo Garduño-Magaña

**Arturo Garduño-Magaña:**
What impact has DataCite adoption had internally?

A headshot of Montserrat Garcia

**Montserrat García Guerrero:**
Researchers have found that their work is more accessible on the web and are beginning to see an increase in citations. They have also been able to respond to requirements such as those of the Ministry of Public Education (SEP) and its PRODEP program. The authorities are beginning to be aware of the usefulness of PIDs and are encouraging the creation and use of good practices for journals and research papers.

A headshot Arturo Garduño-Magaña

**Arturo Garduño-Magaña:**
What advice do you have for other institutions planning to adopt DataCite infrastructure?

A headshot of Montserrat Garcia

**Montserrat García Guerrero:**
In fact, there have already been approaches with other institutions asking us about DataCite's services. I always tell them that it is important to think about the added value and possible services that come when considering an open infrastructure like DataCite to start registering DOIs.  This is due to elements such as software updates, usage difficulties, and possible questions and queries for which it is necessary to have a close support team.