The Research Data Alliance: a (data) window to the world

RDA France 2019, Paris, 13th September 2019
Hilary Hanahoe, Secretary General, Research Data Alliance
hilary.hanahoe@rda-foundation.org | @hilaryhanahoe | @resdatall
open science
open data
research data management
FAIR
data commons
science cloud
eResearch
The RDA Vision

Researchers and innovators openly share data across technologies, disciplines, and countries to address the grand challenges of society.
Complex ... but achievable

The RDA Mission

Build the **social** and **technical** bridges that enable open sharing and re-use of data.
RDA Guiding Principles

- Openness
- Consensus
- Balance
- Harmonization
- Community-driven
- Non-profit and technology-neutral
By the Community ...
For the community

Multi, cross- and inter-disciplinary

Grass roots (bottom-up) approach

International, neutral, social platform

www.rd-alliance.org
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Truly Global ... Truly community driven
Founding Regions (2012)
RDA Governance

RDA Individual & Organisational Membership

- **Technical Advisory Board**
  - socio-technical vision and strategy

- **Organisational Advisory Board**
  - needs, adoption, business advice

- **Regional Advisory Board**
  - regional vision and strategy

- **Council**
  - organisational vision and strategy

- **Working Groups**
  - implementable, impactful outcomes

- **Interest Groups**
  - domain coordination, idea generation, maintenance, …

- **Secretariat**
  - administration and operations

- **Secretary-General**
  - management, coordination, strategy, sustainability

- **RDA Foundation**

- **Funders Forum**

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RDA across Europe

- European co-ordination & broad awareness raising
- National <-> Global Connection
- Bi-lateral co-operation
Who is the Research Data Alliance?
RDA across the globe

8,900+ RDA members from 137 different countries (France = 469)
RDA Organisational Type

68% Academia / Research
14% Gov / Public Admin
RDA Individual Member Professions

- 23% Researchers
- 12% Librarians
The Social Heart of RDA ... The Community Members

8,900 members from 137 countries

Drivers

Contributors

Observers / Users
Become a community member in quick, easy steps

1. Click “Registration”
2. Complete Form
3. Adhere to RDA Guiding principles
4. Submit
5. Approval (by RDA Secretariat) within 2 working days
What do Research Data Alliance members do?
The technical heart of RDA ... 87 groups

**Working Groups**
- develop and implement tools, policy, practices & products for data management that are adopted and used by projects, organisations, communities
- TIMING: 12-18 MONTHS
- TOTAL: 32 Working Groups

**Interest Groups**
- focus on solving a specific data sharing problem and identifying what kind of infrastructure needs to be built.
- TIMING: as long as group is active
- TOTAL: 55 Interest Groups

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Concrete deliverables - "Running code", tools, standards, etc.

**OUTPUT:** Possibly case statements for new WGs, guidelines, best practice, etc.
Which groups are for you?

RDA for you - search your groups

The Research Data Alliance accomplishes its mission primarily through Working Groups and Interest Groups.

In order to allow new members to understand what technical and social infrastructure solutions RDA groups are developing, and which scientific disciplines may benefit of RDA Group outcomes, this filter has been created to allow you identify which RDA group(s) might be more useful for your research.

Groups can be selected according to their focus [1], that is: what problem they try to solve, and/or according to the scientific domains [2] in which their communities operate.

Select the desired fields from the boxes on the right and identify RDA groups for your: then you only need to join them!

Find your RDA Group

[1] Some other teams have undertaken similar activities, such as the view available at https://suave-dev.sdsu.edu/main/file=zaslavsk_RDA_Groups_June_2018.csv&views=1110001&view=bucket

[2] “Fields of R&D classification” as indicated in the Froscati Manual 2015: Guidelines for Collecting and Reporting Data on Research and Experimental Development, Published by the OECD
RDA Recommendations & Outputs

RECOMMENDATIONS

Equivalent of the “specifications” or “standards” that other organisations create and endorse.

- 19 Recommendations
  - of which 8 ICT Technical Specifications

SUPPORTING OUTPUTS

Outputs of RDA WGs and IGs that are fruit of RDA work, but are not necessarily adoptable bridges.

- 13 Supporting Outputs

OTHER OUTPUTS

Anything a WG or IG wants to register and report, e.g. workshop reports, articles, survey results, etc.

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Data standards for Agriculture: INRA adoption of RDA Outputs

1. Wheat Data Interoperability Guidelines
2. Agrisemantics WG recommendations
3. Data Fabric
4. “23 Things: Libraries for Research Data”
5. FAIRsharing Registry
6. Dynamic Data Citation

Climate Data Modelling: DKRZ adoption case

1. Data Foundation and Terminology
2. PID Information Types
3. Data Fabric
4. Data Type Registries
5. Dynamic Data Citation

CoreTrustSeal: adoption cases

Implemented in 61 repositories worldwide to date

- Australian Data Archive (ADA) - 2018
- CSIRO Data Access Portal (DAP) – 2018
- Australian Antarctic Data Centre - 2018

Data repository certification based on the DSA–WDS Core Trustworthy Data Repositories Requirements catalogue and procedures

23 Research Data things programme created by ANDS with over 1,500 participants. Repurposed:

- **23 Research Data Things**: developed by ANDS, Nectar, RDS
- **10 Health and Medical Things**: developed by ANDS, Nectar, RDS
- **10 Marine Science (rd) Things**: developed by Edith Cowan University
- **10 Astronomy Things**: developed by ADACS for the astronomy community
- **10 Eco Data Things**: developed as part of the EcoCloud project.
- **10 FAIR Data and Software Things**: ARDC driven global sprint (2018)
- **10 HASS (Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences) Data Things**

RDA/CODATA Data Schools

- Research Data Scientist Curricula
- Data Steward Curricula (under development)
- €350,000 voluntary teaching
- 400+ students from over 40 countries

What is the impact?

- Global data agreements
- Standards
- Institutional change
- Discipline specific solutions
- Cross | multi | inter disciplinary solutions
- Education and Training
- Policy
14th RDA Plenary Meeting, Helsinki, Finland, 23 – 25 October 2019

Over 60 Working, Interest & Birds of Feather (BoF) sessions

15+ co-located events

https://www.rd-alliance.org/rda-14th-plenary-helsinki-espoo
15th Plenary Meeting
18-20 March 2020
Melbourne, Australia

https://www.rd-alliance.org/plenaries/rda-15th-plenary-meeting-australia
The cost of not having RDA?

- International open forum
- Global data agreements
- Community driven solutions
- Multi-disciplinary outcomes
- Global community
- Bridges to solve societal challenges
Collaborate, Co-operate, Co-create

If you want to go fast, go alone.
If you want to go far, go together.

African Proverb
Special thanks

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THANK YOU VERY MUCH

RDA
Email - enquiries@rd-alliance.org
Web - www.rd-alliance.org
Twitter - @resdatall
LinkedIn - www.linkedin.com/in/ResearchDataAlliance
Slideshare - http://www.slideshare.net/ResearchDataAlliance

Hilary Hanahoe
Secretary General, Research Data Alliance
Email - hilary.hanahoe@rda-foundation.org
Twitter - @hilaryhanahoe

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RDA Further Information Resources

e-Communication Package

- RDA Recommendations and Outputs
- RDA in a Nutshell Slide set
- RDA in one word Video
- RDA Value statements for:
  - Individuals
  - Organisations performing Research
  - Student/Early Careers
  - Funders
  - Libraries
  - The European Open Science Cloud
  - Regions

https://www.rd-alliance.org/about-us/communication-kit/e-communication-package