The RDA

THE AMAZING WORLD OF RESEARCH DATA AT YOUR FINGERTIPS
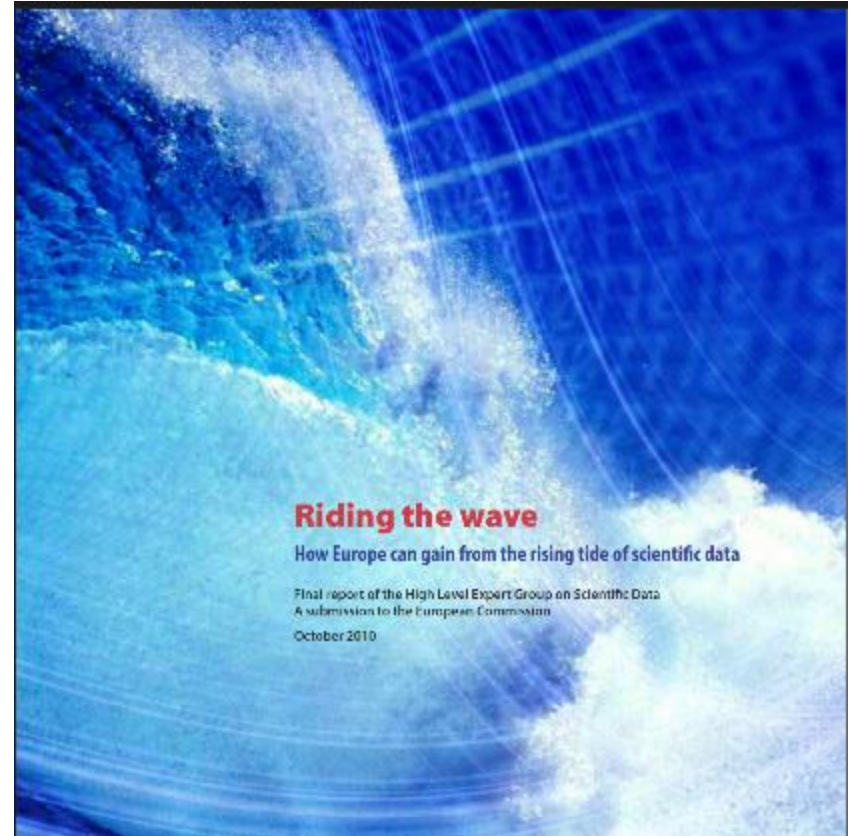
Hilary Hanahoe, Secretary General, Research Data Alliance
hilary.hanahoe@rda-foundation.org | www.rd-alliance.org

> **"- Researchers and practitioners from any discipline are able to find, access and process the data they need. They can be confident in their ability to use and understand data, and they can evaluate the degree to which that data can be trusted.**
> **- Producers of data benefit from opening it to broad access, and prefer to deposit their data with confidence in reliable repositories. A framework of repositories work to international standards, to ensure they are trustworthy."**

Source: <u>Oct 2010 - Riding the wave: How Europe can gain from the rising tide of scientific data</u>

Riding the wave
How Europe can gain from the rising tide of scientific data

Final report of the High Level Expert Group on Scientific Data
A submission to the European Commission

October 2010

March 2013 The launch of the Research Data Alliance, Goteborg, Sweden

RDA Values

👁 Vision

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

🎯 Mission

The RDA builds the social and technical bridges that enable open sharing and reuse of data.

🔗 [How the RDA works](#)

Guiding Principles

🔓 Openness

🤝 Consensus

Inclusivity

Harmonisation

Community-driven

Non-profit & technology-neutral

Who is involved?

INDIVIDUALS
15,000+

A strategic 'think tank' to enhance constructive dialogue and collaboration on data related topics, and to present the latest research results in many areas.

Collaborate in groups and generate outputs

Members Directory

ORGANISATIONS
100+

A forum where organisational representatives directly interact and collaborate to develop and implement solutions and best practices.

Adopt, implement and customise outputs

Organisation Directory

REGIONS
35+

A global perspective to assist in sharing best practices, experiences and common needs to achieve efficiency and reduce duplication of efforts.

Localise (linguistically and culturally) and network

Regional Groups

Membership Statistics

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

- Who are the RDA individual members?

Members Directory

ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

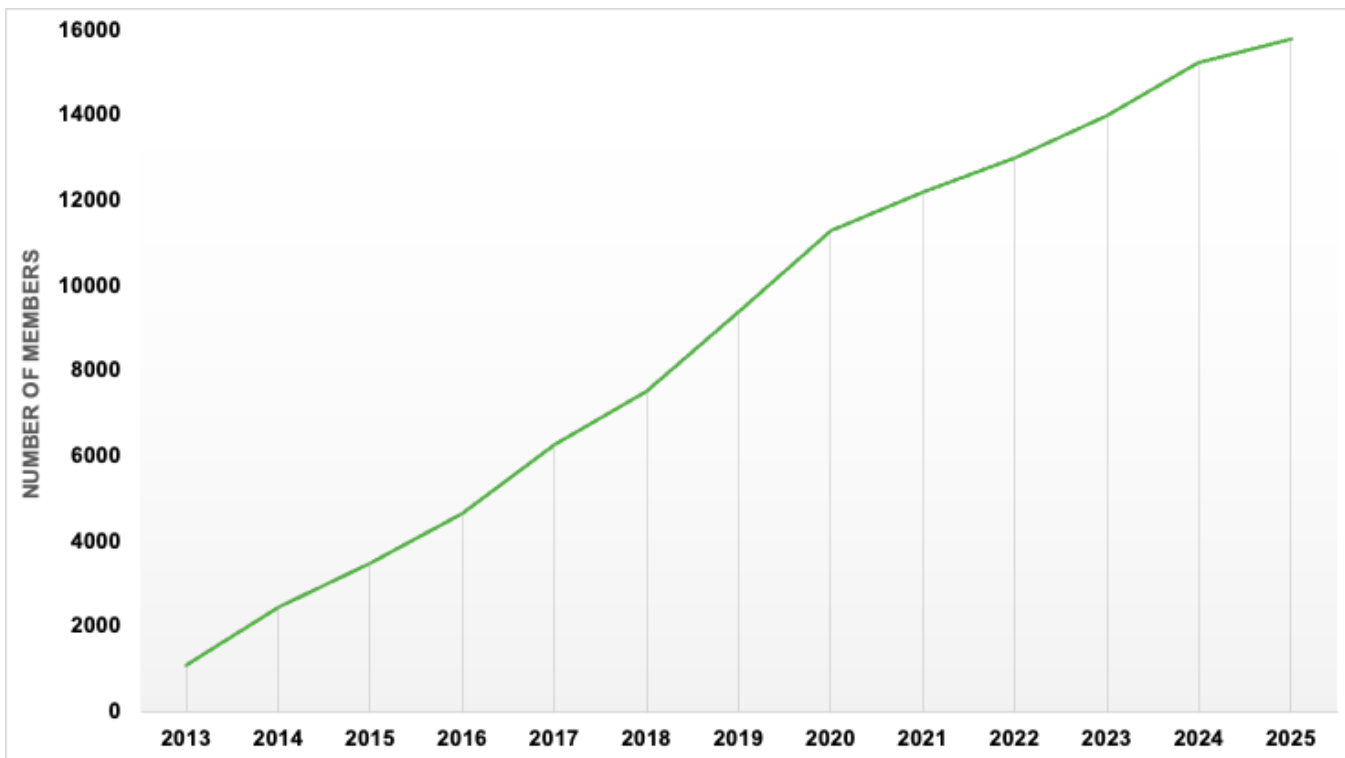- Who are the RDA Organisational and Affiliate members?

Organisation Directory

REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- Who are the RDA Regional Members?
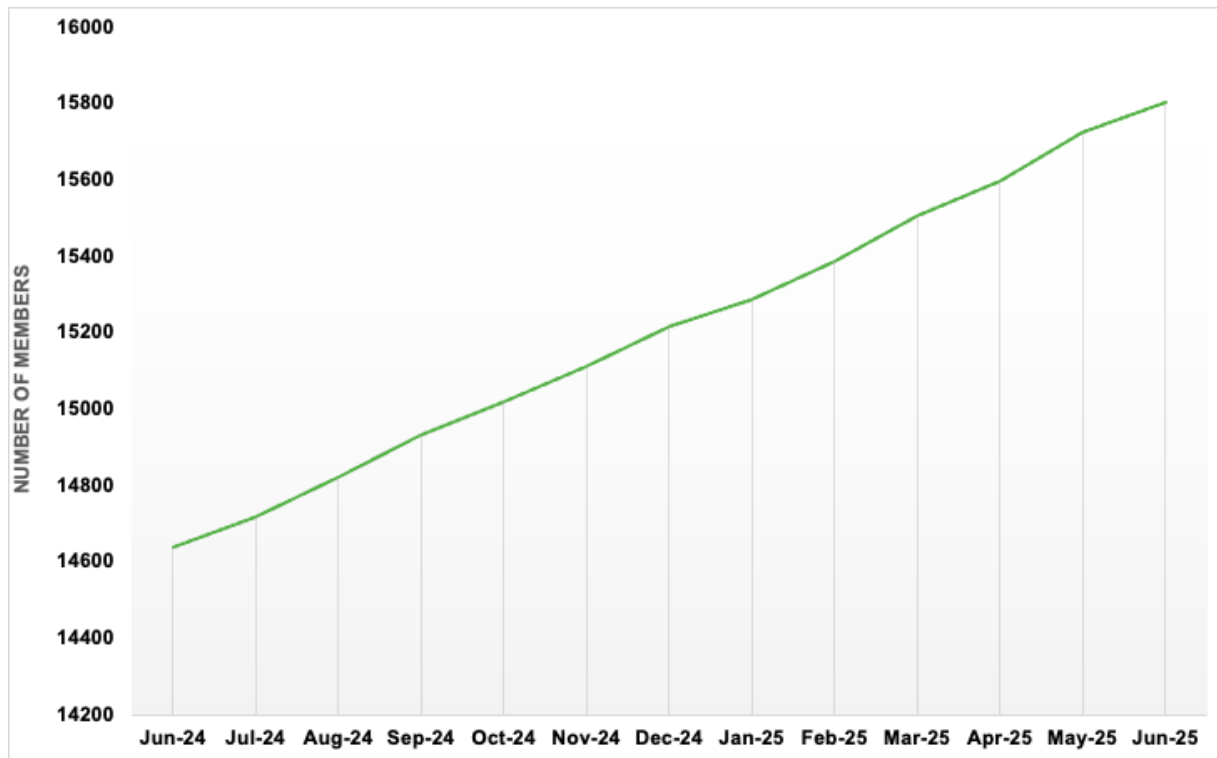
Regional Groups

Individual Membership: Growth by Year

15,802
members in total

NEW

80
new members
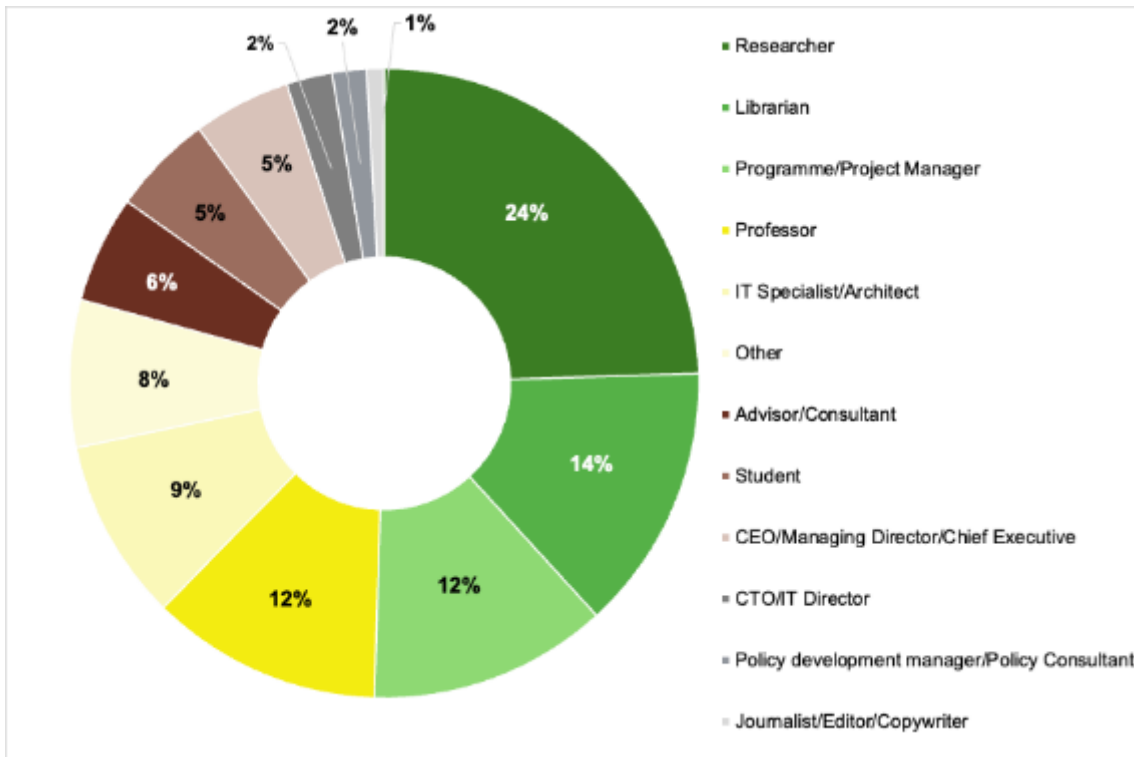in June 2025

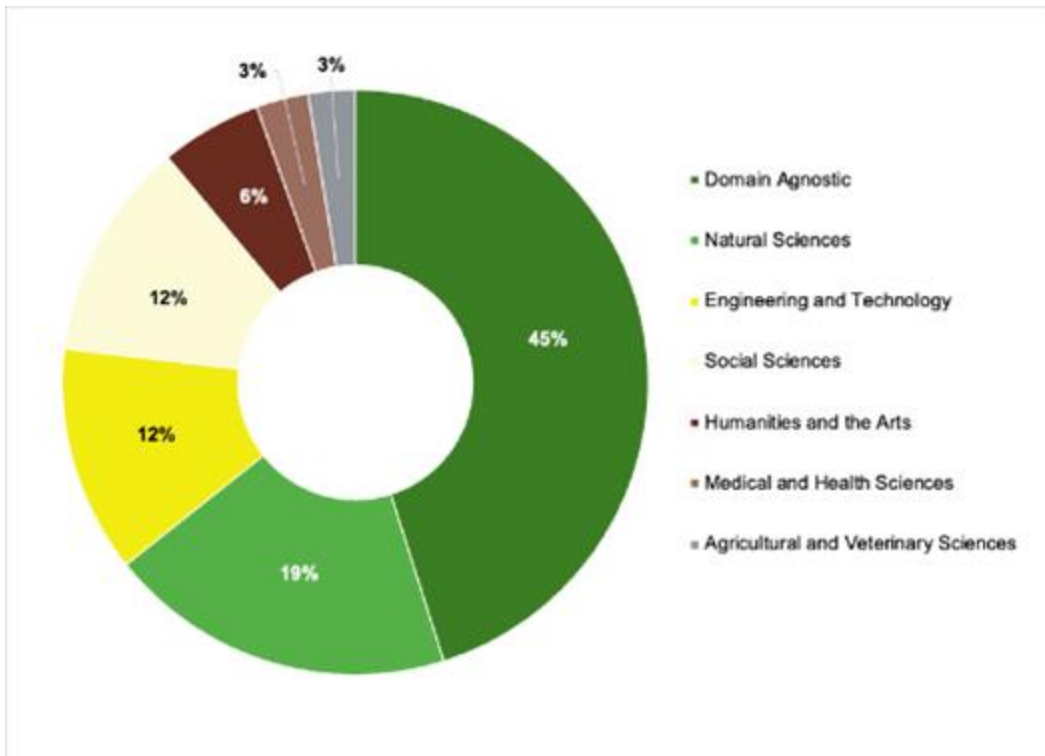# Individual Membership: Growth by Month

15,802
members in total
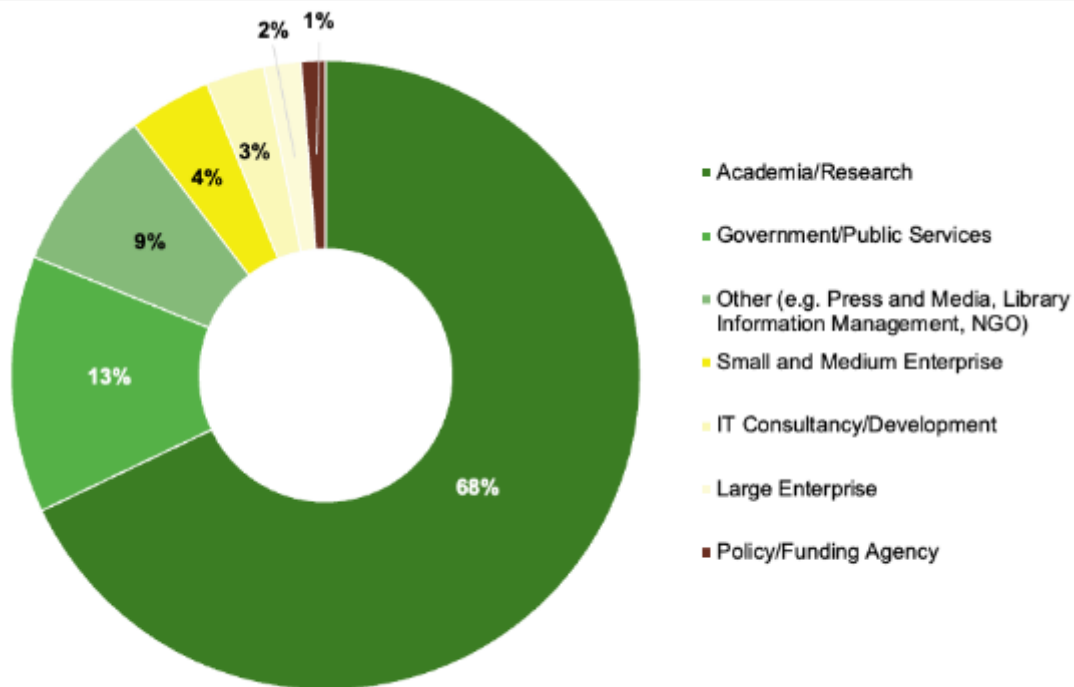
NEW

80
new members
in June 2025

Individual Membership: Professional Job Title

Legend:
- Researcher — 24%
- Librarian — 14%
- Programme/Project Manager — 12%
- Professor — 12%
- IT Specialist/Architect — 9%
- Other — 8%
- Advisor/Consultant — 6%
- Student — 5%
- CEO/Managing Director/Chief Executive — 5%
- CTO/IT Director — 2%
- Policy development manager/Policy Consultant — 2%
- Journalist/Editor/Copywriter — 1%

Individual Membership: Primary Domain

- Domain Agnostic
- Natural Sciences
- Engineering and Technology
- Social Sciences
- Humanities and the Arts
- Medical and Health Sciences
- Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences

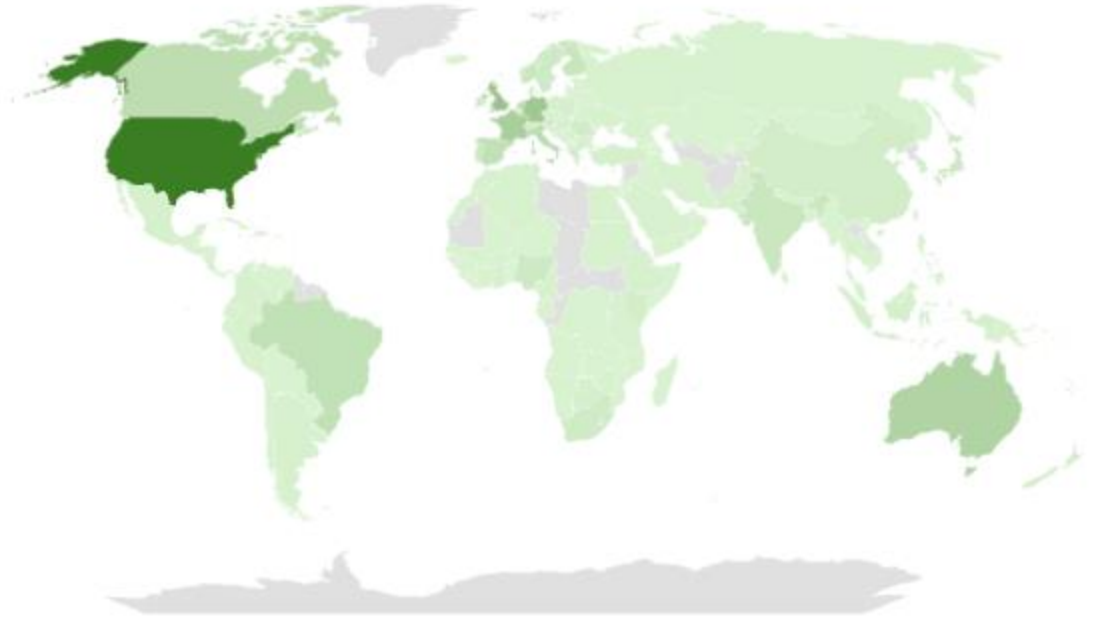45% · 19% · 12% · 12% · 6% · 3% · 3%

Data collected: 30 June 2025

Individual Membership: Organisational Type

Individual Membership: Geographical Distribution

Geographical Breakdown (Top 10)	No. of Members
1. United States	3,116
2. United Kingdom	1,251
3. Germany	1,115
4. France	942
5. Australia	790
6. Netherlands	608
7. Italy	554
8. Canada	540
9. Brazil	467
10. Spain	467

Data collected: 30 June 2025

How does the community collaborate?

WORKING GROUPS (WG)
45

Develop tools, policies, practices and products for data that are adopted by projects, organisations and communities. Lifespan: 18-24 months.

RECOMMENDATIONS:
Concrete deliverables (e.g., running code, tools, standards)

🔗 All Working Groups

INTEREST GROUPS (IG)
62

Focus on solving a specific data sharing problem and identifying what kind of infrastructure needs to be built. Lifespan: As long as group is active.

OUTPUTS:
Best practices, guidelines, new WGs.

🔗 All Interest Groups

COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE (CoP)
2

'Umbrella groups' that focus on a domain / discipline and have a coordination and awareness raising role. Lifespan: As long as CoP is active (review every 18 months).

OUTPUTS:
New WGs and IGs, bridge building across the RDA and externally.

🔗 All Communities of Practice

AI Bill of Rights Recommendation

OVERVIEW

The AI Bill of Rights Recommendation addresses AI governance needs across jurisdictions and disciplines, protecting rights of data creators, developers, users, and impacted communities.

IMPACT

The recommendation aims to promote inclusive AI governance for RDA and European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) communities, encouraging civil society participation in AI standards development.

ADOPTION

The recommendation is relevant to developers, policy makers, research institutions, civil society organisations, standards bodies and members of the RDA and EOSC community, especially those impacted by Ai developments.

Artificial Intelligence and Data Visitation Working Group

DOI: 10.15497/RDA00123

JUNE 2025

FAIR Principles for Research Software (FAIR4RS Principles)

OVERVIEW

A set of principles adapting FAIR data principles to research software, addressing software's unique characteristics like executability, evolution, and versioning to improve sharing and reuse across research communities.

IMPACT

The principles enhance research reproducibility, improve software practices and usage, clarify funder policies for software investment, and establish publisher guidelines for code sharing requirements.

ADOPTION

The principles achieved widespread adoption across national policies, funding guidelines, research communities, training programs, and technical infrastructure implementations, demonstrating broad international acceptance.

JUNE 2022

The Global Open Research Commons International Model

OVERVIEW

An international model describing the attributes of Global Open Research Commons (GORC) and defining characteristics and standards for establishing open, collaborative research environments and infrastructure globally.

IMPACT

The model serves as a guideline helping research commons prepare to join or become a Global Open Research Commons, providing strategic direction for participation.

ADOPTION

The model targets anyone involved in planning, developing, operating, funding, or using research commons, providing comprehensive guidance for diverse stakeholder engagement and implementation.

GORC International Model Working Group
DOI: 10.15497/RDA00119

OCTOBER 2023

RDA Professionalising Data Stewardship – What does a career track for data stewardship look like?

OVERVIEW

A survey and report on data stewardship career tracks, providing evidence for defining professional roles, career progression pathways, and supporting emerging data stewardship communities.

IMPACT

This work provides evidence-based insights for defining data steward career paths, supporting professional recognition, improving job satisfaction and security, and informing organisational strategies for data stewardship workforce development.

ADOPTION

Research institutions, universities, HR departments and funding agencies can adopt this output to establish formal career pathways and recognition for data stewardship professionals.

JANUARY 2024

CODATA/RDA Summer School in Data Science in Cloud Computing in the Developing World WG Recommendations

OVERVIEW

A framework to conduct a series of Summer Schools on Data Science and data sharing in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

IMPACT

The framework helps to bridge the gap in research data science skills that prevents researchers in LMICs from reaping the benefits of the data revolution.

ADOPTION

The University of Pretoria, in collaboration with Data Carpentry SA among others, adopted the framework to initiate the first Data Science School in South Africa.

RDA/CODATA Summer Schools in Data Science and Cloud Computing in the Developing World Working Group
DOI: Zenodo Community

CODATA – RDA
Data Schools

NOVEMBER 2019

Why join as an individual member?

JOIN FOR FREE

Contribute to acceleration of data infrastructure developments

Become part of the global community and expand your professional network

Create, access and adopt RDA Recommendations and Outputs

Receive regular updates on the work of the RDA community

Gain expertise in data-related topics regardless of career stage

Participate in community events, including webinars, workshops and Plenaries

[The value for members](#)

[Become a member](#)

welcome!

RDA Plenaries

RDA Plenaries are **exciting** and **productive** events that bring together the **unique**, **global** RDA **community** of **researchers**, **scientists** and **data professionals**.

Plenaries help **move the community forward** in creating tangible **deliverables** that improve **data sharing and reuse** across disciplines, technologies and countries.

More about Plenaries

P24 RDA
24th Plenary Meeting
Data for Emerging Technologies
7-11 April 2025

Highlights

INTERNATIONAL DATA WEEK
13-16 October 2025
Brisbane, Australia

About IDW2025

Benefits of Attending RDA Plenaries

Exchange knowledge, share discoveries, discuss barriers and potential solutions

Learn about new trends, strategies, research developments, directions and policies

Expand your network and meet new committed and passionate data professionals, working in multiple disciplines

Contribute to acceleration of data infrastructure development

RDA Community engagement

Introducing the MOMSI Landscape Dashboard
A Tool for Mapping Multi-Omics Standards

Microsoft / RDA

June, 2025

RDA and Microsoft White Paper
Data Readiness and Data-Centric AI

Authored by Shalini Kurapati, PhD

Microsoft / RDA

June, 2025

RDA and Microsoft White Paper
From HPC to Quantum-Shaping the Future of Research Computing

Authored by Shalini Kurapati, PhD

June 2025

Hilary Hanahoe (RDA), Marcy Collinson
Chiang (Microsoft), Rosie Allison (RDA

The Value of RDA for Policy
Advancing Community-led Impact on Science Policies through RDA

Connie Clare
RDA Community Development Manager
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Grabaciones de los webinar disponibles
Ir a las grabaciones >

Webinars
Software y Datos de investigación

La **Research Software Alliance (ReSA)**, la **Research Data Alliance (RDA)** y la **Red Latinoamericana de Ciencia Abierta (LA Referencia)** colaboran para aumentar la visibilidad del software y los datos de investigación en la región de América Latina y el Caribe

Hemos desarrollado una serie de webinars sobre estos temas. ¡Completamente gratis!

Programa   Participar

What do RDA members do?

Collaborate across the globe

Create and join community-driven RDA groups

Tackle infrastructure and data sharing challenges

Exchange knowledge and share discoveries

Discuss barriers and potential solutions

Explore and define policies

Test and harmonise standards

Enhance and facilitate global data sharing and reuse

Join us

RDA Web platform
BlueSky
LinkedIn
YouTube

Contact us

secretariat@rda-foundation.org

The Secretariat staff are employed by the RDA Foundation and some members are made available through in-kind support from Regional partners. The Secretary General leads the Secretariat and is CEO of the RDA Foundation.

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——— THANK YOU ———

research data sharing
without barriers
rd-alliance.org