Create a Non-Privileged User

Lab 25

What are you Learning?

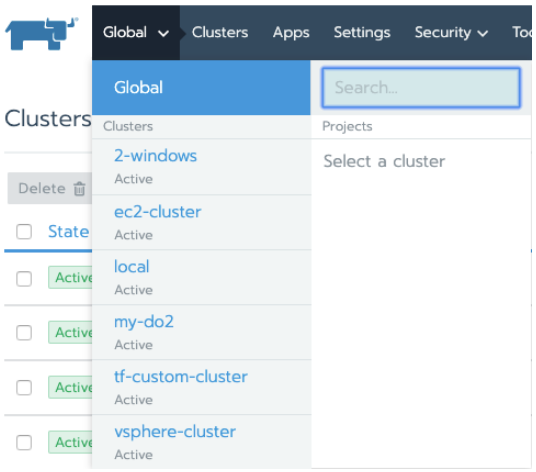
You will learn how to create a user with limited access rights to the Rancher managed clusters and demonstrate how Role Based Access Control allows you to grant only the permissions that are required for a user to do their job.

Why is it important?

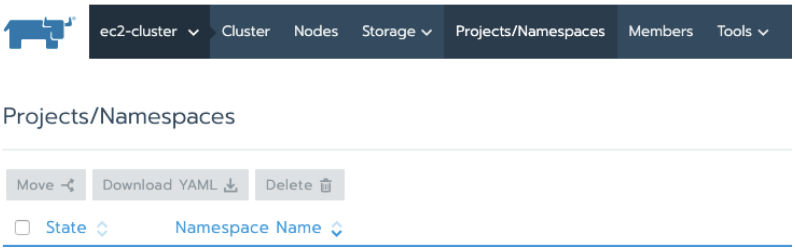
Many companies want to provide access to a cluster with different levels of permissions, depending on the person's role in the company. This is generally considered a security best practice.

Creating a Project and Associating a Namespace

1. In the Rancher UI Navigate to the cluster you would like to use for this exercise by selecting it from a list of clusters in the top left Menu



2. The top menu bar now reflects the available options in the cluster context. Select "Projects/Namespaces" from the top menu

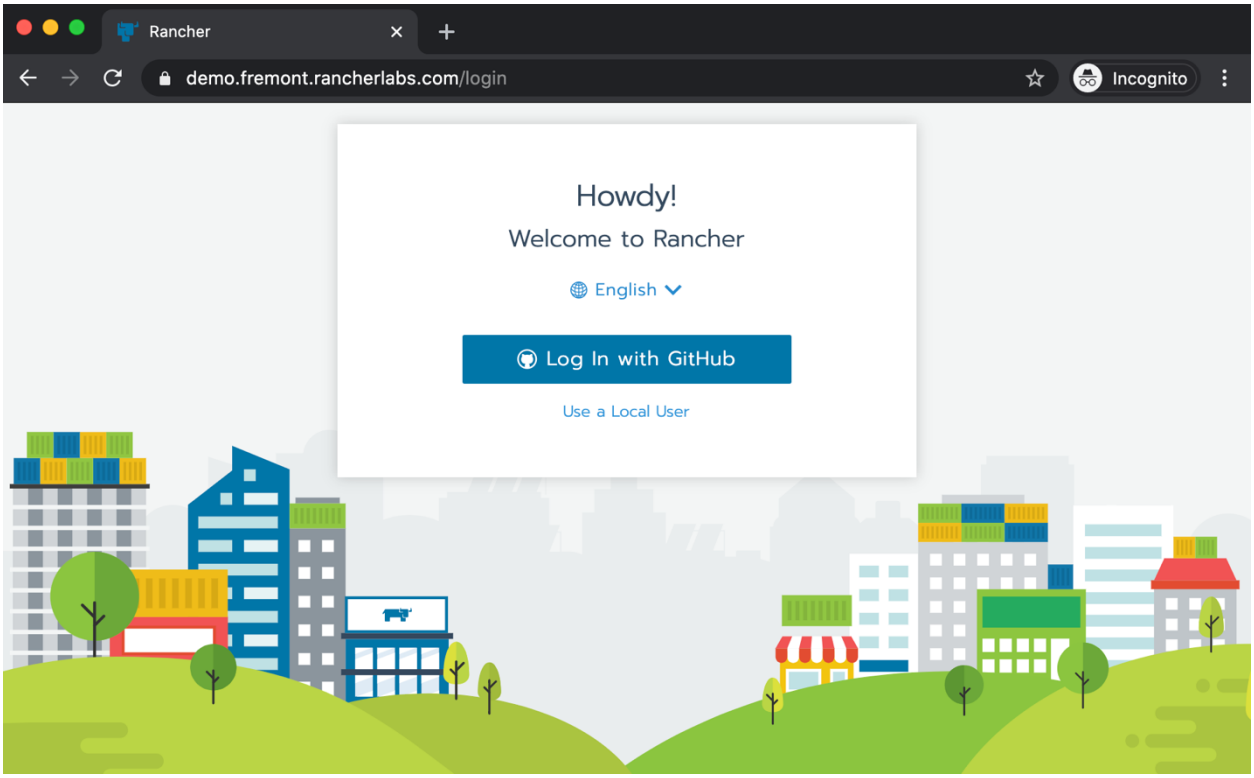


3. Now from this page, we can choose a project to grant permissions from. On the project of our choosing, select the three dots menu on the right and select "Edit"
4. In the edit project page, we can now add a user to this project and select the role they will have, which defines the set of permissions to be applied.
    - If you don't have a test user for this exercise, create one from the Global Users menu. Give the user the "User-Base" privilege.
    - Click the "Add Member" button and then type in the username of the test user account.

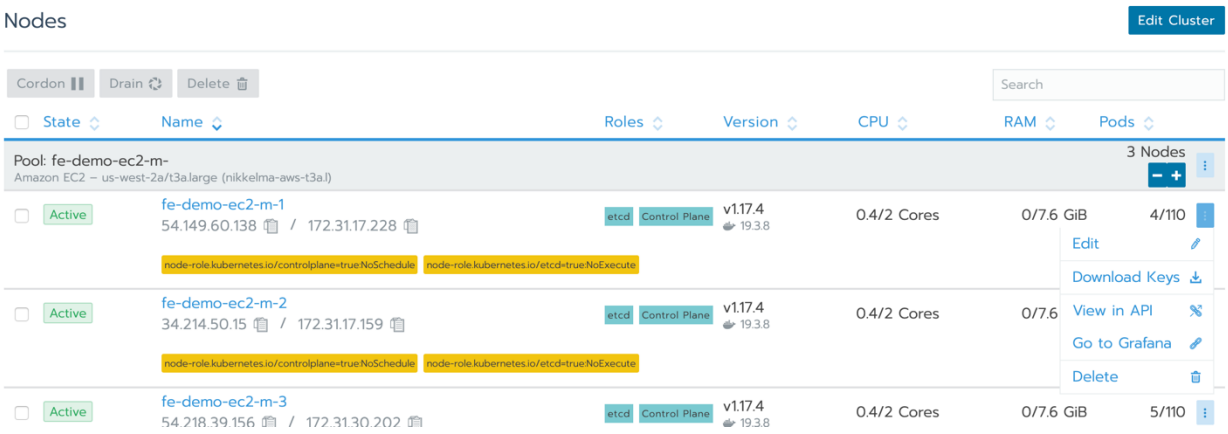
5. Select a role on the right side of the column. For this demo choose “Read-Only,” which is a built-in role that allows Read access to most API objects but does not allow Write access.
6. Click Save at the bottom of the page.

Testing That It Works

To test this, we can login as the newly created user. Open a new incognito or private browser window and go to the Rancher URL. Log in with the user account credentials.



To test the RBAC permissions worked, try deleting a node from the Rancher cluster. Navigate to the Nodes section from the top menu, and then click the three dots next to a node and select delete. When you try to delete you should be presented with a permissions error.



References

- Adding Users to Projects - https://rancher.com/docs/rancher/v2.x/en/project-admin/project-members/
- Role-Based Access Control (RBAC) - https://rancher.com/docs/rancher/v2.x/en/admin-settings/rbac/