

# R Community and Free Resources

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12 March 2020



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# R Community

# AfricaR

Our mission is to achieve improved representation by encouraging, inspiring, and empowering the African population of all genders who are underrepresented in the global R community.



So far:

- Connect R Users from different regions
- Established several R User Groups
- Organized 2 satRday conferences

Follow on Twitter [@AfricaRUsers](https://twitter.com/AfricaRUsers).

# Leadership Team

Leadership team expanded for 2020

- **Shelmith Kariuki - Kenya**
- **Denis Irorere - Nigeria**
- Mohammed Ali - Egypt
- Ahmadou Dicko - Senegal
- Anicet Ebou - Ivory Coast
- Nelda - Uganda
- Vebashini Naidoo - South Africa



# Plans for 2020

- Write governing documents (mission statement, CoC)
- Rotating curator Twitter account
- Tutorials in French
- Website (events calendar, blog)
- Package(s) to address African needs, e.g. NLP library that supports Arabic, Swahili, etc.

# Forwards

R Foundation taskforce to widen participation of underrepresented groups

- Social media
  - Twitter: @R\_Forwards
  - Blog: <https://forwards.github.io/blog/>
- Community
- Conferences
- On-ramps
- Surveys
- Teaching

# Why R? Foundation

Initiated to support Why R? Conference in Poland

Money raised also supports

- pre-meetings in Europe
- support grant for women in data science

Extending support to other regions including Africa

# R Foundation and R Consortium

The R Foundation is a not-for-profit organization to support R.

- Provides financial support to CRAN, R Core and R Foundation members
- Publishes The R Journal
- Oversees the useR! conference series

The R Consortium is a group of business that support R.

- Provide financial support to R User Groups and Conferences
- Funds coding and community projects



# R User Groups

In Africa: Senegal, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, Eswatini, South Africa - new group starting in Botswana!

Typical meetups

- Talks, e.g.
- Tutorial, e.g. [Importing data into R, ggplot2 for data visualisation](#)

# R User Groups

## Other types of meetup

- Remote talk [Dar es Salaam User Group](#)
- Watch party [rstudio::conf](#) (live)
- Videos e.g. from [useR!](#) conference
- Work through book e.g. [R for Data Science](#)
- [Tidy Tuesday Workshop](#)
- Hackathon e.g. [Open Data Day](#) or [Zindi machine learning challenge](#)
- Informal meetup to help each other [lunchR](#) or [TalkRs](#)

# R-Ladies

R-Ladies is a worldwide organization whose mission is to promote gender diversity in the R community.

- Meetup groups: Benin, Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Africa
- R-Ladies Remote ([@RLadiesRemote](#))
  - reading group (~1/month): Next up, [Agile Data Science with R](#)
  - coffee chat (~1/month): guided 1 hour chat about R topics
- [Abstract review for conferences](#)
- R-Ladies community slack [sign up](#)
  - many channels: where in the world, events, r-help

# R4DS Online Learning Community

<https://www.rfordatasci.com/>

Originally to work through R 4 Data Science, now a general learning community.

Join Slack to get help as you learn.

# Tidy Tuesday

<https://github.com/rfordatascience/tidytuesday>

Practice your R skills on a new data set (designed for beginners)

- New data set released each week (Monday)
- Practice data wrangling and data visualisation
- Get help on R4DS or R-Ladies community slack

# RStudio Community

<https://community.rstudio.com/>

Online discussion forum (sign-up but no installation required)

Discussion topics

- (tidyverse) packages: dplyr, ggplot2
- R markdown
- RStudio IDE
- Machine Learning and Modelling

# Stackoverflow

<https://stackoverflow.com/>

Q&A site for programming questions.

R questions should be tagged with [r] plus relevant package/topic tags.

Questions must have a reproducible example (reprex), the **reprex** R package helps with this.

Best to search for answers to begin with.

See the tour for more information: <https://stackoverflow.com/tour>.

# Twitter

The main hashtag is #rstats.

Accounts to follow

- @EswatiniUseR
- @AfricaRUsers
- @R\_Forwards
- @RLadiesGlobal
- @\_R\_Foundation
- @RConsortium
- @WeAreRLadies

It is so useful there is a book about it! [www.t4rstats.com](http://www.t4rstats.com)



# Other

- Facebook: used by some user groups
- LinkedIn: main group: "The R Project for Statistical Computing"

# Conferences

Johannesburg satRday (<https://joburg2020.satrdays.org/>)

- tutorials and talks

Various international conferences have diversity scholarships:

- useR! (<https://www.r-project.org/conferences/>)
- rstudio::conf (<https://rstudio.com/conference/>)

Forwards [tips on applying for scholarships](#)

List of R conferences: <https://jumpingrivers.github.io/meetingsR/events.html>.

# Free Resources

# Conference videos/material

Many R conferences put talk videos and tutorial material online

useR! 2019

- talks: [useR! 2019 Toulouse Talks on YouTube](#)
- tutorials: <https://www.user2019.fr/tutorials/>

rstudio::conf

- talks: <https://resources.rstudio.com/rstudio-conf-2020>
- tutorials: <https://github.com/rstudio-conf-2020>

# More conference videos/material

satRday\_zaf

- talks: [Joburg 2019](#)

Ihaka lecture series

- <https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/science/about-the-faculty/departments-of-statistics/ihaka-lecture-series.html>

# Blogs

Many useful blog posts on new and existing packages, how to do X in R

- R-bloggers (<https://www.r-bloggers.com/>): use RSS reader like feedly, inoreader
- RWeekly (<https://rweekly.org/>): can get RSS feed/follow on Twitter
- rladies-blogs channel on R-Ladies Community Slack

# Podcasts

Sina Rüeger highlights several R/data science podcasts

<https://sinarueeger.github.io/post/podcasts/>

She links to this list: <https://jumpingrivers.github.io/podcasts/technical-podcasts.html>

There is also the Women in Data Science podcast

<https://www.widsconference.org/podcast.html>

# Online books

Books created with the **bookdown** package: <https://bookdown.org/>. In particular

- R for Data Science
- R Graphics Cookbook
- Fundamentals of Data Visualization

Some (all?) Manning books can be read online for free, e.g.

- [Build a career in data science](#)
- [Practical Data Science with R](#)



# More online books

Several R books on leanpub can be bought for a price you choose, from free

- [Introduction to Data Science](#)
- [Exploratory Data Analysis with R](#)

Other

- [Modern Statistics for Modern Biology](#)
- [ggplot2](#)

# Workshop materials

- The R-Ladies groups share their material online and you can search for material via this great shiny app: <https://yabellini.shinyapps.io/RLadiesLesson/>
- Coding Club (a group at the University of Edinburgh) have developed many tutorials: <https://ourcodingclub.github.io/> on data handling, visualisation, modelling and spatial data.
- Free interactive tutorials, including the R Bootcamp (<https://github.com/flor14/tutorials>).
- List of materials: [https://github.com/Chris-Engelhardt/data\\_sci\\_guide](https://github.com/Chris-Engelhardt/data_sci_guide), often free if don't want certificate.
- R Studio education page: resources for beginners/intermediate/advanced (<https://education.rstudio.com/learn/>)
- Swirl, learn R in R (<https://swirlstats.com/>)

# Courses

- Chromebook Data Science course (<https://jhudatascience.org/chromebookdatascience>) covering the fundamentals of data science, materials on leanpub from free.
- Data Science in a Box: <https://datasciencebox.org/>
- eR-Biostat R/statistics courses (<https://er-biostat.github.io/Courses/>)

# Machine Learning

Workshops:

- [Introduction to Machine Learning with R](#)
- [Introduction to Machine Learning with the Tidyverse \(rstudio::conf 2020\)](#)

Online book: [An Introduction to Machine Learning with R](#)

Interactive tutorial: [Supervised machine learning case studies in R](#)

# Infographics

Some blog posts

- <https://www.listendata.com/2019/06/create-infographics-with-r.html>
- <http://nandeshwar.info/data-visualization/how-to-create-infographics-in-r/>

Infographiq package: <https://marinebon.org/infographiq/>

BBC Visual and Data Journalism cookbook for R graphics:  
<https://bbc.github.io/rcookbook/>

R for Data Journalism, tutorials for publication quality graphics:  
<https://rddj.info/#publication-quality-graphics>