



# RDA France

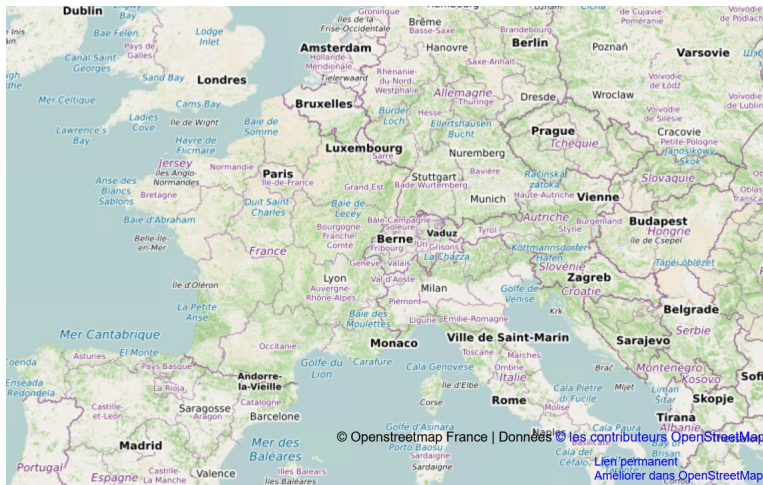
Françoise Genova, RDA France - Observatoire  
Astronomique de Strasbourg

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# National context

# A few facts about France

- › Population ([Jan. 2024, INSEE](#)): 68,373,433
- › Surface: 643 801 km<sup>2</sup>
- › Language: French
- › Member of the European Union
  - › Founding member of the European Community (1957)
- › Organised in Regions but a centralised country



<https://osm.org/copyright>



File:Carte TGV.svg

High-speed train  
map in 2017

# Academic/research system

- Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche (MESR – Ministry of Higher Education and Research)
- [Higher Education](#)
  - 72 universities
  - 3500+ higher education institutions (HEI)
  - Incl. Grandes Ecoles
    - Polytechnique, Ecoles Normales Supérieures, Centrale, etc.
- National Research Performing Organisations
  - CNRS, INRAE, INSERM, IRD, etc – joint labs and activities with HEIs
- [Agence Nationale de la Recherche \(ANR\)](#)
  - The agency funds project-based research carried out by public operators cooperating with each other or with private companies.
- Funding along strategic goals
  - [France 2030](#)
  - New! Agences de Programme
- New! Agences de Programme
  - RPOs in charge of specific domains
- Researchers and research support staff in public and nonprofit sectors: 187 830 in 2020
- [l'Etat de l'Enseignement Supérieur, de la Recherche et de l'Innovation 2023](#)

# Open Science in France



## Open Science is among the ministerial priorities

- › <https://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/fr/science-ouverte-50360>
- › <https://www.ouvri.lascience.fr/accueil/>

## 2016: Law for the Digital Republic

- › Promote openness and circulation of data and knowledge

## National Plans for Open Science

### 2018

- › Generalise open access to publication
- › Structure research data and make it available through open access
- › Be part of a sustainable European and international open Science dynamic

### 2021

- › Generalising open access to publications
- › Structuring, sharing and opening up open data
- › Opening up and promoting source code produced by research
- › Transforming practices to make open science the default principle

## Open Science Policies and Plans are also defined at the level of Universities and Research Organisations

- › E.g. [CNRS Roadmap for Open Science](#) (2019), [CNRS Research Data Plan](#) (2020)

## › At the national level

- › Ministry
- › Universities and Research Performing Organisations
- › Agence Nationale de la Recherche
- › [National Fund for Open Science](#)
- › [Committee for Open Science](#)
  - › Collège Données (Data), Collège Europe & International, etc.

## › At the European level

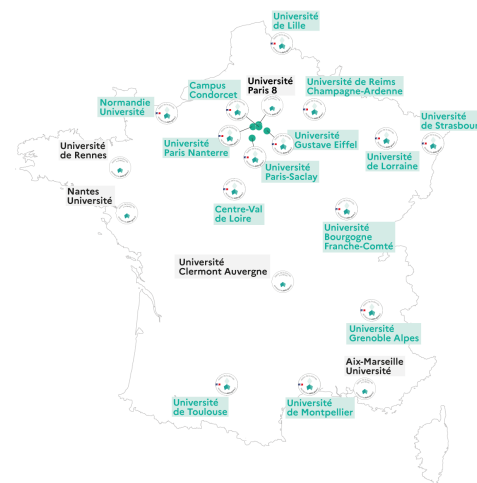
- › European Commission (EC)
  - › EOSC-related projects
- › University Alliances

## › At the international level

- › G7
- › OCDE
- › UNESCO
- › [CoNOSC](#) Council for National Open Science Coordination
- › COARA, RDA, etc

# Three examples

- Thematic infrastructures providing research data services have been included in the national research infrastructure strategy since its first inception in 2008. [2021 Roadmap](#)
- On-going implementation of [Recherche Data Gouv](#)
  - An ecosystem for sharing and opening data
    - Data management clusters
    - Thematic reference centres
    - Resource centres
    - Institutional reference centres
    - A repository to deposit and disseminate data
    - A registry to search for data published in the repository itself or other external repositories (in development)
- Participation in CoARA
  - 51 members based in France (Universities, RPOs, agencies)
  - [National Chapter](#)



# RDA France




# History

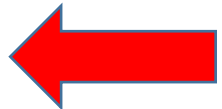
- CNRS was a member of the 3 first projects funded by EC in support to RDA through Strasbourg Astronomical Observatory
  - At the national level a few meetings and a mailing list to disseminate information
  - [Sixth RDA Plenary](#) in Paris in September 2015
- RDA France was one of the 9 initial national nodes established by the [RDA Europe 4.0](#) project in 2018
  - [Web site](#) among RDA National Groups
- Support to RDA and its national chapter RDA France from the National Fund for Open Science since 2019
- RDA France remained hosted by CNRS after the end of RDA Europe 4.0

# Support to RDA France in the PNSOs

## Structure

- Generalise the implementation of data management plans in calls for research projects.
- Develop subject-based and discipline-specific data repositories.
- Create a simple generic data hosting and dissemination service.
- Implement a certification process for data infrastructures. 

## Organise

- Support the **Research Data Alliance** (RDA) and found the French chapter of the organisation (RDA France). 
- Support **Software Heritage**, the source code library.

PNSO1

France will continue to provide support for the Research Data Alliance (RDA), an international network that defines best practices in the domain of research data.

PNSO2

RDA also cited in the chapter about open source software

# In PNSO1 assessment



# RDA France priorities

- High level priorities
  - Support to the national Open Science goals and priorities
  - Support RDA Global
  
- Started at RDA France inception
  - Encourage more people and organisations to join RDA and participate in its activities
  - Acculturate the French academic community to the data aspects of Open Science
  - Encourage co-operation between researchers, STI professionals and computer engineers
  - Support to certification of data repositories

# RDA France activities

- Dissemination of information about RDA and RDA France activities
  - General and topical mailing lists (1000+ recipients)
  - General mailing lists
    - RDA in France mailing list & the “historical” national mailing list
    - The historical list provides a first step before joining RDA
- Meetings organised by RDA France
  - Workshops and webinars
  - Annual meeting: Plenary Day and workshops, webinars
- Working Groups on specific topics
- Additional dissemination activities
  - On demand participation in meetings to present the RDA in general or specific aspects
  - University courses
  - [Translation](#) of *RDA in a Nutshell* in French

# The *Journées RDA France 2023*

- 6th Annual meeting, virtual, 9-13 October 2023
- Plenary day 12 October
  - Presentations by Ministry and CNRS representatives
  - Presentation from Hilary Hanahoe (RDA Global) and Françoise Genova (RDA France)
  - Presentation and discussion of activities of RDA France and its community, in particular those in support to national open science priorities
- Webinar: National projects on research data
- Workshops
  - Data policies of research entities
  - Data Management Plans: Good practices, with INIST
  - New features of DMP OPIDOR, with INIST
  - Workshop on Data Repository Certification
  - How to participate in RDA

<https://rdafrance2023.sciencesconf.org/>

# Other meetings organised in 2023-2024

## › RDA France Meetings

- › [How to participate in RDA](#), 31 janvier et 2 février
- › [Webinar on Data Policies of Research Entities](#), 26 mai

## › Meetings organised with RDA Global

- › In the RDA 10th Anniversary framework
  - › Focus on data repository certification
  - › Two workshops
    - › [Atelier en français sur la certification des entrepôts de données](#), 30 May
    - › [Regional Support to Certification of Data Repositories](#), 21 November
- › This workshop!

# Topical RDA France activities (1)

- Working Group on Certification of Data Repositories, jointly with the Data College of the Open Science Committee
  - Certification is included in the National Plan for Open Science
    - [2018](#): “Implement a certification process for data infrastructures”
    - [2022](#): “Continue the certification process (*CoreTrustSeal*) for data repositories”
  - Mailing list, 192 recipients (Jan. 2024)
  - 11 « Beginners » workshops, 300+ participants
  - Support to CoreTrustSeal administrative fees
  - Visualisation tool of certification applications [CRUSOE](#)
  - Starting: Networking of repositories certified or « on the way to certification »

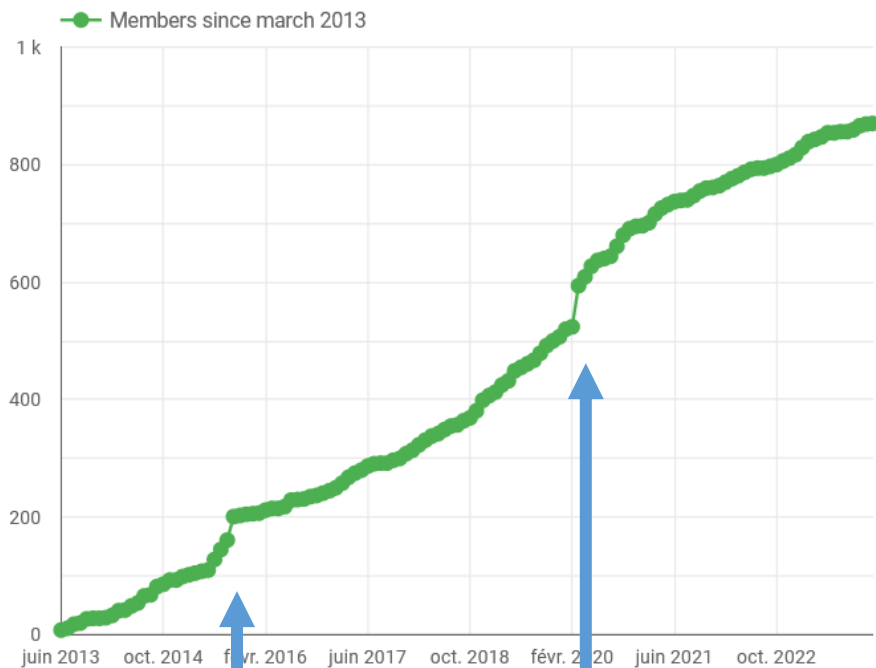
<https://www.ouvrirlascience.fr/certification-des-entrepots-et-services-de-donnees/>



# Topical RDA France activities (2)

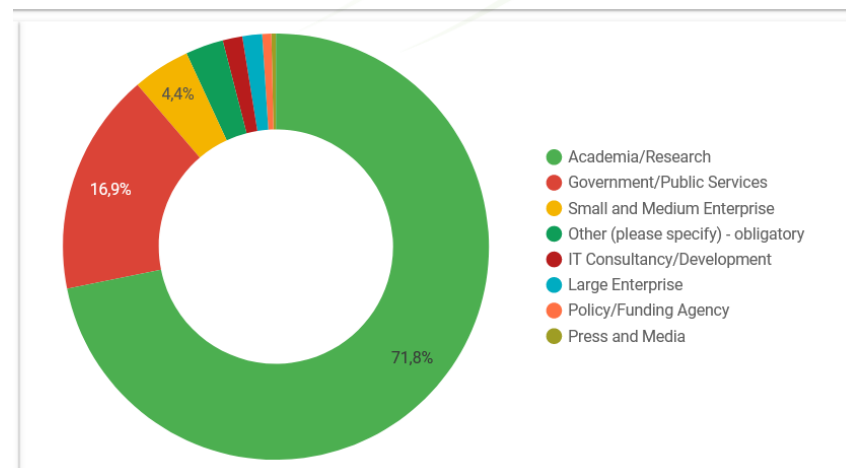
- › RDA France FAIR mailing list
  - › [Monthly information letter](#) led by S. Aubin (INRAE)
  - › 300 recipients (Jan. 2024)
- › Working Group on Disciplinary Data Management Plans
  - › Suggested by the community
  - › Started in June 2023
  - › About 40 participants
  - › Active participation of colleagues who manage the [DMP OPIDOR](#) tool
  - › Constitution of a corpus gathering “good examples” in different disciplinary fields
- › Workshop How to Bring Researchers to DMPs, 18 and 25 March 2022
  - › [Blog](#) on RDA web site (in French)
  - › Document gathering participants’ contributions (in French)  
DOI: [10.18167/agritrop/00587](https://doi.org/10.18167/agritrop/00587)

# Individual RDA membership



Paris  
RDA Plenary

RDA  
COVID-19  
WG



# Organisational RDA membership

- Currently 6 organisational members from France
  - CNRS, Université Grenoble-Alpes, *INRAE*, *Université Paris Nanterre*, Université de Lorraine, Université de Strasbourg
- Increasing the number of organisational members is a priority
  - <https://www.rd-alliance.org/la-rda-et-les-organisations-de-recherche-octobre-2021>

# Relationship with RDA Global

- › Support to RDA Global – Partnership agreement
  - › RDA France is a member of RAB, current co-chair
- › Community members involved as members and co-chairs in RDA bodies (RAB, TAB) and Groups
- › Support to participation in RDA Plenaries since 2020 (registration fees)
- › Support to BoF proposals on national priorities

# RDA France impact in the national context

- Support to the national Open Science priorities
  - Scientific data sharing is a pillar of Open Science
  - Not as well known and understood as open access to publication
- At the core of RDA mission
- Acculturation of the French academic community to the data aspects of Open Science
  - Support people in finding the information they need
    - Regular dissemination of information
    - Regular “How to participate in RDA” workshops
    - Support organised for Plenary participants
  - Respond as well as possible to community requests
  - Important in particular for the people who are involved in the Data Management Clusters of Recherche Data Gouv but also for the community at large
    - Well established liaison
    - To be developed by identifying explicitly Groups to which participation should be encouraged
- Significant participation in the RDA work on software (colleagues from Software Heritage)

# RDA France mechanisms

- › Liaison with the national context
  - › Open Science
  - › Digital Services & Infrastructure
- › RDA France is built as a community
  - › Respond as well as possible to the community needs
- › Liaison with RDA
  - › Regional Advisory Board/Regional Assembly
- › In practice
  - › Mailing lists
  - › “Annual RDA France Week” & Workshops
    - › Regular “How to participate in RDA” meetings
  - › Topical activities
  - › Support to participation in RDA Plenaries
  - › On demand participation to meetings

# Priority topics

- › Many topics tackled by the RDA are found in the National Plan for Open Science
- › RDA enables internationalising the discussion and joining/building an international network
- › Well in line with the 2024-2028 RDA Strategic Plan: *Globalise, Sustain, Empower, Innovate*
- › A few topics among many
  - › Certification of data repositories
  - › National Data Services – re-starting the National Data Services IG would be useful
  - › Evaluation of Research, in liaison in particular with CoARA
  - › Software in the Open Science, with RDA and ReSA

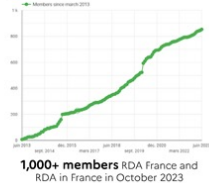
## RDA FRANCE ACTIVITIES AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NATIONAL PLAN FOR OPEN SCIENCE

**March 2018**  
Creation of the French RDA Node

**September 2019**  
Financial support from the French National Fund for Open Science



Figure: Evolution of RDA French members since March 2013



### RDA FRANCE ACTIVITIES

LIAISON WITH RDA GLOBAL	LEADING THE FRENCH MEMBER COMMUNITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financial support to RDA Global</li> <li>RDA Regional Advisory Board Co-chairpersonship</li> <li>Support to RDA French community for participating in RDA Global activities</li> <li>RDA en Bref « Translation of "RDA in a Nutshell" »</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organisation of annual meetings since 2018</li> <li>Workshops, webinars, University courses How to participate in the RDA Data Policies of Research Entities And more...</li> <li>Promotion of CoreTrustSeal Certification 10+ workshops</li> <li>RDA France FAIR newsletters</li> <li>Working group on disciplinary DMPs</li> </ul>

### RDA FRANCE SUPPORTING THE FRENCH OPEN SCIENCE STRATEGY

RDA France **supports** its very diverse community **acculturate** to the data aspects of Open Science, fully in line with the objectives of the **National Plan for Open Science**

<p><b>FIRST NATIONAL PLAN FOR OPEN SCIENCE 2018-2021</b></p> <p>"Support the Research Data Alliance (RDA) and found the French chapter of the organisation (RDA France)"</p>	<p><b>RDA FRANCE &amp; THE FRENCH COMMITTEE FOR OPEN SCIENCE</b></p> <p><b>Open Science!</b></p> <p>Working group "Certification of data repositories and services" Steering activities linked to certification for "trusted" data repositories and services at the national level</p>
<p><b>SECOND FRENCH PLAN FOR OPEN SCIENCE 2021-2024</b></p> <p>"France will continue to provide support for the Research Data Alliance (RDA), an international network that defines best practices in the domain of research data"</p>	<p><b>Internationalise</b> topics addressed by the national Committee for Open Science by bringing them to the RDA</p>



## [RDA France Poster, RDA P21](#)

➤ RDA France web page

<https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rda-france>

➤ To receive RDA France messages

<https://listes.services.cnrs.fr/wws/subscribe/rda-france>

or join the RDA in France Group!

➤ To contact RDA France

[contact-rdafrance@services.cnrs.fr](mailto:contact-rdafrance@services.cnrs.fr)