International Coordination of ~~eResearch~~ ~~Cyber-~~ Data-Infrastructure

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Challenges

- National funding for infrastructure

- International disciplines

- Highly variable levels and kinds of infrastructure by country

- Highly variable levels and kinds of practice by discipline

- Communities still constrained by old ways of working
  - and culture eats technology for breakfast (Drucker)

- It takes a planet to maintain a codebase

Responses

- Cohere and Collaborate rather than Create
  - so we need to work out how to engineer coherence on top of existing systems and practices
- Involve research champions who can articulate their community's requirements, and promote project outcomes
- Focus effort on bridging the gaps
- Existing common toolkits let you focus on the missing 10% of functionality
  - So don't start from scratch
  - But also don't leech

Case Studies

- **Research Data Alliance**
  - bottom-up activity
  - top-down co-ordination
  - middle-out support
  - social and technical bridges
  - increasing interaction between disciplines and technologists
- **Belmont Forum**
  - research funders, concerned about data being produced by funded enviro projects
  - facilitated process to develop approach
  - result:
    - agreed principles for data management
    - data planning and stewardship requirements for grantees
    - best practices for e-infrastructure policy, including roadmap
    - development of cross-disciplinary training program