Research Data Alliance Organisational Membership

June 2023

About the Research Data Alliance

Established in 2013, the RDA is a global, consensus-based, community-driven organisation of over:

- 13,500 individuals
- 77 organisational members
- 35 regional networks from 151 countries,

whose mission is to provide a platform to drive innovation surrounding data sharing and interoperability. The RDA enables data to be shared and re-used across geographical, technological and disciplinary boundaries, through outputs and recommendations developed by groups and volunteer experts from around the world, drawn from academia, the private sector, and government. To date over 100 Recommendations and Outputs have been developed and are openly available for implementation by all.

Organisations play a fundamental role in the RDA community

While the RDA is a member-driven organisation, its work is supported by a range of institutions around the world that make up the RDA Organisational Assembly. These institutions play an important role in guiding the work of the RDA and disseminating its outputs.

Why your organisation should join as a member

The RDA is a vehicle for your organisation to:

- Help incorporate best practices, guidelines and solutions for research data management, FAIR and Open Science
- Address current and new Open Science and data challenges, especially those that require international collaboration

As an Organisational Member you can:

- Bring your organisation’s perspective on and priorities for Open Science to the global data professional community
- Influence the direction of the RDA through participation, providing feedback to new community activities, and reviewing recommendations
- Adopt and implement open, global data solutions for research data management, FAIR and Open Science

RDA Organisational Member Benefits

- Exclusive visibility and speaking opportunities at RDA bi-annual plenary meetings (both Birds of a Feather (BoF) sessions and panel discussions)
- Receiving regular updates on the work of the RDA, including special presentations on outputs and adoption of RDA outputs during monthly meetings making it easier to follow progress
- Providing organisational perspective to the RDA Council through the Organisational Advisory Board

research data sharing without barriers
How do organisations interact within the RDA?

**Organisational Members** are the adopters and drivers of the RDA, providing organisational insight and vision to the community. It is a key element in RDA’s funding model, ensuring sustainability, and free membership for all individuals - a vital characteristic for equitable participation. The RDA has 65 Organisational Members and 12 Affiliate members. The complete list is available on the website. All organisations that become RDA Organisational or Affiliate Members, join the Organisational Assembly (OA) which meets monthly by teleconference.

The **RDA Organisational Advisory Board (OAB)**, a sub-committee of the OA, represents Organisational and Affiliate Members within the governance structure of the RDA.

**Organisational Members include all stakeholders, i.e.**

- Corporations/Enterprises
- Universities
- Research and development agencies
- Non-profit foundations and/or community organizations
- Professional societies / associations
- Libraries
- Consultancy firms
- Funders
- Other types of organisations not listed above that have an interest in furthering the goal of the RDA and intend to adopt RDA’s infrastructure solutions.

How does my organisation join and how much does it cost?

Complete the **application forms** on the RDA web site. Organisations can apply via the Membership Application form (default) or the Subscription one (for Libraries or other organisations for which it is easier to pay subscriptions). Fees are annual and are pro-rated for the quarter in which they sign the organisational membership agreement (i.e. submit the on-line application form). If you are interested in joining, but you do not yet have the budget arranged to support membership, please reach out to the RDA Secretary General, Hilary Hanahoe (hilaryhanahoe@rda-foundation.org). There are several programmes available to ensure equitable participation in the OA.
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*FTE – Full Time Employees  
HIC – High Income Countries | LMIC – Low and Middle Income Countries – as defined by World Bank  
FP - For profit | NFP Not for-profit

For further information visit the OA-OAB page (public), or contact enquiries[at]rd-alliance.org.

**Research Data Alliance Guiding Principles:**
- Openness
- Community-driven
- Inclusivity
- Consensus-based
- Harmonisation
- Not-for-profit & technology neutral