Community cross-fertilisation within the RDA: Brainstorming international challenges, solutions and initiatives

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Research Data Alliance (RDA) Roundtable
Science Summit at United Nations General Assembly
Friday, 15 September 2023

Image by Ralph from Pixabay
Agenda...

- The RDA community & groups
- Cross-fertilisation: What is it?
- The RDA’s community cross-fertilisation efforts
  - A Decade of Data: The RDA’s 10th Anniversary
  - Community cross-fertilisation workshops
- Public-private partnerships for the future
The RDA Community

Consensus based

Community-driven

13,500+ international experts

80 organisational & affiliate members

Global

75+ flagship recommendations & outputs

100+ community groups

150+ countries

150+ countries

Vision

Researchers and innovators openly share and re-use data across technologies, disciplines, and countries to address the grand challenges of society.

Mission

RDA builds the social and technical bridges that enable open sharing and re-use of data.

Guiding principles

- Openness
- Consensus
- Inclusivity
- Harmonisation
- Community-driven
- Non-profit & technology neutral

rd-alliance.org  @resdatall  @ConnieEClare
The heart of the RDA: **Community groups**

Grass-roots, bottom-up, organic creation to address global challenges

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Working Groups</strong></th>
<th><strong>Interest Groups</strong></th>
<th><strong>Communities of Practice</strong></th>
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| ● Develop & implement **tools, policy, practices & products** for data that are adopted & used by projects, organisations, & communities.  
● Life span: 12-18 months | ● Focus on solving a specific **data sharing problem** and identifying what kind of infrastructure needs to be built.  
● Life span: As long as group is active. | ● **Domain/disciplinary focus**, coordination and awareness raising role - ‘umbrella group’  
● Life span: as long as CoP is active (review every 18 months)  
● 1 CoP on Agricultural Data |

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Concrete deliverables - “Running code”, tools, standards, etc.  

**OUTPUT:** Best practices, guidelines, emergence of new working groups (WGs), etc.  

**OUTPUT:** New WGs & IGs, bridge building across the RDA and externally.
100+ different groups covering various Open Research and Research Data Management themes
‘Community cross-fertilisation’: What is it?

Stimulates the development of new ideas and projects.

Provides opportunities for learning, knowledge and best practice exchange.

Information flows in multiple directions - members, organisations, technologies, regions, domains.

COMMUNITY

People with a shared purpose come together to achieve goals and tasks they would not be able to do on their own.

Members expand their network and foster meaningful connections.

Reduces siloed efforts and increases harmonisation across borders.

Members expand their network and foster meaningful connections.

Enables effective collaboration and cooperation towards Open Research and Open Data.

Adapted from cscce.org
The RDA’s community cross-fertilisation efforts
A Decade of Data: 10 months to celebrate 10 years of the RDA

50+ international and regional events on global RDM challenges.  
📅 See the event schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>February</td>
<td>FAIR Data, Software and Hardware</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Research Data Policy</td>
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<td>March</td>
<td>RDA’s 20th Plenary</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>Disciplinary Data</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>Health and Medical Data</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>Sustainable Development and Responsible Research</td>
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<td>May</td>
<td>Metadata and Technical Infrastructure</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>RDA’s 21st Plenary Part of IDW2023</td>
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<td>June</td>
<td>Agriculture and Environmental Data</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>RDM support and education</td>
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1. To reflect on the **past**, **present** and **future** of the RDA.

1. To reinforce our **mission**, **vision** and **guiding principles**.

1. To **recognise** our community’s **members**, **partners** and **funders**.

1. To **celebrate** the community’s **successes**

1. Promote **cross-fertilisation**!
Community cross-fertilisation workshops

Harnessing the power of community groups to brainstorm global challenges, solutions and initiatives

- Aligned with 10th Anniversary schedule
- Virtual workshop each month
- RDA Working groups, Interest groups and Communities of Practice together
- Explore global solutions to local challenges

1. What are the main challenges that should be addressed within the theme over the next two years?
2. How can the RDA community groups address these challenges over the next two years?
3. What initiatives and/or communities could the RDA community implement or collaborate with to advance the theme?

🚀 Read more about the workshops
Workshop summaries

2-3 page document highlighting challenges, solutions, initiatives, and actions for the RDA.

See the workshop summaries

Summary coming soon...

- RDA for Disciplinary Data (August)

- There is a lack of suitable policy, tools, guidelines, training, funding, and incentives enabling non-traditional outputs to be stored and rewarded in tiered-constrained research assessment contexts.

Disciplinary challenges

- Identification of meaningful qualitative criteria (beyond bibliometrics) is needed to enable research impact assessment. This may add a burden on researchers and evaluators when qualitatively assessing outputs.

- Consideration of discipline-specific maturity assessment is needed.

- A common understanding across all disciplines of the meaning of open science is lacking.
Common challenges

1. **FAIR data and software creation**
   - Metadata standards and ontologies

1. **Ethical considerations**
   - Personal or commercially sensitive data, consent, anonymisation, security and privacy, AI, data exploitation, democratising data

1. **Social and cultural barriers**
   - Training and education, raising awareness, incentivisation and adoption
Sustainable Development & Responsible Research

Community Cross-fertilisation Workshop:
RDA for UN SDG 17: Capacity building, data sharing, infrastructure and development
26 September 2023
08:30 – 10:00 UTC

- RDA for the Sustainable Development Goals IG
- Data for Development IG
- RDA / CODATA Data Systems, Tools, and Services for Crisis Situations WG
- Artificial Intelligence and Data Visitation (AIDV) WG

Register to attend

https://sdgs.un.org/goals
Collaboration with Oracle for Research

- **Public-private partnership model**
  - Two WGs facilitated by the RDA (12 months)
  - Outputs owned by the RDA community
  - Supported by Oracle for Research

- RDA’s strategic plan 2024-2028
- Professional facilitation to support global volunteer effort
- Accelerate data-driven developments

Categorisation schema of types of research tools by research data lifecycle.

Read more

Landscape analysis of widely used -omics community standards and best practices.

Read more
Thank you

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RDA Global Community
13,500+ VOLUNTEER DATA PROFESSIONALS
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