

Research Data Alliance (RDA) workshop for South Eastern European (SEE), Mediterranean and Caucasus region

Thursday, 25 June, 2015, 9:00-17:00
Divani Caravel Hotel, Horizon room (roof floor)

Title of the Workshop: “Engagement in RDA from Southern-Eastern Europe, Mediterranean and Caucasus region”

The main objective of the RDA SEE workshop is on one hand to present the RDA initiative, its main activities and working groups along with their initial outputs and on the other hand investigate the engagement of groups from the South Eastern Europe region in RDA. In particular, regional teams working in the area of data management and stewardship and big data, either already involved in RDA groups or not, will present their activities in an effort to propose/feed new ideas for existing or new RDA groups or if possible adopt existing RDA outputs. The outcome of the presentations and the related discussions may come up with input for a rough landscaping analysis of existing interests in the region. Given the high number of computer scientists and in particular of computer science researchers in the region, it will be attempted to exploit such potential and link existing efforts with RDA. Finally, the workshop will investigate the development of national and/or regional RDA initiatives, getting together universities, research centres or even SMEs with interest and expertise in the area, which can act as nuclei for the RDA initiative feeding people, ideas and skills in the RDA activities.

9:00 – 10:30

Session 1- Welcome addresses and RDA invited presentations - keynote

Objective: Welcome and present the main activities of RDA along with its initial outputs.

09:00	Yannis Ioannidis, ATHENA Research Center and University of Athens – Session Chair	Welcome address; Goals of the workshop
09:10	Representative from the Greek Ministry of Education/General Secretariat for Research and Technology (tbc)	Welcome address
09:20	Mark Parsons, RDA Secretary General	Keynote: RDA Global Activities – Building social and technical bridges that enable open data sharing across technologies, disciplines and regions
09:50	Mark Parsons, RDA Secretary General	RDA Working Groups, clustering and initial outputs
10:15	Session Chair	Questions & Answers- Discussion

10:30 - 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:15

Session 2: Regional involvement in RDA activities and potential interest in the adoption of RDA initial outputs

Objective: Present regional involvement in RDA working groups, along with new ideas that can feed in existing or new RDA groups, along with potential interest in the adoption of initial RDA outputs.

(10 minutes presentations on the involvement and/or 5 minutes on new ideas and adoption perspectives)

11:00	Vassilis Protonotarios, Agroknow Technologies	Supporting open data & open models in the agri-food sector: The experience from two RDA groups: Agriculture Data IG & Wheat Data Interoperability WG
11:15	Natalia Manola, Athena Research Center and University of Athens	RDA/WDS Publishing Data Services WG
11:30	Dimitris Gavrilis, Athena Research Center	Data Description Registry Interoperability (DDRI) WG
11:45	Session Chair	Open discussion – Other involvement from the region and potential adoption

12:00 – 13:00 & 14:00 – 15:15

Session 3: Regional activities related to research data and big data

Objective: Present concrete regional activities related to RDA including National, Regional or Pan-European Research Infrastructures with data management needs (e-Infrastructure, ESFRI or other RI projects). The key objective via this session presentations is to investigate new opportunities for data sharing. Thus, the focus should NOT be on the technologies and research themselves, but rather on the problems that can be addressed and the solutions that can contribute to data sharing and interoperability.

12:00	Helen Katsiadakis, Academy of Athens and Panos Constantopoulos, Athens University of Economics and Business & ATHENA Research Centre	DARIAH-GR / ΔΥΑΣ : The Greek National Digital Research Infrastructure for the Humanities
12:15	Irini Fundulaki, Information Systems Laboratory, Institute of Computer Science, FORTH and the Head of the W3C Greece Office	Pushing the Limits of Instance Matching Systems: A Semantics-Aware Benchmark for Linked Data
12:30	Christos Arvantidis, Institute of Marine Biology and Genetics, Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR)	Research Data from Marine Biology and Genetics
12:45	Session Chair	Questions & Answers

13:00 – 14:00 Light Lunch Break

14:00	George Potamias, Costas Marias and Manolis Tsiknakis, Computational BioMedicine Laboratory (CBML), Institute of Computer Science (ICS), Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH)	Secondary Use of Electronic Health Data: Technological, Ethical and Legal Considerations
14:15	Zohar Ben-Asher, EuCRF European Centre for Research & Financing, Israel (tbc)	Statistical data analysis of collaborative research in internationally funded projects
14:30	Vassilis Christophides, Kostas Stefanidis, Vasilis Efthymiou, Information Systems Laboratory, Institute of Computer Science, FORTH	Resolving Entities in the Web
14:45	Ognjen Prnjat. Greek Research and Technology Network – GRNET	VI-SEEM, a unified Virtual Research Environment for South Eastern Europe and Eastern Mediterranean
15:00		Questions & Answers

15:15 - 15:45 Coffee Break

15:45 - 17:00 Session 3: Panel discussion – Open Discussion and development of national/regional RDA initiatives

Objective: The session will first allow open discussion on the RDA and its involvement. Then it will investigate the development of national and/or regional RDA initiatives, in a way resembling the NREN and NGI ones¹, getting together the major stakeholders in each region including research centres, universities, or even SMEs with interest and expertise in the area. Such stakeholders can act as nuclei for the RDA initiative feeding people, ideas and skills in the RDA activities.

15:45	Panel Chair, introduction	Fotis Karayannis
15:50	Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Parsons, RDA Secretary General • Yannis, Ioannidis, ATHENA RC/RDA Europe representative • Natalia Manola, OpenAIRE representative • Panos Constantopoulos, DARIAH-GR, AUEB and ATHENA RC, ESFRI project representative • Zohar Ben-Asher, EuCRF Israel • Kakha Nadiradze, AFRD, 	Short statement from each panellist on the potential and outlook of RDA in the region based on previous sessions

¹ NREN: National Research Network, NGI: National Grid Initiative

	Georgia	
16:15	Panel discussion Open Discussion and Development of national/regional RDA initiatives	Questions and Answers-Discussion
16:45	Panel Chair and RDA Secretary General	Summary and wrap-up
17:00	Workshop end	

RDA: The Research Data Alliance (RDA) builds the social and technical bridges that enable open sharing of data. The RDA vision is researchers and innovators openly sharing data across technologies, disciplines, and countries to address the grand challenges of society. The current global research data landscape is highly fragmented, by disciplines or by domains, from oceanography, life sciences and health, to agriculture, space and climate. When it comes to cross-disciplinary activities, the notions of "building blocks" of common data infrastructures and building specific "data bridges" are becoming accepted metaphors for approaching the data complexity and enable data sharing. The Research Data Alliance enables data to be shared across barriers through focused Working Groups and Interest Groups, formed of experts from around the world – from academia, industry and government. Participation in RDA is open to anyone who agrees to its guiding principles of openness, consensus, balance, harmonisation, with a community driven and non-profit approach. It was started in 2013 by a core group of interested agencies – the European Commission, the US National Science Foundation and National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the Australian Government's Department of Innovation. Other agencies, countries, companies, associations and institutes are due to join. RDA also has a broad, committed membership of individuals – now 2800+ from 99 countries since RDA was launched in March 2013 - dedicated to improving data exchange. (<https://www.rd-alliance.org/about.html>)