



RESEARCH DATA ALLIANCE

RDA working + interest group activities

RDA Finland Autumn 2017 Meeting

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Generally

- Main activities of the RDA take place in working and interest groups
- Groups are open: Any RDA member may initiate or join a Working or Interest group
- Intensity of the work of groups varies
- Numbers (Aug. 2017):
 - 30 WGs
 - 58 IGs

Working groups

- ”Working Groups are short-term (18 months) and come together to develop and implement data infrastructure, which could be tools, policy, practices and products that are adopted and used by projects, organizations, and communities.”
- Outputs are meaningful: ”Four ICT specifications in the area of research data produced by this initiative are now eligible for referencing in public procurement in the EU”

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/research-data-alliances-outputs-facilitating-public-procurement-europe>

Interest groups

- Interest groups are open-ended
- They focus on solving a specific data sharing problem and identifying what kind of infrastructure needs to be built
- Interest Groups can identify specific pieces of work and start up a Working Group to tackle those

Other groups

- BoFs, birds of feathers
 - At the plenaries
 - The expected outcome from the session would be a decision by the participants to either convert the idea to an IG or a WG, or to retire the idea

Examples

- **WG: Storage Service Definitions**
 - Well-defined terms that describe storage services
 - Terminology and definitions
- **IG: National Data Services**
 - Lightning talks, presentations
 - Country reports
- **BoF: Systems, Technologies and Data Flows**
 - Idea -> Preparing group -> Proposal -> BoF
 - Next steps: IG Charter draft -> Secretariat -> TAB -> Council

- The Basic Vocabulary of Foundational Terminology and Query Tool Recommendation - produced by the Data Foundation and Terminology WG
- The Data Type Model and Registry - published by the Data Type Registries WG
- The Persistent Identifier Type Registry produced by the PID Information Types WG
- The Machine Actionable Policy Templates produced by the Practical Policy WG

<https://www.rd-alliance.org/supporting-public-procurement-europe-4-rda-recommendations-open-data-sharing-now-published-ict>

- Array Database Assessment WG
- Data Type Registries WG & #2
- International Materials Resource Registries WG
- Research Data Collections WG
- Research Data Repository Interoperability WG
- RDA / TDWG Metadata Standards for attribution of physical and digital collections stewardship

Some points

- Some of groups are active also between plenaries
- Some wake up for plenaries
- Global environment, global questions
- Lots of possibilities
- Own activity and contributions

Summary

	Interest Groups	Working Groups	BoFs
Membership	All RDA members can join	All RDA members can join	All RDA members can join
Duration	As long as the group is active	12-18 months	Short-term around a Plenary
Outcomes	Possibly case statements for new WGs, coordination, communication	Concrete deliverables - "Running code", tools, standards, etc.	Convert to IG, convert to WG, or retire BoF
RDA liaisons	1 Tab member, 1 Secretariat member	1-2 TAB members, 1 Secretariat member	1 Secretariat member
Review process	Community review (4+ weeks), then review by TAB (2 weeks) and Council (2 weeks)	Community review (4+ weeks), then review by TAB (4 weeks) and Council (2 weeks)	Review by TAB

<https://www.rd-alliance.org/creating-and-managing-rda-groups.html>

Thank you!

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