The Research Data Alliance: an international, neutral open forum

Offering a rapid, transparent, and synergistic response to COVID-19

Hilary Hanahoe

RDA Secretary General

14 April 2020

Overview

- RDA in a (tiny) nutshell

- Background and organisation
- Aims
- Outputs
- Subgroups
- Structure of Recommendations
- Timeline
- Ways of working

Vision

Researchers and innovators openly share 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** of data.

37 FLAGSHIP OUTPUTS	100+ ADOPTION CASES
including 8 ICT Technical Specifications	across multiple disciplines, organisations & countries

91 GROUPS WORKING ON GLOBAL DATA INTEROPERABILITY CHALLENGES

34 Working Groups
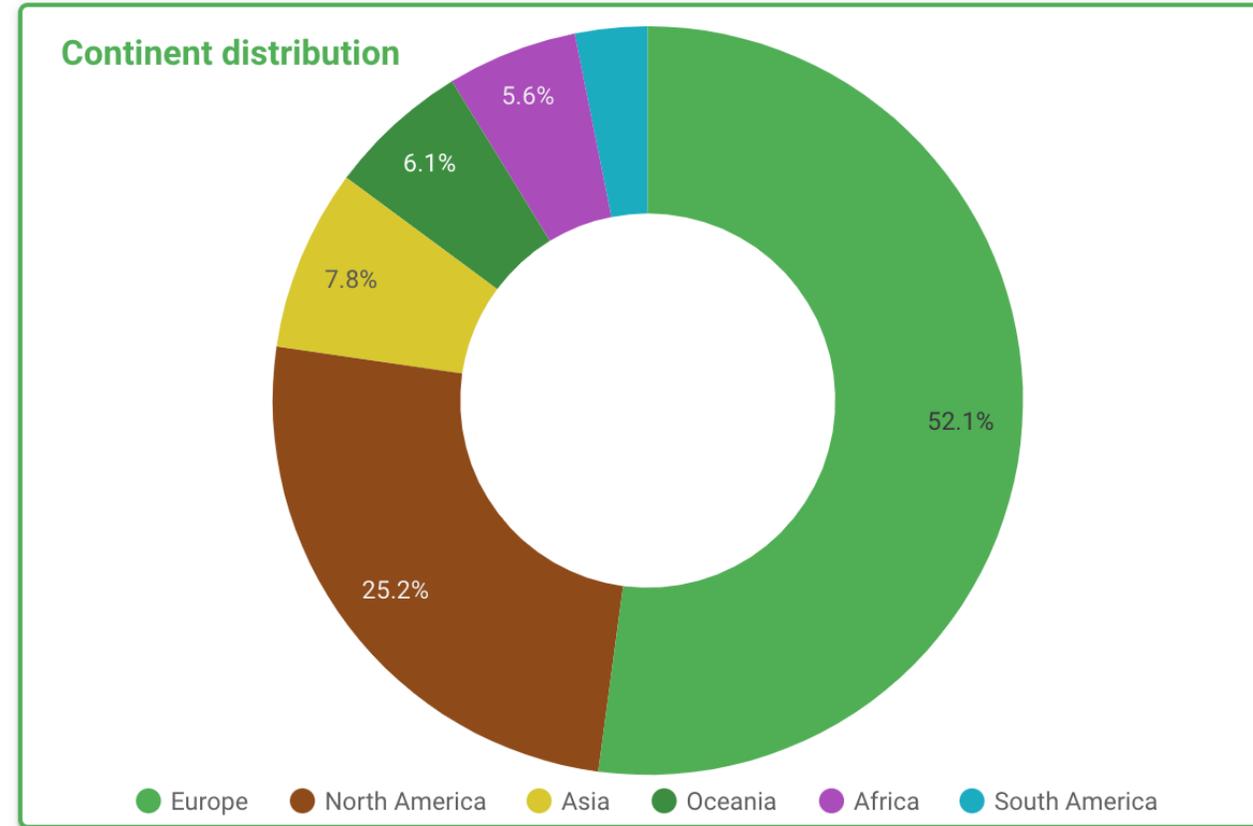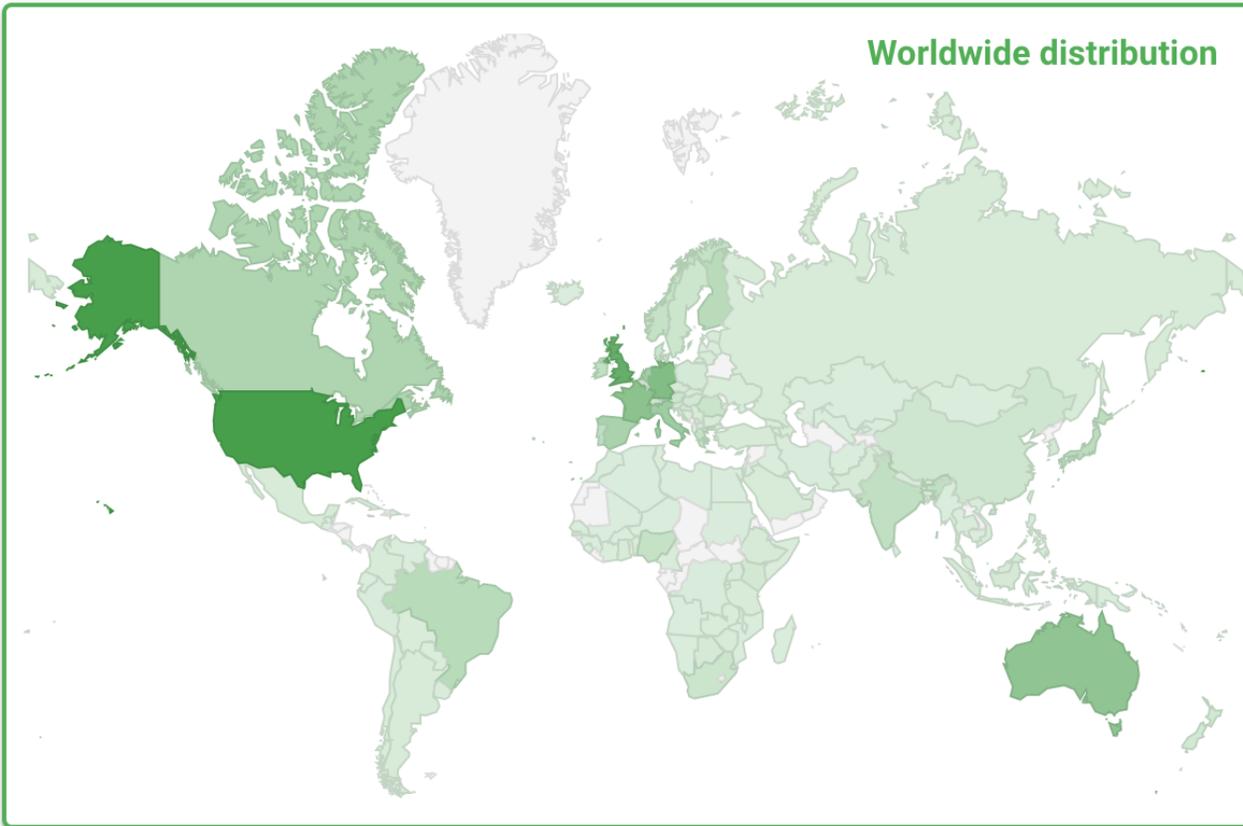57 Interest Groups

10,385 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS FROM 144 COUNTRIES

68% Academia & Research
14% Public Administration
13% Enterprise & Industry

51 ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERS
10 AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Who is RDA – Geographical Distribution

Worldwide distribution

Continent distribution

- Europe — 52.1%
- North America — 25.2%
- Asia — 7.8%
- Oceania — 6.1%
- Africa — 5.6%
- South America

10,385 RDA members from 145 different countries of which 126 Romanian members

The technical heart of RDA ... 91 groups

Working Groups

➤ develop and implement tools, policy, practices & products for data management that are adopted and used by projects, organisations, communities

➤ TIMING: 12-18 MONTHS

➤ TOTAL: 34 Working Groups

RECOMMENDATIONS: Concrete deliverables - "Running code", tools, standards, etc.

Interest Groups

➤ focus on solving a specific data sharing problem and identifying what kind of infrastructure needs to be built.

➤ TIMING: as long as group is active

➤ TOTAL: 57 Interest Groups

OUTPUT: Possibly case statements for new WGs, guidelines, best practice, etc.

RDA Recommendations & Outputs

RECOMMENDATIONS

SUPPORTING OUTPUTS

OTHER OUTPUTS

Equivalent of the "specifications" or "standards" that other organisations create and endorse.

Outputs of RDA WGs and IGs that are fruit of RDA work, but are not necessarily adoptable bridges.

Anything a WG or IG wants to register and report, e.g. workshop reports, articles, survey results, etc.

23 Recommendations

14 Supporting Outputs

of which 8 ICT Technical Specifications

Search for RDA Recommendations and Outputs in the RDA Catalogue: https://www.rd-alliance.org/recommendations-and-outputs/catalogue

The RDA COVID19 Working Group(s)

https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rda-covid19

RDA COVID19 Background context

- European Commission asked RDA to establish a working group to ensure international, neutral and inclusive approach.

- RDA supporting a rapid response / fast track approach e.g. quicker approval of case statement, results in weeks not years.

- Sought international co-chairs with domain expertise and links in national / regional Open Science Commons.

Operating terms & conditions

RDA Guiding Principles:

- Openness
- Consensus
- Balance
- Harmonization
- Community-driven
- Non-profit and technology-neutral

RDA Code of Conduct:

Contributions to RDA, regardless of venue, make RDA stronger and are valued by the RDA community. We ask that as part of the RDA community, you help others feel equally valued and welcomed by treating others with the respect and professionalism with which you would like to be treated. All members of RDA are expected to abide by the core principles initially agreed to upon joining RDA. https://rd-alliance.org/rda-code-conduct-and-how-report-breach

Working group chairs

Anne Cambon-Thomsen
CNRS

Mark Leggott
Research Data Canada

Ingrid Dillo
DANS

Juan Bicarregui
STFC

Priyanka Pillai
University of Melbourne

Sarah Jones
DCC

https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rda-covid19

Working group aims

- To ***define detailed practical guidelines*** on data sharing under the present COVID-19 circumstances to help stakeholders follow best practices to maximize the efficiency and impact of their work.

- To develop guidelines for policymakers to maximise timely data sharing and appropriate responses in such health emergencies e.g. OECD policy brief

Planned WG outputs

- Best practice guidelines per sub-group and overall

- Guidelines to highlight key resources (e.g. key datasets, standards, tools, repositories etc)

- A decision tree tool to facilitate navigation to specific resources by different stakeholders

- Recommendations for researchers and policymakers to help maximise data sharing

Five COVID-19 WG sub-groups

Template for guidelines

- **Scope:** A description of the area explaining what fields of study are in scope and out of scope

- **Resources**: An annotated list of available resources for the area, including:
  - Guidelines
  - Research resources such as data, articles, software, compute
  - Contacts

- **Recommendations**: A short summary of recommendations.
  - Data collections
  - Documentation, standards and data quality
  - Storage and backup
  - Legal and ethical requirements
  - Data sharing and long-term preservation
  - Data management responsibilities and resources

Propose to structure recommendations according to Science Europe core requirements for DMPs

- [**Possible structure of Recommendations**](#) (to be revised by SGs and Moderators)
  - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BqHrWfv__Jzr2YbuNaxIkW--4P9mMO1hwicmLqGMlmQ

Template for resources catalogue

Work in Progress: suggestions for structure [HERE](#)

- Name of the resource (Limited length text field)
- Description (Limited length text field)
- Creator/owner of the resource
- Publication date (if applicable)
- Resource type dataset, publication, guideline, policy, le i
- Language e.g. en, fr
- URL / Persistent Identifier
- Access / license e.g. open, CC-BY, MIT etc
- Other
- Relevant sub-group(s): omics, clinical, epi, social, community pa ipati

Mandatory = Green

[Submit resources here](#)

Tentative timeline - an iterative approach

- **Approach**
  - Release first version ASAP and then continuous revision
  - Much parallel working to condense timescale

- **7-10 April**
  - Group solidification (7-9 Apr)
  - Collection of lists of resources (7-21 Apr)

- **14-21 April**
  - Collection of initial text in guidelines and recommendations (14-21 Apr)
  - Iterative cleaning and updating of resources (14-21 Apr)

- **21- 24 April**
  - Review and revise guidelines and recommendations (21-24 Apr)

- **First release (24 April)**
  - Continuous expansion and revision - releases 1st May, 8 May, …

RDA-COVID19 clinical sub-group

RDA COVID19 UMBRELLA GROUP WEB PAGES	https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rda-covid19
RDA COVID19 CASE STATEMENT	https://www.rd-alliance.org/node/68704/case-statement
RDA COVID19 EVENTS (WEBINAR DETAILS)	https://www.rd-alliance.org/node/68704/events
RDA COVID19 WORKING & SUB-GROUP ORGANIZATION	https://www.rd-alliance.org/group/rda-covid19/wiki/working-sub-group-organization
RDA COVID19 *CLINICAL SUBGROUP WEB PAGES*	https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rda-covid19-clinical
RDA COVID19 *CLINICAL SUBGROUP GOOGLE FOLDER*	https://drive.google.com/open?id=1dLAL7aNU3TVYWk5UtryiHfLpyzf3mPF7

Clinical Sub-group Moderators

Clinical Sub-group Co-chair

Anne Cambon-Thomsen
CNRS

Clinical
Andrea Jackson-Dipina, NIH
Sergio Bonini, CNR
& Dawei Lin, NIH

RDA-COVID19 epidemiology sub-group

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RDA COVID19 EPIDEMIOLOGY SUBGROUP WEB PAGES	https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rda-covid19-epidemiology
RDA COVID19 EPIDEMIOLOGY SUBGROUP GOOGLE FOLDER	https://drive.google.com/open?id=1stqNiqIWWMPcwY6lc1krvWT0YuzAdX2L

Epidemiology Sub-group Moderators

Epidemiology Sub-group Co-chair

Priyanka Pillai
University of Melbourne

Epidemiology
Claire Austin, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Gabriel Turinici, University Paris Dauphine

Epidemiology Progress to date

- Work plan

April 7-21:	Collect and organize resources and references
April 14-21:	Write guidelines and recommendations
April 21-24:	Review guidelines and recommendations
Deadlines:	**April 24 (1ˢᵗ release)**, May 1 (2ⁿᵈ release), May 8: (3ʳᵈ release)

- Work tools

  o [Readme first](#)

  o [Google drive](#)

  o Zotero Web Library (RDA-COVID19 EPIDEMIOLOGY)

    ▪ [Resources and references database](#)

    ▪ → [Set up a free account](#)

Epidemiology Progress to date

- Work planning
  - Scope of work (see meeting notes in the scope of work document).
  - Brainstorming document (use the brainstorming document for longer comments/discussions)
  - Tasking and work log

- Members
  - Membership roster → Please verify the entry under your name.
  - SurveyMonkey membership survey (password: *washyourhands*)
  - → Optional: Timesheet, *if you need to log your time for your employer or for some other reason.*

- Meeting schedule Mon, Wed, Fri: 12:30pm UTC
  - (5:30 AM California, 8:30 AM Montreal, 2:30 PM France, 10:30 PM Sydney, Australia) - April 13, 15, 17, 20, 22, 24, 27, 29, May 1

RDA-COVID19 omics sub-group

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RDA COVID19 OMICS SUBGROUP WEB PAGES	https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rda-covid19-omics
RDA COVID19 OMICS SUBGROUP GOOGLE FOLDER	https://drive.google.com/open?id=1bHzfxQLlMdsJtrbl_ZeoSeNZUnY0r2o1

Omics Sub-group Moderators

Omics Sub-group Co-chair

Juan Bicarregui
STFC

Omics
Rob Hooft, DTL &
Natalie Meyers, Uni of Notre Dame

1. A set of guideline documents, highlighting the primary data [and software/code] sharing resources in Omics research, addressing different data types and cross-cutting themes.
2. Resource [data and software/code] List(s) in Omics.
3. A Decision Tree tool to facilitate navigation to specific Omics Resources.

First meeting(s) TBA:

Contact Omics Sub-group

Group Mail list /forum: rda-covid19-omics@rda-groups.org

Contact Omics Sub-group Moderators

Rob Hooft: rob.hooft@dtls.nl | @rwwh
Natalie Meyers: natalie.meyers@nd.edu | @nkmeyers

RDA-COVID19 social sub-group

RDA COVID19 UMBRELLA GROUP WEB PAGES	**https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rda-covid19**
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RDA COVID19 SOCIAL SUBGROUP WEB PAGES	**https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rda-covid19-social-sciences**
RDA COVID19 SOCIAL SUBGROUP GOOGLE FOLDER	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/10OAa-KnETZswHP9FiLZlIZZfHVNfd9Dh?usp=sharing

Social Sub-group Moderators

Social Sub-group Co-chair

Ingrid Dillo
DANS

Social
Iryna Kuchma, EIFL
Amy Pienta, University of Michigan

Social Sciences - Progress To Date

- Sub group has around ~60 members

- Kick-off meeting 4/9 11am UTC with ~15 participants
  - Presentation
  - Discussed scope
  - Recruited writing volunteers

- Weekly meeting with sub-group Thursdays 11am UTC
  - Thursday 16th April, 11am UTC at https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/822252805
  - Thursday 23rd April, 11am UTC https://zoom.us/j/187365182

Social Sciences - Progress To Date

- Scope (Soc, Psych, Econ, Demog, Poli Sci), data topics:
  - Immigrants, Migration
  - Beliefs, Attitudes, Public Opinion, Trust in government
  - Quality of Life and Well Being
  - Social Isolation, Social Distancing and Social Support
  - Health Disparities
  - Social Inequalities
  - Unemployment and Economic Impact
  - Online Learning/Education
  - Family
  - Political dynamics and policy approaches

Social Sciences - Progress To Date

- First writing sprint 4/13
  - Co-writing & Discussion (Data Collections; Metadata, Standards & Data Quality)

- Two more writing sprints this week
  - 4/15 11am UTC https://zoom.us/j/93069536360 (Legal & Ethical; Data Sharing and LT Preservation; Data management responsibilities and resources)
  - 4/17 11am UTC https://zoom.us/j/460482296 (Data Collections; Metadata, Standards & Data Quality; Storage)

RDA-COVID19 community participation

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RDA COVID19 COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION SUBGROUP WEB PAGES	https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rda-covid19-community-participation
RDA COVID19 COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION *SUBGROUP GOOGLE FOLDER*	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mqWSuHxSFzoxueSa1pUXVlk8xaHCx_AI?usp=sharing

Community participation Sub-group Moderators

Community participation Sub-group Co-chair

Sarah Jones
DCC

Community participation: Overview of progress

- First call with moderators on Thursday 9th April

- Setup Slack for comms - rda-covid19.slack.com

- Moderators started scoping - paper out for comments

- Planning a webinar session soon to discuss further

  "in the interest of time, lets focus on good, rather than best"

Community participation: Initial document for comments

- What is the purpose and scope of this sub-group?

- What are the areas/tasks that we should look at as outputs.

- What is the priority? We will not be able to get through everything in the 1st 3 week iteration.

- How we could organise and approach the work ahead of us

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1FEe2LIFR-D_yGR8Ow3LTrdYWCWo0ppC5YJrMDWFTGio

Out for comments until *midnight UTC on April 14th*

Community participation: Potential approach / timeline

- Develop a prioritised list of things to work on by Wednesday 15 April

- Form c.6-7 teams of about 15 to get allocated to work on the topics

- Each group will pick up a single task, in priority order, until we run out of groups

- Each group works on their topics for 5 days (ie: until Sunday)

- On Monday, each team will be allocated a different topic for review over the next 2 days (ie: Monday & Tuesday)

- Each group resumes work on their original topic afterwards, incorporating the review comments they have received from another group

- Towards the later part of the 3 weeks, we should look to form a small editorial team, which will look to bring it all together into a coherent piece of work

RDA COVID-19 WGs Actions for you

1. Submit [resources to the catalogue](#)

2. Provide suggestions on [recommendations](#) template

3. Make sure you are signed up to [COVID-19 umbrella group](#) - *ALL MAJOR COMMUNICATIONS NOTIFIED THERE*

4. Join [RDA-COVID19 sub-groups](#) of interest (if you are not signed up already)

5. Join [weekly webinars](#) for updates
   - Tuesday 14th April, 11am UTC
   - Tuesday 21st April, 11am UTC
   - Tuesday 28th April, 11am UTC

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

The Research Data Alliance COVID19 Working Group(s)

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RDA Secretary General
14 April 2020

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