RDA: Who? What? Where?

Introducing the Research Data Alliance and its Opportunities for the Social Sciences

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1 Aim of this report

This report aims to provide an introduction of the Research Data Alliance (RDA) for social science researchers. It summarizes the outcomes of an analysis of the RDA groups and outcomes and their relevance for scientists within the domain of social sciences. This analysis was executed as part of the RDA Europe 4.0 project[1] in which Data Archiving and Networked Services (DANS)[2] acts as a national RDA node in the Netherlands and as an ambassador for the social sciences.

In this report, a brief introduction of the RDA is given, followed by an outline of the current RDA Interest and Working Groups as well as the RDA outputs and recommendations. Groups and outputs were analyzed with respect to their relevance for social science researchers and the work considered most important for this target audience is highlighted. Social sciences in this context should be understood as the broad field of research that is concerned with "society and the relationships among individuals within a society"[3]. This definition includes, but is not limited to, the field of sociology, anthropology, communication sciences, psychology, educational sciences, pedagogics and economics. This report should be seen as a starting point for researchers working within this domain to get acquainted with the RDA and identify work that would be interesting for them. This analysis can, in addition, be used by research supporters as basis to provide information to scientists at events or conferences specifically addressing the social science community.

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[1] https://www.rd-alliance.org/rda-europe
[2] DANS is the Dutch national institute for permanent access to digital research resources, promoting open sciences and FAIR data, see https://dans.knaw.nl/en/
[3] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_science

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2 What is the RDA?

The Research Data Alliance, short RDA, is a community-driven organization that was launched in 2013 by the European Commission, the United States Government's National Science Foundation and National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the Australian Government's Department of Innovation. The goal of the RDA is to build the social and technical infrastructure that is needed to enable open sharing of data. The organization envisions "researchers and innovators openly sharing data across technologies, disciplines, and countries to address the grand challenges of society"[4]. Since 2013, the EU has supported RDA activities within Europe, by funding Europe-specific projects such as RDA Europe 4.0 which was launched in March 2018 (with a duration of 27 months) and for which this report was produced.

In June 2018, the RDA counted over 7000 members from 137 different countries and from various backgrounds, including data professionals researchers, librarians and policy developers. Individual membership to the RDA is free for anyone who supports the RDA mission and its guiding principles (see Figure 1).

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

◎ **OPENNESS**
Membership is open to all interested individuals who subscribe to the RDAs Guiding Principles. RDA community meetings and processes are open, and the deliverables of RDA working Groups will be publicly disseminated.

◎ **CONSENSUS**
The RDA moves forward by achieving consensus among its membership. RDA processes and procedures include appropriate mechanisms to resolve conflicts.

◎ **BALANCE**
The RDA seeks to promote balanced representation of its membership and stakeholder communities.

◎ **HARMONIZATION**
The RDA works to achieve harmonization across data standards, policies, technologies, infrastructure and communities.

◎ **COMMUNITY - DRIVEN**
The RDA is a public, community-driven body constituted of volunteer members and organizations, supported by the RDA Secretariat.

◎ **NON-PROFIT**
RDA does not promote, endorse, or sell commercial products, technologies or services.

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[4] https://www.rd-alliance.org/about-rda

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RDA members can join **Interest Groups** (IGs) and **Working Groups** (WGs) focused on various topics related to data sharing and innovation. Both IGs and WGs undergo a review process before they are established and endorsed by the RDA.

IGs consists of experts from the community and serve as a platform for exchange. IGs produce outputs such as surveys, recommendations, reports, and can initiate new WGs. While IGs can be active over longer periods of time, WGs have a fixed period of 12 to 18 months during which members work on concrete outputs. WG outputs can include, for instance, technical specifications, conceptual models or frameworks, or implemented policies.

An important event at which members of the RDA come together are the **RDA Plenaries**. Plenaries are held every six months in different places around the world and serve as an important point of contact where the communities are brought together and where WGs and IGs present and discuss their work.

Find information about	
RDA in general	www.rd-alliance.org
Interest Groups	www.rd-alliance.org/groups/interest-groups
Working Groups	www.rd-alliance.org/groups/working-groups
Recommendations & Outputs	www.rd-alliance.org/recommendations-outputs
RDA Europe 4.0 Project	www.rd-alliance.org/rda-europe
RDA on Twitter	@resdatall	@RDA_Europe	@RDA_US
RDA on LinkedIn	www.linkedin.com/in/researchdataalliance/
RDA Email	enquiries@rd-alliance.org	info@europe.rd-alliance.org

Table 1. This table gives an overview of where to find information about the RDA online. All weblinks where accessed 20-06-2018.

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3   RDA and the Social Sciences

The following part of this report provides an overview of the RDA IGs, WGS and Outputs which are of particular interest for researchers working within the field of social sciences.

To establish an overview of the RDA work, a list of the current IGs and WGs was taken from the RDA website[5,6]. The IGs and WGs were then classified into broader categories (see 3.1) to structure the presentation and give a quick overview of the different aspects that are addressed by the RDA. Finally, the relevance of the IGs, WGs and Outputs for the social sciences was evaluated and the results of this evaluation are summarized in section 3.2 to 3.3 below.

3.1   Categorization of the RDA groups and outputs

The described analysis was performed in June 2018 when 61 Interest groups (IGs) and 33 Working Groups (WGs) were listed on the RDA website[5,6.] In order to establish a manageable overview of the
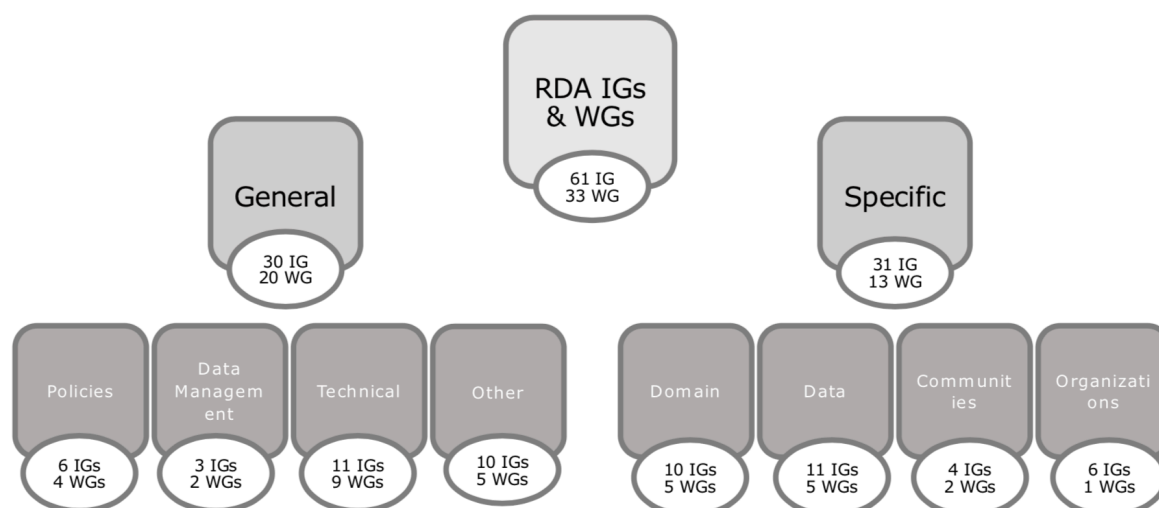

Figure 2. This Figure illustrates the classification that was adopted to group the Interest Groups (IGs) and Working Groups (WGs) into logical larger units to provide an overview of the work that is performed within the RDA.

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different aspects that are addressed by the RDA, the IGs and WGs as well as their corresponding outputs were grouped into larger units by classifying the groups into different categories according to the topics they are dealing with.

The given classification was chosen to create logical sub-groups suitable for this analysis focused on social sciences researchers. It should be noted that for other purposes and audiences, other classifications may be more appropriate. One example of another classification is the one used in the RDA in a nutshell presentation which can be used to give a general introduction to the RDA [7]. This classification divides the WGs and IGs into six broader groups (Domain science – focused; Partnership groups; Reference and Sharing – focused; Community Needs – focused; Data Stewards and Services – focused; Base Infrastructure- focused).

The classification that was applied in this analysis had two levels and a schematic overview is given in Figure 2. In a first step, groups were divided into General vs. Specific topics: Groups covering domain-general topics, such as data management or infrastructure development, were classified as *general*, whereas groups dealing with specific data, domains or communities were classified as *specific*.

In a second step, the general groups were divided into four categories: Policies and guidelines, data management, technical and infrastructure, and other (i.e. groups concerning domain-general topics that did not fit any of the prior three categories). The specific groups were also sub-divided into four categories: Domains, data, communities, and organizations.

Consecutively, for all IGs and WGs the description on the RDA website was studied in order to establish their relevance for social sciences researchers. Three categories were used: Groups were considered *highly relevant* if they covered topics that should be of interest for social sciences researchers in general. These topics, for instance, include dealing with privacy-sensitive data or RDA work on research data management. Groups that may be interesting for social sciences researchers depending on their exact field of research or particular interest were labeled as *moderately relevant*. This category includes, for instance, groups working on big data or within the field of linguistics. RDA groups that did not fit into these prior categories were labeled as being *low* in *relevance*. It should be noted that our analysis aims to give a broad perspective on relevance for social sciences, and that groups or outcomes classified as low relevance may still be interesting for a particular social sciences researcher interested in specific topics. Our analysis should be seen as a starting point for social

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[7] https://rd-alliance.org/about-rda/who-rda.html

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science researchers that are new to the RDA and wish to receive some guidance through the large amount of work and topics covered by the RDA.

Below the results of the group and outcome assessment are presented, following the structure of the categorization described above. An overview of the results can be seen in the Appendix and the dataset has also been published on Zenodo (DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.1308776).

3.2 Interest Groups

In the following, an overview is given of the Interest Groups (IGs) that can be considered highly or moderately relevant for social sciences researchers. An overview of all IGs is given in the Appendix.

3.2.1 General topics

3.2.1.1   Policies and guidelines

All of the IGs in this category where classified as either highly or moderately relevant to social science researchers as these groups are engaged in creating policies and guidelines for general issues related to (open) research data. Two groups are considered highly relevant for social sciences researchers. Firstly, The Ethics and Social Aspects of Data IG[8] which is concerned with ethical and social issues with respect to data archiving, sharing, and reuse. Given that most social sciences researchers deal with sensitive data that impose ethical issues, this IG is considered highly relevant for the community. Secondly, the Preservation Tools, Techniques, and Policies IG[9] is considered highly relevant. This group examines questions about what data should be archived, the available tools and policies with respect to data sharing. As data sharing becomes increasingly relevant for researchers of all fields, this IG can be an important forum for social sciences researchers to keep up to date and join the discussion.

The four other IGs in this category may also be interesting for social sciences researchers, but their relevance is more dependent on the interest and specific field of the particular researcher. The groups deal with basic concepts and framework models (Data Foundations and Terminology IG[10]), legal

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[8] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/ethics-and-social-aspects-data.html
[9] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/preservation-tools-techniques-and-policies
[10] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/data-foundations-and-terminology-ig.html

interoperability (RDA/CODATA Legal Interoperability IG[11]), reproducibility (Reproducibility IG[12]) and data policies that support publication of research (Data policy standardization and implementation IG[13])

3.2.1.2 Data Management

As with policies and recommendations, all groups within the Data Management category can be considered highly or moderately relevant for social sciences researchers. In particular, the Education and Training on handling of research data IG[14] is seen as highly relevant as it fosters the exchange of information about developments and initiatives for trainings on how to manage research data throughout the data lifecycle. The other two IGs may be relevant for social sciences researchers interested in Data Management Plans (Active Data Management Plans IG[15]) or data documentation and metadata (Data in Context IG[16])

3.2.1.3 Technical and infrastructure

Although associated outputs of IGs and related WGs dealing with technical aspects and infrastructure developments such as persistent identifiers, data provenance, or virtual research environments can be of interest for the social sciences, the IGs in this category were overall considered less relevant for social science researchers than the other categories.

3.2.1.4 Other general topics

There are three additional IGs that can be considered highly relevant for social sciences researchers. Firstly, the Disciplinary Collaboration Framework IG[17] aims to bring together different research disciplines to discuss disciplinary-specific use cases of RDA outputs and provide room for exchange and harmonization across disciplines. Such an IG is considered relevant for social sciences researchers as they can learn from use cases by other disciplines and represent the social sciences perspective. Secondly, the Data Discovery Paradigms IG[18] aims to improve the discovery of research data and may

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[11] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rdacodata-legal-interoperability-ig.html
[12] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/reproducibility-ig.html
[13] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/data-policy-standardisation-and-implementation
[14] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/education-and-training-handling-research-data.html
[15] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/active-data-management-plans.html
[16] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/data-context-ig.html
[17] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/disciplinary-collaboration-framework-ig
[18] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/data-discovery-paradigms-ig

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hence be highly relevant for social sciences researchers interested in finding and reusing data or making their own data findable. Lastly, the Sharing Rewards and Credit (SHARC) IG[19] is seeking to understand and improve the crediting and rewarding mechanisms in the data and resources sharing process. It currently covers several disciplines but lacks social sciences representatives despite being a general topic that is of interest to all communities and hence also to social science researchers.

Besides these three highly relevant groups, four groups can be considered moderately relevant, depending on the specific interest of the social sciences researcher. These groups deal with vocabulary services (Vocabulary Services IG[20]), concepts of data (From Observational Data to Information IG[21]), research data sharing (Open Questionnaire for Research Data Sharing Survey IG[22]) and rescuing data that are at risk of not being preserved well (Data Rescue IG[23]).

3.2.2 Specific topics

3.2.2.1   Domain

There are a couple of domain-specific groups that may be interesting for social scientists. Whether or not a domain-specific group is relevant of course highly depends on the specific field of research, therefore groups covering specific topics received the label moderately relevant. The following four domain-specific groups may be considered relevant for social sciences researcher: Digital Practices in History and Ethnography IG[24], Quality of Urban Life IG[25], Linguistics Data IG[26] and the ELIXIR Bridging Force IG[27] working within the field of life sciences.

3.2.2.2   Data

Similar to domain-specific groups, data-specific groups may or may not be interesting for a social science researcher depending on their exact field of research. Taking a broad perspective on social sciences, we would consider four data-specific IGs as (potentially) relevant. The RDA/NISO Privacy Implications of Research Data Sets IG[28] should be of interest to most social scientists as it discusses

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[19] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/sharing-rewards-and-credit-sharc-ig
[20] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/vocabulary-services-interest-group.html
[21] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/observational-data-information-ig
[22] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/open-questionnaire-research-data-sharing-survey-ig
[23] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/data-rescue.html
[24] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/digital-practices-history-and-ethnography-ig.html
[25] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/urban-quality-life-indicators.html
[26] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/linguistics-data-ig
[27] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/elixir-bridging-force-ig.html
[28] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rdaniso-privacy-implications-research-data-sets-wg.html

issues regarding data containing human subject information. In addition, IGs concerning developmental studies (Data for Development IG[29]), big data (Big Data IG[30]) and health data (Health Data IG[31]) may also be considered relevant for researchers in the social sciences.

3.2.2.3 Communities and organizations

The last two classes of specific IGs concern specific communities or organizations (such as libraries, universities and research institutions). Most IGs within these two categories seem not directly relevant to social science researchers. One IG that may be considered relevant, however, is the Early Career and Engagement IG[32]. It is established for early career researchers and RDA newcomers and helps its members to get a better understanding of the RDA and its working procedures. It is hence an interesting group for social sciences researchers who are new to the RDA and who would like some support in finding their way within the RDA.

3.3 Working Groups

In the following, an overview is given of the RDA Working Groups (WGs) that can be considered highly or moderately relevant for social sciences researchers. Since there are fewer WGs than IGs and as WGs deal with specific topics or use cases, overall fewer groups were classified as highly or moderately relevant for social sciences researchers.

3.3.1 General topics

Out of all 20 working groups dealing with general topics, two WGs were classified as highly relevant and five WGs were classified as moderately relevant for social science researchers.

Firstly, the Exposing Data Management Plans WG[33] was considered relevant as it aims to take a user perspective on Data Management Plans (DMPs) as well as addressing current problems concerning the lack of standards for DMPs. It is a valuable WG for social science researchers who would like to discuss and be involved in recent and upcoming developments concerning data management. The

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[29] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/data-development.html
[30] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/big-data-analytics-ig.html
[31] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/health-data.html
[32] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/early-career-and-engagement-ig
[33] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/exposing-data-management-plans-wg

second group that was classified as highly relevant is the RDA/WDS Publishing Data Workflows WG.[34] This WG is concerned with data publishing and is working on an analysis of existing and emerging workflows and standards for data publishing within different disciplines. As data sharing becomes increasingly relevant for researchers of all fields, this WG may provide a useful overview of the current state for social sciences researchers.

General WGs that may further be interesting for social science researchers cover a WG on data usage metrics (Data Usage Metrics WG[35]), describing data storage solutions to users (Storage Service Definitions WG[36]), creating on a catalogues of metadata standards (Metadata Standards Catalog WG[37]) and a WG working on metadata for physical objects (RDA / TDWG Metadata Standards for attribution of physical and digital collections stewardship[38]).

3.3.2 Specific topics

Most WGs dealing with specific topics do not seem directly relevant to social science researchers. Scientists working closer to the field of humanities may find the Empirical Humanities Metadata Working Group[39] interesting for their work which was hence classified as moderately relevant.

3.4 Recommendations and Output

The RDA website at the time of writing listed 24 Outputs[40]. The RDA uses three classifications for the outputs: RDA Recommendations, Supporting Outputs, and Other Outputs.

RDA Recommendations have undergone formal phases of discussion, comment and decision making and are "produced by RDA Working Groups and are the official, endorsed results of RDA and considered our 'flagship' Outputs". *Supporting Outputs* have undergone community review and "are useful solutions from our RDA Working and Interest Groups, but may not be as clearly adoptable by organisations as our RDA Recommendations". Lastly, *Other Outputs* describe resources requested by

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[34] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/rdawds-publishing-data-workflows-wg.html
[35] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/data-usage-metrics-wg
[36] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/storage-service-definitions-wg
[37] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/metadata-standards-catalog-working-group.html
[38] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/metadata-standards-attribution-physical-and-digital-collections-stewardship.html
[39] https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/empirical-humanities-metadata-working-group.html
[40] https://rd-alliance.org/recommendations-and-outputs/all-recommendations-and-outputs

a Working Group or Interest Group to be published on the RDA website, but have received no level of endorsement [41].

From the 24 Outputs listed on the RDA website, ten outputs were *RDA Recommendations*, six were *Supporting Outputs* and eight were *Other Outputs.*

In our analysis, we did not further distinguish the status of the output, but rather focused on the relevance for social sciences researchers. The results are reported within the same classification framework that was used to group the IGs and WGs (see 3.1).

3.4.1 General topics

There are two outputs that we classified as covering general topics that were considered highly relevant for social sciences researchers.

The Metadata Standards Directory[42] output provides access to a directory of metadata standards for documenting research data, regardless of academic discipline. It features information for metadata in the social sciences and can therefore be seen as a useful tool for social sciences researchers.

Secondly, the output on Eleven Quick Tips for Finding Research Data[43] provides eleven practical tips for data discovery which can be useful for social sciences researcher to effectively discover the data that meet their specific needs.

In addition, three outputs were classified as moderately relevant. Firstly, the output on Legal Interoperability of Research Data: Principles and Implementation Guidelines[44] provides a set of practical guidelines for researchers dealing with the legal aspects entailed in the sharing of data and may therefore be interesting for social sciences researchers dealing with legal issues concerning their data.

Secondly, the output entitled 23 Things: Libraries For Research Data [45] provides an overview of free online tools and resources that libraries for research data can use to incorporate research data management into their practice of librarianship. Although addressed at libraries, information about the available tools may be interesting for social scientists as well.

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[41] https://rd-alliance.org/recommendations-and-outputs/all-recommendations-and-outputs
[42] rd-alliance.github.io/metadata-directory/
[43] http://journals.plos.org/ploscompbiol/article?id=10.1371/journal.pcbi.1006038
[44] doi: 10.5281/zenodo.162241
[45] rd-alliance.org/group/libraries-research-data-ig/outcomes/23-things-libraries-research-data-supporting-output

Finally, the output on Workflows for Research Data Publishing: Models and Key Components[46] assists research communities in understanding their options for data publishing workflows and aims to increase awareness of emerging standards and best practices which can be useful for social sciences researchers who wish to increase their knowledge on data publishing.

3.4.2 Specific topics

Of the recommendation concerning specific domains or communities, we found one output relevant for researchers working with long tail research data (Addressing the Gaps: Recommendations for Supporting the Long Tail of Research Data[47]) which can apply to social sciences researchers. This output contains seven recommendations to support the long tail of research data and outlines the specific and unique data management challenges that come with such data.

Conclusion

This report presented the results of an analysis of RDA Interest, Working Groups and Outputs relevant for social science researchers.
A brief introduction to the RDA was given to provide basic knowledge of the organization, its structure and way of working. In the following, a comprehensive analysis of all current RDA work has been presented and was evaluated with respect to its relevance for researchers working within the social sciences.

Seven IGs, two WGs and two RDA outcomes were classified as particularly relevant to the social science community, covering topics like sensitive data, training and data management planning, as well as data discovery and standards for discipline-specific metadata (see Appendix for an overview of all groups and outcomes).

This report can be used as an initial guidance, pointing social scientists towards potentially interesting work of the RDA that they can use within their own field of research. It provides a starting point for finding a way through the large number of diverse groups that operate within the RDA. Identifying

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[46] doi: 10.15497/RDA00004
[47] doi: 10.15497/RDA00023

topics most relevant to the social sciences community should enhance the visibility of the RDA within this specific domain, encouraging social science researchers to engage (more) with the RDA in the future.

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4 Glossary

Abbreviation	Full term
RDA	Research Data Alliance
IG	Interest Group
WG	Working Group
DMP	Data Management Plan

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5 Appendix

A

Overview of the analysis of the RDA IGs [A], WGs [B] and Outputs [C] and their relevance for the social sciences. This dataset has also been published on Zenodo (DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.1308776).

Interest Groups	Classification	Sub-Classification	Topic	Relevance
Ethics and Social Aspects of Data IG	[1] General	[1] Policies and Guidelines	Ethics	high
Preservation Tools, Techniques, and Policies	[1] General	[1] Policies and Guidelines	What should be preserved for sharing?	high
Data Foundations and Terminology IG	[1] General	[1] Policies and Guidelines	Vocabulary agreements	moderate
RDA/CODATA Legal Interoperability IG	[1] General	[1] Policies and Guidelines	Legal interoperability	moderate
Reproducibility IG	[1] General	[1] Policies and Guidelines	Reproducibility	moderate
Data policy standardisation and implementation	[1] General	[1] Policies and Guidelines	Supporting publication of research	moderate
Education and Training on handling of research data IG	[1] General	[2] Data Management	Education and Training	high
Active Data Management Plans IG	[1] General	[2] Data Management	Data Management Plans	moderate
Data in Context IG	[1] General	[2] Data Management	Metadata	moderate
Brokering IG	[1] General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Software	low
Data Fabric IG	[1] General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Data creation and consumption	low
Federated Identity Management	[1] General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Federated Identity Management	low
Mapping the Landscape IG	[1] General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Mapping the infrastructure landscape	low
PID IG	[1] General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	PID	low
Preservation e-Infrastructure IG	[1] General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	e-Infrastructure Services	low
RDA/CODATA Materials Data, Infrastructure & Interoperability IG	[1] General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Infrastructure and Interoperability	low
Repository Platforms for Research Data IG	[1] General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Repository platforms	low
Research Data Provenance	[1] General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Data provenance	low
Software Source Code IG	[1] General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Software source code	low
Virtual Research Environment IG (VRE-IG)	[1] General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Virtual Research Environment	low
Disciplinary Collaboration Framework IG	[1] General	[4] Other	Bringing disciplines together	high
Data Discovery Paradigms IG	[1] General	[4] Other	Data Discovery	high
Sharing Rewards and Credit (SHARC) IG	[1] General	[4] Other	Crediting and reward mechanisms in data sharing	high
Vocabulary Services Interest Group	[1] General	[4] Other	Vocabulary services	moderate
From Observational Data to Information IG	[1] General	[4] Other	Concepts of Data	moderate
Open Questionnaire for Research Data Sharing Survey IG	[1] General	[4] Other	Research data sharing	moderate
Data Rescue IG	[1] General	[4] Other	Data Rescue	moderate
Metadata IG	[1] General	[4] Other	Metadata	low
RDA/WDS Publishing Data Cost Recovery for Data Centres IG	[1] General	[4] Other	Publishing data costs	low
RDA/WDS Publishing Data IG	[1] General	[4] Other	Publishing data costs	low

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Interest Groups	Classification	Sub-Classification	Topic	Relevance
Digital Practices in History and Ethnography IG	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	History and Ethnography	moderate
Quality of Urban Life IG	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Urban Life Quality	moderate
Linguistics Data IG	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Linguistics	moderate
ELIXIR Bridging Force IG	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Life Sciences	moderate
Agricultural Data Interest Group (IGAD)	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Agriculture	low
ESIP/RDA Earth, Space, and Environmental Sciences IG	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Earth, Space and Environmental Sciences	low
Geospatial IG	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Geospatial data	low
Global Water Information IG	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Water Information stakeholders	low
Research data needs of the Photon and Neutron Science community IG	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Photon and Neutron Science	low
Structural Biology IG	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Structural biology	low
RDA/NISO Privacy Implications of Research Data Sets IG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Data containing human subject information	high
Data for Development IG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Development Studies	moderate
Big Data IG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Big Data	moderate
Health Data Interest Group	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Health Data	moderate
Biodiversity Data Integration IG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Biodiversity	low
Chemistry Research Data IG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Chemistry	low
International Indigenous Data Sovereignty IG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Indigenous Data	low
Marine Data Harmonization IG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Marine Data	low
Physical Samples and Collections in the Research Data Ecosystem IG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Physical samples	low
Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems' Data IG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems	low
Weather, climate and air quality IG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Weather Climate and air quality data	low
Early Career and Engagement IG	[2] Specific	[3] Community	Early and Mid-Career Researchers	moderate
CODATA/RDA Research Data Science Schools for Low and Middle Income Countries	[2] Specific	[3] Community	Low and Middle Income Countries	low
Development of cloud computing capacity and education in developing world research IG	[2] Specific	[3] Community	Developing World	low
Libraries for Research Data IG	[2] Specific	[3] Community	Librarians	low
Archives and Records Professionals for Research Data IG	[2] Specific	[4] Organisations	Repositories	low
Domain Repositories Interest Group	[2] Specific	[4] Organisations	Domain repositories	low
Long tail of research data IG	[2] Specific	[4] Organisations	Universities and institutional repositories	low
National Data Services IG	[2] Specific	[4] Organisations	National Data Services	low
RDA/WDS Certification of Digital Repositories IG	[2] Specific	[4] Organisations	Certification of repositories	low
Research Data Architectures in Research Institutions IG	[2] Specific	[4] Organisations	Research institutions	low
Total Number of IGs	**61**			

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Working Group	Classification	Sub-classification	Topic	Relevance
Data Usage Metrics WG	[1]General	[1] Policies and guidelines	Data usage metrics	moderate
Storage Service Definitions WG	[1]General	[1] Policies and guidelines	Describing Storage Services	moderate
Data Citation WG	[1]General	[1] Policies and guidelines	Data citation	low
Provenance Patterns WG	[1]General	[1] Policies and guidelines	Provenance patterns	low
Exposing Data Management Plans WG	[1]General	[2] Data Management	Data Management Plans	high
DMP Common Standards WG	[1]General	[2] Data Management	Machine-actionable DMPs	low
Brokering Framework Working Group	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Brokering	low
Data Description Registry Interoperability (DDRI) WG	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Data description	low
Data Security and Trust WG	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Security and Trust	low
Data Versioning WG	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Versioning	low
Persistent Identification of Instruments	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	PIDs	low
PID Kernel Information WG	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	PIDs	low
RDA/WDS Scholarly Link Exchange (Scholix) WG	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Links between scholarly literature and data	low
Research Data Collections WG	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	PIDs	low
Software Source Code Identification	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Software Source Code	low
RDA/WDS Publishing Data Workflows WG	[1]General	[4] Other	Standards and Workflows for Data publishing	high
Metadata Standards Catalog WG	[1]General	[4] Other	Catalogue of metadata standards	moderate
RDA / TDWG Metadata Standards for attribution of physical and digital collections stewardship	[1]General	[4] Other	Metadata of physical collections	moderate
Data Type Registries WG & #2	[1]General	[4] Other	Data type registries	low
WDS/RDA Assessment of Data Fitness for Use WG	[1]General	[4] Other	Data Quality	low
Empirical Humanities Metadata Working Group	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Humanities Metadata	moderate
Agrisemantics WG	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Agriculture	low
Capacity Development for Agriculture Data WG	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Agriculture	low
International Materials Resource Registries WG	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Materials Science and Engineering	low
Rice Data Interoperability WG	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	Rice	low
Array Database Assessment WG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Multi-dimensional arrays	low
Blockchain Applications in Health WG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Health Science Data	low
Fisheries Data Interoperability WG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Fisheries data	low
On-Farm Data Sharing (OFDS) WG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	On-farm data	low
Wheat Data Interoperability WG	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Wheat Data	low
BioSharing Registry: connecting data policies, standards & databases in life sciences WG	[2] Specific	[3] Community	Life Sciences	low
RDA/CODATA Summer Schools in Data Science and Cloud Computing in the Developing World WG	[2] Specific	[3] Community	Developing World	low
Research Data Repository Interoperability WG	[2] Specific	[4] Organisations	Repositories	low
Total Number of WGs	**33**			

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Recommendation	Status of Recommendation	Classification	Sub-classification	Related Working Group	Relevance	DOI or Weblink
Legal Interoperability of Research Data: Principles and Implementation Guidelines	RDA Supporting Outputs	[1] General	[1] Policies and guidelines	RDA/CODATA Legal Interoperability Interest Group	moderate	doi: 10.5281/zenodo.162241
23 Things: Libraries For Research Data	RDA Supporting Outputs	[1] General	[2] Data Management	Libraries for Research Data Interest Group	moderate	rd-alliance.org/group/libraries-research-data-ig/outcomes/23-things-libraries-research-data-supporting-output
Eleven Quick Tips for Finding Research Data	RDA Supporting Outputs	[1] General	[4] Other	Data Discovery Paradigms Interest Group	high	doi: 10.1371/journal.pcbi.1006038
Metadata Standards Directory	RDA Endorsement in Process	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Metadata standards directory Working Group	high	rd-alliance.github.io/metadata-directory/
Basic Vocabulary of Foundational Terminology Query Tool	RDA Endorsed	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Data Foundation and Terminology Working Group	low	doi: 10.15497/06825049-8CA4-40BD-BCAF-DE9F0EA2FADF
Data Type Model and Registry	RDA Endorsed	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Data Type Registries Working Group	low	doi: 10.15497/A5BCD108-ECC4-41BE-91A7-20112FF77458
Scalable Dynamic-data Citation Methodology	RDA Endorsed	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Data Citation Working Group	low	doi: 10.15497/RDA00016
Data Description Registry Interoperability Model	RDA Endorsed	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Data Description Registry Interoperability Working Group	low	doi: 10.15497/RDA00003
Persistent Identifier Type Registry	RDA Endorsed	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	PID Information Types Working Group	low	doi: 10.15497/FDAA09D5-5ED0-403D-B97A-2675E1EBE786
Machine Actionable Policy Templates	RDA Endorsed	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Practical Policy Working Group	low	doi: 10.15497/83E1B3F9-7E17-484A-A466-B3E5775121CC
Recommendation on Research Data Collections	RDA Endorsed	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Research Data Collections WG	low	doi: 10.15497/RDA00022
Sustainable Business Models for Brokering Middleware to support Research Interoperability	RDA Endorsement in Process	[1]General	[3] Technical and Infrastructure	Brokering Governance Working Group	low	rd-alliance.org/group/brokering-ig-brokering-governance-wg/outcomes/sustainable-business-models-brokering-middleware
Workflows for Research Data Publishing: Models and Key Components	RDA Endorsed	[1]General	[4] Other	RDA/WDS Publishing Data Workflows Working Group	moderate	doi: 10.15497/RDA00004
An open, universal literature-data cross-linking service	RDA Endorsement in Process	[1]General	[4] Other	RDA/WDS Publishing Data Services Working Group	low	doi: 10.15497/RDA00002

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Recommendation	Status of Recommendation	Classification	Sub-classification	Related Working Group	Relevance	DOI or Weblink
Income Streams for Data Repositories	RDA Supporting Outputs	[2] Specific	[1] Domain	RDA/WDS Publishing Data Cost Recovery for Data Centres Interest Group	low	doi: 10.5281/zenodo.46693
Addressing the Gaps: Recommendations for Supporting the Long Tail of Research Data	RDA Supporting Outputs	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Long Tail of Research Data IG	moderate	doi: 10.15497/RDA00023
Wheat Data Interoperability Guidelines, Ontologies and User Cases	RDA Endorsed	[2] Specific	[2] Data	Wheat Data Interoperability Working Group	low	doi: 10.15497/RDA00018
Repository Audit and Certification Catalogues	RDA Endorsed	[2] Specific	[3] Community	Repository Audit and Certification / DSA–WDS Partnership Working Group	low	doi: 10.17026/dans-22n-gk35 ; doi:10.15497/rda00019
BioSharing Recommendations: data repositories, standards and policies in the life, biomedical and environmental sciences	RDA Endorsement in Process	[2] Specific	[3] Community	BioSharing Registry: connecting data policies, standards & databases in life sciences WG	low	doi: 10.15497/RDA00017
Framework for Summer Schools in Data Science and Cloud Computing	RDA Endorsement in Process	[2] Specific	[3] Community	RDA/CODATA Summer Schools in Data Science and Cloud Computing in the DWW WG	low	zenodo.org/communities/codata-rda-research-data-science-summer-school/?page=1&size=20
Research Data Repository Interoperability WG Final Recommendations	RDA Endorsement in Process	[2] Specific	[3] Community	Research Data Repository Interoperability WG	low	doi: 10.15497/RDA00025
Data Discovery Paradigms: User Requirements and Recommendations for Data Repositories	RDA Supporting Outputs	[2] Specific	[3] Community	Data Discovery Paradigms Interest Group	low	rd-alliance.org/group/data-discovery-paradigms-ig/outcomes/data-discovery-paradigms-user-requirements-and
Matrix of use cases and functional requirements for research data repository platforms	RDA Supporting Outputs	[2] Specific	[3] Community	Repository Platforms for Research Data Interest Group	low	rd-alliance.org/group/repository-platforms-research-data-ig/outcomes/matrix-use-cases-and-functional-requirements
Research Data Repository Interoperability Primer	RDA Supporting Outputs	[2] Specific	[3] Community	Research Data Repository Interoperability Working Group	low	doi: 10.15497/RDA00020
Total Number of Recommendations	**24**					

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