



## RESEARCH DATA ALLIANCE 12 August 2013

### Open to Organizational Members

The Research Data Alliance (RDA – [www.rd-alliance.org](http://www.rd-alliance.org)) had its international launch in Gothenburg in March 2013. As RDA moves towards its second plenary meeting in Washington, D.C., September 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013, membership in the Alliance is now open to organizational members. Organizational members of RDA may be research institutions; research infrastructure operators; research libraries; private sector, research data dependent companies; private sector companies that produce products and services relevant to international data interoperability; or simply organizations that support the RDA Vision and wish to engage in its work.

RDA's purpose is to enable data exchange. It will not manage or provide direct access to data but will provide structured discussion fora and organize working groups to develop methods and best practices for data management and interoperability, much as the Internet Engineering Task Force does for networking. Participation in RDA activities is open to all and all results will be completely open, but paying organizational members will be publicly recognized for their support, will elect an Organizational Advisory Board to help manage the RDA, and will be given regular briefings on key technical developments.

**The RDA Vision:** Over the next decade, research data will be interoperable world-wide. Open exchange of data will be routinely occurring among researchers, disciplines, governments, citizens, and the private sector. International movement of research data will be as seamless as email transmission or international telephone calls are today.

**The RDA Mission:** Research data are arguably the world's greatest significantly untapped resource. Research data have the capacity to engender insights that will lead to whole new products, services, and solutions to a wide range of the world's grand

challenge problems will become the basis of new economic systems. While research data have the capacity to transform the world; the world lacks the infrastructure and practices to realize the benefits of that capacity. Useful free flow of data is currently not possible – not for the absence of networks or computation, but for the absence of agreed global exchange systems with trained data professionals working with standards and accepted processes for the collection, storage, access, and preservation of research data.

The Research Data Alliance is an international collaboration to build global exchange systems for research data so that unlocking its value becomes a truly global enterprise.

**THE RDA *Modus Operandi*:** RDA is a lean, stakeholder driven organization that creates the context for multi-lateral and multi-vertical collaboration. Everyone will benefit from a global mechanism for research data exchange. No one research group; no one discipline; no one country can create it. RDA provides a framework through which interest groups, working groups, and forums lever the work of many in the service of a common vision for the free and effective movement of research data. People and organizations that engage through RDA will build the global exchange systems for research data.

The global exchange system for research data will not suddenly appear. It will be built component by component by the working groups of RDA. RDA's methodology is to realize the vision through working groups that address components in 12 to 18-month projects that allow for regular statements of *“Well that's done! What's next? Let's get on with it.”*

**Organizational Members** are critical to the success of RDA; they will be instrumental in developing and implementing global exchange systems. Organizational members of RDA will be seen as pioneers in realizing full value from research data; they will exercise considerable influence in the development of standards for data exchange and will provide valuable insights to the entire range of RDA activity. RDA's organizational members will be regularly briefed on developments in data interoperability and will have equally regular opportunity to provide feedback on activity and suggestions on next steps.

Organizations that join RDA recognize their future health and growth is dependent on realizing value from research data. They are organizations that recognize the insights that will determine their futures may well come from data created outside their organizations. Because their “genius” is unlocking value, organizations that join RDA recognize systems that enable free trade in data are critical to their future and that of their competitors, collaborators, and societies. Unlocking value from research data is

the key competitive advantage in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. RDA and its members are at the heart of building a new economic model.



## **Research Data Alliance**

### **Organizational Member Application**

#### **Membership Benefits**

- Engage with the working groups of RDA
- Recognition on the RDA Website and at RDA Meetings as a leader in world data interoperability
- Become a voice for RDA and data interoperability in your sectors, your markets, your geographies
- Have a voice at RDA with advice and counsel on the needs of your sectors and the real problems faced in data exchange
- Have the opportunity to act as beta-sites for newly developed standards and protocols
- Receive regular briefings on the progress of RDA's work

#### **Member Information**

**Organization Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Person Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**email address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile:** \_\_\_\_\_



### Membership Categories

Category	Annual Amount
< than 50 employees	<b>\$1000 US</b>
50 and <250 employees	<b>\$2000 US</b>
>250 employees	<b>\$10,000 US</b>

**Membership Amount from Table Above:** \_\_\_\_\_

RDA is currently completing the legal registration activity to become a not-for-profit corporation. By signing this membership application your organization will receive full recognition at RDA Plenary 2 in Washington and you will be invited to become involved right away. Your signature confirms your agreement to pay an invoice received from a fully legally constituted RDA for the amount noted above. We anticipate that invoices will be sent out before the end of the calendar year 2013 for 2014 membership and then annually thereafter.

---

**Signature**

---

**Name**

**Title**

\_\_\_\_\_ (Please include email if different from information on the obverse side)

Please return this form to [enquiries@rd-alliance.org](mailto:enquiries@rd-alliance.org).