

The Road To Melbourne - How To Get The Most Out Of The Research Data Alliance Plenary In March 2020

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DESCRIPTION

The [Research Data Alliance](#) (RDA), a community-driven initiative with the goal of building the social and technical infrastructure to enable open sharing and re-use of data, currently has nearly 9,000 members - including data scientists, librarians, researchers, funders, policy makers - from 137 countries.

RDA Members come together through focused Working Groups and Interest Groups, formed by international experts from academia, the private sector and government. RDA holds biannual Plenaries, highly interactive work meetings where members meet and network, advance the work of their groups, and propose or establish new groups.

For the first time, an RDA Plenary is coming to Australia - the [15th RDA Plenary Meeting](#) will take place in Melbourne from 18 to 20 March 2020 in conjunction with [C3DIS](#). The Plenary will be hosted by CSIRO and supported by the ARDC and the RDA.

The RDA Plenary in Melbourne offers a unique opportunity for the Australian and regional community to meet and work with international experts from varied backgrounds and to influence and drive the development of solutions to data problems.

To help the Australian research data community to get the most of the Plenary, we have developed an infographic describing the “Road to the RDA Plenary” which outlines the main information sources and activities we suggest to prospective participants in the months before the Plenary. Examples include:

Explore! (5-6 months before the Plenary)

- Look at [“RDA for Newcomers”](#) to help you understand how RDA works
- Watch short videos about RDA
- Read some of the [RDA Blog posts](#)
- Participate in upcoming Webinars and other RDA-related events
- Browse [“RDA for you”](#) to find relevant groups
- Ask questions of existing RDA members in Australia

Engage! (4-5 months before the Plenary)

- [Register as a member](#) and join the [RDA in Australia](#) group
- Join relevant [Interest and Working Groups](#) (IGs / WGs), post questions, provide feedback, contribute to outputs
- Bring your needs to RDA - suggest BoF sessions, new IG/WGs or collocated events
- Register to attend the Plenary in Melbourne

Be part of it! (1 month before the Plenary / at the Plenary)

- Review the Plenary programme to decide which sessions to attend
- Consider attending collocated events
- Look at the suggested Plenary pathways
- Read up in advance to contribute to sessions
- Attend the “RDA for Newcomers”, networking drinks, dinner and ECR groups to help get a steer through the plenary
- Make connections and help shape the future of global data sharing!

Bloom! (post Plenary)

- Continue to contribute to RDA groups, ensuring Australian needs are represented and that solutions fit our context
- Adopt outputs and provide feedback on adjustments required for successful implementation
- Propose groups or volunteer to be a Chair
- Attend other Plenaries and represent Australian work on a global stage