

Memorandum of Understanding between the Research Data Alliance and the International Council for Scientific and Technical Information

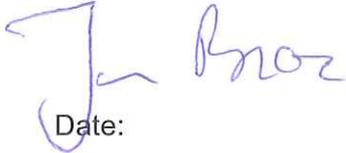
The International Council for Scientific and Technical Information (ICSTI) and the Research Data Alliance (RDA) are organizations with related missions and are natural partners in the pursuit of various objectives with regard to the tracking, availability, and reuse of research data. The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to state clearly the intention of ICSTI and RDA to cooperate and coordinate their efforts in areas of mutual interest. Moreover, the MoU defines the conditions under which RDA and ICSTI will cooperate and coordinate their efforts in these areas in order to promote a successful working partnership and to avoid duplication and conflict. It also confirms the belief of each organisation in the other's vision and values. This document is not legally binding.

1. RDA aims to accelerate international data-driven innovation and discovery by facilitating research data sharing and exchange. This is achieved through the development, adoption, and deployment of infrastructure, policy, practice, standards, and other deliverables. The emphasis of RDA is the adoption and deployment, rather than the development of new infrastructure. The work of RDA is primarily undertaken through its working groups. Participation in working groups and interest groups, starting new working groups, and attendance at the twice-yearly plenary meetings is open to all individuals who subscribe to the RDA Guiding Principles.
2. ICSTI is an international membership organisation working with stakeholders in all disciplines engaged in the scientific communication process with the aim of improving the efficiency of scientific research, without politicised or commercial agenda. It enables exchange of expertise, experience and understanding. Collaboration and partnership are key watchwords. ICSTI sponsors and facilitates start-up projects, organises workshops and webinars, as well as member-to-member briefings. ICSTI identifies innovation, the impact and potential of new technologies on scientific communication, the demands of 'next generation' users, open science, and all aspects of data-centric information systems as areas to which priority is attached.
3. ICSTI will become an **Organizational Affiliate of RDA**. As defined by the RDA Organizational Member Process Document, RDA Affiliates are likeminded organizations that seek to coordinate efforts in mutual areas of interest and to avoid unnecessary duplication or conflict
4. RDA will become an Associate Members of ICSTI

5. It is the intention of RDA to contribute to ICSTI and to collaborate with its governing bodies. In particular, to undertake or contribute to joint activities designed to promote and achieve the common goals of both organizations. These activities include but may not be limited to joint work groups, research papers and other publications, participation to panels and other public events organized or supported by either organisation such as trainings, presentations, and workshops as agreed between the two organizations.
6. It is the intention of ICSTI to contribute to RDA, and to collaborate with its Council and Technical Advisory Board. In particular, ICSTI shall send a representative to at least one of the two RDA Plenary meetings each year and shall present a summary of recent and relevant organizational activities. A ICSTI representative will be invited to attend the Organizational Assembly session(s), to vote in Organizational Advisory Board elections, and to run for, and be elected to, the Organizational Advisory Board.
7. Areas of collaboration currently includes collaboration in the following RDA Working and Interest Groups: Data Citation; Repository Certification; Data Discovery, Domain Repositories, Libraries for Research Data, Long Tail of Research Data, Repository Platforms, and Research Data Provenance. Future areas of collaboration could include, but not be limited to, better versioning of data and tracking of re-use. Coordination of a shared workshop addressing several of these topics will be explored.
8. ICSTI and RDA may initiate, support or carry out activities such as those listed in sections 5 - 7 above. In the spirit of good partnership, both organizations will make their best efforts to coordinate these joint activities and to communicate on issues pertaining to them. Such joint activities will also be promoted and publicized as being collaborative in official ICSTI and RDA documents and communication media, including their respective websites.
9. There will be no financial considerations on either side, and both organizations will refrain from using each other's logos and trademarks to make direct financial profit without explicit authorization from the respective governing body. They may however, and should display their respective logos on each other's website and in the context of any joint activity or project undertaken.
10. This MoU will enter into force upon signature by both parties and will continue until either organization records its express wish to terminate it.
11. This MoU is to be signed between RDA and ICSTI by the respective heads of organizations or their authorized delegates.

SIGNED

On behalf of ICSTI



Date:

Name: Jan Brase

Position: President

SIGNED

On behalf of RDA



Date:

Name: Mark A. Parsons

Position: Secretary General