

Future Directions Process: Where we are now

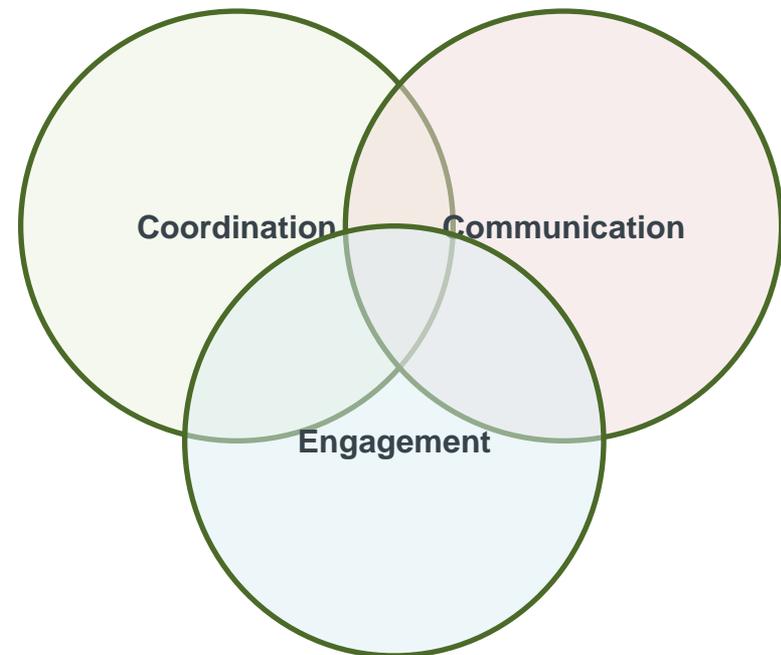
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- **FOCUS:** Organizational effectiveness and improvement
- **TIMEFRAME:** 3 years
- **PREVIOUSLY:**
 - P4 identified the need for future directions planning. Organizing group established (December 2014)
 - P5 initial consultation with constituent groups in RDA, a report of the meeting's consensus presented to RDA membership, and published online (March 2015)
 - Community survey about priorities and actions developed, conducted and analysed (May / June 2015)
 - Report from the consultations prepared for online webinar presentation to membership (August/September 2015)
- **CURRENTLY:**
 - Analysis of feedback and development of initial draft of future directions for P6 to test consensus (September 2015)
 - Final draft of Future Directions document prepared presented to Council for agreement (October/November 2015)
 - Move from plan to action
 - Report on Future Directions Document and initial implementation report-out (March 2016 at Plenary 7)

Future Directions: Key Themes and Goal

Goal: Over the next 3 years, RDA will be a community that:

- *Makes engagement easy*
- *Provides an on-going set of outputs that are recognized and adopted*
- *Is recognized as a venue of choice to improve research data interoperability*
- *Is served by an effective, agile, and sustainable organisation*



Engagement Action Plan

Develop a systemic engagement approach that includes engagement with external stakeholders and strategic groups, the RDA community, and next generation leadership with the following specific actions:

- Create an annual targeted list of strategic organizations, communities, professional societies, and countries to expand the engagement and impact of RDA and devise strategies to execute on the list.
- Identify and recruit 50 members who are domain experts who can serve as conduits between RDA and specific organisations and to facilitate joint events with those organisations.
- Continue RDA international plenaries as a primary engagement tool for membership and to broaden the range of members by recruiting industry, startups, and entrepreneurs to plenaries. Regions should be encouraged to develop, fund and administer a travel fund for participation in the Plenaries.
- Develop a set of succession plans for all constituent groups within RDA and RDA regional organisations as part of recruiting next generation leadership.
- Develop white papers to promote discussion of key data-related issues within the RDA community.

Develop an integrated communications approach that includes communication to external groups, internal groups, and support for communications efforts with the following specific actions:

- Identify and recruit an additional cohort of members who are skilled communicators who can communicate about RDA to wider audiences as RDA Ambassadors.
- Develop appropriate support material and training for RDA domain experts and ambassadors.
- Update from Council, TAB, OAB, and the Secretariat to the membership quarterly.
- Develop clear statements of value and compelling targeted messaging to existing and new communities, stakeholders, and the membership.
- Recruit individuals/organizations to write stories/create content (including regional RDAs) to highlight member contributions/adoptions.
- Create and publish an RDA Annual Report targeted to internal and potential external stakeholders. Improve RDA website for better internal communication, transparency, and co-ordination and better external navigation and visibility.

Develop robust coordination mechanisms that improve organizational effectiveness and integration with the following specific actions:

- Develop an approach and appropriate groups or mechanisms to maintain/expand adoption of the outputs of Working Groups.
- Develop an effective process to track and expedite RDA processes, actions, and outputs.
- Develop an organisational map to articulate and improve missions, outcomes and interactions between groups. Realize the map in RDA processes and mechanisms to improve coordination, engagement and communication.
- Develop an RDA approach and mechanisms for better coordination and communication among RDA Regions.

Next Steps

- **THIS WEEK:** Gather additional feedback this week from Council and Membership
- **IN THE NEXT MONTH:** Directions Document Organizing Committee and the Secretary General will develop a 3-year blue print for implementation including milestones and metrics for success.
- **THIS FALL:** Council approves 3-year blue print. Council appoints an Implementation Steering Committee to support the Secretary General in his responsibility for implementing the blueprint.
- **OVER THE NEXT 3 YEARS:**
 - The Steering Committee meets with Secretary General to conduct semi-annual review of milestones
 - The chair of the Steering Committee and the Secretary General report to council in advance of each plenary
 - The chair of the Steering Committee and the Secretary General report on progress to the membership at each plenary