

## Contributor name and short CV

Fotis Karayannis, Independent/ATHENA Research Center



**Dr. Fotis Karayannis** is an international vendor with 20 years of experience in ICT, focusing mainly in Research Networking and Computing e-Infrastructures. He received his PhD in 1998 in the fields of Integrated Communications and Management of Broadband Networks from NTUA, Greece. He work for major commercial or research entities such as OTEPlus, GRNET (GR), CERN (CH), CESNET (CZ), Trust-IT Services, Microsoft Research Cambridge (UK) and Microsoft Innovation Center Greece, ATHENA Research Center, and Athens University of Economics and Business (GR). He has worked for major e-Infrastructure initiatives such as GEANT, EGEE-EGI, PRACE, e-IRG and recently for ESFRI and the **Research Data Alliance (RDA)**. **He is a member of the RDA secretariat acting as liaison with RDA Organisational Members and also responsible for industry engagement in Europe.** Recently he started an entrepreneurial activity in the area of big data analytics and cloud computing brokerage.

## Type of the presentation proposed

*Impact contribution*

## Title of the presentation

The Research Data Alliance initiative & Engagement with Industry

## Summary of the presentation (<100 words)

The Research Data Alliance (RDA) <http://rd-alliance.org> is a global initiative working towards building social and technical bridges that enable open sharing of data across technologies, disciplines, and countries. The goal of the presentation is on one hand to present RDA to the EDF mixed audience (including both academia, industry and public sector), and on the other hand make an effort to attract European industrial members so as to try to better understand their potential interest and involvement in RDA. Industrial members will be involved only if they see value in the RDA Working Group outputs.

## Extended abstract of the presentation (at most 2 pages in 11pt A4 format)

The Research Data Alliance (RDA) <http://rd-alliance.org> is a global initiative working towards building social and technical bridges that enable open sharing of data across technologies, disciplines, and countries to be able to address the grand challenges of society.

The current global research data landscape is highly fragmented, by disciplines or by domains, from oceanography, life sciences and health, to agriculture, space and climate. When it comes to cross-disciplinary activities, the notions of "building blocks" of common data infrastructures and building specific "data bridges" are becoming accepted metaphors for approaching the data complexity and enable data sharing. The Research Data Alliance enables data to be shared across barriers through focused Working Groups and Interest Groups, formed of experts from around the world – from academia, industry and government. Participation in RDA is open to anyone who agrees to its guiding principles of openness, consensus, balance, harmonisation, with a community driven and non-profit approach. It was started in 2013 by a core group of interested agencies – the European Commission, the US National Science Foundation and National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the Australian Government's Department of Innovation. Other agencies, countries, companies, associations

and institutes are due to join. RDA also has a broad, committed membership of individuals – now 2800+ from 99 countries since RDA was launched in March 2013 - dedicated to improving data exchange.

The goal of the presentation is on one hand to present RDA to the EDF mixed audience (including both academia, industry and others), and on the other hand make an effort to attract European industrial members so as to try to better understand their potential interest and involvement in RDA. Industrial members will be involved only if they see value in the RDA Working Group outputs. Key industrial stakeholders may include data owners (large companies), technology owners (large companies, SMEs, startups) and third trusted parties linking actors (consultants, clusters, federations, associations). There is a need to scale from individual and local initiatives towards a more ambitious plan around the work/outputs of RDA Working Groups to clarify requirements, assess specifications and stimulate development of new applications.