Platforms Open Call: EOI Briefing

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PRESENTED BY
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Coordination and Coherence

People and Policy

Software and Platforms

Data and Services

Storage and Compute

NOTE: Diagram added after webinar

Australian Research Data Commons
Definitions are always fraught

“For the purposes of this call we define a Platform as a set of services, often with associated integration and/or orchestration functions, as well as connections to specific data resources, that are intended to enable researchers to carry out some of their research activities”

Platforms Objectives

To enable the development of e-research platforms that are more sustainable
   This will improve the likelihood that these platforms will continue after the initial co-investment

To enable new platform entrants to be successful in attracting ARDC co-investment
   This will expand the range of disciplines and research approaches that contribute to the Australian e-research ecosystem

To enable an expanded pool of Australian researchers to have access to platforms technologies in carrying out their work
   This will spread the impacts of the ARDC co-investment more widely

To bring together the community of Australian platform developers/adapters
   This will improve the return on investment by ensuring more supported (and thus productive) developers, as well as effective transmission of good practice approaches
In Scope

- Adoption of existing platform used by a research community (e.g. interstate or overseas) and implementation by a new or expanded community in Australia.

- Adaptation of an existing platform to a new community in a different area of research (with associated work on additional integrations to data sources and tools).

- Support for adoption of a relatively generic platform solution.

- Re-engineering of an existing solution to make it more sustainable (i.e. adoption of shared services, move to micro-services architecture).

- Instantiation and operation of specific services/micro-services that could be integrated into platforms.

Out of Scope

- Development of a new platform technology.

- Purchase of a Commercial Off the Shelf Solution (COTS).

- Development of significant additional new functionality, such as development of brand new tools or applications for management/analysis/visualisation of data in a specific/narrow field of research.
ARDC wants to run a process that will

• Provide as much transparency as possible
• Reward collaboration over competition
• Enable new entrants to the eResearch sector to take part
Dimensions

• 1-4 years project duration (1-3 for 2020 call, etc)
• Less than $3M/year of ARDC co-investment/project
• Mandatory 1:1 cash co-investment from partners
• Legal entity as lead (because contracts)
Three phases:

• EOI phase (focus of this webinar)
  • Collaborative, lightweight documentation

• Coordination phase
  • Proposer-initiated and/or ARDC-initiated

• RFP phase
  • Competitive, detailed documentation
Coordination opportunities

• Similar/relevant discipline groupings
• Similar instruments
• Similar software tools
• Similar platform technologies
• Opportunities for use of shared services
Timings:

• 19 August - EOI opens
• ? August – Facilitation starts
• 20 September – EOI closes
• 23 September - RFP Template and Final Weighted Selection Criteria made available
• 27 September – Facilitation ends
• 7 October – RFP opens
• 1 November – RFP closes
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