



Australian Research Data Commons

Platforms 2020 open call overview

Webinar 24th June 2020

PRESENTED BY

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Platforms objectives

To enable the development of eResearch platforms that are transformative

Leading to radical improvements in the way research is conducted, or dramatically increase the speed in which research is done

To enable the development of eResearch platforms that are more sustainable

This will improve the likelihood that these platforms will continue after the initial co-investment

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



ARDC wants to run an open call process that will:

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

In Scope

- Adoption of an existing platform used by one research community 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 microservices architecture)
- Instantiation and operation of specific services/microservices that could be integrated into platforms

Out of Scope

- Development of a new platform from scratch
- Purchase of a Commercial Off the Shelf Solution (COTS)

Dimensions

- 1-2.5 years project duration (projects begin Jan 2021, end by June 2023)
- Up to \$1M of ARDC co-investment per project (up to \$400K/year/project)
- 1:1 cash co-investment from partners not mandatory, but level of co-investment is part of evaluation
- Legal entity as lead (because contracts)
- No platforms open call in 2021 planned at this stage



Three phases:

- EOI phase (7-24 July)
 - Collaborative, lightweight documentation
- Coordination phase (from first EOI submission to 31 August)
 - Proposer-initiated and/or ARDC-initiated
- RFP phase (1-18 September)
 - Competitive, detailed documentation



Coordination opportunities

- Similar / relevant discipline groupings
- Similar data types and challenges
- Similar instruments
- Similar software tools
- Similar platform technologies
- Opportunities for use of shared services

What's changed in the Proposal form from 2019?

- Selection criteria and questions have changed - see [RFP documentation](#)
- All listed collaborators on the proposal will need to fill out a form by **25 September** to be counted as a collaborator on the proposal. The form ([example](#)) will ask for:
 - Title, First Name, Last Name, Job Title, Organisation, Group/Dept, Alternative Affiliation (optional), Alternative Job Title (optional), State, Email, Phone Number, ORCID (optional), **Project Role**.
 - If they are a **Key User**, it will ask what FoR codes they work under, and for up to three brief (1000 character max (~130 word)) case studies of what the platform will enable for their research.

Timing

- 7 July - EOI opens
- ? July - coordination starts (when first EOI is submitted)
- 24 July - EOI closes
- 31 August - coordination ends
- 1 September - RFP opens
- 11 September - closing date for questions
- 18 September - RFP ends



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