



# Call for Task Group Proposals for Presentation to the 34<sup>th</sup> CODATA General Assembly 17-18 October 2025, Brisbane, Australia

This document invites proposals for Task Groups to be presented to the [34th CODATA General Assembly](#) which will be held on 17-18 October 2025 in Brisbane, Australia, and online.

**The deadline for submissions of Task Group Proposals is 17 June 2025. Proposals will be reviewed by the CODATA Executive Committee and by external experts. Recommendations will be presented to the CODATA General Assembly which will vote on and select the Task Groups.**

**Task Groups are approved by the General Assembly for two years. Existing CODATA Task Groups may apply for renewal and are subject to the same criteria described below.**

## Task Groups and the CODATA's Mission and Strategic Priorities

Task Groups are an important means through which CODATA delivers on its mission and Strategic Programme. **In this 2025 call, we strongly encourage Task Groups that contribute to one or more of the strategic priorities** listed below and described further in this document. The CODATA ExComm as well as external reviewers of the proposal will be evaluating the relevance and merit of the proposed Task Group to the CODATA priorities.

## CODATA Strategic Priorities<sup>1</sup>

CODATA's mission is to connect data and people to advance science and improve our world. As the Committee on Data of the International Science Council (ISC), CODATA helps realise ISC's vision of advancing science as a global public good. CODATA does this by promoting international collaboration to advance trustworthy, equitable and transparent science and to improve the availability and usability of data for all areas of research.

CODATA has three strategic priorities:

1. **Making data work for cross-domain grand challenges:** CODATA is leading a ground-breaking initiative, called [WorldFAIR+](#), to provide practical guidance and technical recommendations to ensure that the data needed for interdisciplinary research is FAIR.
2. **Promoting data policy:** CODATA encourages the adoption of principles, policies and practices for FAIR data and trustworthy, equitable and transparent science.
3. **Putting data science and AI in service of science:** CODATA develops good practices and guidelines for the science of data, particularly to enable transparency and reproducibility in the use of computational methods in a world adapting to the challenges and opportunities of transformative technologies.

Proposals should state clearly and specifically how the Task Group will contribute to the realisation of one or more of these objectives and the priority activities.

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://codata.org/about-codata/our-mission/>

**Priority 1) Making data work for cross-domain grand challenges:** CODATA is leading a ground-breaking initiative, called [WorldFAIR+](#), to provide practical guidance and technical recommendations to ensure that the data needed for interdisciplinary research is FAIR.

- The primary focus of this activity is to implement, refine and extend the [Cross-Domain Interoperability Framework](#) (CDIF) through collaborations with research groups and data infrastructures in all scientific disciplines.
- The impact of this work will be to empower interdisciplinary research for grand challenge issues, by improving science systems' capacity to combine data and metadata across domains, and ensuring that ISC's science missions for sustainability are supported by good data practices.

**Priority future activities where TG proposals would be welcome include activities to:**

- implement and provide feedback on CDIF, including refinement and extensions;
- contribute to new CDIF profiles;
- explore or develop other interoperability solutions;
- prepare [FAIR Implementation Profiles](#) for specific (interdisciplinary) case studies;
- develop new initiatives and projects as part of [WorldFAIR+](#).

**Priority 2) Promoting data policy:** CODATA encourages the adoption of principles, policies and practices for FAIR data and trustworthy, equitable and transparent science

- CODATA's work to address this priority is led by the [International Data Policy Committee](#) and its ambitious Action Plan.
- The impact of this work will be to support the effectiveness and ethical dimensions of global science by advancing open and FAIR data policies, and by ensuring that data policy is an integral part of science policy.

**Priority future activities where TG proposals would be welcome include activities to:**

- contribute data policy recommendations in particular areas of importance for international science;
- support and enhance the work programme of the IDPC;
- promote the implementation of data policy recommendations of relevance to the work of the IDPC (e.g. the [UNESCO-CODATA recommendations and toolkit on Data Policy in Times of Crisis](#));
- develop and implement curricula and related resources addressing data policy.

**Priority 3) Putting data science and AI in service of science:** CODATA develops good practices and guidelines for the science of data, particularly to enable transparency and reproducibility in the use of computational methods in a world adapting to the challenges and opportunities of transformative technologies.

- This priority is delivered through CODATA's Task Groups, the CODATA Connect Early Career collaboration and a new initiative with ISC to build capacity and good practice for the use of data and AI for science.
- The impact of this work will be to accelerate scientific discovery, through the responsible adoption of new technologies, while maintaining rigour and reproducibility in the data intensive science of the 21st century.

**Priority future activities where TG proposals would be welcome include activities to:**

- explore, define and implement guidelines or examples of rigorous, responsible and reproducible science in the era of FAIR data and AI;
- make recommendations and guidelines around data validation, quality and description for AI training sets;
- update, expand and ensure the relevance of CODATA training activities in data stewardship, data science and AI;
- support, enhance and extend CODATA activities for early career researchers, specifically in relation to AI, data science and data stewardship.

## Partnerships

Task Group proposals are strongly encouraged to consider engagement with and involving other CODATA partners and stakeholders, such as:

- CODATA's Members - National Committees, International Scientific Unions, Institutions, Partners;
- The ISC stakeholders and partners;
- UN Agencies and other Intergovernmental Organisations;
- Intergovernmental Data Organisations, such as GEO or GBIF;
- Organisations and coalitions concerned with the development, maintenance and sustainability of data specifications and standards, such as the DDI Alliance, TDWG, OneGeochemistry;
- Global domain neutral data organisations, such as RDA or WDS.

## Responsibilities of CODATA Task Groups

Please also refer to the [Task Group Guidelines](#) for more detailed information.

Task Groups (TGs) are expected to:

1. Contribute to the realisation of the CODATA Strategic Priorities and of CODATA's overall mission.
2. Contribute to global collaboration around WorldFAIR+, including participation and engagement from CODATA's Members and from international scientific and data organisations (including ISC stakeholders and partners, intergovernmental organisations, CODATA National Committees, International Scientific Unions, and other global data organisations), around Data Policy and/or Data Science and AI for science.
3. Pursue clearly stated and well-defined objectives and produce tangible public outputs that contribute to the realisation of these objectives. This includes an appropriate use of CODATA branding, and following CODATA guidelines and expectations for outputs.
4. Participate in CODATA activities and events, including SciDataCon/International Data Week and other major CODATA Conferences.
5. Follow CODATA expectations for reporting, communication, and Task Group organisation.
6. Maintain regular reporting and prompt and proactive communication with the CODATA Secretariat.

7. Ensure regular contact and communication with the assigned CODATA Executive Committee (EC) Liaison(s). This responsibility is an essential aspect evaluated by the ExComm when considering an approval of the TG annual funding and/or the TG performance in relation to potential application for renewal of the TG in the following term.
8. Provide public and transparent accounts of their activities via the CODATA website and other communication channels, including working with the CODATA Secretariat to ensure communications and key information about the TG are disseminated regularly and kept up to date.

## Task Group membership and composition

Please also refer to the [Task Group Guidelines](#) for more detailed information.

CODATA's mission is to connect data and people to advance science and improve our world. TGs are intended to bring people together under the CODATA umbrella in support of this mission and to encourage global scientific cooperation around data.

**Co-chairs:** TGs must have 2 or more named Co-chairs, with regional and gender diversity. Co-chairs provide direction for the TG and are the key point of contact with CODATA. TG Co-chairs are expected to communicate frequently with and engage all named TG members.

**Secretary:** In addition to the Co-chairs, the TG must have a named Secretary who will plan meetings, respond to requests for information, maintain the TG wiki, blog or other tool, etc. It is encouraged for this role to be taken by an early career member of the TG or a secondee/intern, though other solutions are acceptable. The Secretary will take primary responsibility for key aspects of the TG coordination.

**Early Career Members:** TGs are encouraged to have at least two named early career members who will be strongly involved in substantive aspects of the TGs activity. These members should also become involved with the CODATA Connect early career and alumni network and receive benefits from that engagement (including where available, training opportunities, bursaries, network benefits etc). Mentoring and support provided by more senior TG members for the Early Career colleagues shall be regularly reported on.

**Internships/Secondments:** TGs are strongly encouraged to increase capacity through internships/secondments. Effort might be lent to the TG by CODATA National Members or by partner organisations, for example. Similarly, the activity of the Task Group might be one that incorporates a topic for post-graduate or post-doctoral research.

**TG Membership Diversity:** One of the benefits of CODATA TGs is to bring international and diverse perspectives and cooperation to bear on an issue. TG membership should be geographically and gender diverse.

## Task Groups Funding

Please also refer to the [Task Group Guidelines](#) for more detailed information.

**CODATA Funding:** CODATA designates part of its budget for Task Groups and, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, provides a small amount of seed funding. Historically this has ranged from 1K to 10K Euros annually. In recent years, allocations of 4K Euros per year have been most common. Such funding must be used to achieve tangible TG outputs. For example, directly supporting the drafting, publication or testing of TG outputs. Convening a workshop or similar event, such as a side-event to IDW, is within scope; speculative attendance at a conference is not. CODATA Task Group funding is allocated annually. The 12-month progress report from each Task Group will be used to guide funding allocation decisions for year two. Funding is expected to be expended in the calendar year it is received unless permission otherwise received from the CODATA Secretariat.

Shortly after approval at a General Assembly, the CODATA Secretariat will contact the new TG to request information, including the TG's work plan and a budget request with details on how any funding will be used, which will be considered by the Executive Committee. CODATA's usual practice is to disburse funds on receipt of an invoice or expenses claim within the budgeted amount. By arrangement, where necessary, funds can be advanced in response to a detailed activity plan.

**External Funding:** TGs are strongly encouraged to look for funding from external sources and historically the status of being a CODATA TG has assisted with this. The CODATA Secretariat and Executive Committee are willing in principle to provide letters of support and to assist in other ways with such proposals. Proposals to CODATA to continue a TG or to establish a new TG should indicate what steps will be taken to pursue external funding.

## How CODATA Assesses Task Group Proposals

Task Group proposals are peer reviewed and are also assessed by the Executive Committee.

The criteria used include the following:

- Alignment of the proposal with the **Requirements of CODATA Task Groups** described above;
- The significance and merit of the proposed work and its **contribution to CODATA's mission and Strategic priorities**;
- The clarity and merit of the objectives, outputs and outcomes described;
- The feasibility of the work plan;
- The existence of appropriate collaboration with other organisations or groups, ensuring the proposed work does not duplicate other activities;
- The expertise and appropriateness of the Task Group membership, including gender balance, the participation of early career scientists, and appropriate representation from developing countries;
- The existence of other likely sources of funding and support if needed to accomplish the work;
- Progress and performance of the Task Group in previous terms (applicable only to TG renewal proposals).

On the basis of the peer review and its own assessment, the Executive Committee will make recommendations to the General Assembly.

Proposers will be required to give either a presentation or poster at the General Assembly. The presentation or poster may be given virtually or by a CODATA Member Delegate in case travel of the proposer(s) may not be feasible. The General Assembly takes the presentation and the recommendations of the Executive Committee into account when deciding which TG proposals to approve.

## Submission Procedure and Deadlines

Applications should be made by filling out the [form available at CODATA website](#) by **17 June 2025**. This form is the principal information source used for evaluating the proposals.

**For existing CODATA Task Groups that are applying for renewal, there is an additional section required, in which the Task Group should report on its activities, outputs and outcomes to date.**

Proposers are encouraged to [download a template](#) to pre-fill proposed membership of the Task Group for easy upload to the webform when submitting the proposal.

Proposers are encouraged to liaise with the CODATA Secretariat and contact us at [info@codata.org](mailto:info@codata.org) as early as possible in the process for guidance, advice and to ensure the application criteria are fully met.