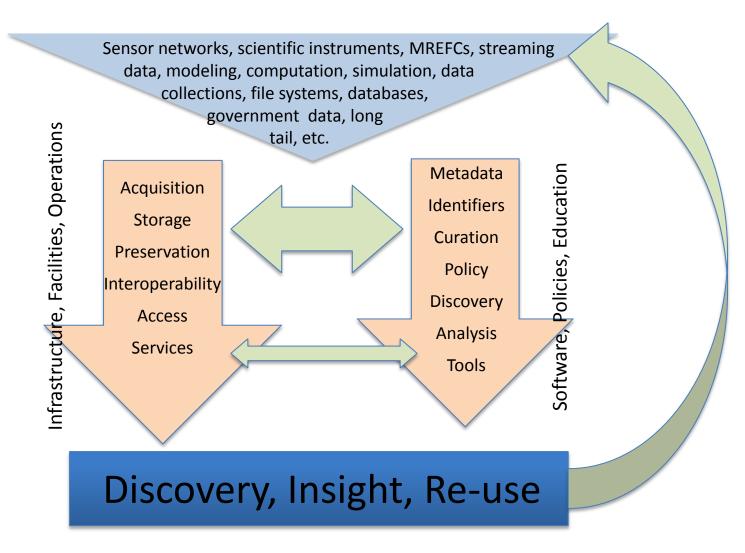
# Sharing Research Data Globally

Alan Blatecky National Science Foundation

Board on Research Data and Information

# Components of an Open Global Data Infrastructure



# 4 Major Threats to Establishing an Open Global Research Infrastructure

- Not understanding the importance of data for next century science and education, nor understanding the urgency to address and create a global data infrastructure now
- Relying on additional workshops, conferences, committees and so forth to study and provide more recommendations
- Waiting for an all encompassing solution; the perfect at the expense of the good
- Waiting for standards to be approved to enable data sharing and interoperability

#### What Needs to be Done?

- Stop talking about data sharing and start sharing data
  - Identify science communities who are already sharing data and/or need to share data to support their research
  - Start by "chunking", that is adopt small pieces of code or best practices that enable data to be shared and exchanged now
- Establish an organization to promote and enable the exchange of data across international boundaries
  - International support from Government agencies that support scientific research
  - Involvement of working scientists and researchers
  - Sustained effort to create a vibrant international data research economy to support a global data infrastructure

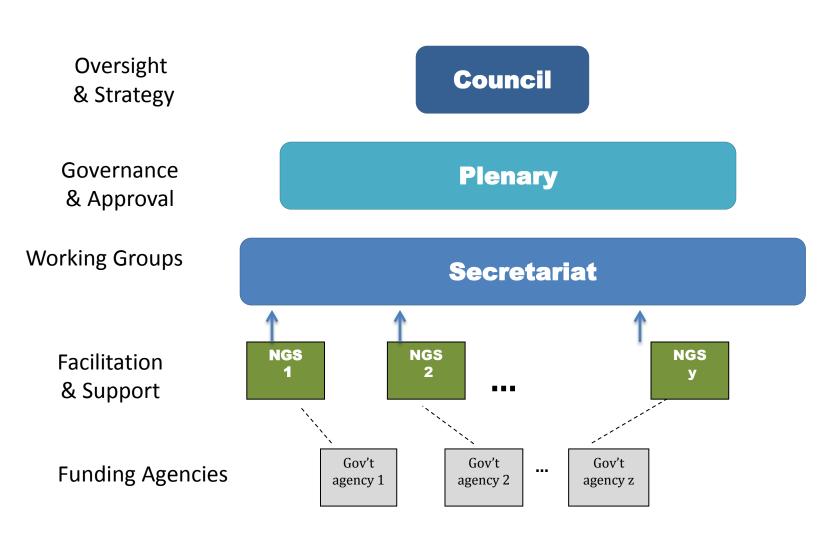
#### Research Data Alliance (aka Data Web Forum)

- Three government science agencies (EU, Australia, US) have agreed to work together to establish and support a new data sharing initiative
- Multiple awards have been made to Non-Government Structures (NGS) to establish RDA and support the effort
- RDA will facilitate the exchange and interoperability of data across disciplines and national boundaries by producing high quality, relevant technical documents that influence the way people store, use, and manage data.

#### Data Sharing Structure

- Linking a governance and strategy model with IETF participant model to catalyze the launch of this community-based activity
  - Governance and strategy to focus on policy, permission, directions
  - Participant focus on operations, services, interoperability
  - Agency focus on providing funding, support
  - Working groups to focus on "rough consensus and running code"
  - Community-based approaches and adoption of best practices
- Timeliness and ability to respond quickly is essential
- Driven by research community and users

### High level structure



## **Guiding Principles**

- Community-based activity; not a government organization, commercial entity or a regulatory body
- Meetings are public and open; products, approaches are free
- Focus on harmonization and early deployment across standards, policies, technologies, tools, and other data infrastructure elements
- Progress through consensus; voting to resolve disagreements as required
- Organization will not design, promote, endorse, or sell commercial products, or services
- Balanced representation of organizations, expertise, stakeholder communities, users

# Timeline

- Initial NGS teams have been established and are already at work
- First informal meeting of the NGS groups is scheduled for Oct 2-3 in Washington, DC
- First meeting of the Research Data Alliance is scheduled for March 2013 in Europe

# Questions