SSCAN

DATA SPACE

CRDCN
RCCDR

AGENDA

DRAC National Data Spaces Project

The SSCAN Submission

Plans for 2026

How to get involved

Q&A

NATIONAL
DATA SPACES
PILOT

WHAT IS A ‘DATA SPACE’

- A space for a community that works on similar data, topics or research questions to come together and use data from providers with a variety of sovereignty and/or security requirements
- There may or may not be project-specific infrastructure, but the community in the data space will have principles and ideas about data management and sharing in their circle
- A data space has a system for governance and gathering community feedback so it can grow alongside both technical capacity and the needs of the community

WHAT IS THE DATA SPACES PILOT?

- A funding envelope from the Digital Research Alliance of Canada to provide 4 communities with funding to explore the creation of a data space
- Successful applicants are expected to progress from wherever they start towards maturity as a data space

SSCAN DATA SPACE
SUBMISSION

A PLACE FOR SENSITIVE SOCIAL SCIENCE DATA

- Universities have on-site storage
  - Sometimes cloud-based American subscriptions
  - Usually limited to logins from that university
- Sharing and re-use of data suffer and data aren’t as secure as they could be
- The SSCAN Data Space looks to provide a made-at-home solution for academics to share and use human participant social science data

BUILT ON TOP OF A NETWORK WITH A STRONG LEGACY

- CRDCN was constituted in 2000 to organize member universities and obtain local access to Statistics Canada's confidential master files
  - Started with a handful of universities and surveys
  - Now over 40 universities and 300 datasets – including taxes, hospital records and many more
- In 2016 the CRDCN was funded as a Major Science Initiative (CFI) and the only one in quantitative social science

BUT THERE'S A LOT OF WORK TO DO!

- Research community engagement
- Data provider engagement
- Orientation & training
- Legal analyses
- Risk framework
- Prospective system map (NOT implementation)
- Reporting

AND NOT A LOT OF TIME TO DO IT!

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

THE PLACE FOR SENSITIVE SOCIAL SCIENCE DATA

Users/providers of sensitive data have a national platform for collaboration and secure access

Support for researchers across the data life-cycle

The option to permit reuse is promoted and facilitated

Discovery of these existing data is made easy and FAIR

Data management and deposit are centralized

Negotiations for new secondary use datasets are streamlined

WE NEED HELP!

- Opportunities for engagement are coming
- We will be creating several groups and fora to get community feedback
- We will be conducting some training to help you learn more about sensitive data management. We'd love to see you and hear your questions

Q&A TIME

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