

2020 Workplan

These are the proposed top level areas for the 2020 workplan, drawn from proposals [crowdsourced](#) in 2019.

Approved by the REFEDS SC via e-vote on 11 February 2020.

- [REF20-1: REFEDS Coordination and Management](#)
- [REF20-2: Specialist Working Groups](#)
- [REF20-3: Promotion and Communication](#)
- [REF20-4: Standards and Specifications](#)
- [REF20-5: REFEDS Services](#)

REF20-1: REFEDS Coordination and Management

Lead: Nicole Harris

Aims:

- To progress REFEDS position as an important player within the access and identity management space internationally.
- To build on established relationships with GÉANT project and other federation-related activities around the world.

WORKITEMS	DESCRIPTION	COMMENT	ASSIGNED TO	START DATE	END DATE	STATUS
REF20-1A	REFEDS BOFS at appropriate meetings throughout the year (maximum of 2).	Suggestions for where to target BOFs in 2020 welcomed. Proposal for an "unconference" style REFEDS meeting has been circulated to the community for discussion.	Nicole Harris	01/20	12/20	
REF20-1B	Maintain and develop the REFEDS blog, wiki and website.	As normal.	Nicole Harris	01/20	12/20	
REF20-1C	REFEDS annual meetings.	TNC and Internet2 Technology Exchange Meeting.	Nicole Harris	01/20	10/20	
REF20-1D	Implement 2020 REFEDS Survey.	Annual REFEDS Survey to go out in September 2020.	Nicole Harris	09/20	12/20	
REF20-1E	Manage REFEDS contracts with third parties.	These are contracts with external parties that support REFEDS such as Spherical Cow Consulting and RETI.	Nicole Harris	01/20	07/20	
REF20-1F	Manage REFEDS Sponsorships.	Current sponsor list.	Nicole Harris	12/18	01/20	
REF20-1G	REFEDS Distinguished Engineer Programme.	Programme to bring 2 engineers from developing federations to TNC.	Heather Flanagan	02/20	08/20	

REF20-2: Specialist Working Groups

Lead: Heather Flanagan

Aim:

- To provide infrastructure and support for evolving ideas and areas in the REFEDS community.

WORKITEMS	DESCRIPTION	ASSIGNED TO	START DATE	END DATE	STATUS
REF20-2A	FOG: Federation Operators Group	Peter Schober with support from Nicole Harris	01/2020	12/2020	
REF20-2B	SIRTFI	Tom Barton with support from Nicole Harris	01/2020	12/2020	

REF20-2C	Assurance	Jule Ziegler with support from Heather Flanagan	01/2020	12/2020	Working group to consider how the REFEDS MFA Profile uses the authnContextClassRef https://refeds.org/profile/mfa in the SAMLRequest to signal that MFA should be used for authentication. Microsoft ADFS cannot handle this authnContextClassRef and returns a FatalProfileException during authentication. Discussion notes from TechEx ACAMP session regarding REFEDS MFA in ADFS: https://bit.ly/2RTPgGb
REF20-2D	Entity Category Support	Nicole Harris	01/2020	12/2020	
REF20-2E	Federation Trust 2.0	Tom Barton and Judith Bush with support from Heather Flanagan	01/2020	12/2020	
REF20-2F	SPOG: SP Operators Group	Laura Paglione with support from Heather Flanagan	01/2020	12/2020	
REF20-2G	Federation Baseline Expectations Working Group	Pål Axelsson and Alan Buxey with support from Heather Flanagan	01/2020	12/2020	
REF20-2H	Best Practice around Error Handling	Fredrik Domeij with support from Heather Flanagan	02/2020	12/2020	

REF20-3: Promotion and Communication

Lead: Nicole Harris

Aims:

- To provide materials and support mechanisms to help federations promote effective approaches to IdPs and SPs.
- To provide feedback on documents produced by other groups to support clarity of messages.
- To reach out to target groups where specific messaging could be beneficial.

WORKITEMS	DESCRIPTION	ASSIGNED TO	START DATE	END DATE	STATUS
REF20-3A	Promotional material and support for entity categories	Nicole Harris	04/2020	09/2020	
REF20-3B	REFEDS Discovery Guide, Mark 2 Consent is used often within identity federations. While on a national level it may be clear what asking and giving consent entails, unfortunately consent does not mean the same thing in various countries as the legal grounds for consent vary. Also there are many ways to implement consent. What makes a good consent page and what does not? When is it (not) user friendly, what should be shown to make it legally usable? What are the best practices around consent globally? This activity investigates what it means to ask and give consent in various countries. In addition it describes recommendations for 'good' and 'bad' consent pages similar to the REFEDS Discovery Guide. Include note on how hub and spoke federations manage discovery.	Heather Flanagan	01/2020	08/2020	
REF18-3C	SP Engagement Plan Develop/enhance an engagement plan for service providers. The goal is threefold: 1) to gain deeper insights about the needs of SPs within the community, 2) to better integrate SPs in general community engagement (conferences, working groups, discussions, etc), and 3) to develop a resource for gaining SP support, feedback, and contributions. (Follow up from the Technology Exchange ACAMP session, SPs Unite!: http://bit.ly/ACAMP-SPsUnite)	Laura Paglione, Heather Flanagan	01/2020	12/2020	

REF20-4: Standards and Specifications

Lead: Heather Flanagan

Aims:

- To provide support for the development of standards and specifications under the REFEDS banner.
- To pilot specification work to support implementation requirements.
- To put in place structures to ensure specification and schema sustainability.

WORKITEMS	DESCRIPTION	ASSIGNED TO	START DATE	END DATE	STATUS
REF20-4A	Schema management	Schema Editorial Board with support from Heather Flanagan	01/2020	12/2020	
REF20-4B	Standardize requirements for logos in metadata	Keith Wessel with support from Heather Flanagan	01/2020	12/2020	
REF20-4C	Update the Cloud Services Cookbook (It would be very useful to devote some resources to updating SAML-specific recipes as well as add OIDC and protocol-agnostic recipes.)	TBD	02/2020	10/2020	
REF20-4D	Extensions to MDQ	TBD	02/2020	10/2020	

REF20-5: REFEDS Services

Lead: Nicole Harris

Aims:

- To continue using MET and enhance where possible.
- To support the basic REFEDS infrastructure needs (website, wiki and mailing lists).

WORKITEMS	DESCRIPTION	ASSIGNED TO	START DATE	END DATE	STATUS
REF20-5A	MET Contract in place with GARR for central operations. Development work to be contracted to RETI (Andrea). New features added and delivered in Oct.	Contractor	01/2020	12/2020	
REF20-5B	REEP/PEER Evaluate service and determine what, if any changes are required to maintain	Licia Florio	01/2020	12/2020	Outstanding decision on EOL.