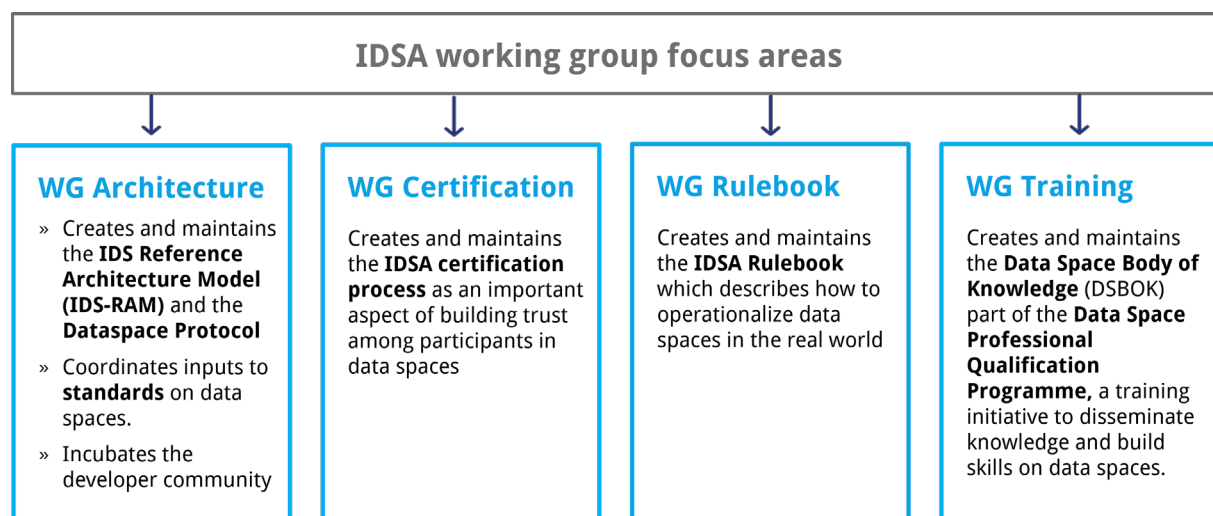**INTERNATIONAL DATA SPACES** ASSOCIATION

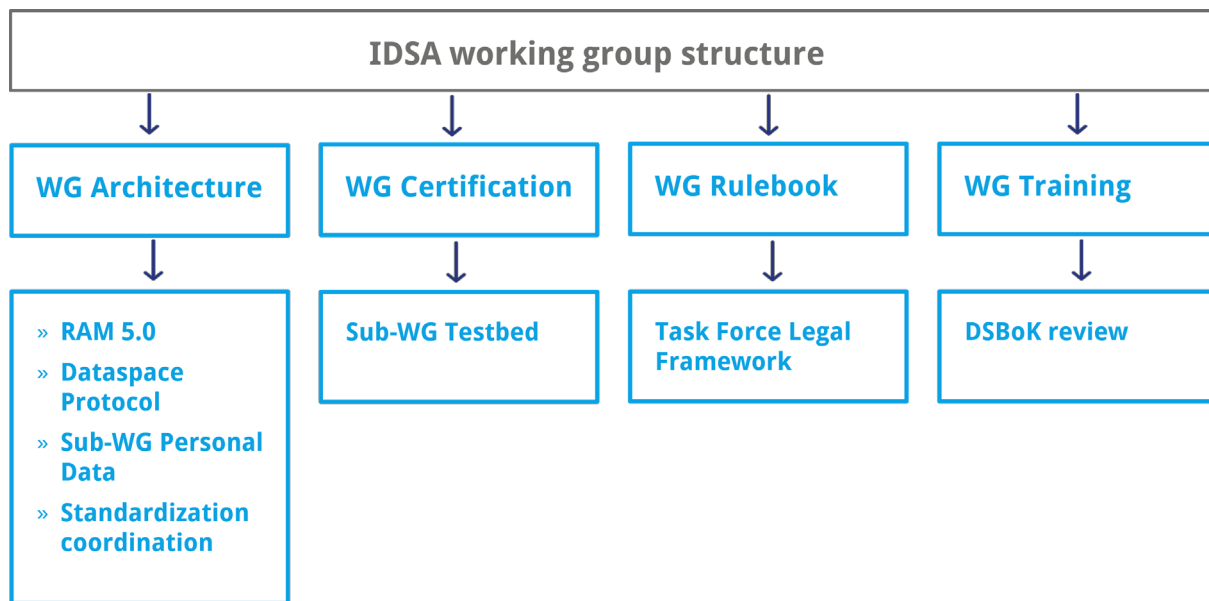# Collaboration starts here – join the IDSA working groups

Our working groups are the innovation engines that drive data spaces forward. These collaborative teams develop the core frameworks, standards, and resources that are establishing IDSA as a leader in data spaces globally.

Your expertise – whether technical, business, legal, or operational – is vital to our continued success and impact.

IDSA's work is organized across four working groups, each addressing critical aspects of data spaces development:

IDSA working group focus areas

WG Architecture

» Creates and maintains the **IDS Reference Architecture Model (IDS-RAM)** and the **Dataspace Protocol**

» Coordinates inputs to **standards** on data spaces.

» Incubates the developer community

WG Certification

Creates and maintains the **IDSA certification process** as an important aspect of building trust among participants in data spaces

WG Rulebook

Creates and maintains the **IDSA Rulebook** which describes how to operationalize data spaces in the real world

WG Training

Creates and maintains the **Data Space Body of Knowledge** (DSBOK) part of the **Data Space Professional Qualification Programme,** a training initiative to disseminate knowledge and build skills on data spaces.

The working groups are further divided into several sub-working groups to allow a more detailed and specialized approach to tackling key topics and challenges. This structure ensures that members can engage with the areas most relevant to their expertise and interests while contributing to the broader goals of the IDSA community.

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┌─────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┐
│                     IDSA working group structure                      │
└─────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┘
      ↓                    ↓                   ↓                    ↓
┌──────────────┐   ┌──────────────┐   ┌──────────────┐   ┌──────────────┐
│ WG Architecture│  │ WG Certification│ │  WG Rulebook │   │  WG Training │
└──────────────┘   └──────────────┘   └──────────────┘   └──────────────┘
      ↓                    ↓                   ↓                    ↓
┌──────────────┐   ┌──────────────┐   ┌──────────────┐   ┌──────────────┐
│ » RAM 5.0    │   │ Sub-WG Testbed│  │ Task Force Legal│ │ DSBoK review │
│ » Dataspace  │   │              │   │ Framework    │   │              │
│   Protocol   │   └──────────────┘   └──────────────┘   └──────────────┘
│ » Sub-WG Personal│
│   Data       │
│ » Standardization│
│   coordination│
└──────────────┘
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To begin participating in IDSA Working Groups, follow these four simple steps. This process will connect you with the resources, information, and people you need to contribute effectively to our collaborative work on data spaces.

1. Sign up for the Working Group Newsletter to know what's happening

2. Request access to GitHub repositories.

3. Once you have access to GitHub, explore the Members area and add the Meetings calendar to know about the upcoming meetings.

4. Contact the WG Contacts for onboarding. Attend the meetings to familiarize yourself with our work. Review and contribute on Teams and GitHub

Where to help in the WG Architecture

Start with RAM 5, if you have the data space concepts and an architectural view

We are working on the **next version** of the **IDS Reference Architecture Model**, a conceptual framework for building data spaces. You can support us by:

- **Following meetings:** You can join the bi-weekly RAM 5 calls and the workshops we organize on focus topics to be informed, to follow discussions and express your viewpoints
- **Contributing to papers and RAM 5 content:** Papers capture the conclusions from the workshops and explore topics at a deeper level, eventually evolving into RAM 5 chapters – You can provide inputs or review content from others and give valuable feedback
- **Leading a RAM 5 chapter:** We are looking for "RAM 5 maintainers"! – Let us know if you are interested in leading a topic, and we can help you meet other contributors, lead discussions, and co-create content

- **Focus topics:** Trust, usage control, observability, interoperability, inputs to and alignment with upcoming standards, mandatory and optional roles in data spaces, governance, information model, components, processes and certification. Find more details in **Table 2: Topics in RAM 5** at the end of this document.

Who we need: Experts on IT infrastructure, software and systems architecture, experts on data space concepts, practitioners and innovators, curious and critical minds

Start with the Dataspace Protocol if you are implementers

We are finalizing the release of the Dataspace Protocol and transposing it to an ISO Standard. You can support us by:

- Joining the monthly Dataspace Protocol Alignment calls
- Helping achieves the editorial excellence of an **ISO standard** and
- Validating the concepts and implementation details covered in the DSP specification.

Who we need: Experts developing IT infrastructure, systems or software

Start with the Standardization Coordination Group if you are connected to or interested in standards

We coordinate contributions to standardization efforts on data spaces. You can support us with:

- Your presence in the quarterly Standardisation Coordination meetings
- Contributions to CEN WS Trusted Data Transactions
- Liaison with CEN/CENELEC JTC 25 Data management, Dataspaces, Cloud and Edge.
- Preparation/Participation in the ISO/IEC SC 38 General Assemblies
- Contributions to the paper on 'Data Space Standardization: Europe and international'

Who we need: Experts involved in standardization activities, members who can contribute to defining requirements and specifications for standards

Where to help in the WG Rulebook

Bring in your business, legal, operational or functional perspective on data spaces

We are working on improvements on the IDSA Rulebook, a guide on how to implement and operate data spaces in the real world. You can support us with:

- Your presence in the monthly WG Rulebook meetings
- Contributions to standardization efforts such as ISO 20151
- Work on technical, legal, and geographic interoperability
- Contributions to observability, traceability, and provenance topics
- Alignment with initiatives such as the Sitra Rulebook version 3

- Expanding range of stakeholders, bringing more experts to the group (legal, technical, business, governance)
- Extend the Rulebook with current thinking on BLOFT (business, technical, legal, operational and functional) aspects for building and operating data spaces

Who we need: Not just practitioners, but a much broader group of profiles: experts with business, operational, or legal, perspective, colleagues who know how business models work in data spaces. e.g. If you are implementing and operating data spaces with business, legal, and operational angles, and want to share feedback from the field

Where to help in the WG Certification

Bring in your expertise in compliance evaluation

We are working on **IDS Certification 2.0.** You can support us by:

- Participating in the quarterly WG Certification and Testbed meetings
- Defining **scope**
- Developing Certification Modules and Certification Criteria
- IDS Certification Scheme update
- **Requirements** for compliance to IDS concepts

Who we need: Certification Experts, Internal Certification Specialists, IDS Technical Experts, Industry Representatives, Data Space Practitioners, Legal and Compliance Professionals

Where to help in the WG Training

Bring in your expertise in knowledge creation and skills building

Our goal is to establish a robust training initiative to disseminate knowledge and skills on data spaces.

You can support us with:

- Your presence in the quarterly WG Training or monthly DSBOK review meetings
- **Content:** Continuous review and alignment of the DSBOK
- **Curriculum:** Development of new IDSA Qualifications such as Data Space Business Consultant and Data Space Technical Consultant (to be part of the DSBOK)

Who we need: Education Professionals, Data Space Experts, Practitioners and Innovators, curious and critical minds

The benefits of your involvement

By participating in IDSA working groups, you will:

1. **Influence the Future** - Help shape standards and frameworks that will define data sharing for years to come
2. **Access Insider Knowledge** - Stay ahead of developments in data spaces before they become widely adopted
3. **Build Your Network** - Connect with leading experts across industries and domains
4. **Enhance Your Reputation** - Demonstrate your organization's thought leadership in the data spaces ecosystem
5. **Drive Innovation** - Apply cutting-edge concepts directly to your organization's data initiatives

Ready to get started?

We understand that members have different capacities to engage. Your contribution is valuable at any level: Whether you can lead a major initiative or simply attend occasional meetings, your perspective and expertise are valuable to the IDSA community.

Table 1: How you can contribute at any level	
Level of effort	**What you can do**
Light Engagement	Attend meetings to stay informed, ask questions, and share opinions
Medium Engagement	Review drafts and provide your inputs or feedback on content created by others
Deep Engagement	Lead development of specific content areas, organize workshops, or maintain documentation

Choose your area of interest and level of commitment today. Whether you're an expert in architecture, interested in rulebook development, focused on certification, or passionate about training, your contribution matters.

Connect with our team or sign-up for our Working Groups here to begin your journey with IDSA and help drive innovation in secure data sharing across industries.

Table 2: Topics in RAM 5	
Topic	**What to do**
Observability	How can transactions between participants be observed during data sharing? This may be needed for legal, auditing, billing, or business reasons. How can observability be implemented, and what are the key criteria?
	How you can help: Contribute to the draft paper on this topic with your review and feedback, help with the description of use cases.
Trust	How can trust be established in data spaces, what are the relevant aspects of trust frameworks and how to utilize them in data spaces?
	How you can help: Review the internal IDSA paper on Trust in Data Spaces and provide comments. Lead or contribute to the Trust perspective in RAM 5, covering security, access and usage policies, usage control, and decentralized claims.
Usage control	What are the main functionalities of usage control, how can it be implemented, how does it relate to other aspects?
	How you can help: Lead or contribute to these sections in the Trust perspective and the Process layer of RAM 5, lead or join the workshops we will organize on this topic.
Interoperability	How can interoperability be achieved in data spaces? How can participants communicate seamlessly within or across data spaces? What are the key aspects, standards, and specifications?
	How you can help: Take a look at the new Interoperability section in the IDSA Rulebook, help evolve RAM in this direction.
Decentralized approaches	How to implement dataspaces based on the various decentralized approaches?
	How you can help: Lead or contribute to the Governance and Trust perspectives in RAM.
Data spaces standardization	Contributions to and alignment with ongoing standardisation activities on data spaces.
	How you can help: Track RAM 5 workshops to stay updated on draft standards (ISO/IEC, CEN/CENELEC), discuss contributions, and align RAM with evolving concepts.

Relation to other concepts and initiatives	How is IDS-RAM related to the DSSC blueprint, the Dataspace protocol, etc. How are data spaces related to Data economy, IoT, AI, Industrial Cloud, etc.
	How you can help: Lead the Context of IDS section in RAM 5, or contribute to a topic you are interested in by providing or reviewing content.
Roles and assets in a data space	What are the mandatory and optional roles in a dataspace, what are the assets, how do they map to each other?
	How you can help: Lead or contribute to the business layer in RAM 5, take a look at the draft standards we are working on in this regard (such as CEN Trusted Data Transactions Part 1), lead or join the workshops on the business layer.
Data value creation	How to enable value creation from data?
	How you can help: Contribute to this topic in the Foundation section of RAM 5.
Data governance	How does data governance look like in an organization to join a data space, how could an overarching data governance framework look like for data spaces?
	How you can help: Lead or contribute to the Data governance section as part of the Governance perspective in RAM 5.
Certification	How to evaluate compliance to IDS concepts in data spaces?
	How you can help: Join the WG Certification to contribute to IDS certification 2.0 and help align RAM 5 content to the new certification criteria and scheme.
Requirements	What are the mandatory and optional functionalities in a data space?
	How you can help: Review draft standard ISO/IEC JTC1 SC38 20151 on Dataspaces Concepts and Characteristics, Lead or contribute to the Functional Layer in RAM 5 and the IDSA Rulebook.
Components and processes	Which components should be added or removed in IDS-RAM, how should processes be evolved based on the latest developments and needs in data spaces?
	How you can help: Lead or contribute to the Systems and Process Layers in RAM 5, lead or join the workshops we will organize on these topics

Information Model	How can data be semantically described, what are the main aspects for a data catalogue?
	How you can help: Lead or contribute to the Information Layer in RAM 5, help evolve it based on new developments such as the Dataspace protocol and new concepts for data spaces, explore the relationship with DCAT and ODRL, describe how profiles and extensions would provide support, align with Data Catalogue developments and SAREF, AAS and semantics paper

Any Questions? Contact us!

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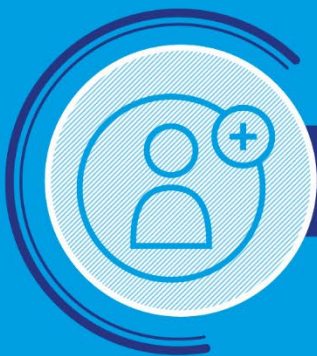

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Become a member of IDSA!
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