NSF CI PoC IdM WG

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Recall how federated access happens



How to join international federation, superficially

- 0. Do you need to join a federation?
- 1. Put your Service Provider into InCommon
- 2. While at InCommon's Federation Manager doing so, check the box that says to export it to eduGAIN
- 3. Let the collaborators access your Service Provider

Although, this might take quite a lot of planning and effort!

- Prepare architecture for adding federated access to existing services
- Under whose auspices will your SP/proxy be added to InCommon?
- Do all collaborators' home org Identity Providers work well in federation?
- What about collaborators whose home orgs don't belong to a federation?

Read this! FIM4R v2*

These research and scholarly communities spent 18 months to distill what they most need from Federation



* "Federated Identity Management for Research, version 2", July 2018



https://aarc-project.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/AARC2-DJRA1.4_v2-FINAL.pdf

Further preparation to federate

- CILogon or Globus Auth can fulfill some of the architectural needs
- Are all LFs legal orgs? For those not, which legal org will sponsor their InCommon membership (if that's the route to take)?
- What else do you need of collaborators' home orgs?
 - Identity proofing, affiliation freshness/info, credential strength?
 - Incident response?

REFEDS establishes standards and best practices to address such things across R&E federations

InCommon's Baseline Expectations program gradually ensures ubiquitous adoption of selected standards and practices







What FIM4R wants and what Baseline Expectations intends to deliver over time

What's good

- InCommon, REFEDS, and FIM4R communities
 - Great people, smart, capable, helpful
 - Understand that research is a major reason for trust federations in R&E to exist
- Collaboration at scale onboarding and provisioning
- Federated credentials are better than self-asserted, even with their attendant issues
 - Federated users' credential issues are addressed by their home orgs, not you
 - Those credentials are also used within their home orgs for important things
 - Deprovisioning simplified and centralized
- International Baseline Expectations looks like it will happen
 - But change management for 1000's of orgs across dozens of countries can be glacial
- Alignment of audit trails for traceability

Speed bumps

- IdPs use various federated identifiers; SPs must deal with that
 ePTID, ePPN, ePUID, new SAML identifiers
- Under GDPR, some EU IdPs have become conservative about user attributes
 - LF SPs might need to assert "CoCo" compliance* when that's available outside the EU
- Users whose home orgs don't federate
 - Must use an IdP "of Last Resort" (which likely means infrequent use, forgotten passwords)
 - Some IdPs of Last Resort have difficult registration practices, others are too easy, eg, give out accounts to anyone with an email, few or no controls in place
 - ORCID might be a good choice, or google etc if you are not very concerned about who's actually using the credential
- For many orgs, research use cases are a small fraction of their IdP usage
 - Operators don't always take those into account, eg, change user identifiers during an upgrade

*https://wiki.refeds.org/display/CODE/Data+Protection+Code+of+Conduct+Home

More speed bumps

- Uneven practices by national federations -
 - \circ ~ Not all SPs are reachable by all IdPs
- Software developers at your LF or collaborating institutions might need to learn OIDC or SAML or SciTokens
- When things go wrong, it can be hard to debug
 - Engineering can help but knowing the environment can help

Science Persona Ecosystem Research Community

The laboratory – one or multiple orgs

- Principal Investigators
- Trainees
- Technicians
- Administrative

Sponsors – one or multiple orgs/gov

- Grants, Contracts, Cooperative agreements
- Administrators
- Program officers
- Regulatory and Oversight

Outside contractor support

- Procurement
- Vendor
- Equipment Maintenance

Core Facility/Host organization

- Administrators
- Security Staff
- Facilities
- Motor Pool
- Infrastructure

Resource slides

SIRTFI - federated security incident response

Be willing to collaborate in responding to a federated security incident.

Apply basic operational security protections to your federated entities

in line with your organization's priorities.

Self-assert SIRTFI "tag" so that others will know to trust this about you.



Research & Scholarship attribute release

- Many services for research and scholarship need a few user attributes
 - Name, email, affiliation, persistent identifier
- Those service providers are "tagged" by their national federation operators as "R&S"
- Academic Identity Providers automatically release the R&S attributes to R&S tagged services
- Such Identity Providers are also tagged as "R&S" so that services can elect to require R&S attributes in order to provide service
- The R&S program contributes to good privacy practice under the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)*

What do research services and funders need from institutions to make informed authorization decisions?

It depends from case to case, but some things are common...

- Access is mostly given on project basis and researchers are given basic access based on their organizational affiliation
 - Terminate access when the affiliation of the person is terminated
 - > Institutional affiliation of a person \Rightarrow *attribute assurance & freshness*
 - > Binding of a person to their institution \Rightarrow *attribute assurance*
- Minimize risks of unauthorized access
 - Due diligence on service provider side
 - > Known real identity of a researcher \Rightarrow *identity assurance & unique identifiers*
 - > Strong enough authentication \Rightarrow *authentication assurance* \Rightarrow *MFA/SFA*

An international research assurance framework

- A common "language" for communicating identity assurance between Identity Providers and Service Providers
- Basic identity, authentication, and attribute assurance information
- Conformance is self-determined and self-asserted



https://refeds.org/assurance