eduGAIN Strategy

Mission Statement

eduGAIN connects research and education identity federations through the delivery of a metadata exchange point and foundational trust framework.

This creates the ability for organisations to connect to international services without the need to establish bilateral agreements or join multiple identity federations and facilitates resource access for the Research and Education community in a secure, and privacy-preserving manner.

Vision Statement

To be the globally trusted infrastructure for research and education identity federations.

To reach this goal, eduGAIN will provide authentic, accurate and interoperable metadata and extend its trust framework to enable secure, trustworthy and fit for purpose international federated transactions.

Core Values

eduGAIN and its membership share these core values in supporting and delivering the service:

- **Open standards**. eduGAIN is built on open standards and open technologies.
- **Transparency**. eduGAIN processes are well documented. The direction and intent of the eduGAIN service is clear and well communicated to our membership and stakeholders.
- **Digital equity**. eduGAIN strives to empower and improve service delivery from the national federations.
- **Neutrality**. eduGAIN provides a consistent service to its membership and has the same obligations and requirements for all members.
- **Trust**. eduGAIN builds a strong foundation of trust for its members through a framework that is security and privacy preserving by design.

Critical Success Factors

1. eduGAIN is seen as a trustworthy framework, meeting the basic standards of security, authenticity, accuracy and interoperability expected within single sign-on transactions as defined in the REFEDS Baseline Expectations.

2. eduGAIN holds its member federations to the same standards as itself and each other.
3. eduGAIN is representative of the trust and identity needs of the global research and education community.
4. eduGAIN provides its members with tools and services that help them meet the success factors defined above eduGAIN members are fully engaged in service governance and development in a clear and transparent process.

Goals

1. Improve the consistency and reliability of information held about Identity Federations to meet authenticity, accuracy, and security requirements.
2. Improve the interoperability between and across Identity Federations.
3. Improve the baseline standards for security, data protection and assurance across all entities published to eduGAIN.
4. Upgrade eduGAIN monitoring tools and processes to consistently highlight non-compliant entities and take action against compliance issues.
5. Provide greater transparency and clarity to consumers of federation metadata as to the expected level of assurance and compliance of entities.
6. Ensure that central eduGAIN operations are maintained, resourced and appropriately funded and able to operate in a resilient manner.
7. Ensure that eduGAIN policies and processes are fit for purpose and enforced.

Roadmap

The Roadmap for 2025 - 2027 can be found here: eduGAIN Roadmap