PRESS RELEASE
17 November 2026

The Inria Foundation joins the Digital Public Goods Alliance to advance open, trustworthy digital infrastructure

The Inria Foundation has officially joined the Digital Public Goods Alliance (DPGA), a global multi-stakeholder initiative endorsed by the United Nations Secretary-General. This membership strengthens the Foundation's commitment to open, trustworthy digital infrastructure and to advancing digital public goods that support the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Digital public goods (DPGs) — including open-source software, open data, open AI models, open standards and open content — offer governments and organizations the means to build adaptable, privacy-respecting digital solutions without vendor lock-in. As digital technologies become increasingly central to public services, research and economic life, the Inria Foundation's membership reaffirms its conviction that openly developed and governed digital commons are essential to addressing shared global challenges.

About the DPGA

Co-founded by the Government of Norway, UNICEF, iSPIRT and the Government of Sierra Leone, the Digital Public Goods Alliance brings together more than 55 governments, multilateral organisations and public and private institutions committed to digital cooperation.

Through its DPG Standard and DPG Registry, which lists more than 240 verified digital public goods, the Alliance helps organizations worldwide discover and adopt trusted, open digital solutions.

The Inria Foundation: a mission rooted in digital commons

Inria (French national institute for digital sciences and technologies) and it's Foundation have long supported open source software and digital commons, notably through Inria's contributions to open technologies include the co-founding of the W3C and initiatives such as scikit-learn, as well as through projects hosted by the Foundation such as Software Heritage, the OCaml community and Pl@ntnet.

Inria Foundation as part of Inria Group, supports a human-centered digital transition, supports French and European organisations that work on digital commons and and works to foster an international ecosystem that supports democratic European digital sovereignty. As a Forum for reflection and debate on major developments in the digital sphere, the

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foundation organizes research projects and events, for example on the sustainable financing of the commons, public digital infrastructure, internet governance and security in the field of artificial intelligence.

Bridging research, public policy and the open-source community, the Foundation advances digital solutions in health, the environment, education and digital trust. Its membership in the DPGA extends this mission internationally, fostering collaboration around open, sovereign and democratic digital infrastructure.

Three commitments to drive progress

As part of its DPGA membership, the Inria Foundation has identified three priorities for 2026:

1. Advancing DPG development through forums and research *(Policy & Advocacy)*

Through initiatives such as *Numérique en Communs* and its *Tech Talks*, the Foundation connects researchers, policymakers, entrepreneurs and open-source communities to turn strategic dialogue into action. Its work includes a joint publication with iSPIRT, released in June 2026, examining the Data Empowerment and Protection Architecture (DEPA) as a model for data sovereignty and public-good infrastructure.

2. Supporting Software Heritage as a Digital Public Good *(Technical)*

Hosted by the Inria Foundation, Software Heritage was launched by Inria with UNESCO in 2015 to preserve and share publicly available source code. As of January 2026, when the archive was verified as a DPG, its archive contained over 27 billion unique source files from over 420 million software projects. Its Public Code Observatory also tracks and maps contributions to digital public goods worldwide.

3. Nominating Pl@ntNet as a Digital Public Good *(Technical)*

Hosted by the Inria Foundation and developed by Inria, INRAE, IRD and CIRAD, Pl@ntNet uses collaborative AI and citizen science to identify and map plant biodiversity. Used in more than 200 countries, it contributes valuable open biodiversity data to international platforms including GBIF and INPN's OpenObs.

Towards a shared, resilient digital commons

Software Heritage and Pl@ntNet illustrate the transformative potential of digital commons: openly developed, community-driven resources that make knowledge and technology accessible beyond borders.

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By joining the DPGA, the Inria Foundation strengthens its role within a global community of governments, international organisations and civil society committed to a shared vision: **open, trustworthy digital infrastructure that serves the public good.**

> "Digital sovereignty and cooperation on digital goods go hand in hand. By joining the DPGA, we're not just showcasing what the Inria Foundation has built with Software Heritage and Pl@ntNet — we're committing to work with an international community that believes open, trustworthy digital infrastructure is a public good, not a private asset." **— Henri Verdier, Director General of the Inria Foundation**

> "By bridging scientific excellence with open-source infrastructure, the Inria Foundation is a leader in developing and supporting public interest technology. We are proud to welcome the foundation to the DPGA and look forward to working together to ensure that trustworthy digital tools remain a global commons accessible to everyone." — Liv Marte Nordhaug, CEO, DPGA Secretariat

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About the Fondation Inria

The Inria Foundation supports a human-centered digital transition and works to strengthen digital commons for the benefit of all. As part of the Inria Group, it acts as a fiscal sponsor and support organization for a wide range of French and European digital commons, including Software Heritage, Pl@ntNet and the OCaml community. Bridging research and real-world challenges, the Foundation supports projects and brings communities together in key areas such as health, the environment, education and digital trust.

About Inria

Inria, the French national research institute for digital science and technology, supports the French State in its national research and innovation strategies for digital technology, acting as a programme agency. Inria leads over 300 research and innovation projects with 3,500 scientists, engineers and support staff, in partnership with universities and the digital ecosystem — companies, entrepreneurs and public actors alike.

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About the Digital Public Goods Alliance

The Digital Public Goods Alliance is an initiative endorsed by the UN Secretary-General that facilitates the discovery and deployment of open-source technologies to accelerate the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in low-and middle-income countries. Incubated by the Government of Norway and UNICEF, the Alliance relies on engagement and leadership from key pathfinder countries, private-sector technology experts, government and philanthropic donors, implementing organisations, and innovation groups across the UN system.

Learn more: digitalpublicgoods.net Fondation Inria's DPGA roadmap: digitalpublicgoods.net/roadmap/019e217a-0fb2-7041-8ff6-de4e79790565

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