

Special Session in AFITA/WCCA2018, 24-26 October 2018, IIT Bombay

"Web API, FAIR data, and Interoperability" - APAN AgWG organized session

Brief Background Information

Asia Pacific Advanced Network (APAN, <https://apan.net>) is an international backbone connecting Research and Education Network in Asia Pacific Region. APAN also means users and managers community of the backbone. APAN organize working groups to encourage international research collaboration and Agriculture Working Group (AgWG) is one of active groups in APAN.

In agricultural research, open data is promoted by Research Data Alliance (RDA, <https://www.rd-alliance.org/>) and Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN, <https://www.godan.info/>). And many public research institutes and universities open their research data. Agricultural research is interdisciplinary and the terms of many research fields are used. Data of various spatial resolutions and temporal resolutions are prepared according to the purpose of the study. Sometimes data is described in local language. Therefore, Open Data is not enough to utilize data efficiently in agricultural research.

Information service for agriculture is provided by private companies, governments in each situation. Many Web APIs are in service for accessing agricultural data in their format now. It seems difficult to make standards in agricultural information services.

Ensuring data interoperability is a possible and expected approach to create big data from multiple sources. Therefore, in recent years, in cooperation with GODAN, APAN AgWG had repeated sessions on the interoperability of data relating Web APIs and open data. And AgWG proposes to start with the publication of metadata according to FAIR Principles (<https://www.go-fair.org/fair-principles/>). FAIR Principles are appropriate for researchers, those are reluctant to open up data created by their hard works. In this organized session, papers related on interoperability of data in agriculture are expected, including common/standard Web API, common/standard data format, metadata description, semantic resources, open data activities, data integration from multiple data sources, etc. And how to make data interoperable will be discussed. Papers describing requirements for data form multiple platforms/systems from data scientists also welcomed.

Paper submission: Please follow AFFITA/WCCA2018 conference announcement: http://www.afita2018.org/afita_wcca2018/index.html (Abstract module).

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