How to reach global customers

with Federated Identity Management

What can the AARC project do for you?

The AARC (Authentication and Authorisation for Research and Collaboration) project brings together 20 partners from among national research and education networking organisations (NRENs), e-infrastructures, libraries and service providers.

AARC champions federated identity management (FIM) and eduGAIN.

AARC facilitates the adoption of federated access in research collaborations. AARC provides technical and policy best practices to facilitate global access to online resources, data and services.

AARC supports services providers by offering:

- Training materials and opportunities to service providers;
- A point of liaison between service providers, eduGAIN, and other groups and initiatives working in the research and education identity federation space;
- A blueprint architecture to help identity architects in research communities and e-infrastructures to enable secure, scalable, and interoperable federated access to resources and services
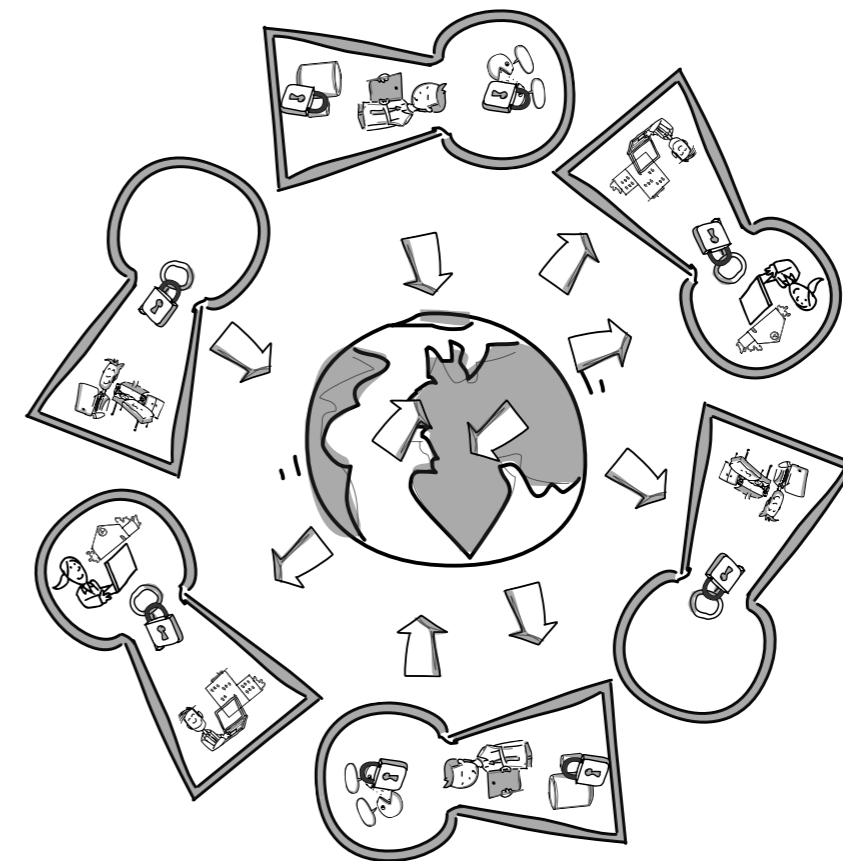
eduGAIN inter-federation helps everyone win!

Today online services are crucial to research and education.

Students, teachers, researchers and institution staff rely on them for collaboration through webmail, e-learning, teaching and conferencing, analysing and sharing data, and for accessing journals and libraries.

But how do users access all the services they need? How do universities, museums, schools, research centres, teaching hospitals and other research and education institutions benefit from their users coming together with more services? And how do the services reach local or global customers?

The eduGAIN service inter-links research and education identity federations - 'inter-federation' - to ensure that everybody wins.

Here's how it works...

Usually, every online service requires a separate account. This can be a headache.

Service providers have to manage huge numbers of accounts and details. And users have to juggle multiple usernames and passwords, which also weakens security.

But many research and education institutions provide their users with a single online identity. This gives access to all the services that are available locally within the institution.

To bring together a wider pool of users and services, research and education identity federations were created to build trust between the identity-providing institutions and service providers.
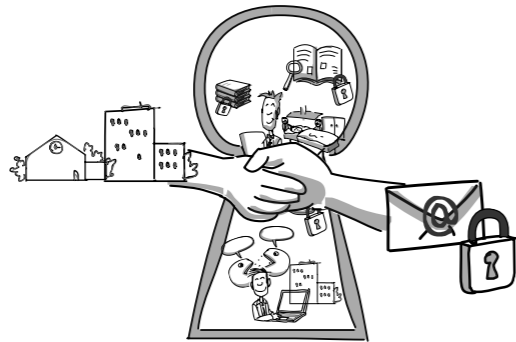
Benefits to service providers

By participating in eduGAIN, service providers win a larger audience of users around the world. These are users who are trusted by their identity-providing institutions. And with the identity providers handling the users' accounts, there's reduced overhead for accounts and user support. So the cost per user is lowered.
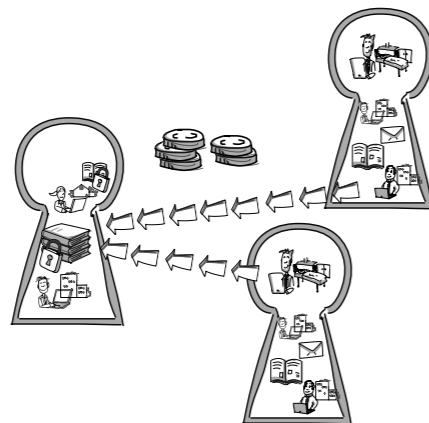
Service providers need sign up with only one federation instead of with them all separately. This saves more time, effort and money and is the most efficient way to reach global users.

To help inter-federation happen securely, agreements protect the international transfer of data. This international collaboration between federations allows users and services from around the world to interconnect. And this is made possible through eduGAIN.
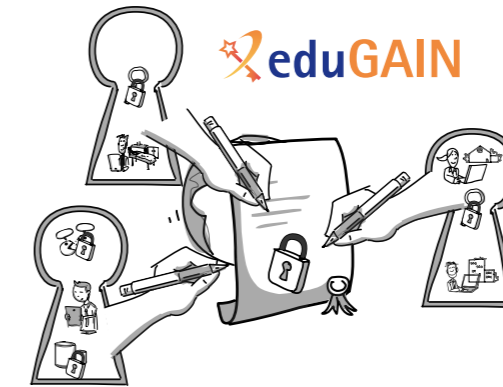
How do you join in?

By joining an identity federation that is part of eduGAIN, your service will be able to tap in to the global pool of users.

- Select a federation - contact the eduGAIN team to help you.
- Apply for membership.
- Enable single sign on.
- Work with the eduGAIN team to configure your service.

eduGAIN

Looking for more details?
https://wiki.edugain.org/How_to_Join_eduGAIN_as_Service_Provider

Prefer to contact someone?
edugain@geant.org