



Metadata
Standards
Directory
WORKING GROUP

Summary of the activities of the Metadata Standards Directory Working Group

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research data sharing without barriers
rd-alliance.org



Standards are a Good Thing

Standard protocols → different systems can communicate

Standard file formats → different software can process the same files

Standard metadata → different systems can use/combine data



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BUT

this only works if everyone uses the same standards:

Not enough standards → everyone does their own thing

Too many standards → things get stuck in silos

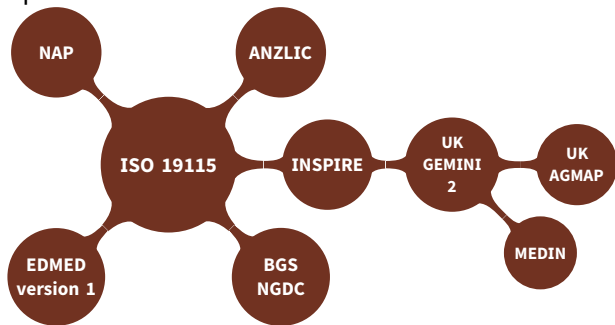


Keeping it just right

Is there a standard that suits my purpose?

Yes Use it!

Sort of... Specialize!



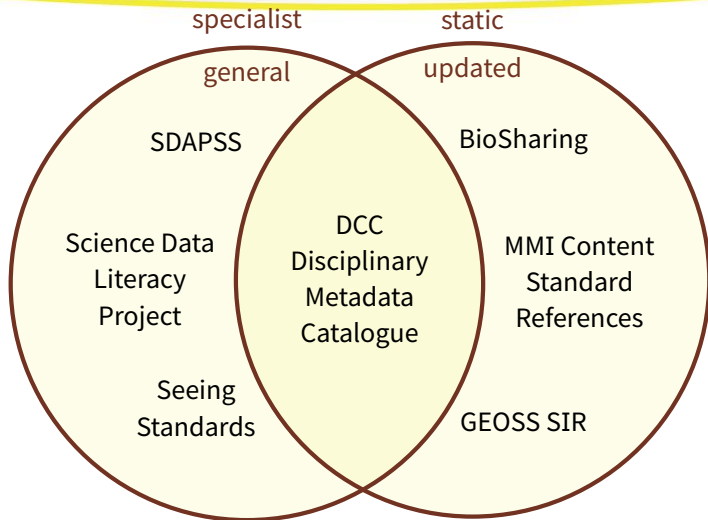
No New standard needed...

MSDWG Goals

1. Develop an **RDA Metadata Standards Directory** listing standards relevant for research data
 - ▶ Comprehensive
 - ▶ Easy for anyone to contribute or update
2. Define and develop **use cases** for research metadata
3. Develop a plan for long-term growth and maintenance of the directory



Existing work



Step One: Expand the DCC directory

Why? DCC directory was

- ▶ tightly focused on metadata-for-reuse;
- ▶ aimed at UK HE;
- ▶ mostly the work of two people, so incomplete in some disciplines.

How?

- ▶ Survey to enhance the directory: <http://bit.ly/1fToaqd>
- ▶ By late 2013, added:
 - ▶ 14 new standards
 - ▶ 4 new profiles/extensions
 - ▶ 13 new tools for working with metadata

Step Two: Develop use cases

Plenary 3 (Dublin):

- ▶ Tool developers
- ▶ Data custodians
- ▶ Journal editors, funders
- ▶ PURLs for standards
- ▶ Librarians

Plenary 4 (Amsterdam):

- ▶ Geospatial engineering
- ▶ Materials science synchrotron data
- ▶ Humanities and Social Sciences
- ▶ Cultural heritage



Step Three: Build a community-powered directory

<http://rd-alliance.github.io/metadata-directory/>

Metadata	MIDAS-Heritage
RDA Metadata Directory	A British cultural heritage standard for recording information on buildings, archaeological sites, shipwrecks, parks and gardens, battlefields, areas of interest and artefacts.
Edit this page	Sponsored by the Forum on Information Standards in Heritage, MIDAS Version 1.1 was released in October 2012.
Getting Started	Summary ✎ Edit
View the standards	Standard Website http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/midas-heritage/
View the extensions	Specification http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/content/publications/publicationsNew/guidelines-standards/midas-heritage/midas-heritage-2012-v1_1.pdf
View the tools	Related Vocabularies
View the use cases	INSCRIPTION
Browse by subject areas	Subjects Arts and Humanities Social and Behavioral Sciences
Adding standards	Disciplines Archaeology Architecture Building Conservation Heritage Studies Historical and Philosophical Studies History by Area
Adding extensions	Extensions ✎ Add
Adding tools	CARARE metadata schema ✎ Edit
Adding use cases	An application profile of the MIDAS Heritage standard intended for delivering metadata to the CARARE service environment about an organisation's online collections, monument inventory database and digital objects.
github	
@twitter	
linkedin	
facebook	

- ▶ Pages are generated from simple easy-to-edit text files.
- ▶ Maintainers can edit the pages directly.
- ▶ Anyone can fork the whole directory, make changes on their copy, and submit a pull request.

What's next?

Proposed **Metadata Standards Catalogue Working Group** (MSCWG)

- ▶ Develop the Metadata Standards Directory into a Metadata Standards Catalogue...
- ▶ Allow records to be added, searched and retrieved by API.
- ▶ Provide representations of records in machine-understandable form.
- ▶ Develop, with community, recommendations of which standard(s) should be used for which purpose.
- ▶ Provide information on elements defined by each standard, and the purpose they serve.



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DCC Disciplinary Metadata Catalogue

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Thank you for your attention

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Metadata Standards Directory Working Group: <https://rd-alliance.org/working-groups/metadata-standards-directory-working-group.html>

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