Summary of the activities of the Metadata Standards Directory Working Group

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DC-2015: Current Developments in Metadata for Research Data
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Standards are a Good Thing

BUT

only if everyone uses the same standards:

Not enough standards $\rightarrow$ everyone does their own thing
Too many standards $\rightarrow$ things get stuck in silos
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Is there a standard that suits my purpose?

Yes  → Use it!
Sort of… → Adapt it!
No    → New standard needed…
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
Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholders

▶ researchers
▶ data managers
▶ data scientists
▶ research support staff
▶ tool developers
▶ repositories
▶ agencies
▶ societies

Outreach

▶ CAMP-4-DATA at DC-2013, Lisbon: 26 participants from 15 countries
▶ International Digital Curation Conference 2014, San Francisco (A. Ball)
▶ RDA-EU Working Group Core Meeting, 2014, Garching, Munich (J. Greenberg)
▶ Working Group mailing list
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
- Librarians
- PURLs for standards

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/

### MIDAS-Heritage

A British cultural heritage standard for recording information on buildings, archaeological sites, shipwrecks, parks and gardens, battlefields, areas of interest and artefacts.

Sponsored by the Forum on Information Standards in Heritage, MIDAS Version 1.1 was released in October 2012.

#### Summary

**Standard Website**

http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/midas-heritage/

**Specification**


**Related Vocabularies**

INSCRIPTION

**Subjects**

Arts and Humanities
Social and Behavioral Sciences

**Disciplines**

Archaeology
Architecture
Building Conservation
Heritage Studies
Historical and Philosophical Studies
History by Area

#### Extensions

**CARARE metadata schema**

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.

- 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.
Usage

GitHub
Contributions to gh-pages, excluding merge commits

DCC Website
Jan 1 – Aug 24, 2015
Total page views: 316,198

- events: 14%
- resources/how-guides: 10%
- resources/metadata-standards: 7%
- other: 69%
What’s next?

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

- Develop the Metadata Standards Directory into a Metadata Standards Catalog…
- 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.

https://rd-alliance.org/groups/metadata-standards-catalog-working-group.html
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- Adrian Ogletree, (MRC)

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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