RDA internationalization and application profiles: applying the global to the local
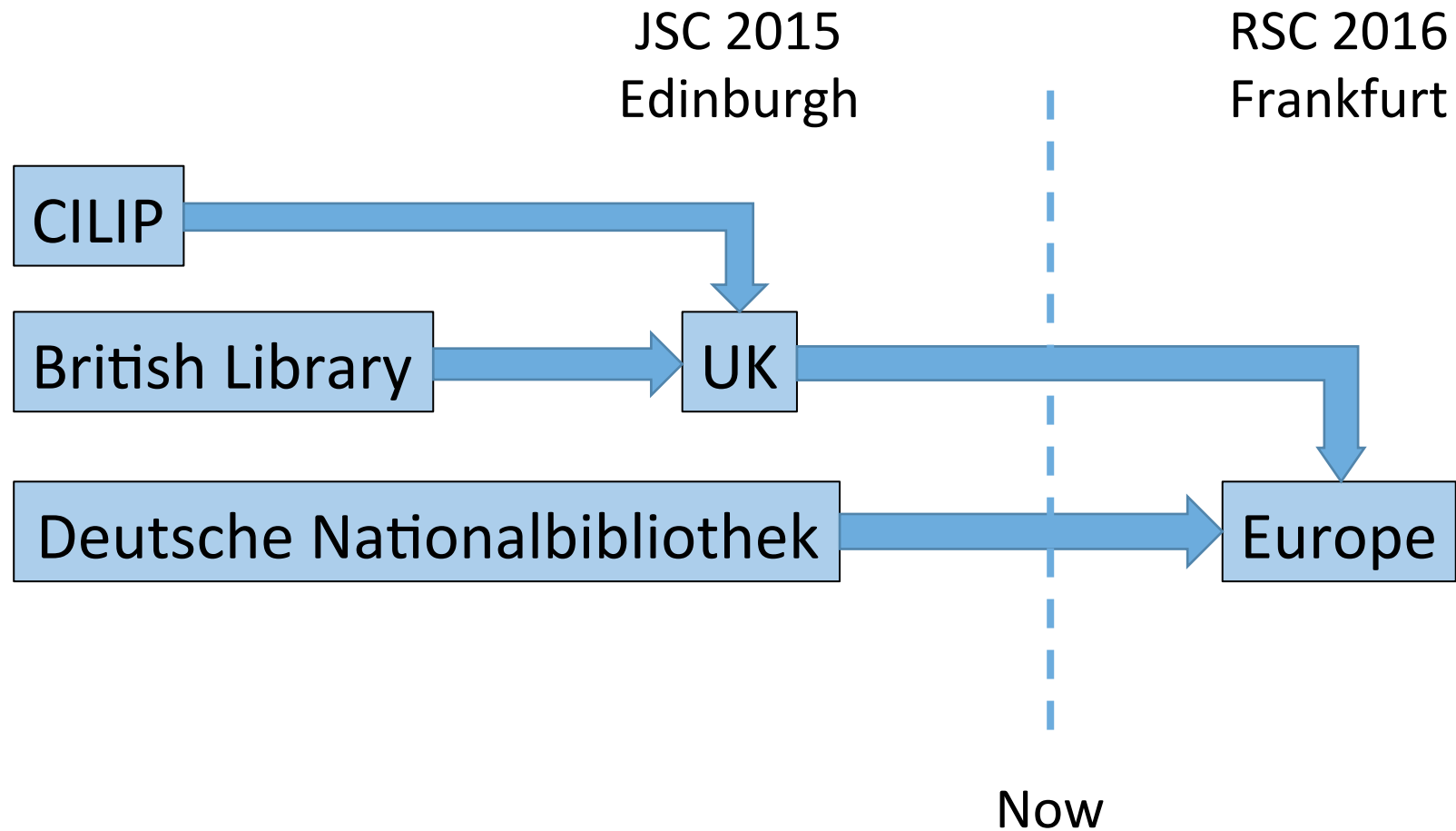
Gordon Dunsire

Presented to the CC:DA meeting, ALA Annual, Orlando, USA, June 25, 2016
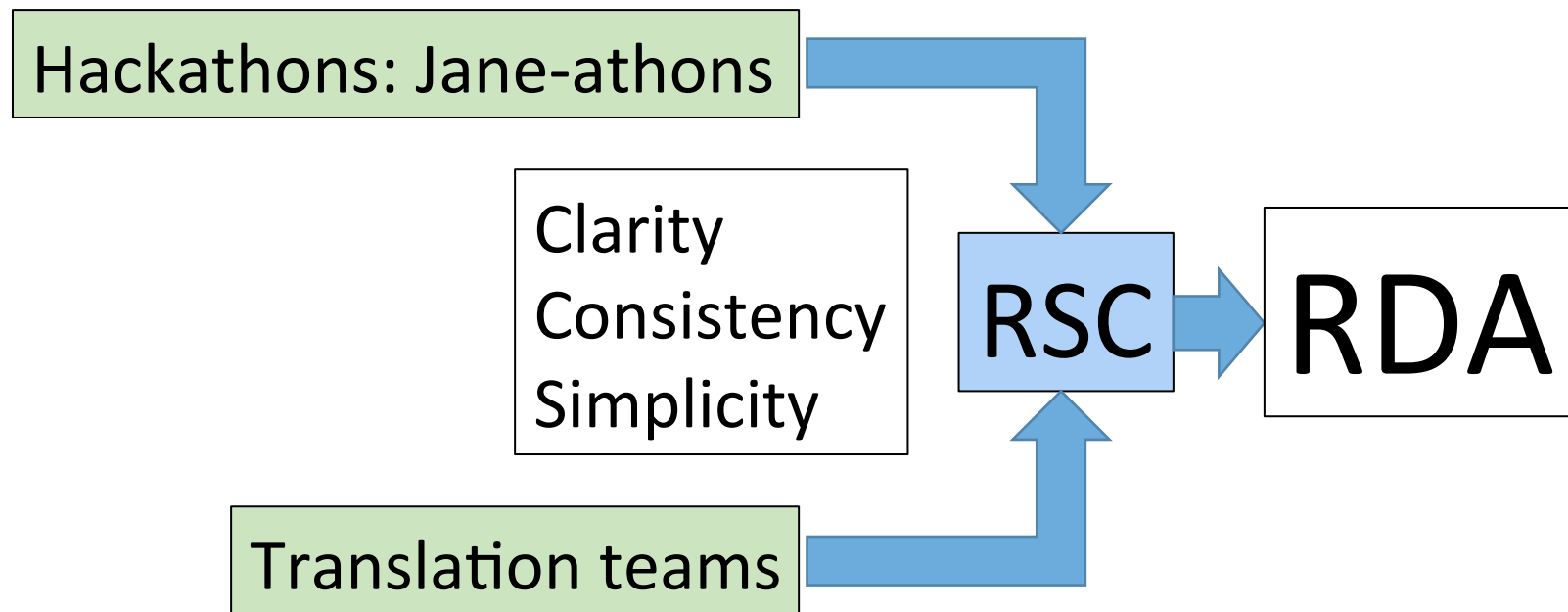
R|D|A

Overview

- Internationalization developments
- Local choice in global RDA
- Introduction to application profiles
- Basic application profiles for RDA
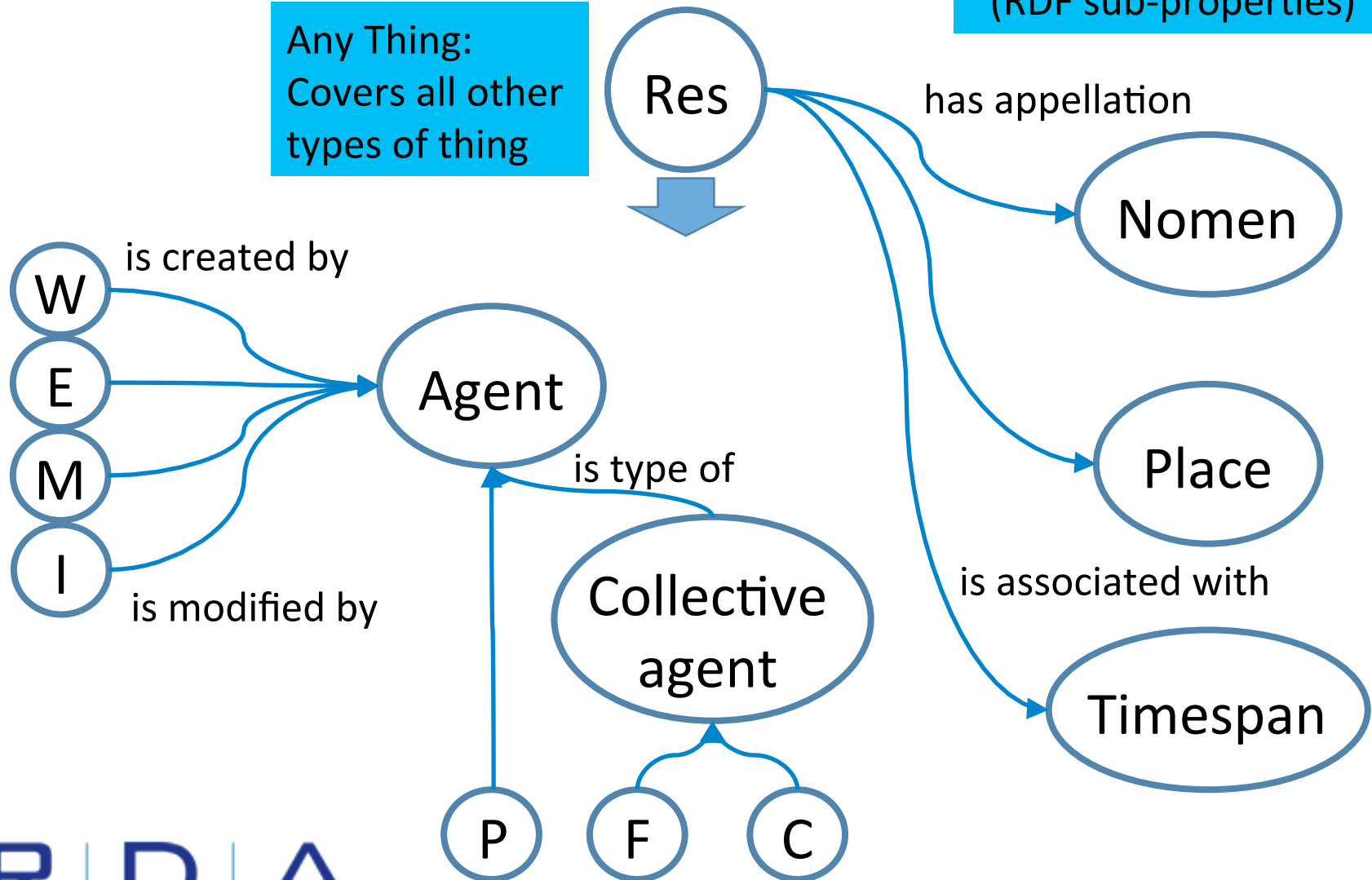- Local terms and vocabularies
- Local refinements

User feedback

Hackathons: Jane-athons
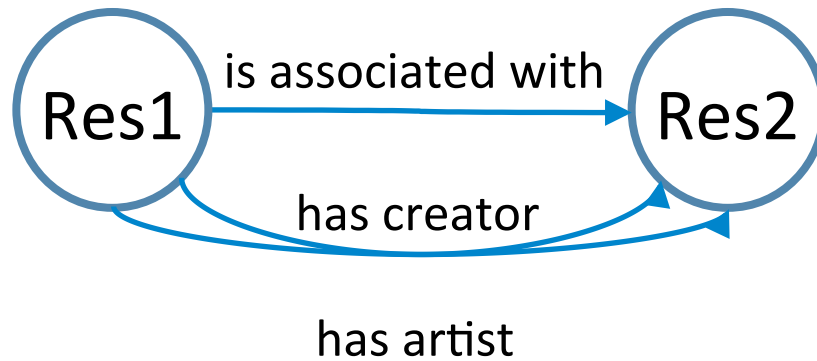
Clarity
Consistency
Simplicity

RSC → RDA

Translation teams

FRBR-LRM and RDA

RDA refines LRM relationships as element sub-types (RDF sub-properties)

Any Thing: Covers all other types of thing

Res

has appellation → Nomen

is associated with → Place

→ Timespan

W — is created by
E
M
I — is modified by

→ Agent

is type of

Collective agent

P

F   C

R|D|A

Refinements

Res1 is associated with Res2

has creator

has artist

Res1 is associated with Res2

is derivative (E)

is adapted as (E)

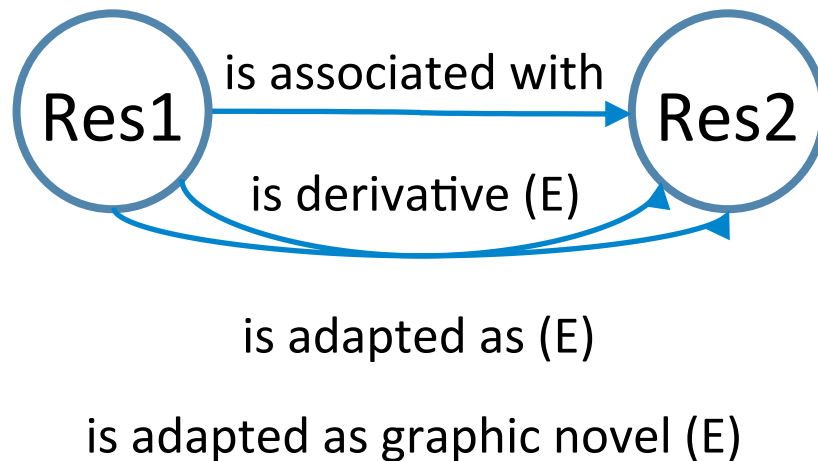is adapted as graphic novel (E)

Coarse/General

Fine/Specific

R|D|A
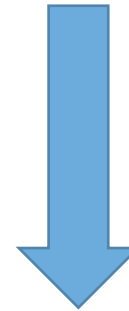
Attributes => Relationships
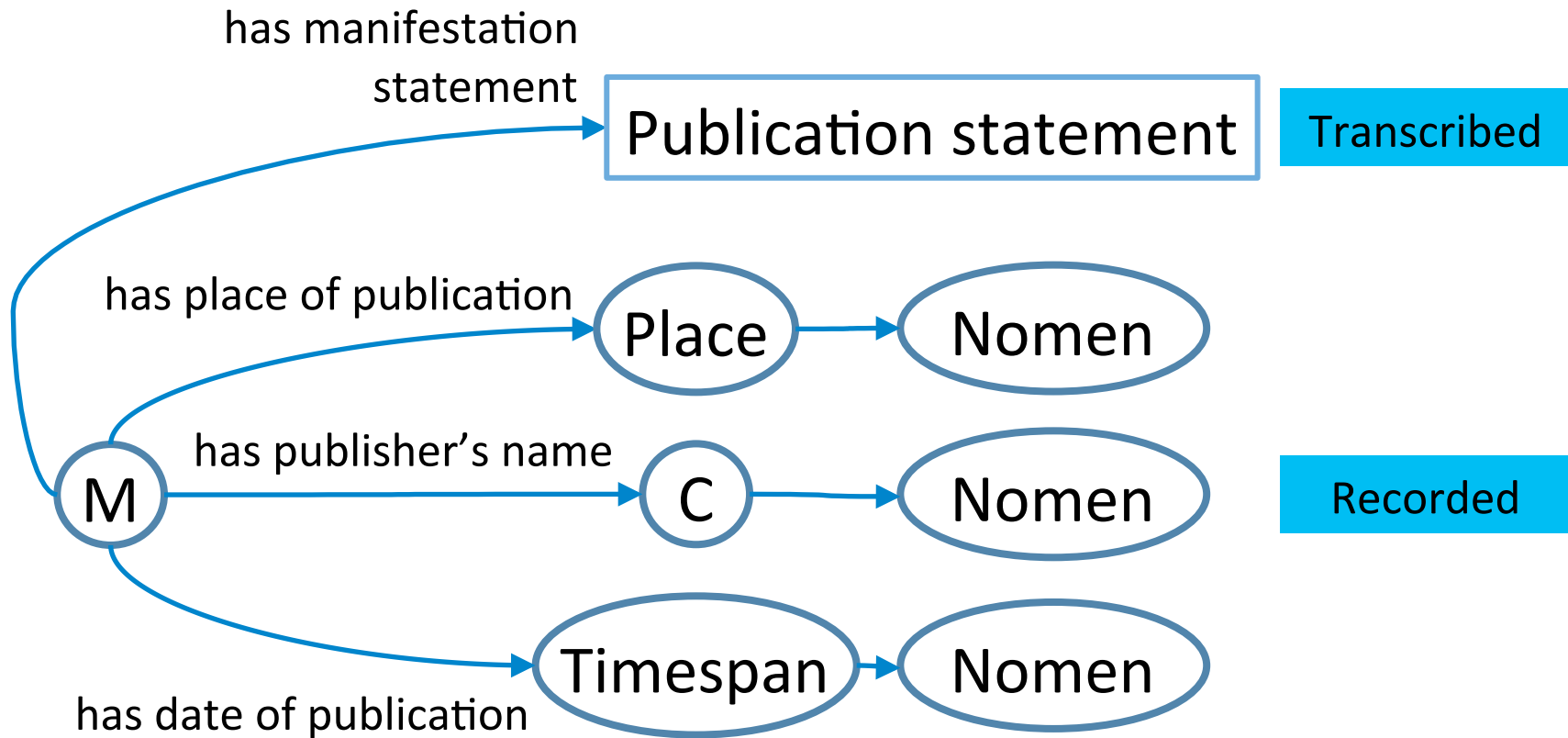
RDA Reference

RDA element sets and value vocabularies

Linked data representations will be used to derive Toolkit data: Glossary, Relationship designators, and relevant instruction content

RDA Glossary in process of review:
- To improve consistency and completeness
- To consolidate sub-vocabularies
- To publish all value vocabularies in OMR
- Everything in Glossary should be in OMR

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RDA Terms

Value vocabulary for specialized terms used in instructions, requiring Glossary definitions

Possibility of linking to IFLA's Multilingual Dictionary of Cataloguing (25+ languages)

Will support extension of RDA to archives and museums communities

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RDA policy statements

Local choice of variation in general instructions

Alternative `LC-PCC PS` `NLA PS` `BL PS` `D-A-CH`

Optional Addition `BL PS` `NLA PS` `D-A-CH`

Optional Omission `LC-PCC PS` `NLA PS` `BL PS` `MLA` `D-A-CH` `SKL`

RDA

Local choice of data value vocabulary

Local option for vocabularies and terms

When RDA instructions specify recording a name or a term in an element, the data may be recorded using any suitable vocabulary encoding scheme (e.g., a country code from ISO 3166 for a place), provided the scheme is identified.

Vocabulary encoding scheme (VES)

RDA

Local choice of data value

Aggregated values (e.g. publication statement)

Components: place, name, date

"date: name (place)"?

"place (date : name)"?

"place : name, date"?

Syntax/string encoding scheme (SES)

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Local choice of element

Core elements are not mandatory:
"… a minimum … should include …"

The inclusion of other specific elements or subsequent instances of these elements is optional. The agency responsible for creating the data may choose:

a)   to establish policies and guidelines on levels of description and authority control to be applied either generally or to specific categories of resources and other entities

Application profile (AP)

RDA

Application profile

Specifies each element that is used in an application, how it is aggregated into logical units of information, and if it is:

- mandatory or optional
- repeatable
- associated with a VES
- associated with an SES or datatype

RDA

DC Application profile

Guidelines for Dublin Core Application Profiles

Creator: Karen Coyle
Consultant

Creator: Thomas Baker
DCMI

Date Issued: 2009-05-18

"a generic construct for designing metadata records that does not require the use of metadata terms defined by DCMI"

R D A

Singapore framework
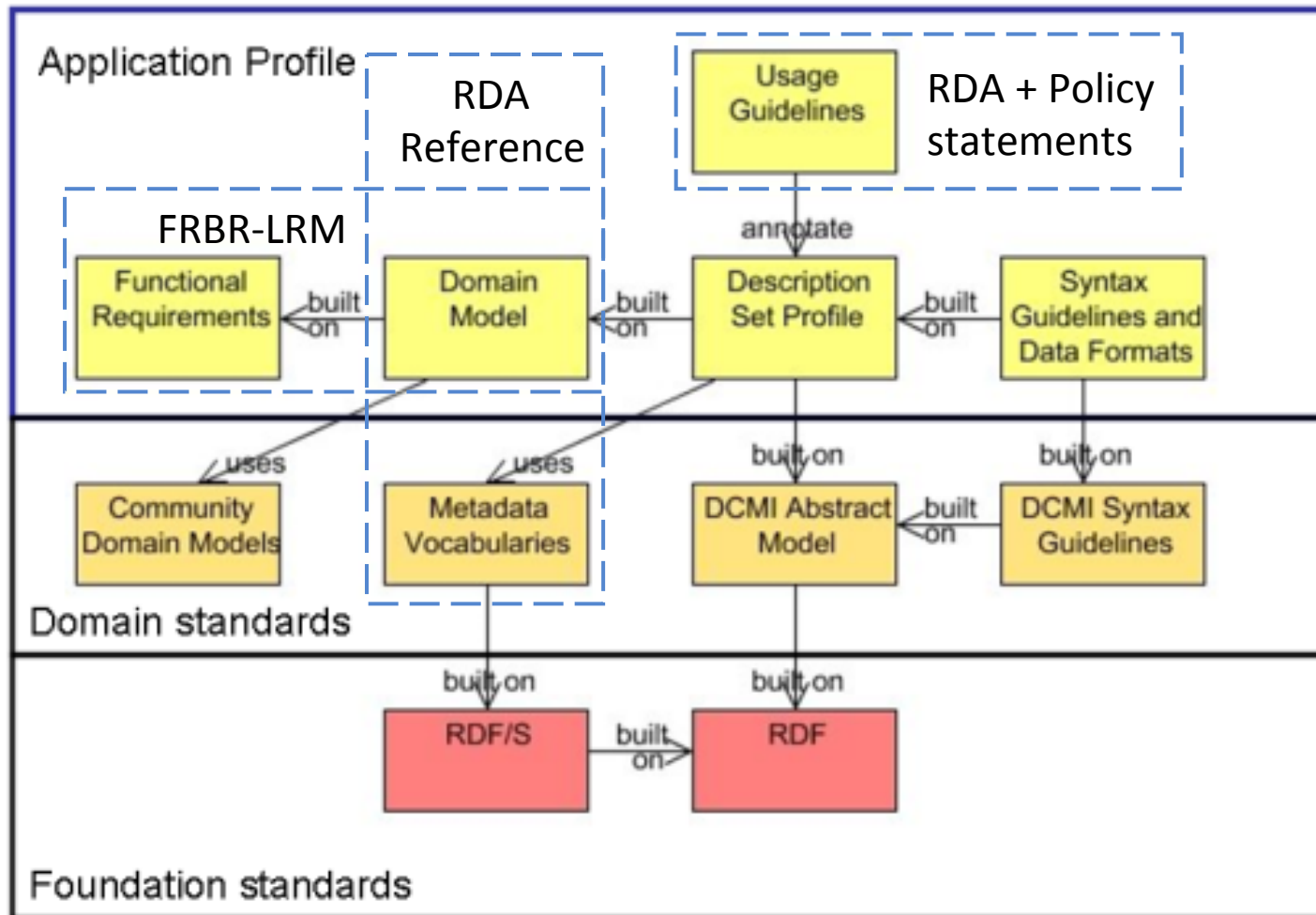
Local Application Profile

Selects set of RDA elements for the application

Identifies locally refined elements for the application

Assigns local mandatory and repeatability status to each element

Assigns local vocabularies

Assigns local syntax encoding and datatypes

R | D | A

Very basic RDA AP: core Expression

Element	Range	Value string	String type	SES	VES	Min	Max
content type	non-literal	Yes	plain		RDA Content Type	1	
identifier for the expression	literal	Yes	typed	[RDA Identifier]		(1)	
language of expression	non-literal	Yes	plain		ISO 639-3		
scale	non-literal	Yes	typed	[RDA Scale]			

Min: 1 = Mandatory
Max: 1 = Non-repeatable

RDA

Other basic RDA APs

Based on "core for" and "core if" conditions

Often focused on a content category

E.g. music, cartography, rare materials

RDA

Local AP for Expression (example)

Element	Range	Value string	String type	SES	VES	Min	Max
content type	non-literal	Yes	plain		Local Content Type	1	1
scale	non-literal	Yes	typed	Local Scale		1	

Content type uses a local VES, is mandatory, and is non-repeatable

Scale uses a local SES (e.g. "1 to 25000"), is mandatory, and is repeatable

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Semantic coherency

Element/property	Domain	Range
Unconstrained	-	-
Constrained (FRBR)	RDA/FRBR entity	-
Associated VES	RDA/FRBR entity	VES
Local	Entity sub-type	Local VES

Sub-property ladder

Sub-classes

RDA

4-fold path for relating entities

Strings

Unstructured description:
"The capital city of Scotland"

Structured description/access point:
"Edinburgh (City of Edinburgh, Scotland)"

Identifier:
"N 55° 57' 7''/W 3° 11' 47''"

Thing

URI:
tgn:7009546

RDA
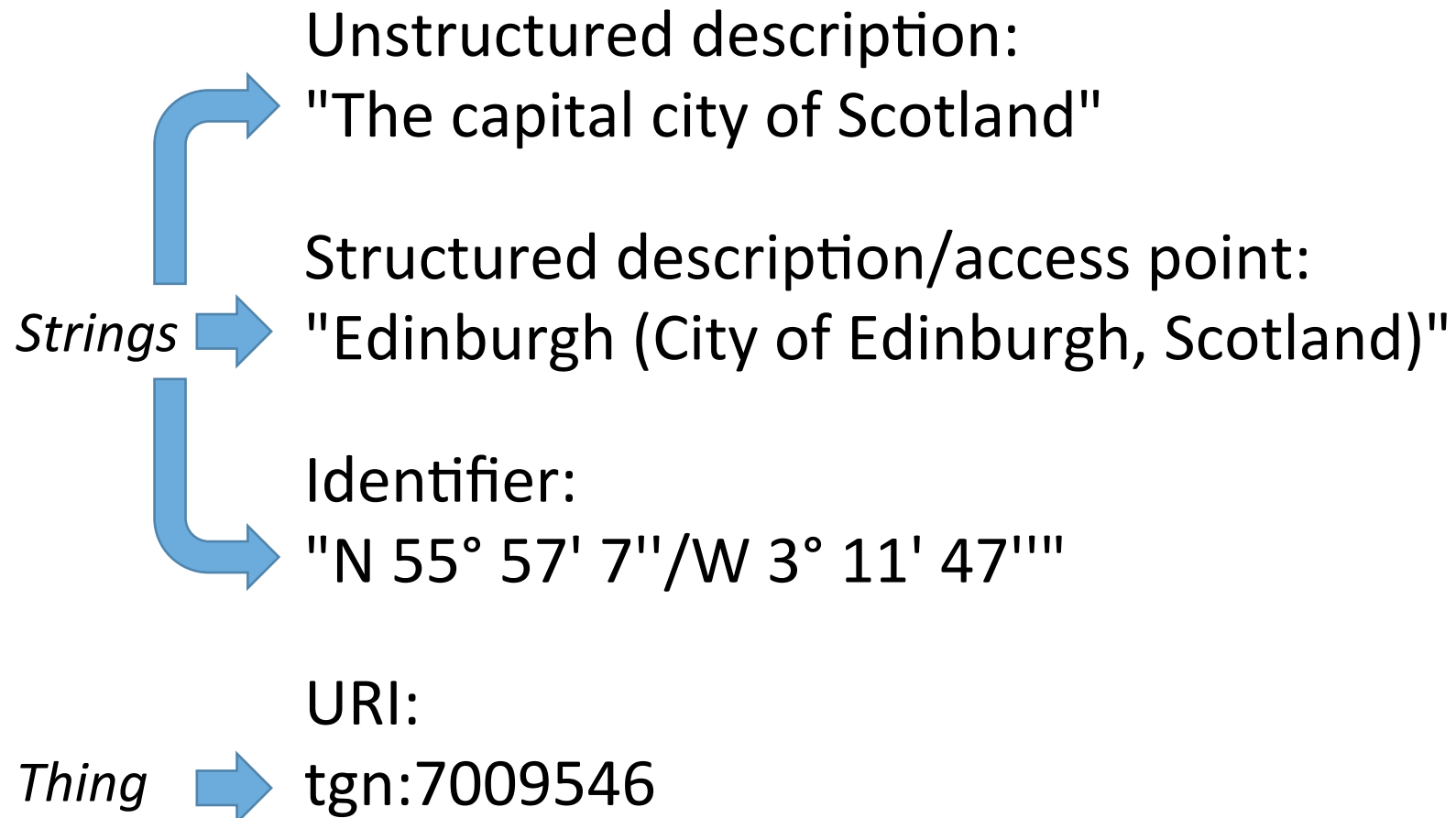
Accommodating the paths

Range of a property = type of object in a triple

Only two types of object: thing, or string

OWL (Web Ontology Language) provides two types of property:
ObjectProperty: expects a thing as the object
DatatypeProperty: expect a string as the object

RDA

4 paths, 2 types

Property type	Expected object	Path
Datatype	Literal	Unstructured
+ SES	Literal (typed)	Structured
+ data type	Literal (typed)	Identifier
Object	URI	URI

RDA

Local vocabularies

9.7.1.3 Recording Gender D-A-CH

Record the gender of the person, using an appropriate term in a language preferred by the agency creating the data. Select a term from a standard list, if available.

Record gender as a separate element. Gender is not recorded as part of an access point.

Vocabulary removed from "global" RDA becomes a "local" vocabulary

Vocabulary: Show detail for RDA Gender

Detail	Concepts	History	Versions

Preferred Label	URI
female	.../termList/gender/1001
male	.../termList/gender/1002
not known	.../termList/gender/1003

3 results

RDA

Local AP for gender

Element	Range	Value string	String type	SES	VES	Min	Max
gender	non-literal	Yes	typed		ALA Gender		1

Gender uses a local VES (ALA), is not mandatory, and is non-repeatable

RDA

Another gender issue

Gender distinctions in roles (relationship designators) have largely disappeared in Anglophone countries: "actor" is gender-neutral

But this is not the case in many other languages: "acteur" is male; "actrice" is female

Translations make a compromise and use the male form, but this looks strange to metadata users

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Local refinements to vocabulary terms
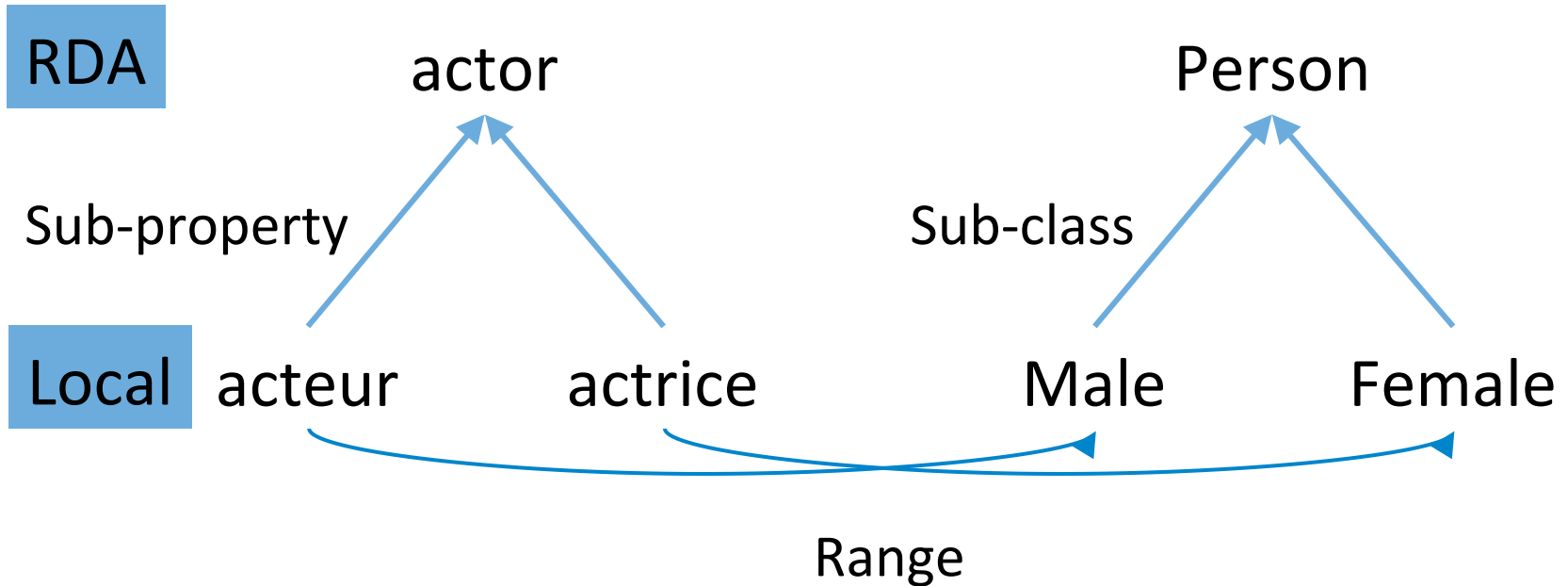
Conclusion

Accommodating the local in the global

Accommodating national practice in
an international framework

Presenting global data in local applications

Focusing on the individual in the crowd

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Questions?

- rscchair@rdatoolkit.org
- RSC website
  - http://www.rda-rsc.org/
- RDA Toolkit
  - http://www.rdatoolkit.org/
- RDA Registry
  - http://www.rdaregistry.info/
- RDA data, Jane-athons, etc.
  - http://www.rballs.info/

R|D|A