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

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Overview

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

CILIP

British Library

UK

Deutsche Nationalbibliothek

Europe

JSC 2015
Edinburgh

RSC 2016
Frankfurt

Now
User feedback

Hackathons: Jane-athons

Clarity
Consistency
Simplicity

Translation teams

RSC

RDA
FRBR-LRM and RDA

Any Thing: Covers all other types of thing

Res

Nomen

Agent

Collective agent

Place

Timespan

W

E

M

I

is created by

is modified by

is type of

has appellation

is associated with

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

Any Thing:

P

F

C

Any Thing:

Covers all other types of thing

is modified by

is type of

has appellation

is associated with

RDA refines LRM relationships as element sub-types (RDF sub-properties)
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
Attributes => Relationships

- M (Manifestation)
- C (Carrier)

**M** → **C**
- has place of publication
- has publisher’s name
- has date of publication

**C** → **Place**
- has place of publication

**Place** → **Nomen**
- has publisher’s name

**M** → **Nomen**
- has manifestation statement

**Nomen**

**Publication statement**

Transcribed

Recorded
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
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
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
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)
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)
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)
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
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"
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
# Very basic RDA AP: core Expression

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Value string</th>
<th>String type</th>
<th>SES</th>
<th>VES</th>
<th>Min</th>
<th>Max</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>content type</td>
<td>non-literal</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>plain</td>
<td>SES</td>
<td>VES</td>
<td>Min</td>
<td>Max</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>identifier for the expression</td>
<td>literal</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>typed</td>
<td>[RDA Identifier]</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>language of expression</td>
<td>non-literal</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>plain</td>
<td>ISO 639-3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scale</td>
<td>non-literal</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>typed</td>
<td>[RDA Scale]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Min: 1 = Mandatory  
Max: 1 = Non-repeatable
Other basic RDA APs

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

Often focused on a content category

E.g. music, cartography, rare materials
## Local AP for Expression (example)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
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<th>VES</th>
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<th>Max</th>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>plain</td>
<td>SES</td>
<td>VES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scale</td>
<td>non-literal</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>typed</td>
<td>Local Scale</td>
<td>Local Content Type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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
## Semantic coherency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element/property</th>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unconstrained</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constrained (FRBR)</td>
<td>RDA/FRBR entity</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associated VES</td>
<td>RDA/FRBR entity</td>
<td>VES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Entity sub-type</td>
<td>Local VES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub-property ladder

Sub-classes
4-fold path for relating entities

**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''"

**URI:**
tgn:7009546
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
4 paths, 2 types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property type</th>
<th>Expected object</th>
<th>Path</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Datatype</td>
<td>Literal</td>
<td>Unstructured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ SES</td>
<td>Literal (typed)</td>
<td>Structured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ data type</td>
<td>Literal (typed)</td>
<td>Identifier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object</td>
<td>URI</td>
<td>URI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Local vocabularies

9.7.1.3 Recording Gender

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
## Local AP for gender

<table>
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<th>String type</th>
<th>SES</th>
<th>VES</th>
<th>Min</th>
<th>Max</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gender</td>
<td>non-literal</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>typed</td>
<td>ALA Gender</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gender uses a local VES (ALA), is not mandatory, and is non-repeatable.
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
Local refinements to vocabulary terms

- **RDA**
  - Sub-property
  - Local
  - acteur
  - actrice
  - Range

- **Person**
  - Sub-class
  - Male
  - Female
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
Questions?

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