Scoping document for the FG Minimal Metadata for Learning Resources¹

As part of the Education And Training On Handling Of Research Data IG, this group is focusing on recommending a minimal set of metadata for learning resources. By comparing and analyzing existing learning resource-related metadata schemes to find the overlaps, the group intends to provide guidance on metadata elements that should be minimally required for purposes of learning resource discovery to those concerned with supporting or providing training resources.

Aim

A number of metadata schemas for learning resources (LOM², LRMI³, bioschemas⁴, etc.) already exist. These schemas can be fairly extensive or domain specific, and depending on the user view (training infrastructure, learner, trainer), may not always be understandable or necessary. This focus group aims to identify and recommend a set of minimal metadata elements in a format that will allow ease in re-use.

Audience

The set of recommended minimal metadata elements is intended to support key stakeholders who create or adapt learning resources, but also services that support their discovery. The group anticipates that the output of its work can thus be used by general and domain repositories which store learning resources, but also learning catalogues or registries, educational platforms and search portals that curate learning resources in order to improve the capability of both learners and trainers to find resources more effectively.

Focus

The recommended minimal metadata elements will be chosen to facilitate the end-user's discovery of learning resources and to implement the FAIR Data Principles that impact discovery. Another correlated focus group is working on recommending extended metadata elements and/or documentation for learning resources important for initial use, and adapted re-use that extends beyond learning resources. The Extended Documentation Focus Group's recommendations are planned to be released as a complement to this focus group's efforts.

Dissemination

The first iteration of the overview will be disseminated for comments and contributions as a google spreadsheet via the ETHRD-IG webpage at:

¹ By learning resource we mean a persistent information resource that has one or more physical or digital representations, and that explicitly involves, specifies or entails a learning activity or learning experience. As an information resource it cannot be, for example, a person, object, and since it is persistent it cannot be an event (though it can be a record of an event). A learning activity or experience is one that has characteristics that may improve or measure a person's knowledge, skills or abilities. A learning resource may reference other supporting materials, creative works, tools etc that do not themselves meet this definition. https://www.dublincore.org/groups/lrmi-task-group/

² We are using MS22: Training materials for the ENVRI data centers are produced and available at the training portal which is a recommended subset of LOM appropriate for training resources.

³ See https://www.dublincore.org/specifications/lrmi/lrmi 1/

⁴ See https://bioschemas.org/profiles/DataCatalog/0.3-RELEASE-2019 07 01/