



NIEeS Workshop Activating Metadata: The role of metadata in effective spatial data exploitation

6th – 7th July 2005

National Institute for Environmental eScience, Cambridge

Workshop organisers: Lex Comber, Mark Gahegan, Francis Harvey, Peter Fisher, Richard Wadsworth,

This workshop is aimed at those involved in the creation, distribution and use of spatial data in either experimental or operational capability. The workshop will explore some of the issues of how to expand current metadata to include descriptions of the context of data, to indicate the embedded data concepts and to be more user-focussed. The aim is to better facilitate data exchange, access and interoperability in light of the many recent spatial data initiatives that promote 3rd party data access. This workshop will cover metadata in light of specific case studies, data production, the experience of data mediators (e.g. EDINA, INSPIRE) and data standards organisations.

Day 1 (6th July 2005)

- 10:30 Registration, orientation and coffee**
- 11:00 Introduction to National Institute for Environmental eScience (NIEeS)**
- 11:10 Informal discussion of workshop & intended outcomes (All delegates)**
- Who people are
 - Intended outcomes
 - o Fundamental issues into research councils
 - o Issues well enough understood to be implemented e.g. through INSPIRE
 - o Issues suitable for outreach activities: best practice and encouragement of people to use it, e.g. GIGateway
- 12:00 Lunch**
- 13:00 Formal introduction to the workshop (LC, RW, MG, FH)**
- Describe the history and issues that have led us this point
 - Descriptions of user-producer-mediator roles
- 13:45 Case Study 1: REVIGIS (LC, RW)**
- land cover maps in the UK
 - expert approaches

- 14:15 Case Study 2: the GRID (MG)**
- 14:45 Case Study 3: Metadata Deployment (David Ribes, UC San Diego)**
- 15:15 Coffee Break**
- 15:45 Data Producer point of view (Geoff Smith, CEH)**
- Why did he break the mould and go for object level metadata?
- The history and the production problems
- 14:15 Data User, Producer Commissioner view (Alan Brown, CCW)**
- 16:45 Data Production issues (Peat Allen, Ordnance Survey)**
- 17:15 Local Government perspective (Francis Harvey)**
- 17:30 Rapportuering, Closing comments for the day and Q&A session**
- Summary of the discussions after each presentation
- Introduction to Day 2
- 18:00 Close Day 1**

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- 19:00 Reception**
- 19:30 Workshop Dinner**
- 21:00 Adjournment to a local pub**
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Day 2 (7th July 2005)

- 09:30 Data Mediators experience with metadata (Peter Burnhill, EDINA)**
- 09:55 UK eScience initiatives (Bryan Lawrence, NCAS / BADC)**
- 10:20 Metadata for eScience (Kevin O'Neill, CCLRC)**
- 10:45 INSPIRE (Max Craglia, Joint Research Centre)**
- 11:10 Break**
- 11:30 Metadata standards (Roger Longhorn)**
- 12:00 Limitations in Metadata (Andrew Frank, TU Wien)**

- 12:30** **Lunch**
- 13:30** **Metadata: possible extensions (LC, FH, MG, RW)**
- User metadata
 - Logical consistency
 - Commissioning context
- 14:00** **Parallel breakout sessions (3)**
- To discuss the possible ways forward
- 15:00** **Reporting Back**
- Summarise the outcomes of the breakouts
- 15:30** **Wrapping up, Next steps (LC, FH, MG, RW)**
- Documentation
 - Funding opportunities:
 - Fundamental issues into research councils
 - Issues well enough understood to be implemented e.g. through INSPIRE
 - Issues suitable for outreach activities: best practice and encouragement to use it, e.g. through GIGateway
- 16:30** **Coffee and workshop close**