MINUTES OF APRIL 2020 MEETING
RDA Steering Committee
Asynchronous Meeting
6-9 April 2020

Attending: Linda Barnhart, RSC Secretary
Renate Behrens, Europe representative
Thomas Brenndorfer, North America representative
Ahava Cohen, Europe back-up representative
Gordon Dunsire, Technical Team Liaison Officer
Kathy Glennan, RSC Chair
James Hennelly, Director, ALA Digital Reference
Ebe Kartus, Wider Community Engagement Officer
Honor Moody, RDA Example Editor
Daniel Paradis, Translations Team Liaison Officer
Melissa Parent**,** Oceania representative

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Executive Session

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Public Session
RDA Discussion Topics

219   Application Profiles Working Group interim report

219.1   The RSC received the interim report of the Application Profiles Working Group
        and discussed the nine recommendations contained therein. There was general
        agreement with the recommendations, and the Working Group was thanked for its
        work. There was specific discussion of three recommendations:

219.2   Recommendation #3: "Promote RSC application profiles as the basis for
        development of community application profiles." Moody suggested that RSC-
        approved application profiles that produce an equivalent output to the original
        Toolkit could be useful as long as it was clear that they are optional. NARDAC
        commented that such an RSC application profile would necessarily be quite
        general, but that the requirements for a minimum description could be a
        foundation document. Glennan said that an RSC application profile could be used
        as a building block (perhaps as a model or an example) for the communities but

would have to be carefully labeled. Dunsire reminded the RSC that an application profile is tied to a particular application, so generalization would be quite difficult. He recommended instead a suite of tools for creating, maintaining, and publishing application profiles.

219.3 Recommendation #4: "Develop RIMMF4 templates into RDA application profiles." EURIG has concerns about this recommendation because RIMMF is a commercial tool which institutions in public ownership, such as most libraries, are not allowed to use.

219.4 Recommendation #8: "Principles for determining work boundaries belong in the guidance and not in application profiles." NARDAC commented that an application profile has nothing to do with work boundaries. The criteria for determining a new work is best defined elsewhere, with the hope that RDA guidance on work boundaries will leave some leeway for communities to decide themselves when a new work is created. Moody suggested that there is a role for application profiles for use as data validators in linked data scenarios, and that they can and should be developed to declare what elements must be present and equivalent for two expressions to express the same work.
ACTION ITEM: The RSC Secretary will query the RSC about sharing their verbatim Basecamp comments with the Working Group Chair. If this is not acceptable, Barnhart and Glennan will prepare a summary (more detailed than these minutes) to share with him.

220   Progress report on the use of RDA unconstrained element set for display labels

220.1 The RSC received with interest the [Progress report](#) from NARDAC, which included nine questions for discussion as well as a companion spreadsheet. NARDAC stated that their next steps are taking RSC feedback and focusing on testing friendly labels in RIMMF.

220.2 Considerable feedback was generated. Glennan raised questions about details and general principles. Several members wondered about the audience for this effort—whether it was catalogers or end users.

220. 3 Dunsire clarified the patterns in terminology and the derivation of the unconstrained element set labels from the RDA (constrained) element set. He reminded the group that changing RDA element labels has multiple ramifications and encouraged NARDAC to contact him directly with specific issues.

220.4 Glennan described her understanding of the history of this project and the potential uses for friendly labels, and there was general RSC support for her point of view. Dunsire recalled that "NARDAC was asked to ascertain if the unconstrained labels could be used 'as is' for user-friendly labels, or whether a

parallel set was required." He believes that a parallel set is required and is concerned that the task has drifted into changing the unconstrained labels to suit the functionality of user-friendly labels. Dunsire suggested the user-friendly labels should be accommodated as community vocabularies.
ACTION ITEM: Brenndorfer will share RSC feedback with NARDAC. [Follow-up: On the April 17 technical call, core team members supported NARDAC proceeding with experimentation or testing with RIMMF, and reinforced that user-friendly labels might be suitable as a community vocabulary.]

221   Representative expressions of aggregating works

221.1   The paper [Representative expressions of aggregating works](#) makes recommendations for the refinement of the utility of representative expression elements for aggregating works. Two recommendations (the first with three specific sub-recommendations) were discussed. The RSC unanimously agreed with the recommendations.

221.2   An extensive set of comments was received from the Bibliothèque nationale de France and were considered in the discussion. Brenndorfer raised some lingering questions and concerns about access points for aggregating works for compilations. Behrens commented that the overall utility of representative expression elements remains to be demonstrated but describing attributes of an aggregation is one of the scenarios where they add value. Glennan provided some wordsmithing suggestions. Brenndorfer raised the concept of "work group" and suggested that some issues may be resolved (or results look different at least) if the element *authorized access point for work group* is used for multiple aggregates with slight differences in aggregated expressions.
ACTION ITEM: Dunsire will make changes in the RDA text to reflect the approved recommendations.

222   Community vocabularies in RDA Toolkit

222.1   The [Community vocabularies in RDA Toolkit briefing paper](#) was provided for information and general discussion on the progress and direction of this ongoing project (also called the SES Project). No decisions were needed from the RSC.

222.2   RSC unanimously supported the direction of this project. Committee members contributed several new documents with additional comments, information, and suggestions, and received specific comments from Israel. Behrens noted that "The approach proposed enables valuable work to be retained, but in a way that is consistent with the internationalisation of the instructions."

222.3 Noting that the project is a work-in-progress, concerns and questions were raised that will be addressed in future discussions, including:

- The display of community vocabularies in the Toolkit, including
  - The need for some catalogers to manage/view content from multiple communities;
  - The structure (based on categories or based on communities?);
  - The concern that the volume not overwhelm the Resources tab;
  - A more prominent statement identifying the community to which a vocabulary belongs is needed
- The ownership and sharing of vocabulary content used by more than one community;
- The maintenance workload on communities;
- The disposition or deprecation of some existing vocabularies, including concerns about vocabularies used by every community;
- The disposition of pseudo-elements which consist largely of SES instructions;
- The uneven treatment and coverage of languages;
- The need to ensure that a community's approach follows valid RDA principles;
- The need for more broad communication about the intents and plans for this project, especially noting that for now the RSC is only moving old vocabularies and not creating new ones.

222.4 There was general agreement that more detail is needed about how community content will be curated and how a community would be "authorized." There was consensus surrounding the urgent need to develop a governance model for community vocabularies.
ACTION ITEM: RSC will prepare for discussion of a governance model for community vocabularies for the July asynchronous meeting, perhaps reacting to a briefing paper.
ACTION ITEM: RSC will communicate to the Toolkit audience about community vocabularies, including current activities, future plans, and gaps to be addressed.

RSC Administrative Topics

223   Review of action items

223.1 RSC members reviewed and updated two spreadsheets linked in Google Drive that listed tasks assigned from earlier asynchronous meetings and the October 2019 in-person meeting.

224   Other Business

224.1   Brenndorfer brought forward an issue from NARDAC**: "**Is there way to tell on the Vocabulary Encoding Scheme pages if they are open or closed lists. "Open" would mean open to adding other terms as appropriate." Dunsire raised questions about the purpose and context of this request.
ACTION ITEM: Brenndorfer will discuss this further with NARDAC.

225   Review of Meeting 2020 April

225.1   This discussion item provided an opportunity for RSC members to evaluate this asynchronous meeting and suggest improvements.

225.2   Brenndorfer made several suggestions:
- Post complex documents as early as possible; timeframes for response are tight, especially with community involvement;
- Using the first day of the meeting for initial comments from everyone;
- Take stock at the end of the first day to see areas of quick agreement and areas where more discussion is needed; use days 2-3 for more discussion;
- Use day 4 for final resolution.

Approved by the RSC
22 May 2020

Appendix to the Public Minutes

Agenda item 219: Application Profiles Working Group interim report
[does not include supporting spreadsheet]

To: RDA Steering Committee

From: Alan Danskin, Chair of the Application Profiles Working Group
Subject: Interim report of the Application Profiles Working Group

Abstract

This report reviews the provision for application profiles made in RDA Toolkit and:
- makes recommendations for improving guidance and instructions for application profiles in RDA Toolkit
- reports and makes recommendations on the utility of providing guidance on profiles for implementation scenarios
- reports and makes recommendation on relationship of "work boundaries" to the development and use of application profiles

The report makes recommendations for the provision of additional guidance and for the development of a suite of RDA application profiles following the model developed for RIMMF4 templates. No strong correlation has been identified between work boundaries and application profiles.

1   Introduction

As a consequence of his other commitments having delayed activation of the working group, the report has been prepared by the Chair with only limited opportunity for working group members to comment.

This is an interim report to RSC reporting progress on the following tasks:
1. Make recommendations for improving guidance and instructions for application profiles in RDA Toolkit. *Please submit initial recommendations by mid-March 2020 for consideration at the asynchronous RSC meeting in early April, and final recommendations by mid-September 2020 for consideration at the RSC in-person meeting.*

    1.1. Investigate and report on the utility of providing guidance on profiles for implementation scenarios.

2. Consider how work boundaries fit in to the development and use of application profiles. *Please submit initial recommendations by mid-March 2020 for consideration at the*

*asynchronous RSC meeting in early April, and final recommendations by mid-September
2020 for consideration at the RSC in-person meeting.*

2   Improving guidance and instructions for application profiles in the RDA Toolkit

2.1   Background

RDA Defines an application profile as follows:

> "application profile
> A specification of the metadata that is used in an application.
> A specification may include the entities, elements, and vocabulary encoding schemes
> that are used, and the mandatory and repeatable status of elements."

Current guidance within RDA Toolkit comprises:
- Guidance Chapters
    - Application Profiles
    - Resource Description. Minimum descriptions of entities
    - Resource Description. Coherent descriptions of an information resource
- Instructions
- Documents

2.1.1 Guidance Chapters
The guidance chapter outlines the components of a generic application profile, including
elements, cardinality, vocabulary encoding schemes, and relationships.
The chapter also specifies the requirements for an RDA application profile: entities; elements;
recording methods; vocabulary encoding schemes; string encoding schemes.
Specific application profiles for *Minimum description of a resource entity* and *Coherent
description of an information resource* are contained in the *Resource Description* guidance
chapter.

2.1.2 Instructions
Each RDA entity has the following optional Instruction:

Record elements that are deemed useful for identification and access.

Figure 1 RDA Toolkit optional instruction for manifestation entity

2.1.3 Methods

Methods for specifying an application profile within RDA Toolkit include:
- Annotation of entity, element or recording method
- Policy statements for optional instructions
- User created workflow
- User created document
- Linked data

2.1.4 Annotation

Users can annotate specific elements. An annotation could be used to indicate whether/when the element should be applied, including any exceptions; the annotation could also specify recording method, VES and SES if appropriate.
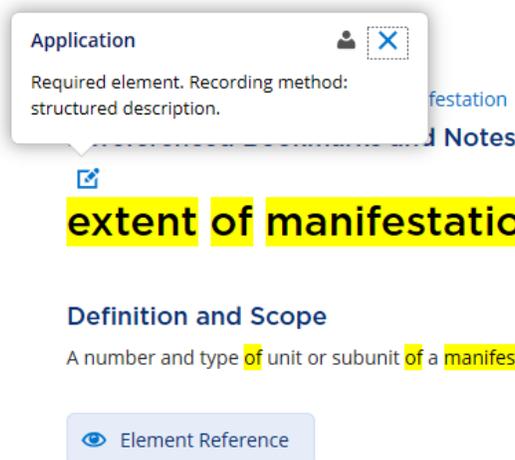
Figure 2 RDA Beta Toolkit annotation used to specify local application

This method would be very onerous and difficult to maintain and is only of use at the page level. It could have value as a means of highlighting exceptions from community practices, or for personal reminders. It would not be an efficient means of recording, communicating or maintaining dynamic information.

2.1.5 Policy Statements

Policy statements are used to record community or institutional policies. Policy statements are displayed in RDA Toolkit in line with the relevant RDA content. It would be possible to use policy statements to record decisions regarding cardinality, recording method, vocabulary encoding schemes, etc. by relating the statement to the element level, or by repeating the information in policies linked to specific instructions or options.

Based on current experience in developing policy statements, this would be a complex and expensive process, which may prove difficult to maintain over time. Updating is dependent on ALA release schedule.

2.1.6 User created document

RDA Toolkit includes an HTML editor for user contributed documents. Generic functions include the capability to create, edit and delete documents. Documents can be made available to private (default), local or global audiences. User created documents default to CC BY licence; other options are CC BY-NC and CC BY-SA.

"Application profile" is one of the categories of document available from the drop-down menu. There are currently no shared examples of user contributed application profiles in the Beta Toolkit. More extensive testing would be necessary to determine the efficiency of the HTML editor as a tool for maintaining application profiles.

The import facility enables a document, such as an Excel spreadsheet, to be imported into RDA Toolkit. Imported documents open and are edited in the native application, which limits their use as practical tools for cataloguers. A shared document can be saved to a local device.

Application profiles can be shared locally or globally. However, "local" restricts access to users at the same IP address. Consequently, community documents would require "global" access.

Curation of multiple user-contributed application profiles within the Beta Toolkit could become complex.

There is no validation of any user contributed content within RDA Toolkit.

2.1.7 User created workflow

Workflows are a type of user contributed document.   There are no current examples of globally available workflows in the Beta Toolkit. Workflows in the current RDA Toolkit provide a narrative to guide cataloguers to appropriate instructions for different types of resources and

may include local examples. Workflows may also contain links to RDA instructions and to external documents, including the MARC manual.

Workflows are not application profiles, but workflows should be based on application profiles. Application profiles could be used to generate skeleton workflows for specific entities and content types.

2.1.8 Linked Data

The RDA Registry provides IRIs for every RDA entity, element, vocabulary encoding scheme, and vocabulary term.

Registry IRIs may be used in an application profile for linked data created in Resource Description Framework.

The Beta Toolkit does not provide an illustration of a linked data profile.

2.2   RIMMF4

RIMMF4 is a visualisation tool for RDA 3R. RIMMF is external to RDA Toolkit. TMQ conceived RIMMF4 templates as a type of application profile. RIMMF4 currently provides a suite of flexible and extensible input forms. A coherent description is created by selecting a basic template for an entity, which is enriched by layering templates to create an effective description of the resource; the description can be linked to other entities, or an appropriate template can be selected to create a new entity description.
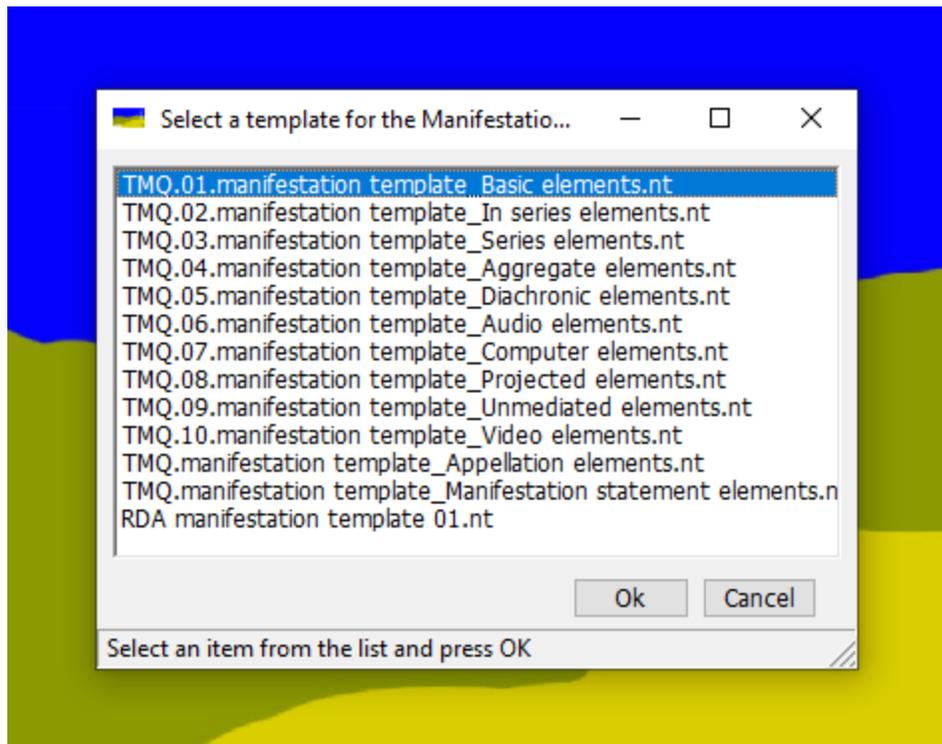
Figure 3 RIMMF4 Manifestation template pick list

RIMMF4 templates provide a model for development of RDA application profiles. The figure above illustrates the suite of TMQ templates available to describe different types of manifestation.

The RDA manifestation template at the end of the list is a comprehensive listing of all manifestation elements, from which other templates can be derived. Comprehensive listings are too large for most practical purposes, but may be of use for developers or systems librarians.

RDA Manifestation		
ELEMENT LABEL	TEXT	TK LINK
Appellation of manifestation		rdam:P30277
Title of manifestation		rdam:P30134
Title proper		rdam:P30156
Designation of edition		rdam:P30133
Place of publication		rdam:P30088
Name of publisher		rdam:P30176
Date of publication		rdam:P30011
Mode of issuance		rdam:P30003
RIMMF identifier	blard102	rimmfv:R1058
Media type		rdam:P30002
Carrier type		rdam:P30001
Note on manifestation		rdam:P30137
Identifier for manifestation		rdam:P30004
Access point for manifestation		rdam:P30276
Authorized access point for manifestation		rdam:P30294
Statement of responsibility		rdam:P30117
Expression manifested		rdam:P30139

Figure 4 RIMMF4 Basic template for manifestation

Adaptation of the RIMMF4 templates into application profiles could be accomplished by the inclusion of columns for cardinality, Vocabulary Encoding schemes, etc.   This would enable the application profiles to be populated with values required for RDA compliance.
Publishing "official" templates in the Beta Toolkit would create a resource for communities to copy, annotate and reuse for their own applications.

This approach would encourage compatibility between different community profiles and may be capable of supporting automated validation of profiles.

2.3   Evaluation

The current guidance appears mostly adequate to enable a community to produce an application profile and to validate that it is conformant with RDA. At present, there is no mechanism by which RSC could determine the validity of community profiles contributed to the RDA Toolkit. The introduction of RSC application profiles would provide a standard for community development and avoid duplication of effort. The work done by TMQ to develop the RIMMF4 templates provides a pattern for this activity.

Recommendations

1. Expand the explanation of what an application profile is and include examples of how an application profile may be used.
2. Supplement the textual specification of minimum and coherent application profiles by providing the same information in tabular form, supported by diagrams or other appropriate illustrative matter.
3. Promote RSC application profiles as the basis for development of community application profiles.
4. Develop RIMMF4 templates into RDA application profiles.
5. Publish RSC application profiles in RDA Toolkit for community reuse.

3   Investigation into the utility of providing guidance on profiles for implementation scenarios.
3.1   Background

The Guidance document: *RDA implementation scenarios* describes four implementation scenarios that illustrate the range of potential configurations of RDA data.

Scenario A: Linked open data

Scenario B: Relational or object-oriented data

Scenario C: Bibliographic/authority data

Scenario D: Flat file data

The scenarios reflect the structures that are commonly used for library and cultural heritage metadata. Scenario A has been introduced to bring the scenarios up to date. Scenarios 1-3 have accordingly been re-designated scenarios B-D.

3.2 Evaluation

At implementation most Library users are expected to be working in scenarios C-D. Scenarios A-B may be more commonplace in museum contexts.

Application profiles derived from RIMMF4 are based on RDA entities, but it is expected that communities working in scenarios B-D will be working with different data structures.
Useful guidance topics would include:
- How to adapt RDA application profiles to community schemas, e.g. MARC 21
- Use of RDA Mappings
- Identification of entities and elements which cannot be supported by specific implementation scenarios

Failure to provide guidance increases the risk that:
- Communities will judge the barrier to implementation too high and opt out of RDA
- Implementations will fail to conform and will become mutually incompatible

Recommendations

6. RDA guidance on application profiles should include information on how to adapt application profiles for specific implementation scenarios.
7. Prioritise guidance for scenarios C-D.

4 Consider how work boundaries fit in to the development and use of application profiles
4.1 Background

"A "work boundary" or "transformation boundary" is the <u>set of criteria applied by an agent</u> who creates the metadata to determine if a description of a new Work is required."[1] "Bibliographic and cultural conventions play a crucial role in determining the exact boundaries between similar instances of works"[2]. This implies that community policies influence work boundary

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[1] Dunsire. Gordon. *Work boundaries.* p.3
[2] IFLA. Library Reference Model. P.22 https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/cataloguing/frbr-lrm/ifla-lrm-august-2017.pdf

decisions, but it need not follow from this that application profiles are an effective tool for that purpose.

What are the criteria to be applied by an agent in order to determine a work boundary?

a) Does the expression to be described exhibit a significant degree of intellectual effort that is independent of the work described?

b) Does the expression to be described constitute transformation from one form of expression to another?

c) What is the comparison between the expression to be described and the representative expression of a static work?

d) Is the described work a diachronic work?

e) Is the described work an aggregating work?

f) Is the described work a whole-part work?

It does not appear that reference to an application profile would be very beneficial in reaching a decision. The focus of an application profile is on entities and elements, whereas the work boundary decision criteria are determined by the values assigned to entities and relationships.

There may be scope to use cardinality to validate the decisions taken. This would be most clear cut in relation to diachronic works and aggregating works. However validation would require that application profiles are implemented within a local system.

Recommendations

8. Principles for determining work boundaries belong in the guidance and not in application profiles.

9. Communities may choose to document local guidance in policy statements or workflows.

5   Conclusion

Application profiles mediate between the authoritative RDA Registry and community or local implementations. As exemplified by RIMMF4, application profiles underpin configuration, validation, workflow organization and data input. Publishing a suite of RDA application profiles in RDA Beta Toolkit would add value to RDA Toolkit and support community developments. Publication of the profiles should be complemented by additional guidance for their use in different implementation scenarios.

5.1   Summary of Recommendations

1. Expand the explanation of what an application profile is and include examples of how an application profile may be used. Consider whether the term "application profile" should be added to the glossary.
2. Supplement the textual specification of minimum and coherent application profiles by providing the same information in tabular form, supported by diagrams or other appropriate illustrative matter.
3. Promote RSC application profiles as the basis for development of community application profiles.
4. Develop RIMMF4 templates into RDA application profiles.
5. Publish RSC application profiles within RDA Toolkit.
6. RDA guidance on application profiles should include information on how to adapt application profiles for specific implementation scenarios.
7. Prioritise guidance and examples for implementation scenarios C-D.
8. Principles for determining work boundaries belong in the guidance and not in application profiles.
9. Communities may document local guidance in policy statements, or workflows.

6   Documents Consulted

Dunsire, Gordon. *A deeper dive into application profiles and policy statements*. 28 January, 2019 Seattle, USA.
http://www.rda-rsc.org/sites/all/files/Dunsire%20Deeper%20Dive%20into%20application%20profiles%2028%20Jan.pdf
Dunsire. Gordon. *Work boundaries.* 4 October, 2019. Revised to remove typos, 19 December 2019.
http://www.rda-rsc.org/sites/all/files/Work%20boundaries%20briefing%20paper.pdf
IFLA. *Library Reference Model*
https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/cataloguing/frbr-lrm/ifla-lrm-august-2017.pdf
PCC Task Group on Metadata Application Profiles. *Report to Poco*. October 2019
https://www.loc.gov/aba/pcc/taskgroup/MetadataAppProfiles_Oct2019report.pdf
RDA Steering Committee *Minutes of the October 2019 Meeting*
http://www.rda-rsc.org/sites/all/files/RSC-Minutes-Public-159-204.pdf
RDA Toolkit (Beta)
https://beta.rdatoolkit.org
RSC/Chair/2019/3 RSC Application Profiles Working Group, 2020-2021
http://www.rda-jsc.org/sites/all/files/RSC-Chair-2019-3%20final.pdf
TMQ *RIMMF4*
https://www.marcofquality.com/wiki/rimmf4/doku.php

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Agenda item 220: Progress report on the use of RDA unconstrained element set for display labels

[does not include supporting spreadsheet]

To: RDA Steering Committee
From: Thomas Brenndorfer, NARDAC Representative to the RSC
Subject: Progress report on the use of RDA unconstrained element set for display labels

Introduction

In July 2019, NARDAC was tasked with:

- Review the suitability of the RDA unconstrained element set to store user-friendly element labels.
    - Check that RDA elements have a corresponding unconstrained element.
    - Check that unconstrained element labels are consistent.
- Develop a method for easy determination and maintenance of general user-friendly labels.
- Develop a set of general labels.
- Identify relevant issues.

NARDAC members were helped in this task by the Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access 3R Task Force and a member of the Canadian Committee on Cataloguing.

On October 22, 2019, Thomas presented the results of NARDAC's work at RSC annual in-person meeting in Santiago, Chile. After the meeting, Thomas shared with NARDAC feedback from the RSC.

Methodology

For each element:

- Review the preferred label for consistency with the Registry label of the constrained element(s).
- Propose an amendment to the preferred label if required for consistency, parsimony, and distinctiveness. The utility of the preferred label in interoperability applications must not be impaired.
- Propose a user-friendly label based on a de-verbalization of the preferred label, or the preferred label(s) of the constrained element(s), or some other basis if justified.

- Report on any issues arising from this work.

Work done since the RSC meeting in October 2019:

1. We reviewed the comments to our proposed amended registry labels, friendly labels, and changes to definitions that were added in the spreadsheet by Gordon Dunsire and Kathy Glennan.
2. We added column J "Revised Amended Registry Labels" to record unconstrained element labels that we believe still need to be modified. They are:

Unconstrained label	Proposed unconstrained label	Reason
has founding agent of resource	has founder of resource	The word "founder" is used in the constrained element label. In addition, the proposed element follows the pattern of removing the word "agent" from other elements such as in "is author of" when it is not necessary.
is founder agent of resource of	is founder of resource of	The proposed element follows the pattern of removing the word "agent" from other elements such as in "is author of" when it is not necessary.
has member of	Is member of	We suggested this change has been rejected but we don't understand why. The constrained element label is "corporate body member of collective agent of " which has the alternate label "is corporate body member of collective agent." Therefore, it seems that the correct verbalized unconstrained label should be "is member of"
is text for work	is text for resource	The word "work" in constrained labels should be replaced by the word "resource" in unconstrained labels.

has text work	is text resource	The word "work" in constrained labels should be replaced by the word "resource" in unconstrained labels.

3. We added column O "Revised Toolkit Friendly Label" with our latest proposed display labels based on comments received. We did not add user-friendly labels for the following elements because they have been deprecated:
   ○ has biographical information (deprecated; merged with has agent history)
   ○ has referential resource relationship
4. We added column R "Revised Possible Definition Changes" to address other problems we found in definitions. They include:
   ○ Replacing the expression "source resource" in definitions;
   ○ Replacing the expression "an agent that" to "an agent who" when appropriate;
   ○ Making modifications to unconstrained definitions based on constrained element definitions;
   ○ Making minor corrections (typos, etc.)
5. In column S "Comments," we added explanations to some of our suggested modifications to definitions.
6. We generated spreadsheet to view our proposed friendly labels in different groupings (see various tabs in spreadsheet):
   ○ List of friendly labels that are the same as those of the unconstrained elements;
   ○ List of friendly labels that are different from those of the unconstrained elements;
   ○ List of friendly labels that still contain the name of high-level entities (tab labeled;
   ○ List of repeated labels;
   ○ List of friendly labels that are used for more than one element;
   ○ List of appellation elements.

   Note that the third tab in the spreadsheet is the Clean copy that contains the complete list of our latest proposed Registry label proposed changes, proposed user-friendly labels, and proposed definition changes. Older proposed labels have been removed from this list.

Using unconstrained element labels as the basis of user-friendly element labels

- On the whole, many unconstrained element labels can be used as display labels without modifications. Approximately, 71% of our proposed friendly labels are identical to those of unconstrained elements. See tabs labeled Identical labels and Different labels in spreadsheet.
- We created some friendly labels by simply removing high-level entity words (entity, resource, agent, nomen, place, timespan) from unconstrained element labels
- We created others by slightly modifying the unconstrained labels such as by changing the order of words.
- However, there are labels for which we could not find friendly labels, for instance those that include the term "nomen."

Recommendations

1. Add the following missing unconstrained elements (in addition to the access point elements mentioned in our October report):
   - has category of timespan
   - has category of place
   - has category of nomen
   - has appellation of agent
   - is appellation of agent of
   - has appellation of place
   - is appellation of place of
   - has appellation of resource
   - is appellation of resource of
   - has appellation of timespan
   - is appellation of timespan of
   - has identifier for place
   - Is identifier for place of
   - has identifier for timespan
   - is identifier for timespan of
   - is parallel name of distributor of
   - is parallel name of manufacturer of
   - is parallel name of producer of
   - is parallel name of publisher of

- is parallel place of distributor of
- is parallel place of manufacturer of
- is parallel place of producer of
- is parallel place of publisher of
- is contained in (for the constrained element "contained in item")
- container of (for the constrained element "container of item")

Note: The current RDA elements "container of (work)" and "contained in (work)" have become "part work" and "part of work" in the beta Toolkit. The unconstrained labels for these elements are "has part resource" and "is part of resource." Alternate labels for these elements are "is container of" and "is contained in," which could explain why the "container" elements at the item level have been missed.

2. Add constrained label lookup to the following elements:
   - has affiliation
   - has associated institution
   - has contributor
   - has name of entity
   - has preferred name of entity
   - has related agent of entity
   - has entity of entity
   - has related nomen of entity
   - has related place of entity
   - has resource of entity
   - has teacher
   - has variant name of entity
   - is contributor of
   - is editor of
   - is name of place of
   - is name of timespan of

3. Delete the following unconstrained elements:
   - has date associated with agent
   - is date associated with agent of

The constrained element "date associated with person" has become "related timespan of person," which should be mapped to the unconstrained element "has related timespan of agent." The constrained element "date associated with person of" is now "related timespan of person" which should be mapped to the unconstrained element

"has related timespan of agent." There is therefore no need to keep the unconstrained elements "has date associated with agent" and "has date associated with person of" among the list of unconstrained elements.

4. Review definitions of constrained elements for work and expression elements for consistency. The phrases "source work" and "source expression" are still found in many definitions. Here are two examples:
    ○ derivative work: A work that is a modification of another work.
    ○ derivative expression: An expression that is a modification of a "source expression."

    Other phrases that are not used consistently in definitions are "related work," "related expression," "another work," and "another expression." For instance, definitions to narrower elements of "derivative work," sometimes use the phrase "source work," "related work", "another work," such as:
    ○ abstracted as work: A work that abbreviates another work in a brief, objective manner.
    ○ adapted as choreography work: A choreographic work based on a related work.
    ○ adapted as work: A work that modifies a source work for a purpose, use, or medium other than that for which it was originally intended.
    The lack of consistency in definitions of constrained elements has an impact on the definitions of unconstrained elements.

5. Review constrained element labels that still contain the name of high-level entities for consistency.

    One of the instructions we were given was to "Remove the word 'agent' from unconstrained labels when possible." However, several suggestions we made to remove high-entity level words from unconstrained labels were rejected. It is not clear why the unconstrained label "has author" is acceptable, while the word "agent" must remain in labels, such as "has contributor agent of cartography." As a result, there are still inconsistencies in the list of unconstrained labels: some words representing high-level entities still appear in some labels, while they have been removed from others.

6. Consider removing the following elements from the unconstrained and constrained elements:
    ○ "has country associated with agent": Is this legacy element necessary? Country is not an entity. "Associated" elements have become "related" elements in the Toolkit. Should "related" elements such as this one be restricted to entities?

There are no constrained elements for country associated/related with an entity, a work, etc. Instead this is covered by the element related place of entity, work, etc. This is similar to the constrained element "date of person" which has become "related timespan of person."

○ "has category of government". Should the "category" elements be restricted to RDA entities?

Questions for discussion:

1. Should there be two sets of unconstrained elements: one verbalized and one not?

   The verbalized element labels may not work with all systems. For instance, using an unconstrained element label in a MARC 1XX field would look strange):

   100 1- $a Austen, Jane, $d 1775-1817, $e has author.

   It is easy to generate a list of non-verbalized labels from the verbalized labels. However, would it be useful to users of RDA to have two lists of element labels already mapped to unconstrained elements, instead of just one?

2. Where should the user-friendly labels live?

   For users of the RDA Toolkit, it would be useful to have friendly labels live somewhere in the beta Toolkit. Would it be feasible to add these labels to the element reference box, clearly indicated as such?

3. Should labels be used more than once?
   a. To make display labels more user-friendly, we removed high-level entities from many labels. The result is that one label can apply to many elements as can be seen in the table below. We believe that this is not a problem. Do you agree with us?

Unconstrained label	Proposed friendly label
has variant name of agent	has variant name
has variant name of entity	has variant name
has variant name of place	has variant name
has variant name of timespan	has variant name

b. If so, could we extend this principle to other elements that still contain the name of high-level entities (see the tab labeled High-level entities in spreadsheet)? For instance, could the labels for the following elements be the same? Would users understand the meaning of the relationships if the names of high-level entities are removed from labels in the table below? How far should we continue this type of merging of labels?

Unconstrained label	Proposed friendly label	Other possible friendly label
has language of agent	has language of agent	has language
has language of resource	has language of resource	has language
has part nomen	has nomen part	has part
has part place	has place part	has part
has part resource	has resource part	has part
has part timespan	has timespan part	has part

c. Can labels of "resource … statement" be the same as the label of a super-element?

Unconstrained label	friendly label proposed
has manufacture statement	has manufacture statement
has resource manufacture statement	has manufacture statement
has distribution statement	has distribution statement
has resource distribution statement	has distribution statement
has publication statement	has publication statement
has resource publication statement	has publication statement

d. Should the user-friendly labels for elements that have been soft deprecated be the same as the labels by which they are being replaced? For example, should the friendly labels for the elements "has details of …" be the same as those of the elements by which they are being replaced? (The following list is not exhaustive)

Unconstrained label	Proposed friendly label	Other possible friendly label
has details of base material	has details of base material	has base material
has details of colour content	has details of colour content	has colour content
has details of duration	has details of duration	has duration
has details of file type	has details of file type	has file type
has details of polarity	has details of polarity	has polarity

4. Do you agree that our proposed display labels that are different from those of unconstrained elements are friendlier? For example, are the following labels friendlier? (see tab labeled Different labels in spreadsheet for the complete list of labels that are different)

Unconstrained label	Proposed friendly label
is category of agent	is type of agent
is category of resource	is type of resource
is category of entity	is type of agent
has contributor agent of cartography	has cartography contributor
has contributor agent of choreography	has choreography contributor
has contributor agent of music	has music contributor
has contributor agent of object	has object contributor
has name of publisher	has publisher name
is name of publisher of	is publisher name of
has parallel name of publisher	has parallel publisher name
has note on capture	has capture note
has note on copyright statement	has copyright statement note
has note on edition statement	has edition statement note

has note on title	has title note

5. We reversed the order of words in some element labels. Some examples appear in the table above. We consider reversing other words in element labels, such as the word "date". Do you think that is a good idea?

Unconstrained and proposed friendly label	Possible friendly label
has date of birth	has birth date
is date of birth of	is birth date of
has date of establishment	has establishment date
is date of establishment of	is establishment date of
has date of production	has production date
is date of production of	Is production date of

6. Are there proposed friendly labels that are the same as those of unconstrained elements for which friendlier labels could be proposed (see tab labeled Identical labels in the spreadsheet)?

7. If the proposed labels are translated into other languages, would they remain user-friendly for non-English speakers?

8. What should we do with element labels that are still not friendly, such as elements that include the word "nomen?"

9. Should we make a proposal to change the following constrained labels (and their corresponding unconstrained labels)?

Constrained element label	Possible label change proposal	Reason
arranger agent of music	arranger agent	Simpler
arranger agent of music of	arranger agent of	Simpler

commissioning body agent	commissioner agent	Commissioner is the word used in OED; commissioners are not only corporate bodies; the label commissioning body person is strange
commissioning body agent of	commissioning body agent of	ibid
recording medium	audio recording medium	Clearer
recording source	transcription source	Clearer

Next step

NARDAC's next step is to test the friendly labels using RIMMF4. We encourage other communities to test our list of user-friendly labels and give us feedback.

= = = = =

Agenda item 221: Representative expressions of aggregating works

Representative expressions of an aggregating work
Gordon Dunsire, RSC Technical Team Liaison Officer, March 2020

Abstract

This paper makes recommendations for the refinement of the utility of representative expression elements for aggregating works.

The recommendations are extracted from the proposals paper on "RDA content elements" discussed by the RSC at its January 2020 meeting, and updated to reflect the discussion.

Clean copies of amended RDA Toolkit pages are available in appendices 1-4 and the updated appendix 14 that accompanied the proposals paper.

Background

Aggregates model

Figure 1 shows the basic model for aggregates in the IFLA Library Reference Model:
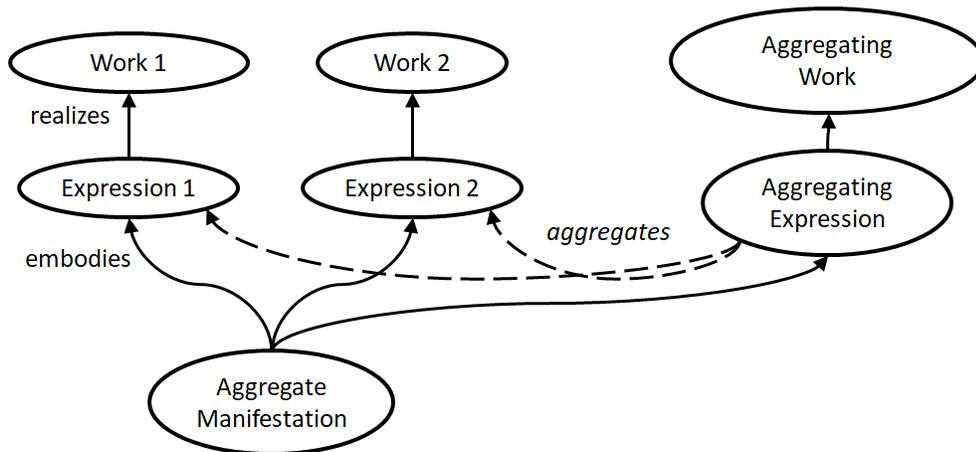
Figure 1: Basic model for aggregates

Solid arrows indicate direct relationship elements; dashed arrows indicate shortcut relationship elements.

An aggregate manifestation embodies two or more distinct expressions[3] and an aggregating expression that realizes the plan for aggregating the other expressions.

The recording of separate entities for the expressions or works embodied by an aggregate manifestation is optional. An application can choose to record any or all of the aggregating expression and work, or any or all of the expressions that are aggregated and their works.

Aggregating expression

The RDA term 'aggregating expression' is defined as: An expression that is the realization of an aggregating work that selects and arranges expressions of one or more works, and embodies them in an aggregate.

The definition refers only to the context of the aggregating work.

The RDA term 'aggregating work' is defined as: A work that is a plan to select and arrange one or more expressions of one or more works, and embody them in an aggregate.

The definition does not refer to an aggregating expression.

The definitions reflect the LRM's treatment of aggregating works and expressions. The LRM defines an aggregating expression in terms of the aggregating work. The LRM uses 'aggregating expression' and 'expression of an aggregating work' interchangeably. The only additional information about an aggregating expression is given in the scope note for LRM-R25 (was aggregated by/aggregated):

---

[3] In some cases, there is only one expression that is aggregated. For example, the plan may be to aggregate an 'annual top 5' of expressions; if no expressions are published in a particular year, the aggregate is not published, if only one expression is published that year, the 'aggregate' is published.

"Unlike the whole-part relationship between *expressions*, the *expressions* selected to appear together in the aggregate *manifestation* do not become components of the aggregating *expression*. Furthermore, the relationship between these *expressions* is not an inherent feature of the *works* that these *expressions* realize, and thus is does not hold in other *expressions* of those *works*."

An aggregating expression does not accumulate or inherit the characteristics of the expressions that are aggregated.

An aggregating expression that 'aggregates' a set of expressions that are English texts does not itself have English as a language of expression or text as a content type.

No attribute elements for an expression are applicable to an aggregating expression because an aggregating expression has no intrinsic characteristics that are worth recording.

Representative expression of an aggregating work

The LRM introduces the idea of a 'representative expression attribute'; this is a Work attribute that "records the values of those *expression* attributes considered essential in characterizing the *work*". The LRM scope note for the high-level attribute states:

"The values of these attributes are inferred either from particular *expressions* considered to best represent the *work*, or from characteristics abstracted from a more or less nebulous network of similar *expressions*. There is no requirement to precisely identify an *expression* or *expressions* which serves as source for the values of the *representative expression attributes*, nor does that *expression* need to be recorded in the case where it is identified."

An aggregating work is realized by one and only one aggregating expression. This means that the aggregating expression is the only possible representative expression for an aggregating work.

An aggregating expression has no utility as a representative expression because it has no characteristics that are useful for identifying or distinguishing its aggregating work. Therefore the representative expression elements for an aggregating work have no source of values unless special instructions are added.

The basis of such instructions is an extension of "a more or less nebulous network of similar expressions" to cover the set of expressions that are aggregated in an aggregate manifestation.

Although these are not 'similar' expressions, the set meets the expectations of end-users who "consider certain characteristics as inherent in works and that expressions that reflect those characteristics can be felt to best represent the intention of the creators of that work" (LRM 5.6 Representative Expression Attributes).

The LRM model of aggregates is not intuitive to end-users. An end-user is likely to expect the description of an aggregating work to include information about the characteristics of the expressions that are

aggregated. In some cases the common values of a characteristic will be expected; in other cases the prominent values will be expected.

Recommendation 1: add specific optional instructions for representative expression elements for aggregating works.

Values from single expressions that are aggregated

The following representative expression elements can record values taken from one or more of the expressions that are aggregated:

- **Work: <u>aspect ratio of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>content type of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>date of capture of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>date of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>intended audience of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>key of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>language of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>medium of performance of choreographic content of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>medium of performance of musical content of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>place of capture of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>projection of cartographic content of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>scale of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>script of representative expression</u>**

Recommendation 1.1: Add a condition and option template to the Recording section of each of the representative expression elements for single expressions that are aggregated.

Condition: A work is an aggregating work.
Option: Record a value of an [Expression: <u>language of expression</u>] for one or more of the expressions that are aggregated.
Option: Record a value of an Expression: language of expression that is common to all of the expressions that are aggregated.

Values from the cumulated content of expressions that are aggregated

The following representative expression elements can only record a cumulation of values taken from all of the expressions that are aggregated:

- **Work: <u>duration of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>extent of representative expression</u>**

Recommendation 1.2: Add a condition and option template to the Recording section of each of the representative expressions of cumulated aggregated content.

Condition: A work is an aggregating work.
Option: Record a value that is a cumulation of values of [Expression: <u>duration of expression</u>] for each of the expressions that are aggregated.

Values from the shortcut content of expressions that are aggregated

The following representative expression elements record a value from an aggregate manifestation shortcut content element:

- **Work: <u>colour content of representative expression</u>**
- **Work: <u>sound content of representative expression</u>**

Recommendation 1.3: Generalize the Recording section of each of the representative expressions of shortcut aggregate content elements to allow values to be taken from any manifestation that embodies a work being described.

Record a value of [Manifestation: <u>colour content</u>] for a manifestation that realizes a work.

Guidance

Recommendation 2: Update relevant Toolkit Guidance content to reflect the use of representative expressions for aggregating works.

Clean versions

Clean versions of new and amended content are available as appendices. Appendix 14 was amended during the January 2020 discussion, and there may be minor variations resulting from ongoing editorial work to resolve errors and improve consistency and clarity. The latest version is available on the RSC Development site.

Impact

There is no significant impact on legacy data in RDA implementation scenarios because the use of representative expression attributes is new to the LRM, and these recommendations reflect current practice based on end-user expectations.

Further development

A comprehensive review of the 'cumulation' representative expression elements for an aggregating work (duration … and extent …) is part of the planned development of the treatment of extent.

Instructions, string encoding schemes, and examples for the construction of access points for an aggregating work should be developed after the infrastructure for the maintenance and display of string encoding schemes is determined.

A review of ***Expression: note on changes in content characteristics*** will take place as part of the development of separate guidance on work boundaries. The guidance for **Recording an expression** is the only place in the Toolkit that references this element. The element is soft-deprecated, but the 'preferred' option is the guidance for describing a diachronic work, in **Recording a work**. This requires clarification.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1: add specific optional instructions for representative expression elements for aggregating works.
Recommendation 1.1: Add a condition and option template to the Recording section of each of the representative expression elements for single expressions that are aggregated.
Recommendation 1.2: Add a condition and option template to the Recording section of each of the representative expressions of cumulated aggregated content.
Recommendation 1.3: Add a condition and option template to the Recording section of each of the representative expressions of shortcut aggregate content elements.
Recommendation 2: Update relevant Toolkit Guidance content to reflect the use of representative expressions for aggregating works.

= = = = =

Appendices: Clean versions of new and amended Toolkit pages

Appendix 1: **Work: language of representative expression**
Appendix 2: **Work: duration of representative expression**
Appendix 3: **Work: colour content of representative expression**
Appendix 4: **Work: sound content of representative expression**
Appendix 5: **Guidance: Representative expressions**
Appendix 6: **Guidance: Aggregates**
Appendix 7: **Guidance. Resource description: Describing a manifestation**
Appendix 8: **Guidance. Resource description: Describing an expression**

Appendix 1: Clean version of Work: language of representative expression

This version adds a condition block with two options for an aggregating work.
The same template applies to:
- **Work: aspect ratio of representative expression**
- **Work: content type of representative expression**
- **Work: date of capture of representative expression**
- **Work: date of representative expression**
- **Work: intended audience of representative expression**
- **Work: key of representative expression**
- **Work: medium of performance of choreographic content of representative expression**
- **Work: medium of performance of musical content of representative expression**
- **Work: place of capture of representative expression**
- **Work: projection of cartographic content of representative expression**
- **Work: scale of representative expression**
- **Work: script of representative expression**

Some of the standard content is omitted (…) for clarity.

language of representative expression

…

Recording

> **CONDITION**
>
> A work is a *single work.*

> **OPTION**
>
> Record a value of an Expression: <u>language of expression</u> for a
>
> *representative expression*.

> **CONDITION**
>
> A work is an *aggregating work.*

> **OPTION**
>
> Record a value of an Expression: <u>language of expression</u> for one or more
> of the expressions that are aggregated.

> **OPTION**
>
> Record a value of an Expression: <u>language of expression</u> that is common
>
> to all of the expressions that are aggregated.

The same or a different applicable recording method may be used.

For general guidance on representative expressions, see Guidance: <u>Representative expressions</u>.

Recording an unstructured description

…

Appendix 2: Clean version of Work: duration of representative expression

This version adds a condition block with one option for an aggregating work.
The same template applies to:

- **Work: <u>extent of representative expression</u>**

Some of the standard content is omitted (…) for clarity.

duration of representative expression

…

Recording

> CONDITION
>
> A work is a *single work.*

> OPTION
>
> Record a value of an Expression: <u>duration of expression</u> for a *representative expression*.

The same or a different applicable recording method may be used.

For general guidance on representative expressions, see Guidance: <u>Representative expressions</u>.

Recording an unstructured description

> CONDITION
>
> A work is an *aggregating work.*

> OPTION
>
> Record a value that is a cumulation of values of Expression: <u>duration of expression</u> for each of the expressions that are aggregated.

…

Appendix 3: Clean version of Work: colour content of representative expression

This version amends the first instruction in the Recording section to generalize it to any manifestation that embodies the work.

Some of the standard content is omitted (…) for clarity.

colour content of representative expression

…

Recording

Record a value of Manifestation: <u>colour content</u> for a manifestation that realizes a work.

The same or a different applicable recording method may be used.

For general guidance on representative expressions, see Guidance: <u>Representative expressions</u>.

Recording an unstructured description

…

Appendix 4: Clean version of Work: sound content of representative expression

This version amends the first instruction in the Recording section to generalize it to any manifestation that embodies the work.

Some of the standard content is omitted (…) for clarity.

sound content of representative expression

…

Recording

Record a value of Manifestation: <u>sound content</u> for a manifestation that realizes a work.

The same or a different applicable recording method may be used.

For general guidance on representative expressions, see Guidance: <u>Representative expressions</u>.

Recording an unstructured description

…

Appendix 5: Clean version of Guidance:

Representative expressions

This adds a section on representative expressions of an aggregating work.
Some of the standard content is omitted (…) for clarity.

Representative expressions

A *representative expression* provides the values of specific elements used to identify a work and distinguish it from other works.

…

The selection of a representative expression and the values to be recorded for a work are dependent on an application that uses the data.

As a result, a work may be described using different representative expressions with different values for the same element

Representative expressions of an aggregating work

An aggregating work is realized by one and only one expression, the aggregating expression.

An aggregating expression cannot function as a representative expression because the content of an aggregating expression is not the content of the expressions that are aggregated.

The "representative" expressions of an aggregating work are the expressions that are aggregated, not the aggregating expression.

The values of representative expression elements for an aggregating work are derived from one or more expressions that are aggregated.

CONDITION

A work is an aggregating work.

OPTION

Use any of the following elements to record the value of the appropriate

element of an expression that is aggregated:

- Work: aspect ratio of representative expression
- Work: content type of representative expression
- Work: date of capture of representative expression
- Work: date of representative expression
- Work: intended audience of representative expression
- Work: key of representative expression
- Work: language of representative expression
- Work: medium of performance of choreographic content of representative expression
- Work: medium of performance of musical content of representative expression
- Work: place of capture of representative expression
- Work: projection of cartographic content of representative expression
- Work: scale of representative expression
- Work: script of representative expression

OPTION

Use any of the following elements to record a cumulation of values of

the appropriate element of each expression that is aggregated:

- Work: duration of representative expression
- Work: extent of representative expression

OPTION

Use any of the following elements to record a value of the appropriate

element of a manifestation that embodies an aggregating work:

- Work: colour content of representative expression
- Work: sound content of representative expression

Appendix 6: Clean version of Guidance: Aggregates

Paragraphs added:

An aggregate embodies one and only one *aggregating expression*.
= = =
An aggregating expression does not incorporate or accumulate the expressions that are

aggregated.

= = =

The content of an aggregating expression is what is embodied by an aggregate that is not the

content of the expressions that are aggregated. For example, a title page and page headings

and numbering in a printed volume aggregate may be treated as the content of the aggregating

expression.

= = =
An aggregating expression is embodied by an aggregate as well as the expressions that are

aggregated.

= = =

Paragraphs removed:

An aggregate embodies an aggregating expression as well as the expressions that are
aggregated.
= = =

Some of the standard content is omitted (…) for clarity.

Aggregates

Aggregate manifestation

An *aggregate* is a manifestation that embodies two or more expressions. The expressions may
realize one or more works.

An aggregate embodies one and only one *aggregating expression*.

An aggregate may be issued in one or more units.

…

Aggregating expression

An aggregating expression realizes the plan of an aggregating work to select and arrange expressions that are embodied by an aggregate.

An aggregating expression does not incorporate or accumulate the expressions that are aggregated.

The content of an aggregating expression is what is embodied by an aggregate that is not the content of the expressions that are aggregated. For example, a title page and page headings and numbering in a printed volume aggregate may be treated as the content of the aggregating expression.

An aggregating expression is embodied by an aggregate as well as the expressions that are aggregated.

An expression that is aggregated is not a part of an aggregating expression.

An aggregating expression and the expressions that are aggregated may be embodied by more than one manifestation.

An aggregating expression realizes one and only one aggregating work.

An aggregating expression that selects a set of expressions that is different from another aggregating expression must realize a different aggregating work.

Aggregating work

An aggregating work is a plan to select and arrange two or more expressions of one or more works and embody them in a single manifestation. The plan might be to aggregate expressions of entire works, of parts of works, or of extracts of works.

An aggregating work is realized by one and only one aggregating expression.

The work that is realized by an expression that is aggregated is not a part of the aggregating work.

…

Appendix 7: Clean version of Guidance. Resource description: Describing a manifestation

This adds the option for an aggregate manifestation:
Relate the manifestation separately to aspects of the content of one or more of the expressions

that are aggregated using any of the following elements:

- Manifestation: <u>accessibility content</u>

- Manifestation: <u>colour content</u>

- Manifestation: <u>illustrative content</u>

- Manifestation: <u>sound content</u>

- Manifestation: <u>supplementary content</u>

Some of the standard content is omitted (…) for clarity.

Describing a manifestation

…

Describing a manifestation that embodies two or more expressions

A manifestation that embodies two or more expressions of distinct works is an *aggregate*. An

aggregate also embodies the one and only *aggregating expression* of an *aggregating work*.

CONDITION

A manifestation is an aggregate.

…

…

> **OPTION**
>
> Relate the manifestation separately to one or more of the creators of one
> or more of the expressions that are aggregated using Manifestation:
> <u>contributor agent to aggregate</u>.

> **OPTION**
>
> Relate the manifestation separately to aspects of the content of one or
> more of the expressions that are aggregated using any of the following
> elements:
>
> - Manifestation: <u>accessibility content</u>
> - Manifestation: <u>colour content</u>
> - Manifestation: <u>illustrative content</u>
> - Manifestation: <u>sound content</u>
> - Manifestation: <u>supplementary content</u>

Appendix 8: Clean version of Guidance. Resource description: Describing an expression

Paragraphs added:
There is no direct relationship between an aggregating expression and the content of any of the expressions that are aggregated.

= = =
There is no direct relationship between an expression that is aggregated and the content of an aggregating expression.

Paragraphs removed:

There is no direct relationship between an expression that is aggregated and an agent who is responsible for the realization of the aggregating work.

Other changes:
Replace CONDITION: An expression realizes a diachronic work.
With CONDITION: An expression realizes a diachronic work that is not a serial work.
Some of the standard content is omitted (…) for clarity.

Describing an expression
…
Describing expressions of aggregating works and expressions that are aggregated

Describing an expression of an aggregating work

There is no direct relationship between an aggregating expression and the content of any of the expressions that are aggregated.

There is no direct relationship between an aggregating expression and an agent related to one or more of the expressions that are aggregated.

Do not use Expression: <u>part expression</u> to relate an aggregating expression to any of the expressions that are aggregated.

> CONDITION
>
> An expression realizes an aggregating work.

> OPTION
>
> Record information about one or more of the expressions that are aggregated using Expression: <u>note on expression</u>.

> OPTION
>
> Relate the expression to one or more of the expressions that are aggregated separately using Expression: <u>aggregates</u>.

…

Describing an expression that is aggregated

There is no direct relationship between an expression that is aggregated and the content of an aggregating expression.

Do not use Expression: <u>part of expression</u> to relate an expression that is aggregated to an expression of an aggregating work.

…

Describing an expression of a diachronic work

CONDITION

An expression realizes a *diachronic work* that is not a *serial work*.

OPTION

Record values of elements that are common to expressions that realize parts, issues, or iterations of a diachronic work.

OPTION

Record information about a change in the value of an element as an Expression: <u>note on changes in content characteristics</u>.

CONDITION

An expression realizes a *diachronic work* that is not a *serial work*.

There is a variation in the value of an element that is common to two or more expressions that realize parts, issues, or iterations of a diachronic work.

OPTION

Record a new value of an element using a separate instance of the element.

…

Agenda item 222: Community vocabularies in RDA Toolkit

Community vocabularies in RDA Toolkit
Gordon Dunsire, RSC Technical Team Liaison Officer, March 2020

Abstract

This is a briefing paper about ongoing work to review and rationalize the accommodation in RDA Toolkit of controlled terminologies for the construction of access points. The work covers several specific areas of development approved by the RSC, including: the consolidation of instructions on the use of string encoding schemes in the construction of access points; implementation of a 'community' area in the Toolkit to support policy statements, user-created documentation, and application profiles; revision of original Toolkit appendices; review of the Toolkit Resources menu; and removal of the Anglo-American focus of the original Toolkit to accommodate international perspectives.

Background

Appendices and tools

The first phase of the 3R Project involved the reformatting ('shredding') of the content of the original Toolkit to fit the new structure and design. The 3R Core Team decided that it would be better to wait until later in the project to process some of the original Toolkit appendices:

- Appendix A: Capitalization
- Appendix B: Abbreviations and Symbols
- Appendix C: Initial articles
- Appendix F: Additional Instructions on Names of Persons
- Appendix G: Titles of Nobility, Terms of Rank, etc.

The main reasons for waiting included the development of primary and equal focus of the Toolkit on individual entities and elements, and editorial policies on generalization, duplication, and consistency in the presentation of guidance and instructions.
The same approach was taken with some of the original Toolkit tools:

- Books of the Bible
- Medium of Performance

These appendices and tools were moved to the 3R Toolkit Resources menu with minimal reformatting.

Resources menu

The RSC agreed at its meeting in Santiago, Chile in October 2019 that it was now appropriate to review the drop-down menu and contents of the Resources tab in the beta Toolkit.

Sections 2 and 3 of the current beta Toolkit Resources tab menu are:

- ---
- Abbreviations and symbols
- Additional instructions on names of persons
- Capitalization
- Initial articles
- Terms of rank
- ---
- Revision history
- Books of the Bible
- Terms for medium of performance
- ---

(Section 1 is sourced from RDA Reference; section 4 is for legacy resources. These sections are under review for other reasons, including the location of Revision history.)

Anglo-American focus

The RSC agreed that the prominent display of "Books of the Bible" in the Resources menu reinforces perceptions outlined in the paper on "Western and Christian Bias in the 3R Toolkit" discussed at the Santiago meeting in 2019.

Local vocabularies

The 3R Core Team identified two other vocabularies of 'terms' that could be incorporated into the new Toolkit:
- Collective titles: this vocabulary is embedded in the original Toolkit instructions at 6.2.2.10.2. There is no element for 'collective title' and the focus on Anglo-American and literary contexts is too narrow for international applications.
- Gender terms: this vocabulary was removed from the original Toolkit before the 3R Project. RSC agreed to investigate how it might be retained as a 'local community' vocabulary for continuity with legacy metadata.

Both sets of terms have utility for local RDA communities and applications, but do not warrant treatment as 'global' RDA vocabulary encoding schemes.

Well before the 3R Project, the RDA Development Team identified a requirement for developing, maintaining, and publishing local vocabularies as part of the Toolkit. This is considered to be a significant tool for 'customizing' the Toolkit for communities for special materials such as music and rare materials.

Abbreviations for names of places

The RSC discussed the labelling of the current Toolkit Appendix B.11 for "Names of Certain Countries, States, Provinces, Territories, Etc." during discussion of the Fast Track proposal FT2020-03:

Abbreviations in Place: access point for place. The RSC agreed to amend the label to improve accuracy in the context of perceptions of Anglo-American focus; the appendix covers the names of constituent parts of Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States only, together with the names of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic.

SES Project

Following discussion at the Santiago meeting, the RSC agreed to test the relocation of instructions for constructing an access point using a string encoding scheme (SES) into a more central place, nominally under the Resources menu, to improve clarity and reduce redundancy. The results of the test were given in a paper on "String encoding schemes in RDA Toolkit" discussed at the January 2020 online meeting of the RSC. The RSC decided to take Option 1, to completely remove the SES boxes, together with associated Condition boxes and Examples boxes, from the element instructions.

A small task force of RSC members and policy statement writers was set up in February 2020 to continue this work.

Discussion

Community vocabularies

The working term 'community vocabulary' is used for a controlled terminology used in the construction of values for RDA access point elements. Specific terms are used in SES constructors; for example, a conventional collective title or a title of a book of the Bible may be used in a value of Work: access point for work, and a gender term may be used as a distinguishing characteristic in a value of Person: access point for person.

A community vocabulary is characterized as:
- Used only by specific RDA communities.
- Covering a limited number of languages and scripts.
- Not requiring translation in every Toolkit language.
- Requiring maintenance by experts in specific languages, scripts, and cultures.
- Not necessarily conforming to a full vocabulary encoding scheme: concepts may lack definitions, scope notes, IRIs, or notations, and coverage may be incomplete.

A community vocabulary should be no more prominent in the basic Toolkit menu system than an RDA VES, to avoid perceptions of favouring some RDA communities over others.

All community vocabularies should be gathered in one place for consistency and ease of selection.
All community vocabularies should be individually accessible via distinct sub-menu items, URLs, and citation numbers. This allows re-use in policy statements, user documentation, and application profiles.

A top-level 'Community vocabularies' item should be added to the Resources menu, and all specific vocabularies should be moved or added as sub-menu items, preserving existing hierarchical structures where appropriate. This presents vocabularies with equal prominence.

Section 3 of the Resources tab becomes:
- ---
- Community vocabularies
    - Terms for medium of performance
    - Titles of books of the Bible [amended for clarity and consistency]
        - Titles of books of the Bible: Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging [amended for consistency]
        - Livres de la Bible: Bibliothèque et Archives Canada-Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec [to be re-translated]
        - Festlegungen für den deutschen Sprachraum zum Erfassen der bevorzugten Titel von biblischen Schriften [to be re-translated]
- ---

Local vocabularies

The new menu provides consistent accommodation for the local vocabularies for collective titles and gender:
- Community vocabularies
    - Terms for collective titles
    - Terms for gender

Terms of rank

The original Appendix G: Titles of Nobility, Terms of Rank, etc. was given the shorter and more consistent title "Terms of rank" and reformatted into a more consistent structure when it was moved to the beta Toolkit.

The content has the characteristics of a community vocabulary, and covers only the countries of France, Indonesia, and the United Kingdom, and the Iban language.

Terms of rank should be moved from Section 2 of the Resources tab menu to the sub-menu of Community vocabularies in Section 3. The sub-menu items for the four existing areas of coverage should be re-titled for clarity and consistency:
- Community vocabularies
    - Terms of rank
        - Terms of rank in the Iban language
        - Terms of rank used in France
        - Terms of rank used in Indonesia

- Terms of rank used in the United Kingdom

Abbreviations and symbols

The original Toolkit Appendix B for abbreviations and symbols has two distinct parts: general guidelines and instructions for using abbreviations in the values of specific elements; and lists of abbreviations in specific scripts and languages.

Reformatting the general guidelines and instructions for consistency with the 3R content, and applying new editorial policies to reduce redundancy and duplication, results in all of the content of this part of Appendix B being removed or relocated to specific elements.

The lists of abbreviations have a structure and function that is similar to other 'community' vocabularies. They should be moved from Section 2 of the Resources tab menu to the new 'Community vocabularies' sub-menu in Section 3 of the Resources tab menu.

The lists of abbreviations of names of places and words in specific scripts and languages are labelled:
- Latin Alphabet Abbreviations
- Cyrillic Alphabet Abbreviations
- Greek Alphabet Abbreviations
- Hebrew and Yiddish Abbreviations
- Names of Certain Countries, States, Provinces, Territories, Etc.

The accuracy and clarity of the label for names of places was noted during the Fast Track discussion noted above.

The lists for specific 'alphabets' are confined to specific writing systems or scripts. The only remaining usage of the term "alphabet" in the beta Toolkit is in the context of the original appendices on abbreviations and names of persons. Otherwise, the term 'script' is used for writing systems and 'language' for linguistic systems, recognizing that a single script may express many languages and a single language may be expressed in multiple scripts.

The Latin alphabet abbreviations cover multiple languages.

The label "Hebrew and Yiddish Abbreviations" mixes a script (Hebrew) with two languages (Hebrew and Yiddish), and is inconsistent with the "alphabet" labels for other scripts.

An alphabet is a category of script; the other categories are 'syllabary' and 'logographic script'. Non-alphabet scripts may support standard abbreviations, so the use of 'alphabet' is too narrow in an international context.

The 'working' labels for the lists of script abbreviations are:
- Abbreviations for countries and states
- Abbreviations in Cyrillic script
- Abbreviations in Greek script

- Abbreviations in Latin script
- Abbreviations in Hebrew script

There are no symbols in any of the lists; it is not possible to abbreviate a symbol, so symbols are unlikely to be added. The title of the super-menu and menu page can be shortened to "Abbreviations":

- Community vocabularies
  - Abbreviations
    - Abbreviations for countries and states
    - Abbreviations in Cyrillic script
    - Abbreviations in Greek script
    - Abbreviations in Latin script
    - Abbreviations in Hebrew script

Amended Resources tab menu

Consolidating these developments results in amended Sections 2 and 3 of the Resources tab menu:

- ---
- Additional instructions on names of persons
- Capitalization
- Initial articles
- ---
- Community vocabularies
  - Abbreviations
    - Abbreviations for countries and states
    - Abbreviations in Cyrillic script
    - Abbreviations in Greek script
    - Abbreviations in Latin script
    - Abbreviations in Hebrew script
  - Terms for collective titles
  - Terms for gender
  - Terms for medium of performance
  - Terms of rank
    - Terms of rank in the Iban language
    - Terms of rank used in France
    - Terms of rank used in Indonesia
    - Terms of rank used in the United Kingdom
  - Titles of books of the Bible
    - Titles of books of the Bible: Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging
    - Livres de la Bible: Bibliothèque et Archives Canada-Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec [to be re-translated]

- ▪ Festlegungen für den deutschen Sprachraum zum Erfassen der bevorzugten Titel von biblischen Schriften [to be re-translated]

- ---

Section 2 of the Resources tab menu

Expanding the remainder of section 2 of the new Resources tab menu gives:

- Additional instructions on names of persons
  - Names in the Arabic alphabet
  - Burmese and Karen names
  - Chinese names containing a non-Chinese given name
  - Icelandic names
  - Indic names
  - Indonesian names
  - Malay names
  - Roman names
  - Romanian names containing a patronymic
  - Thai names
  - Recording surnames that include an article and/or proposition
    - ▪ [Latent sub-items based on a mix of countries and languages]
- Capitalization
  - General guidelines for capitalization
  - Names of agents and places
  - Title of work
  - Titles of manifestation
  - Other elements
    - ▪ Edition statement
    - ▪ Numbering of serials
    - ▪ Numbering within sequence
    - ▪ Notes
    - ▪ Details of elements
  - General guidelines for English language capitalization
  - Personal names and terms of rank, etc.
  - Names of people, etc.
  - Place names
    - ▪ Geographic features, regions, etc.
    - ▪ Political divisions
    - ▪ Popular names
  - Names of structures, streets, etc.
  - Names of corporate bodies
  - Religious names and terms

- ▪ [Various sub-items]
  - o Names of documents
  - o Names of historical and cultural events and periods
  - o Decorations, medals, etc.
  - o Names of calendar divisions
  - o Names of holidays
  - o Scientific names and terms
    - ▪ [Various sub-items]
  - o Trade names
  - o Single and multiple letters used as words or parts of compounds
  - o Other languages
    - ▪ [23 languages and language groups]
- Initial articles
  - o Initial articles listed by language
  - o Initial articles listed by word or words

There are multiple issues that will be resolved when these guidance and instructions are shredded into the new structure:

- Terminology (e.g. documents have titles, not names).
- Duplication or mis-location of instructions for specific elements (e.g. historical periods, etc. are timespans).
- Inconsistent presentation of general guidelines and instructions for all appropriate elements, instructions for specific elements, community vocabularies, etc.

Shredding will be carried out in stages similar to the processing of the content of the abbreviations appendix:

1. Extraction of community vocabularies and relocation to the Community vocabularies menu.
2. De-duplication and relocation of content to specific elements.
3. De-duplication and relocation of content to guidelines and general instructions for processing names, titles, and access points.
4. Improvement of consistency and clarity of remaining content. Location of remaining content in the Resources menu will be considered at this final stage.

This work is expected to take several months.

Language tagging

The language of Toolkit content must be indicated for use by screen-reader software.

Individual terms and phrases that are not in the base language (English or a full translation) must also be indicated to translators. This content needs to remain in its own language, without translation.

There is a standard technique for tagging content to indicate language. The mark-up is applied to contiguous blocks of content in the same language. For example, an entire element or guidance page has a single tag for its language at the start of the content. If there is content in a different language embedded with the page, it is surrounded by a language tag. When a screen-reader reaches the end of the tag, it reverts back to the language of the page.

The number of tags required is determined by the number of contiguous portions of content in a language that is different from the base.

The community vocabularies that have content in specific languages and scripts will be reformatted to make contiguous portions larger and reduce the amount of language tagging required. This will also improve the re-usability of content for language-based RDA communities.

String manipulation

All of the content of the Community vocabularies area of RDA Toolkit is associated with the processing of string values of RDA elements.

Most of the content is associated with the processing of strings in string encoding schemes, including the omission of initial articles, application or expansion of abbreviations, normalization of capitalization, restructuring of name and title strings, and provision of controlled strings for specific constituent elements or boilerplate. SESs are used for the construction of access points, which are structured description values.

Some of the content is associated with controlling the terminology of values of attribute elements which may or may not be used in SESs. These elements accommodate the use of a local vocabulary encoding scheme for structured description values.

SES Project

Further development of the structure and location of the content of sections 2 and 3 of the Resources tab menu will be carried out within the SES Project.

The Project so far has:
- Removed specific value selectors and punctuation patterns from access point elements.
- Modularized and normalized the structure of value selector and punctuation pattern components of a string encoding scheme.
- Assigned a CMS identifier that is the basis of a URL for each SES and its components.
- Tested the use of SES URLs in policy statements.

Future activities include:
- Remove condition blocks that are exclusively associated with SESs from access point elements.

- Modularize and normalize the structure of condition blocks associated with SESs so that they can be incorporated in policy statements, user documentation, and application profiles. This will explore the presentation of conditions associated only with access point construction. Individual conditions can be re-assembled in the CMS into different blocks for presentation and use. Many individual conditions are CMS boilerplate supporting one-stop updating. Conditions have been structured to enable future development of material-specific views of global RDA based on work category, content type, carrier type, etc. that can be developed for local RDA.
- Shred section 2 of the Resources tab menu to relocate appropriate content to Community vocabularies and string encoding schemes.
- Review and amend the organization of community vocabularies for use in policy statements, etc.
- Normalize, etc. the use of introductory text in SESs and community vocabularies to improve 'localization' support in the CMS for translators and policy statement writers.
- Review and develop the use of conditions to drive the selection of SESs and community vocabularies, in the context of wider localization for material-specific communities.

The SES Project task force will continue to liaise with the RDA Policy Statement Writers Group, the RSC Application Profiles Working Group, and the RSC Translations Working Group and report to RSC at appropriate intervals.

Impact

This work will improve the clarity, consistency, usability, and re-usability of Toolkit content. Changes to Toolkit content will have no impact on current policies and practice or on applications of RDA metadata.

The presentation of content used by RDA communities that are focused on language, religious, geopolitical, or other 'local' context is more equitable.

It will be easier to accommodate the addition of content for RDA communities based on language, script, or local culture. Existing gaps in content will be easier to identify.

This work will inform future decisions by the RSC on governance and maintenance of content for global and local RDA communities. The new labels and menu locations of the 'community' content only indicate a potential boundary. The underlying structure of the RDA content management system and application of the DITA standard treat all content on an equal basis; the Toolkit menu structure is controlled by a virtual directory that can be easily and quickly updated.

The amount of content to be processed in full translations of the Toolkit is reduced. The 'full translation boundary' that delineates what must be translated is controlled by a physical directory in the CMS. The directory includes only section 2 of the Resources menu tab. Relocation of content to section 3 moves it

over the boundary and reduces the 'noise' or non-translatable content included in the 'must translate' section 2.

All of the work is scheduled for completion in beta versions of the new RDA Toolkit.