

euroCRIS in a Nutshell

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President of euroCRIS

PORTO, NOVEMBER 2013

Structure of this Presentation

- What is euroCRIS – What is CERIF?
- Finances
- Project Participation
- Key Objectives, Recent and Upcoming Developments
- Board and Task Groups

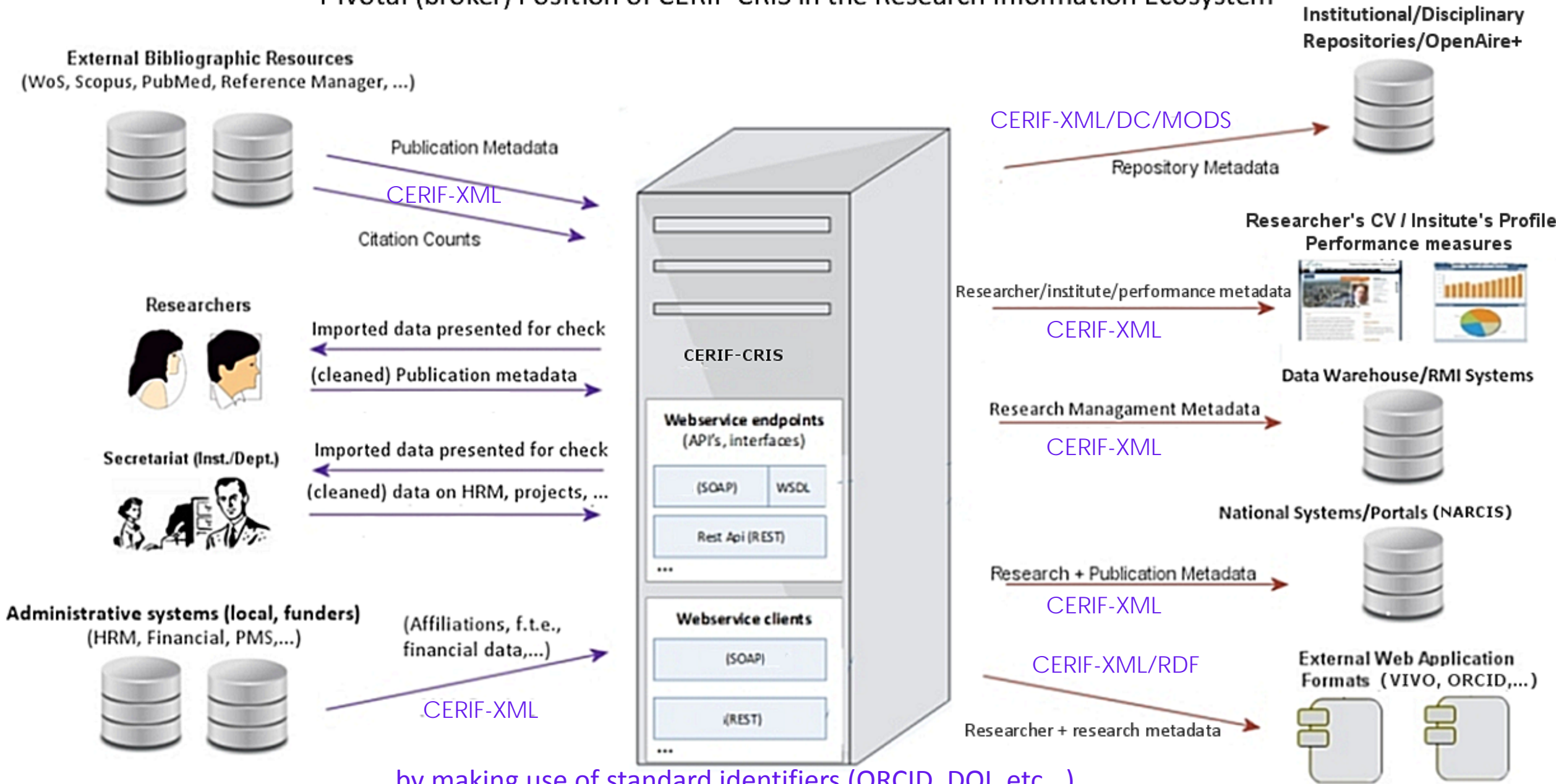
What is euroCRIS?

- An international not-for-profit organisation, bringing together users, experts and developers of research information systems.
- MISSION: *To advance Interoperability in the Research Community through CERIF*
- Main activity is the development, maintenance and implementation of the **CERIF metadatamodel**, the “Common European Research Information Format”, a standard for the development, implementation and interoperability of current research information systems (CRIS) and their various application. CERIF is an official EU Recommendation to Member States.
- Strong points of CERIF:
 - Covering all aspects of research information.
 - Fine-grained data-structure.
 - Optimal (relational) architecture allowing to express any kind of relation between entities/attributes with every relation time and language “stamped” and semantically defined.
 - A separated “semantic layer” allowing the use of multiple (any) controlled vocabularies (classifications, typologies) as well as their cross-linking and mapping.

CERIF: a key solution for interoperability

- Research Information these days is spread over various (heterogeneous) resources: publication and data repositories, publisher's databases, funder's databases, local resources of an institution (HRM, financial systems, project management systems...), etc...
- In order to appropriately answer the information requirements or questions of the various stakeholders in the research information domain (researchers, managers, funders, policy makers, professionals, general public), it is necessary to be able to flexibly integrate, combine and exchange the information from these heterogeneous resources.
- Various valuable applications to deal with and present research information have successfully been developed and become settled (OA Repositories, VIVO, etc...). However they also use various formats and technologies.
- The aforementioned key aspects of the CERIF datamodel: completeness and optimal structure and architecture, make that systems (CRIS) based on CERIF are able to import as well as export virtually any research metadata format at virtually any level of detail or aggregation from and to virtually any information resource or application.
- Here we probably touch a core aspect for the future in research information: the *knitting together* of the information from and towards the various applications and resources may well become *the key*. That's where CERIF comes in as an obvious candidate for a universal interoperability standard.

Pivotal (broker) Position of CERIF-CRIS in the Research Information Ecosystem



... by making use of standard identifiers (ORCID, DOI, etc...)

... and based on standard business definitiona (CASRAI)

What is euroCRIS (continued)?

- Apart from its work on CERIF, euroCRIS provides an international platform for the building and exchange of research information skills and expertise (through meetings and conferences). Two Membership Meetings per year and bi-annually a euroCRIS Conference. The next Conference will be *in Rome, 13-15 May 2014* on the subject: “**Managing data intensive science: the role of research information systems in realising the digital agenda**”. Please be invited to send in your proposals for presentations at this Conference at: www.cris2014.org/index.php?page=submissions
- euroCRIS members range from institutions (universities, research institutes) over funders or national organisations (e.g. KNAW (nl), JISC...) to vendors of CRIS systems (Atira, Avedas, Symplectic) and major publishers (e.g. Elsevier, Thomson-Reuters).
- euroCRIS also aims for dialogue and cooperation with neighbouring communities in the research information domain: e.g. the Repository Community (“Rome declaration”, agreement with OpenAire) and the Semantic Web Community (VIVO).
- The organisation further has a network of Strategic Partners, meeting every year in the euroCRIS Seminar in Brussels in September to exchange views on major developments and trends in the research information domain.

Strategic Partners of euroCRIS.



ALLEA



EARMA



APA
ALLIANCE FOR
PERMANENT ACCESS

European Research Consortium
for Informatics and Mathematics
ERCIM



casrai
Research Data Standards



**EUROPEAN
SCIENCE
FOUNDATION**
SETTING SCIENCE AGENDAS FOR EUROPE

COAR
Confederation of Open Access Repositories

JISC

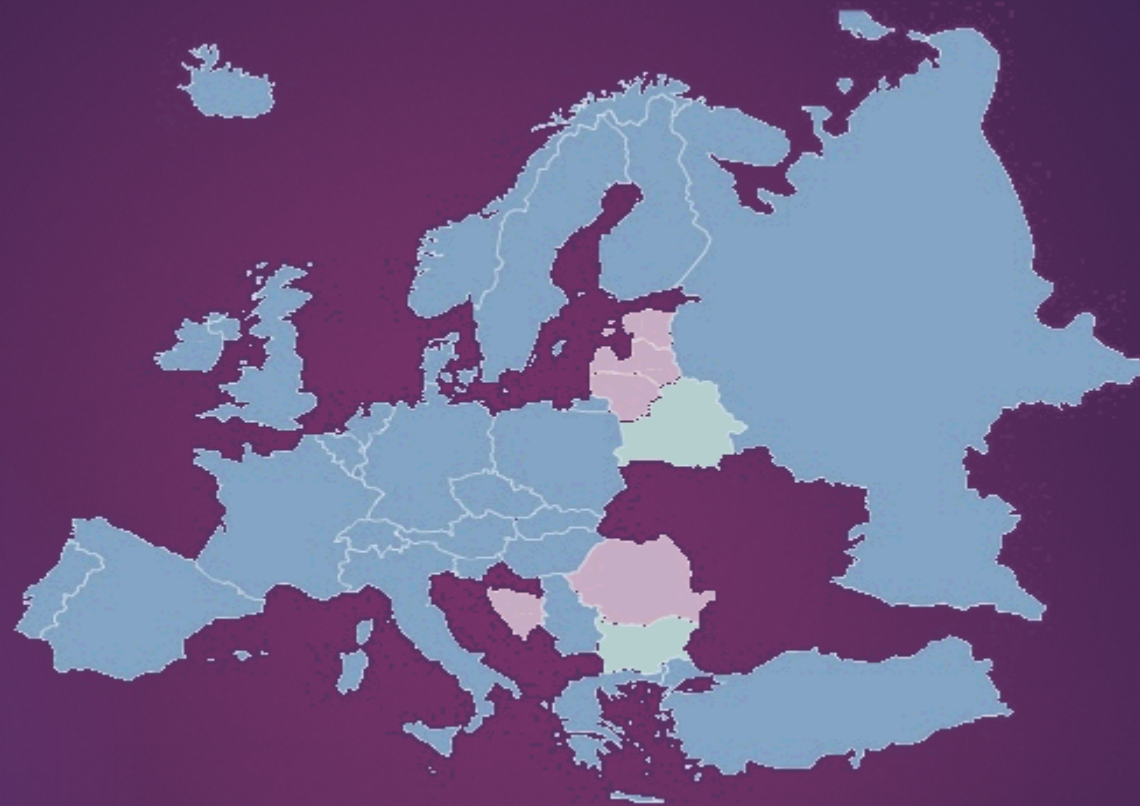


CODATA

VIVO

enabling national
networking of scientists

Membership: the euroCRIS Community



Australia – Canada – China – Iran – Israel – Malaysia – Nigeria – Pakistan – South Korea - USA

Current membership is 183: 118 institutional, 43 personal and 22 affiliate
(Coming from 43 countries, mainly Europe)

- ▶ euroCRIS supports its subsistence mainly by membership fees
 - ▶ App. 25,000 € per annum
 - ▶ 60-70 % of income are needed for fixed costs (Secretariate, Website)
 - ▶ Plus 20 % added through donations and small profits
- ▶ Additional engagement and dissemination of CERIF is increasing and financed via project funding
 - ▶ Three EC and JISC projects, total budget of 196,000 €
- ▶ A reserve is being built up to cover for eventual project risks and to enable strategic projects of the Board.

Finances: income and expenditures 2013

INCOME	Plan (08-2013)	Actual	EXPENDITURE	Plan (08-2013)
Membership fees	€ 40.000		Banking cost	€ 80
Sponsorship & Donations	€ 3.000		Salary Secretary	€ 13.600
Profits and interest	€ 3.400		Running cost Secretariat	€ 3.550
Project ENGAGE	€ 7.000		Board representation	€ 4.000
			Conferences	€ 1.000
			Website	€ 4.200
			Communication materials	€ 2.000
			Board insurance 2014	€ 775
			Seminar	€ 2.000
			Membership meetings	€ 1.000
			Miscellaneous	€ 1.600
			ENGAGE	€ 62.445
Expected income	€ 53.400		Expected spendings 2013	€ 96.250
Account, 15.08.2013	€ 15.860		Budget w/o projects	€ 33.805
Savings account, 15.08.2013	€ 87.800			
TOTAL	€ 157.059			
Reserved for ENGAGE	-€ 62.445			
Internal reserve - CC-REFIM	-€ 15.000			
Internal reserve - ENGAGE 1st peri	-€ 22.000			
Internal reserve – general	-€ 10.000			
<i>Available budget w/o projects 2013</i>	€ 47.614		Balance	€ 13.809

EuroCRIS participates(d) in a few EC-funded Projects:

ENGAGE-project (ongoing).

- Main goal: development, deployment and use of an advanced service infrastructure, incorporating distributed and diverse public sector information resources as well as data curation, semantic annotation and visualisation tools, capable of supporting scientific collaboration and governance-related research from multi-disciplinary scientific communities, while also empowering the deployment of open governmental data towards citizens.
- PSI: Data produced by governmental organisations – typically referring to datasets
- Examples: geospatial, demographic, statistical, environmental, public safety, financial data
- euroCRIS is active in developing the CERIF-based metamodel for this.

PASTEUR40A (starting beginning of 2014)

- A project aimed at the establishment of optimal and coordinated policies concerning Open Access and Open Data within the EUR member states, and alignment of these policies with EU recommendations in this field.

euroRIS-Net+ project (finished):

- Goal: development of Knowledge Repository of European Research Infrastructures (*incl. e-Infrastructures*) & information services on RIs. Again euroCRIS developed a CERIF-based datamodel for this Repository.

Key Objectives for the future

- **Standards:** to have the CERIF family of standards (including conversion to XML and LOD) recognized widely.
- **Services:** developing concrete services to the member community (DRIS, Reference implementation, CERIF-compatibility testing, CERIF-tutorials).
- **Business orientation:** focus on domain-related (content) issues in addition to technical issues (e.g. the “semantics” of CERIF-CRIS, but also: possible services for various user groups/ stakeholders of CRIS).
- **Communication:** clearly formulate and broadcast our mission and goals to our members and strategic partners; re-organizing/designing our on line presence (web site, blogs, social media).
- **Governance:** to be recognized worldwide as the curator of CERIF and related semantic resources, governance of the associated authority lists.
- **Relation management:** to strengthen and increase strategic partnerships with a clearly agreed joint set of actions.
- **Cooperation:** to cooperate with relevant other communities in the research information domain (the semantic web community, the repository community ...) (mentioning the Rome Declaration, OpenAire agreement).
- **Expertise building and exchange:** to improve the skill and expertise level of all the members of the community through meetings and conferences.

Developments in 2013

- Continuous development and extension of the CERIF-datamodel and semantics (CERIF-TG)
- Agreement with OpenAire Community on their adaptation of CERIF-XML as format for harvesting data from CRIS. Development of a CERIF-XML profile for this (CERIF-OpenAIRE guidelines, released for review just yesterday).
- Implementation of DRIS: Directory of Research Information Systems on the Website (by BP-DRIS TG).
- Start-off of an official “CERIF-CRIS Reference Implementation” under eurocris.org, to be used a.o.t. for CERIF-compliance testing (joint activity by CERIF TG, Architecture & Development TG and Projects TG).
- Inventory of CRIS-systems in Europe and implementations of CRIS-IR integration/combination (by CRIS-IR TG)
- Start-off of the new Indicators Task Group. First setup of a project aimed at “CERIF-ying” the Snowball Metrics, developed by British universities in cooperation with Elsevier (Indicators TG).
- Creation of a CERIF linked data (semantic web) ontology and associated vocabulary and implementation of a “euroCRIS Ontology Server” on the Website to manage this ontology (by the LOD TG)
- Participation in the Research Data Alliance (RDA) network as lead in the (contextual) metadata interest group.
- Very recent: invitation by ORCID to establish a Strategic Partnership with euroCRIS.

Short term operational targets

- **Professionalization of the euroCRIS organization:**
 - Establishment of proper offices in the Hague, from January 2014 on through office-sharing with DANS (Dutch Research Data Archive Organization), including Secretariate and Secretary function.
 - Implementation of a new fund raising policy:
 - 2014: (reasonable) raising of membership fees (€ 50 for institutional members/€ 10 for personal members). Fees have been unchanged for more than 10 years.
 - 2014: opening up the possibility for donations by members (“distinguished member” status).
 - 2015: differentiation in types of membership and working out of a sponsorship policy.
- **Development of services:**
 - Implementation of the CRIS-Reference Implementation: launch/demo at CRIS-2104 Conference in Rome.
 - Further development/filling of DRIS (Directory of Research Information Systems).
 - Creation of a research information “Expertise database” by means of Linked In (specified euroCRIS group).
- **Improvement of Communication and on-line presence:**
 - Redesign of the web site: launch early 2014.
 - Implementation of Twitter account (actually created a few weeks ago)
 - Last but not least: implementation of a euroCRIS Repository (based on Open Source Dspace-CRIS (CINECA)).
- **Extension/optimizing of strategic partnerships.**
 - New partnership with ORCID (decided in Board meeting yesterday, MoU to be drawn up in the next few weeks).
 - LATTES, EUNIS???
- **Participation in EC-projects (Horizon 2020)**

Executive Positions:



Ed Simons
President
NETHERLANDS



Harrie Laliou
Secretary
NETHERLANDS



Barbara Ebert
Treasurer
GERMANY



Brigitte Jörg
Strategy
UNITED KINGDOM



Anna Clements
Communications
UNITED KINGDOM



David Baker
Conferences
CANADA

Task Group Leaders:



Jan Dvořák
CERIF
CZECH REPUBLIC



Nikos Houssos
Architecture &
Development
GREECE



Pablo de Castro
Best Practice-
DRIS
SPAIN/UK



**Danica
Zendulková**
CRIS-IR
SLOVAKIA



Valérie Brasse
Projects
FRANCE



**Miguel-Angel
Sicilia**
Linked Open Data
SPAIN



**Greta Christina
Lingjaerde**
Indicators
NORWAY

CERIF Task Group



The CERIF Task Group maintains and further develops CERIF, the Common European Research Information Format. This also includes CERIF-XML, the exchange format, and CERIF canonical vocabularies of semantic terms. This work keeps up a number of deliverables (specifications, schemas, scripts) and provides the basis for other euroCRIS Task Groups. The group also interacts with the CERIF user base, including vendors of CERIF-based commercial solutions, with the goal of enabling maximum interoperability of Current Research Information Systems.

TG Leader: Jan Dvořák

jan.dvorak@infoscience.cz

CERIF Task Group



Recent activities:

- CERIF evangelization at the ODIN (ORCID and DataCite Interoperability Network - an FP7 CSA project) conference at CERN, Geneva, Switzerland (17 Nov 2013)
Showing the strength of CERIF, emphasis on identifiers.
- Further work on the CERIF 1.6 release
Specification document editing (not ready for release yet).

Planned activities:

- Keynote and Tutorial at a conference in Riga, Latvia (28-29 Nov 2013)
Showing the strength of CERIF, emphasis on information about research infrastructures.
- Release of the CERIF 1.6 specification document

CRIS-IR Task Group



The CRIS-IR Task Group aims at furthering the science and technology of the linkage between CRIS and repositories and specifically open access institutional repositories of publications, although data and software repositories are also of interest. This involves working on the architecture for linkage, the metadata and the mechanisms. There are outstanding issues in these areas concerned with syntax, semantics and software processes. Technical work must be preceded by communication and approximation of views between two communities: CRIS and Repository managers and specialists.

TG Leader: Danica Zendulková

danica.zendulkova@cvtisr.sk

CRIS-IR TG: Recent/Planned Activities



Recent activities:

- Map of CRIS-IR applications
- CRIS-IR questionnaire as part of Directory of CRIS (in cooperation with TG BP/DRIS)

Planned activities:

- To prepare CRIS-IR case study and publish on web
- To participate on preparing CRIS-IR best practice (in cooperation with TG BP/DRIS)

TG Leader: Danica Zendulková

danica.zendulkova@cvtisr.sk

Best Practice-DRIS Task Group



Aims of the Best Practice/DRIS Task Group are:

(a) To collect and disseminate case studies for best practice in developing and using CRISs, including the use of CERIF, interoperability with Open Access repositories, use of CRISs for new areas in research information management (such as Research Data Management or Research Impact), building of information spaces over integrated CRISs content, and other CRIS-related innovations;

(b) To engage with the euroCRIS members in order to assist CRIS developers and users in becoming aware of and implementing advanced concepts, design and tools;

(c) To connect main actors in CRIS and research e-infrastructure development for getting mutual benefits. Part of (a) is mapping of European CRISs and CERIF-related successful implementations in a *Directory of Research Information Systems (DRIS)*.

The DRIS aims to produce and maintain a directory of CRIS at different levels (national, regional, institutional, etcetera). Emphasis will be on European-based implementations, but there will be no geographical limitations. In addition to the mapping of basic elements like name, URL, contact information and content/scope, due attention will be paid to CERIF compatibility and CRIS interoperability. The DRIS should ideally support the production of National Reports on CRIS implementation as part of a future comprehensive European research e-infrastructure.



Recent Activities

- Information collection on CRIS implementation (incl CRIS/IR interop) from different countries:
 - Portugal (incl support for putting together their institutional survey - to be released in Porto)
 - Italy (map available, see attachment)
 - Spain (incl webinar on CRIS/IR interop)
 - Greece
 - Germany
 - Denmark (pending)
- DRIS break-up into three sections: national/regional, institutional, vendor (pending)
- Appointment of Deputy Leader (Marco Mennielli, CINECA)
- Discussions (mainly with Marco) for defining framework for Best Practice -- incl collection of National Reports
- Work on euroCRIS membership characterisation and linked strategic lines
- Corridor talks at events for building new membership -- Israel, Latin America
- euroCRIS/CERIF advocacy at ORCID steering group meetings and SISOB project event in Duisburg

TG Leader: Pablo de Castro

pcastromartin@gmail.com

Projects Task Group



Relying on euroCRIS members expertise in the field of current research information systems (CRIS), the Projects Task Group involves euroCRIS members on R&D projects (national or international funding) to develop pilots using CERIF within specific domains and for specific objectives in line with euroCRIS strategy.

Through participation to this kind of projects, euroCRIS expects to:

- gain publicity and influence for euroCRIS and CERIF
- generate intellectual property for euroCRIS to be used in future services / projects

Internal euroCRIS projects, involving any Task Group, are also coordinated through the Projects TG

TG Leader: Valérie Brasse

vbrasse@is4ri.com

Projects TG: Recent/Planned Activities



Recent activities:

- ENGAGE, including positive Year 2 review by the EC in July 2013
- revision of euroCRIS Project Management processes (ongoing)
- analysis of a request for collaboration on EC proposal (Future Internet)
- preparatory work for a CERIF-CRIS Reference Implementation project

Planned activities:

- Last year of ENGAGE until May 2014
- Recruitment of PASTEUR4OA team members (and related administrative tasks)
- PASTEUR4OA kick-off meeting, February 2014
- Further coordination work on the CERIF-CRIS Reference Implementation project
- Watch on H2020 calls, see if possible to submit a follow-up to ENGAGE, and proposals similar to CRISMAN (life-long learning, profession of RIS Manager), PERICLES or OASIS-NET
- Monitoring of proposals and projects involving euroCRIS in UK, US...
- Revision of euroCRIS Project Management processes (finalising, applying and monitoring)

TG Leader: Valérie Brasse

vbrasse@is4ri.com

CRIS Architecture and Development TG



The Task Group CRIS Architecture and Development focuses on those aspects of CRIS software and development processes which are suitable for sharing or reuse throughout the CRIS community. The main priorities are the development of a reference implementation for CRIS and the definition of a standard API for programmatic access to data in CERIF-CRIS systems. Furthermore, the scope of the TG includes best practice and "soft" topics, like task analysis, software specification, selection of technologies or third party products, software architecture, user interaction patterns, management of the implementation process, and testing.

TG Leader: Nikos Houssos

nhoussos@ekt.gr



Recent activities:

- Draft of OpenAIRE CERIF XML guidelines prepared (to be announced within these days to the CERIF TG)
- REST API draft announced at Brussels Seminar
- CC-REFIM draft implementation plan announced at Brussels Board meeting (Sept 2013)

Planned activities for the next 6 months:

- Finalisation of the OpenAIRE CERIF XML guidelines
- Development of a first concrete version of the REST API
- Beginning of CC-REFIM implementation (waiting for feedback from Board/Treasurer/TG Projects)

TG Leader: Nikos Houssos

nhoussos@ekt.gr

Linked Open Data Task Group



The mission of the Linked Open Data TG is to ensure a semantic web/linked data representation of CERIF is developed and maintained with associated services. In particular this implies:

- resolution of the rich structure of CERIF to appropriate constructs within semantic web / linked data;
- recommendations on available open linked data covering other domains of interest which could or should be linked to the CERIF representation in this space for particular applications;
- development of open source services for the transformations required.

This TG will need to work closely with the CERIF TG to ensure changes in CERIF are reflected appropriately and the Architecture Group on services.

TG Leader: Miguel-Angel Sicilia

msicilia@uah.es



Recent activities:

- Drafted first version of the VIVO-CERIF mapping.
- Start of the joint project with FECYT in Spain to align CERIF and the CVN standard and deliver an associated national LOD pilot.

Planned activities till end of year:

- Revision of the documentation of the CERIF-LOD recommendations.
- First release of a VIVO-CERIF translation software, enabling publishing CERIF LD from VIVO dumps.

TG Leader: Miguel-Angel Sicilia

msicilia@uah.es

Indicators Task Group



Aim of the Indicators TG is to develop an active programme of research and generation of best practice (linked with TG Best Practice / DRIS) in the use of indicators (scientometrics, bibliometrics) for evaluating research. The TG will develop a catalogue of known methods with appropriate analysis of their effectiveness and efficiency. One of the expected output is CERIF-compliant software services (jointly with the CERIF and Architecture TG) to perform evaluation of research including for commonly used national or international methods.

TG Leader: Grete Christina Lingjærde

g.c.lingjarde@usit.uio.no



Recent Activities:

- Startup of a pilot project to “CERIF-y” a subset of the “Snowball Metrics”, developed by Elsevier in cooperation with some UK-universities and euroCRIS.
- The following snowball metrics indicators are dealt with in the project: *Award Volume, Income Volume, Scholarly Output and Field-weighted Citation Impact or Collaboration.*

Planned Activities:

- The catalog of indicators: start of the work and further planning.

TG Leader: Grete Christina Lingjærde

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May 13th-15th, 2014

CRIS2014

Rome, Italy



Current Research Information Systems

Managing Data Intensive Science - the role of Research Information Systems in realising the digital agenda

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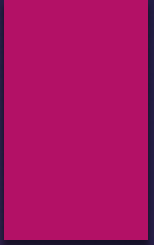
On behalf of the [European Organization for International Research Information](#) (euroCRIS) and the Institute for Research on Population and Social Policies of the National Research Council (CNR-IRPPS) we invite you to the 12th International Conference of Current Research Information Systems (CRIS2014) - in Rome, May 13th – 15th, 2014.

CRIS 2014 is the twelfth edition of the biennial series of conferences on Current Research Information Systems (CRIS) organised since 2002 by euroCRIS, a professional association of CRIS experts and custodian of the Common European Research Information Format CERIF.

The purpose of CRIS2014 is to discuss recent trends in the management, availability, quality and use of research information in the context of e-Science bringing together researchers, managers of research performing or funding institutions, evaluators, librarians, ICT experts, as well as policy makers.

Important dates

December 1, 2013 – Extended abstract submission
January 15, 2014 – Acceptance/Rejection Announcement
March 10, 2014 – Full paper camera-ready submission



Thank you for your attention
... and hope to see you in Rome!