CLARIAH Shared Development Roadmap 2022-2023

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Chapter 1

Introduction

To streamline the development of the CLARIAH infrastructure across work packages, a CLARIAH Shared Development Roadmap (SDR) is created. This SDR specifies what high-level epics CLARIAH will implement and deliver in its infrastructure. These can subsequently serve as a showcase for the success of CLARIAH.

1.1 Prior work

In phase 1 we identified and described all components and services that are existing or have been worked on in CLARIAH-CORE/PLUS. We called those "CLARIAH+ services" but there was some confusion about the term, we are moving to the term "CLARIAH+ epic" now.

1.2 Goals

In this phase 2 we will put the emphasis on formulating high-level epics and the underlying services, sofware and data components that implement these epics.

The goals for phase 2 are:

- Establish which are the *core shared* CLARIAH+ epics. Emphasis for the shared development roadmap is on these core shared stories, i.e. we are trying to steer the focus for the remainder of CLARIAH+ to development of core infrastructural components.
- Define for each:
 - 1. What it entails; what are the user stories that make up the epic? Are we all on board with the plan?
 - 2. Which software/service/data components are needed and what interoperability standards will be adhered to?
 - 3. How do the components fit together to make a whole? How do the core components relate to other components? By definition, the core shared components should be heavily inter-related. The use of diagrams is strongly encouraged here.
 - 4. Where can service instance(s) be hosted?
 - 5. What people need/want to be involved?
 - 6. Come up with a resource planning that can serve as input for the revised 2022-2023 workplan. For each epic we have a dedicated GitHub projects kanban board and list that should be used for planning and during development (this offers transparency and facilitates cross-institutional collaboration).
 - 7. Come up with arguments for additional investments from CLARIAH in the services if needed
- A similar procedure applies to the domain-specific services, though the details of these may often be confined to a particular WP. We do need broad agreement which domain-specific services we consider worth the effort and which to drop.

The overall objectives of the Shared Development Roadmap are:

- Identify and foster cross-WP and cross-institutional collaboration opportunities (CLARIAH services spanning components from multiple WPs)
- Fill 'gaps' needed to provide an actual common shared infrastructure.
- Get an accurate overview of how CLARIAH epics relate to everything that has been developed in CLARIAH.

- We seek to harmonize various solutions developed within CLARIAH; determine which are mature and have potential, which can be discarded, which to go forward with in a potential successor project.
- Foster interoperability between software/data components

1.3 Definitions

1.3.1 CLARIAH Epic

A CLARIAH Epic describes the needs of a scholar in broad and generic themes. The epic is made up of multiple user stories, which are mostly described from a scholarly perspective. It describes, from a high-level view, the user stories that CLARIAH providers a solution for.

We distinguish three types of CLARIAH epics:

- 1. **Shared core epics** The epics describe stories that provide core shared functionality for the infrastructure as a whole. These services that implement these serve scholarly use cases and are generic or pervasive (i.e. the needs or requirements that need to be fulfilled are often not directly formulated and recognized as such by scholars). These provide an important pillar for the shared infrastructure. Their development is typically a cross-WP effort.
- 2. **Domain-specific epics** -- These epics describe stories that cover important functionality for scholars, but are not considered central to the shared infrastructure. The resulting services may be of a more domain-specific nature.
- 3. **Provisioning epics** -- These are the exception to the rule in the sense that they are not scholarly stories, but are important facilitating stories for the core infrastructure. Their implementations provide low-level pervasive functionality required by most other services (such as authentication, deployment).

A CLARIAH epic is formulated from the perspective of where we want to go with CLARIAH and its common infrastructure, rather than from the perspective of what is the current status-quo.

A CLARIAH epic is realized by one or more components that implement it. These components can be service instances, software components and/or data components and/or interoperability standards that enables a certain workflow.

We aim for "minimal viable" epics and services, this means that we also aim for a minimal viable set of components that makes up a service

Note: Our use of epic corresponds largely with a (highest-level) epic in 'agile' terminology (although some might call this a theme). However, underlying user stories may themselves be considered epics. At this stage we are not concerned with what can be accomplished in single 'sprints'.

1.3.2 Software

Software is any computer program and refers to the codebase as such. We make an explicit distinction between the software and software offered as a service, a **service instance**. Software can be described on any level, it may itself consists of *software components* (i.e. dependencies), *data components* (data required to run the software), and adhere to certain *interoperability standards*. Software has a *provider*, which is the institute/person that maintains and/or develops it.

Software is described in terms of the function(s) that it implements.

1.3.3 Service Instance

This is an instance of **software** when running as a *service* in the CLARIAH infrastructure, offered over the web using a particular *interface*. We use this term to refer to a specific service instance, hosted by a specific *provider*. The provider of an instance need not be the same as the provider of the underlying software. Services consist of underlying software/data components. A software component is mandatory.

1.3.4 Data

Data is any kind of data collection, usually in a specific form and fit for a particular purpose. Data should best be considered immutable, any processing done on it forms a new (derived) dataset. Data can therefore itself consist of *data components* to describe that it is builds upon other data in some way.

1.4. EVALUATION 3

Data can also be linked to interoperability standards, such as data formats.

1.3.5 Interoperability Standard

An **Interoperability Standard** is any agreement/protocol/data model/data format designed to facilitate interoperability between multiple software components.

1.4 Evaluation

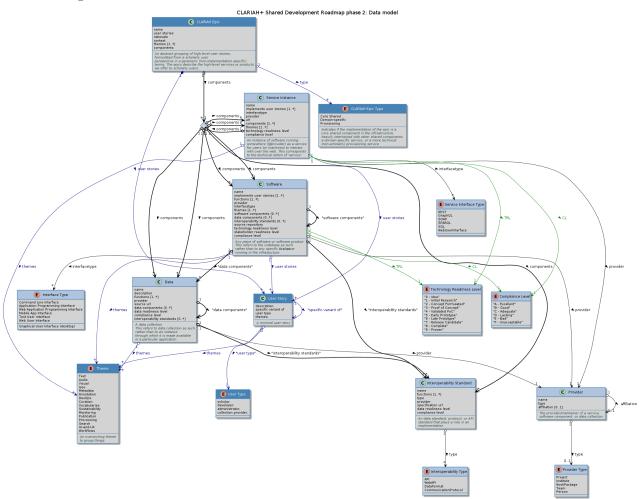
The status of all service/software/data components and the CLARIAH services as a whole are assessed on three axes: a user axis, a technology axis, and compliance axis:

For the user axis we use the Stakeholder Readiness Level (SRL) a measure that defines the user readiness of a new service to be used by scholars. The technology axis we define using the Technology Readiness Level (TRL), a measure that defines the development status of a service.

Compliance with the CLARIAH Software requirements, the CLARIAH Infrastructure requirements, the Documentation Standard, and possible other future requirement specifications. The compliance levels themselves are defined here. It is suggested that SRL level should be estimated by a user panel. Ideally the other levels should also be independently estimated, but in this phase a self-assessment is more realistic.

1.5 Data model

The following schematic (UML) illustrates the data model we use for describing CLARIAH services. Classes with dark blue headers are described primarily from a user perspective, these are connected with blue arrow, classes with light blue headers denote more technical terms. Green arrows are used for evaluation relations.



Chapter 2

Shared Epics

for the infrastructure as a whole. The services that implement these serve scholarly use cases and are generic or pervasive (i.e. the needs or requirements that need to be fulfilled are often not directly formulated and recognized as such by scholars). These provide an important pillar for the shared infrastructure. Their development is typically a cross-WP effort.

2.1 FAIR Datasets

key	value
$\overline{\mathrm{id}}$	fair-datasets
coordinator	TODO
$\mathbf{w}\mathbf{p}$	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
github-projects-link	https://github.com/orgs/CLARIAH/projects/2
participants	Willem Melder (NISV), Jaap Blom (NISV), tbd
themes	Datasets, Linked Data, Metadata, DevOps, Search, Sustainability
evaluation	trl : 0, cl : 0, srl : 0

2.1.1 Rationale

Providing a view on datasets that could be of interest for scholarly research on a national level at research institutes or heritage institutes, is a core functionality of a research infrastructure. At least, potential should be "findable" and provide scholars with information on the contents of the data. In addition to making datasets findable, within CLARIAH we want to stimulate access to these collections and increase the levels of interoperability for reuse. The aim is to create a CLARIAH "dataset registry" (e.g., operated via Ineo) that requires entries to be findable, accessible, interoperable (formats, schema's) and reusable (persistent) within the CLARIAH infrastructure. As such, the FAIR Datasets service also includes work on making individual datasets accessible/interoperable/reusable via domain services, e.g., end-points/apis (sparql/search-api) or domain portals (Media Suite, Linguistic corpus search, Nederlab), but also a shared service such as Data Stories.

The goal of this epic is to enable FAIR use of datasets within CLARIAH: a central data set discovery (provided by DCAT or schema.org formatted metadata on the dataset level, e.g. using CKAN as dataset registry), searching within data sets via domain services, accessing data sets via endpoints either on domain level or via a central facility, with persistent identifiers. Practically speaking, we would like to "migrate" from for example the CKAN registry that was implemented in WP5 (Media Suite) as a domain registry service, to a central registry service and make an inventory of additional central services that are needed to enable FAIR use of the datasets.

2.1.2 User Stories

As a scholar, I want to have an overview of datasets providing me with information from collection metadata, including the dataset's distribution (e.g. SPARQL endpoint, full text search API endpoint, RDF or CSV data dump file) where the dataset is distributed, the organization that publishes the dataset and the license under

which it is published, **in order to** select interesting data sets for my research and access them either via domain portals or central services, by downloading the content myself, or by visiting an organisation.

2.1.3 Needs & Dependencies

- Make datasets findable (metadata) via a Data Registry (linked to INEO)
- Make datasets accessible (resource) via domain portals (Media Suite, Linguistic Corpus Search, Nederlab, etc.)
- Stimulate interoperability and reusability via requirements for the registry using a "star model" (Data Readiness Level)
- Cross-WP agreement on the dataset metadata model (e.g. DCAT)
- Cross-WP agreement on the dataset registry software to be promoted and used

2.1.4 Requirements

- Dataset registries MUST define CodeMeta software metadata along with the source code
- Registered datasets SHOULD include a link to a publicly accessible API
- TODO
- TODO

2.1.5 Service Description

TODO

2.1.6 Components

2.1.7 Workflow Schema

2.1.8 Evaluation

2.1.9 Context

- Use existing knowledge & code (VLO, NDE register, ODISSEI data registry, EOSC)
- Align with existing metadata curation activities (WP3, WP5, MPI, RU, DANS)

2.1.10 Use cases

2.1.11 Planning

See FAIR Datasets Planning

2.1.12 Resources

2.2 FAIR Distribution and Deployment

key	value
id	distribution-and-deployment
coordinator	Maarten van Gompel, Mario Mieldijk
$\mathbf{w}\mathbf{p}$	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
github-projects-link	https://github.com/orgs/CLARIAH/projects/5
participants	Maarten van Gompel (KNAW HuC), Mario Mieldijk (KNAW HuC), David de Boer (NDE), Jaap
${f themes}$	DevOps, Sustainability, Processing
evaluation	trl : 0, cl : 0, srl : 0

2.2.1 Rationale

Making data and tools available, and facilitating the interplay between them, is at the heart of CLARIAH. In order to make tools available to either end-users or hosting partners they need to be distributed in a

certain standardized way. When distributed properly, they can be deployed as part of a larger infrastructure, interconnecting with other software components and data collections.

Different scholarly use-cases and differently skilled audiences may require different ways of distribution and deployment. Relevant factors are the kind of interfaces that are needed, the scale at which the application will be used, security/privacy concerns surrounding data.

This epic addresses typical DevOps aspects, in which scalability is one that receives particular focus.

2.2.2 User Stories

- As a scholar, I want to apply a processing tool on a (possibly large) data set in the CLARIAH infrastructure, either using computational resources provided by the CLARIAH infrastructure in order to be able to do quick and efficient processing on (large) data sets without needing my own infrastructure.
- As a scholar, I want to apply a processing tool on a large data set within my own infrastructure in order to take the tools to my (possibly restricted) data and work in my own secure environment.
- As a scholar, I expect to have access to low-level CLARIAH tools in industry-standard ways in order to use the tools in my own development setting.

2.2.3 Needs & Dependencies

• Compliance to the software/infrastructure requirements as described in the next section

2.2.4 Requirements

The vast majority of the software and infrastructure requirements relate to this epic.

2.2.5 Service Description

This epic first of all results in clear software and infrastructure requirements, that formulate how CLARIAH developers should package, publish software and how CLARIAH infrastructure operators can be deploy these in their infrastructure. WE aim to align with existing industry-standards and best practises.

This resulting service can be seen as a broad Infrastructure-as-a-Service setup that provides computing, network and storage resources for CLARIAH, this includes components for monitoring, continuous integration/deployment, authentication, automated security checks. This is a broad scope of provisioning services that and implementation of this is in the realm of CLARIAH WP2. This focus of the current epic is rather on coordinating, developing and communicating these requirements cross-WP and cross-institute.

Particular extra focus of this epic is scalability of processing-tools (e.g. NLP tools). Solutions to facilitate such scalabity may also emerge as part of this epic, i.e. instructions/recommendations for operating workflow systems like DANE or NextFlow.

For software/service metadata, we defer to the Tool Discovery service.

2.2.6 Components

2.2.7 Workflow Schema

2.2.8 Context

This epic is directly related to a lot of the existing efforts in CLARIAH WP2.

- Service Component: CLARIAH Docker Registry
- 2.2.9 Use cases
- 2.2.10 Planning

2.2.11 Resources

Mostly covered by existing WP2 funding?

2.3 FAIR Tool Discovery

key	value
id	fair-tool-discovery
coordinator	Maarten van Gompel
$\mathbf{w}\mathbf{p}$	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
${f github-projects-link}$	
participants	Maarten van Gompel (KNAW HuC), Jan Odijk (UU), Roeland Ordelman (NIBG), stakeholder, M
themes	Metadata, DevOps, Curation, Vocabularies, Sustainability, Processing, Search
evaluation	trl : 0, cl : 0, srl : 0

2.3.1 Rationale

One key goal of the CLARIAH infrastructure is to provide scholars with information where they can find tools that they need for their work. CLARIAH and its predecessor projects have developed a lot of useful tools already. Some of these can be found in repositories such as the CLARIN switchboard. Others are distributed and disseminated on an individual or work package level. However, it would be in the benefit of both scholars and tool providers to have a central place (INEO) where scholars can go to find and/or discover tools. At the same time, the tools that they find via the CLARIAH infrastructure should also be accessible, so that these tools can indeed be used. From a CLARIAH perspective, we would to some extent also like to guarantee accessibility/usability of tools, and also, that tools are interoperable with other tools or CLARIAH infrastructure components. Finally, ideally tools should also be re-usable, even if tools change during time (related to sustainability of tools). In practice, it will be hard to warrant full FAIRness of tools provided/disseminated by CLARIAH. We could however at least aim for making tools findable and accessible. For interoperability and re-usability (sustainability) we could aim for a system that informs scholars of the status of tools that are disseminated, e.g., by labeling tools (giving "stars") for it compatibility level, documentation level, and adherence to CLARIAH software requirements. One of the key requirements of a tools discovery service that we propose therefore, is a sound system for aggregating and updating information on tools that reside in various places, the tool metadata.

It is not the aim of the tool discovery service itself to provide means for execution. We assume that (if applicable) the service provides links to individual services (e.g., LaMachine) for executing code using data. However, as being able to execute code is key to "accessibility", making (CLARIAH) tools executable on e.g., web services or local services is part of the development roadmap for this service.

2.3.2 User Stories

- 1. As a scholar, I am looking for tools (please see the definition in the next subsection) and want to browse through and search in a registry of available tools in order to select the tools I need to further my research. The registry should offer sufficient information for me to make an informed decision on suitable tools to explore.
- 2. As a scholar, I want to upload my data and automatically be presented with tools that can operate on such data in order to more effectively find tools suited for my data. I want to be automatically redirected to the tool I choose, with my data
- 3. As a scholar, I am looking for tools offering a particular interface in order to be able to find tools I can communicate with in the fashion I need. For instance, I want tools I can access through the web using a UI; web services with a web API so I can programmatically interact with it from my own scripts; tools I can use locally from the command line; tools that are software libraries which I can use in my own scripts; or even tools that are apps I can run on a smartphone or GUI tools on a desktop.
- 4. **As an infrastructure provider**, **I** want all tool metadata to be automatically harvested from the source **in order to** ensure the data is always up to date and facilitate maintenance.
- 5. As an infrastructure provider, I want to be interoperable with the wider CLARIN infrastructure in order to have tools available in other CLARIN portals.

2.3.3 Needs & Dependencies

- Compliance to the software/infrastructure requirements as described in the next section
- Cross-WP agreement on some additional vocabulary
- WP4 involvement

2.3.4 Requirements

- Software MUST define CodeMeta software metadata along with the source code
- Services MUST expose a public endpoint providing their specification
- Services SHOULD expose a public endpoint providing high-level CodeMeta metadata
- Services MAY participate in the CLARIN switchboard

2.3.5 Service Description

This core service provides infrastructure for finding tools. The term "tool" here is deliberately ambiguous and can refer to a piece of software in the broadest sense, it may be a web application, web service, programming library, or any composition thereof. Tools may live in a wide variety of places. We seek to standardize the way by which their metadata is described using Codemeta and OpenAPI, which will be posited as software & infrastructure requirements. Codemeta provides basic software metadata, whilst OpenAPI provides metadata covering web service specification. We automatically collect this metadata from as close to the source as possible using a CLARIAH Tool Harvester, the source being either a source code repository or a webservice endpoint. We aggregate all metadata into a central backend solution called the CLARIAH Tool Store. Portals like Ineo, the CLARIN Switchboard or others can either directly query the tool store over an API, or we offer export facilities over an API.

2.3.6 Components

- Service Component: Ineo
 - Function Web-frontend for scholarly end-users for CLARIAH-wide tool discovery (amongst other things)
 - URL: ?
 - Provider: ?
 - Implements: 1
 - Interface: WebUI
 - **TRL**: ?
 - Software Component: Ineo
 - * Provider: KNAW HuC with external party
 - * **URL:** ?
- Service Component: CLARIN Switchboard
 - Function Web-application for end-user for tool discovery focussed on tools that take direct data input from a user upload throughout CLARIN.
 - URL: https://switchboard.clarin.eu/
 - **Provider**: CLARIN-ERIC (partner)
 - **Implements:** 1, 2, 5
 - **Interface**: WebUI
 - TRL: 8
 - Software Component: CLARIN Switchboard
 - * URL: https://github.com/clarin-eric/switchboard
 - * Provider: CLARIN-ERIC (partner)
 - Data Component: CLARIN Switchboard Tool Registry
 - * URL: https://github.com/clarin-eric/switchboard-tool-registry/
 - * **Provider**: CLARIN-ERIC (partner)
 - * Function: Registry holding all tool metadata descriptions for the switchboard
- Service Component: CLARIAH Tool Store
 - **URL**: (does not exist yet)
 - Function Stores all harvested/aggregated tool metadata
 - **Function:** API for updating (invoked by harvester)
 - Function: API for querying (invoked by end-user, portals)
 - Interface: REST, possibly SPARQL
 - TLR: 0
 - Software Component: CLARIAH Tool Store
 - * URL: (does not exist yet)
 - * Provider: ?
 - * Comment: There may be a role for dataverse here to serve as the implementation, but it kind

of feels like overkill to me for this purpose.

* Comment: Another option is to use the baserow database we aim to use for components and instances, but here we don't have actual Linked Open Data

- Software Component: Codemeta Harvester (aka CLARIAH Tool Harvester)

- * URL: https://github.com/proycon/codemeta-harvester
- * Function: Harvester for software & service metadata. Periodically queries all endpoints listed in the CLARIAH Tool Source Registry, converts metadata to a common scheme, and finally updates the tool store. Endpoints may be git source repositories from which metadata is extracted, or service endpoints that explicitly provide metadata.
- * Provider: KNAW HuC (Maarten van Gompel)
- * Implements: 4 * Interface: CLI
- * **TRL**: 2
- * Software Component: Codemetapy
 - · URL: https://github.com/proycon/codemetapy
 - **Function:** Tool for conversion and aggregation of software metadata to codemeta (especially from Python metadata)
 - · Provider: KNAW HuC (Maarten van Gompel)
 - · Interface: CLI, LIB
 - · TRL: 7

* Software Component: Codemetar

- · URL: https://github.com/ropensci/codemetar
- · Function: Tool for conversion of R software metadata to codemeta
- · **Provider**: rOpenSci project (3rd party)
- · Interface: CLI, LIB
- · TRL: 7

* Software Component: cff-converter-python

- · URL: https://github.com/citation-file-format/cff-converter-python
- · Function: Tool for conversion of CITATION.cff to codemeta
- · **Provider**: citation-file-format project (3rd party)
- · Interface: CLI
- · TRL: 7

* Software Component: Software Metadata Extraction Framework (somef)

- · URL: https://github.com/KnowledgeCaptureAndDiscovery/somef
- · Function: Tool for metadata extraction (to codemeta) from READMEs
- · Provider: Knowledge Capture and Discovery Group, at ISI (USC) (3rd party)
- · Interface: CLI
- · TRL: 5

- Data Component: CLARIAH Tool Source Registry

- * URL: (does not exist yet)
- * Provider: ?
- * **Function:** Simple registry of software source repositories and service endpoints. Serves as input for the harvester.
- * Comment: Could be Implemented as a simple plain text list of URLs in a git repository on github, new registrations can be added using pull requests. Or implemented using the planned baserow database that holds all software components.
- * \mathbf{TRL} : 0

Software Component: Ineo Export

- * URL: (does not exist yet)
- * Provider: ?
- * Function: Client using the tool store API (or a direct extension thereof) converting output to a format understood by Ineo, for interoperability with it. Needed if (and only if) we can't make Ineo correct directly to our tool store backend
- * Implements: 4
- * Interface: CLI or WebAPI
- * **TRL**: 0

- Software Component: Switchboard Export

* URL: (does not exist yet)

- * Provider: ?
- * Function: Client using the tool store API (or a direct extension thereof) converting output to the format required by the CLARIN Switchboard, for interoperability with it. Possibly also offer a OAI-PMH endpoint serving the converted data.
- * Implements: 4, 5
- * Interface: CLI or WebAPI
- * **TRL**: 0

- Software Component: CMDI Export

- * URL: (does not exist yet)
- * Provider: ?
- * Function: Client using the tool store API (or a direct extension thereof) converting output to an established CMDI software metadata profile for interoperability with CLARIN
- * Implements: 4, 5
- * Interface: CLI or WebAPI
- * **TRL**: 0

- Interoperability Standard: CodeMeta

- * URL: https://codemeta.github.io
- * Provider: The CodeMeta Project (3rd party)
- * Function: Software metadata schema (Linked open data, aligning with schema.org)
- * Function: Crosswalks for mappings with other existing metadata schemes
- * TRL: 8

- Interoperability Standard: OpenAPI

- * URL: https://openapi.org
- * **Provider**: OpenAPI Initiative (3rd party)
- * Function: Service API specification schema
- * **TRL**: 9

- Interoperability Standard: CMDI

- * URL: https://www.clarin.eu/content/cmdi-12
- * Provider: CLARIN Centre Committee
- * Function: Metadata Schema
- * TRL: 9

- Interoperability Standard: CLARIAH Tool Metadata

- * URL: (does not exist yet)
- * Provider: ?
- * Function: Extra domain-specific vocabulary need for CLARIAH
- * Comment: CodeMeta's vocabulary is too limited to cover all our needs, we need to define extra vocabulary
- * Comment: Earlier work in the WP3 'metadata for tools project' can serve as valuable input here
- * **TRL**: 0

2.3.7 Workflow Schema

Components

2.3.8 Evaluation

2.3.9 Context

- Ineo is supposed to become the entry point for CLARIAH tools, however, it can be considered a thin layer and back-end functionality and automatic harvesting needs to be resolved separately.
- A system called CLAPOP was developed in CLARIN and uses manually crafted software metadata descriptions in CMDI (no harvesting) with rich information for scholars. The information may be outdated however.
- A LaMachine Portal (labirinto) was developed as a solution to provide a portal page for any LaMachine installation/deployment, automatically harvesting the tools available within. It uses CodeMeta which is more generic but less specific for scholars.
- The CLARIN Switchboard is developed by CLARIN-ERIC and gives users the option to select tools from a wider CLARIN ecosystem, based on the data they upload. It is largely limited to singular data (single files).

2.3.10 Use cases

2.3.11 Planning

We identify the following primary tasks, more or less in chronological order, and add a very rough indication (PM=person months) of the work we expect. This may still shift significantly as details are decided.

- Define cross-WP team for tool discovery
- Define components, standards, requirements for tool discovery 0.5PM
- Define extra vocabulary for tool discovery 0.5PM
- Compose and publish metadata for all software/services 3PM? (very hard to estimate, is a function of the number of tools, this is spread over all participating institutes)
- Implement harvester component for tool discovery 1.5PM
- Implement tool store for tool discovery 2.5PM
- Implement Ineo export for tool discovery 0.5PM
- Implement Switchboard export for tool discovery 0.5PM
- Implement CMDI export for tool discovery 1PM

2.3.12 Resources

Some comments on resource allocation:

- The "compose metadata for all software/services" subtask may be argued to be financed from already existing WP budgets rather than this one.
- I'd also suggest any funds still open for the WP3 MD4T project (Utrecht University) should be reallocated on behalf of this shared epic.

Chapter 3

Appendix: Evaluation Metrics

3.1 Technology Readiness Level

The technology axis we define using the "Technology Readiness Level" (TRL), a measure that defines the development status of a service. See the various levels in the table below. The stages that group the levels correspond to the vocabulary already used in the CLARIAH-PLUS workplan. We generally aim for at least TRL7.

- Planning stage (pre-alpha):
 - 0 Idea Unproven, untested and largely unformulated concept
 - 1 Initial Research Basic (scholarly) needs observed and reported
 - 2 Concept Formulated Initial technology/application has been concept formulated
- Proof of Concept stage (alpha):
 - 3 **Proof of Concept** Initial Proof-of-concept of key functionality . Concept presented for initial feedback from scholarly users. Not yet validated and not suitable for end-users yet.
 - 4 Validated Proof of Concept Validated Proof-of-concept of key functionality. Technology validated in its own experimental setting (e.g. the lab). Not mature enough for end-users yet.
- Experimental stage (beta):
 - 5 Early Prototype Technology validated in target setting (e.g. with potential end-users)
 - 6 Late Prototype Technology demonstrated in target setting, end-users adopt it for testing purposes.
 - 7 Release Candidate Technology ready enough and in initial use by end-users in intended scholarly environments. Further validation in progress.
- **Production** stage (stable):
 - 8 Complete Technology complete and qualified, released for all end-users in scholarly environments.
 - 9 Proven Technology complete and proven in practice by real users.

3.2 Compliance Level

- A Excellent Technology adheres to as-good-as all posited infrastructure and software requirements.
- B Good Technology adheres well to the requirements, there only some minor lapses
- C Adequate Technology adheres to a sufficient amount of requirements, but some major ones are lacking.
- D Lacking There are too many major requirements that are not met
- E Bad Many requirements are not met.
- **F Unacceptable** Technology violates or is completely dismissive of most requirements. It can not possibly be accepted without drastic changes.

3.3 Stakeholder Readiness Level

We use the "Stakeholder Readiness Level" (SRL), a measure that defines the user readiness of a new service to be used by scholars. This measure can be used for example to prioritize development using criteria such as:

- Value: the added value of the service for scholars (1-10) EST=10
- Support/Commitment: the enthusiasm in the community to adopt the service (1-10)
- Cost: costs for development but also cost involved for using (1-10)
- Adaptability: the level of adaptability in existing work processes (1-10)
- Risks: an assessment of the risks and their manageability that are involved in using the service (1-10)