OASIS+ modules meeting 1\_notes

***Present:*** *Poly Baker, Gill Campbell, Anwen Cooper, Sean Doherty, Tim Evans, Jo Gilham, Lorrain Higbee, Matty Holmes, Emily Johnson, Liz Pearson, Ruth Pelling, Adrienne Powell, Tina Roushannafas, Hannah Russ, Wendy Smith, Ed Treasure, Michael Wallace, Fay Worley*

***Apologies:*** *Lucy Allot, Dana Challinor, Floor Huisman, Rebecca Nicholson, Kevin Rielly, Sarah Wyles*

## 1. Background/history to and purpose of OASIS+ modules

- 2014 exercise to create a specialist science proforma, much like our proposed OASIS+ modules, to link to HER records

- OASIS V now creates the link between specialist data and HER records; OASIS+ module(s) will attach to OASIS V

- Field names in the 2014 guidelines are odd because the idea was to build on existing resources (e.g. [FISH](https://www.heritage-standards.org.uk/fish-vocabularies/) ‘Object type’ vocabularies) rather than to reinvent the wheel

- We will also use FISH vocabularies for the OASIS+ modules but will add to them considerably

**- OASIS V training for palaeoenvironmental specialists (25 September & 6 October 2023) - same course on both days, 30 places on each course**

## 2. Key lessons from existing OASIS+ modules (human remains)

- A clear spec is needed before the module is built, including the structure and operation, how fields will be populated and with what kind of data (numbers, text, etc.), controlled vocabularies, etc.

- Important to get the balance right between being specific about what is logged but not too specific …

## 3. Summary and discussion of prework – key points of agreement, key points to discuss

- Overall, considerable agreement in terms of what specialists think should be in the OASIS+ module proforma

- Key areas to discuss:

- Beyond core/widely agreed on fields, what are the priorities for additional suggested fields?

- Level of detail for taxa recording (e.g. taxonomic groups vs specific taxa)?

- How to record scientific analysis (e.g. method of analysis vs bibliographic references for work done)?

- Level of detail for methods recording?

- How to log significance of evidence (key assemblages and why)?

- How to log assemblage size?

## 4. Other OASIS+ module queries and practicalities

### (a) Achieving a workable result (enough detail to be useful, not so much detail to prevent their role in routine practice)

- GC/RP: level of detail logged in the modules is key – aim for 15 mins max to fill in the proforma (to discuss!); time for doing this should be costed into projects

- TR: possibility of having mandatory and optional fields for speedy/detailed input, as required

### (b) Who should fill in the OASIS+ module? (MW)

- TE: various options – (i) archives person at fieldwork unit (specialist completes OASIS+ proforma as part of specialist report); (ii) freelance specialist with own OASIS account; (iii) freelance specialist with access to fieldwork unit account

### (c) Relationship between Arbodat and OASIS+ modules (LP)

- RP: Arbodat is a plant remains recording database; OASIS+ module holds a summary of those data

### (d) How ‘fixed’ are the OASIS+ modules once they’re built? (MW)

- TE: the basic structure/operation of the OASIS+ module *cannot* change once it’s built; FISH vocabularies used within it *can* change (e.g. if a new scientific technique emerges)

## 5. Working methods

- Meetings: four in total (including this one); large group discussions about overall issues

- GitHub discussions: subforums for zooarchs and archaeobots to discuss more specific specialism specific issues

- Rewilding workshops: Two workshops – one to present a pilot OASIS+ module to the wider specialist community (Friday 15 December); one to provide feedback on how to build on this platform in future (late Spring 2024)

- Budget for training in/testing of OASIS+ module(s) in between these workshops

## 5. Next steps

- set up GitHub discussion forum (Rewilding to set up; HE to lead discussions)

- concordance of proposed datafields to simplify the results of the prework exercise. Share via GitHub

- start initial GitHub discussions (tbd)

- meeting attendance costs – tot this up (up to ½ day) and invoice ‘Rewilding’ at end of process

- Next meeting date. See doodlepoll