

MACS report: Future of MACS linked data

At the meeting on the state of MACS linked data, held at the Goethe-Institut Lyon, Wednesday, August 20, 2014, participants from the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF), Deutsche Nationalbibliothek (DNB), Library of Congress (LoC) and Swiss National Library (NL) discussed the future of the MACS project. The participants had received a report on the state of MACS linked data and a decision was needed on the future.

Participants agreed that the present MACS manual linking approach was not sustainable anymore. There was discussion about how the data could be used in a new linked data environment. Before a decision can be taken, a series of questions will need to be answered to ensure the safeguarding of the MACS data, copyright / licensing issues and the structure and maintenance of a new subject linked data environment in which the MACS data would be integrated.

This report will be communicated to the partner libraries (DNB, BnF, LoC and NL) by mid-November 2014 for a final decision.

Issues for the report:

The LMI: hosting by TEL

Deadline for the current hosting contract, including fees

- The cost of hosting the LMI
- Hosting contract: deadlines for terminating the contract

Decision to terminate the database (when, how, archival considerations)

- The LMI is currently being updated as the result of the maintenance work done by Jeroen Hoppenbrouwers. Updates from 2011 to 2014 underway. A decision on the final update should be taken and communicated to the partner libraries to terminate their uploading
- Date for the closure should be taken in considering the use of MACS data by organisations (Swissbib, NL / DNB (GND), TEL)

Can the database be transferred to another organisation?

- Should a partner or another organisation wish to continue using the database, would the partners agree? Who makes the final decision

Communication to interested parties

- Organisations that use MACS data should be contacted to inform them of the decision

MACS data

Copyright / license status of the data (contract)

- Which type of license would be acceptable for all partners
 - BnF
 - DNB
 - LoC
 - NL
- Would another license be necessary for the data in its current format?

Transforming and publishing the data as RDF or another format

- Who would be responsible for the publishing of the data as RDF
 - BnF?
 - DnB?
 - LoC?
 - NL?
- Where would the data be stored?
- Should it be published as namespace so as to identify the source data (MACS, CENL)?

Transferring data to interested parties

- In the event that the data will be LOD, who (which institution) will be responsible for setting up the download mechanisms?
- Should the LOD downloads be monitored (who uses the data, how it is used)

TEL

- Partner in the decision process
- Partner in future LOD project

Linked data environment for MACS data

- What is the vision / plan of partners concerning the future use of MACS data? Is there a wish or need for a subject headings VIAF type of project?
 - BnF's vision / plan
 - DNB's vision / plan
 - LoC's vision / plan
 - NL's vision / plan
- Scenarios for use
- Future updates and synchronization?
- Communication strategy