**README FIRST**

This template can be used to describe the metadata of datasets. For some datasets it will be sufficient to fill the table general description, which is based on the [Dublin Core Element Set](https://guides.library.ucsc.edu/c.php?g=618773\&p=4306386). Because its generic nature, the Dublin Core does not allow to describe the content of tabular data in a structured manner. In case of tabular data it is essential to understand the meaning of each column which can be described in the table column description. This template is to facilitate metadata documentation and is not a substitute for existing metadata templates used in specific fields of study. It is especially useful for fields of study where currently metadata standards are lacking. You are free to add records/items if this template does not allow your dataset to be sufficiently described.

The template should be seen as a flexible tool. You are free to make a single metadata file for multiple related datasets (e.g., multiple datasets used in one manuscript, multiple datasets used in one analytical workflow) or to make a single metadata file for each dataset separately. This might depend from how your workflow is organized. Also, if a single dataset consists out of many files (e.g., a sample per timestamp, a tiled raster layer, a dataset for each modified parameter) you don’t need to describe each file separately. Instead it should be clear from the description, and filenames how the dataset is organized, and also what those files exactly store.

Note that this metadata template is not identical to the Research Data Journal. The latter provides an overview and more general description of a data archive, and the relations between all datasets, results, analysis and manuscripts. Only the Research Data Journal does not sufficiently describe the data itself in order to be reusable.

The template is available in Word and Latex. We recommend to use Latex to modify the metadata template. Please use the online Latex editor https://www.overleaf.com. These are the steps to load in the latex zip:

* make an account
* click new project
* click upload project
* load the file ’metadata\_template.zip’
* please start editing - Fill information where you find %FILL HERE

Metadata Template

Obligatory fields are indicated with an asterisk

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Code** | Corresponding code in research data journal (e.g., D1) |
| **Title \*** | A short name given to the resource (e.g., D1\_GULLGPS) |
| **Acronym** | Acronym (e.g., GULLGPS) |
| **Path** | Path of the dataset in the data archive. |
| **Description \*** | GPS movement data of 5 GPS monitored seagulls in Amsterdam,  The Netherlands, monitored over a period of 3 years (March 2016-March 2019). GPS movement data has been collected using uva-bits tags and were subsequently stored in the uva-bits bird tracking database. |
| **Creator \*** | An entity primarily responsible for making the resource |
| **Publisher** | An entity responsible for making the resource available |
| **Contributor** | An entity responsible for making contributions to the resource |
| **Type** | Examples: Collection , Dataset , Event , Image , InteractiveResource, MovingImage , PhysicalObject , Service, Software , Sound , StillImage , Text, Group of Images |
| **Format \*** | The file format, physical medium of the resource (e.g., csv,  tiff, rds, shapefile, fasta) |
| **OS** | If the dataset is only readable for a specific Operating System, please specify that Operating System. |
| **Software** | If the dataset is only readable by a specific software, please specify that software. |
| **Identifier** | The unique identifier of the resource (e.g., doi). |
| **Source** | A related resource from which the described resource is derived. |
| **Rights \*** | Information about the rights held in and over the resource (e.g., University of Amsterdam) |
| **Language** | A language of a resource. |
| **SpatialCoverage** | The spatial location or area of the resource. This can be specified by the coordinates of a bounding box,the centroid of an area, the coordinates of a location, but also by the name of the place (e.g. a specific valley, village, city, country, continent). |
| **ProjectionSystem \*** | In case of spatial data, that includes coordinates, please provide the projection system of the resource (e.g., WGS84 EPSG:4326). |
| **TemporalCoverage \*** | The timestamp (YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss) or time period (from YYYY-MM-DD to YYYY-MM-DD) of the resource. Please use the format YYYY-MM-DD for the date and hh:mm:ss the time. |
| **Keywords \*** | Add keywords related to the dataset |
| **SizeMB \*** | Size of the dataset in MB |

Column description

If the dataset is tabular, it is obligatory to describe the content of each column.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Column name** | **unit** | **Data type +** | **description** |
| *unique\_id* | *no unit* | *serial* | *unique identifier for a GPS*  *location at a specific timestamp* |
| *longitude* | *degrees* | *double precision* | *longitude of a seagull GPS*  *location in projection system*  *(EPSG:4326)* |
| *latitude* | *degrees* | *double preciision* | *latitude of a seagull GPS location*  *in projection system*  *WGS84 (EPSG:4326)* |
| *acquisition\_time* | *utc* | *timestamp with time zone* | *UTC date and time of a*  *GPS location* |

+ data type: integer, double precision, timestamp without time zone, geometry, etc...