Data Package Reporting

IMC VTC Update – December 2012

Areas for Consideration

- Two aspects:
    1. Units/attributes – what the report supplies
    2. Who is the intended audience?
- Is there more than one type of report, e.g. Site vs. EB vs. NSF, etc.?
- How often should reports be produced?
- How should frequency and presentation vary based on audience?
- What attributes should be in each type of report?
- First step: Identify potential attributes and audiences

Report Principles

- Different audiences need the data presented in different ways
  - A network level report for EB, NSF, general population
  - A site specific report for PI, IM, site committee
- Reports should be a mechanism whereby sites can improve quality and volume of submitted datasets
- A vehicle to measure progress against previous baselines NOT a vehicle for site comparison

Process for Developing Reports

- Reports will need to be created from scratch as PASTA has changed significantly
- Potentially data would be extracted from Metacat and PASTA and placed in its own repository to provide snapshots of historical metrics
- Report mock-ups to be created as a means of communicating prospective look and feel to developers
- Technical requirements of reports as required
- Development of infrastructure, reports and process

Technical Considerations

- Should data package reports be "PASTA-centric" or "Metacat-centric"?
  - In a PASTA-centric approach, the reports focus on data packages that have successfully been inserted into PASTA, while leaving out details about data packages that are currently in Metacat but not yet in PASTA.
  - In a Metacat-centric approach, we would generate quality report statistics for all data packages in the LTER Metacat regardless of whether or not they have been successfully inserted into PASTA.
- Issue: The way in which data access is recorded may have an impact on report production (e-mails)

Next Steps

- Agree draft report format, content and frequency
- Confirm technical approach and feasibility with NIS developers
- Begin report development – Post PASTA Launch?