Metadata creation in the national metadata repository
Melinda

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Melinda

- National repository for bibliographic metadata
- Contains metadata from ~40 libraries
  - The national bibliography (Fennica)
  - University libraries
  - Libraries of universities of applied sciences (UAS)
  - Some special libraries: Library of Statistics, Library of Parliament, Library of the National Archives
  - Some public libraries
  - ...and more to come
- About 10 000 000 records
Creation of metadata

- Describing content into the national bibliography: Fennica
  - National bibliographical cataloguing level

- Describing content into the metadata repository: Melinda
  - National cataloguing level (mandatory fields, recommendations)

- Basic metadata records in Melinda
  - Automatic bulk corrections, database maintenance, deduplication, conversions, batch processing, loads, preliminary records from the publishers (Kirjavälitys)

- Using Melinda metadata in the national bibliography and vice versa

- National Library of Finland (metadata)
  - Guidelines, training

- Melinda libraries
  - Guidelines, training

- National Library of Finland (technical staff)
Working in Melinda

- Taking advantage of other experts’ good work in the shared database
- End results gain wider visibility in the metadata repository
- Adhering to Melinda’s shared rules is expected
- Offers a wide network of collaborators to cooperate with
Current standards

- Data format is **MARC 21**
- **RDA (Research Description and Access)** cataloging standard 2016-, Finnish translation
  - Previously ISBD Consolidated (in Finnish)

- Complementary guides to bibliographic description created and developed by expert workgroups
  - Guide for application of MARC 21
  - Guides for subject cataloguing
Melinda is developed together

- National expert groups
  - Descriptive metadata expert group KUMEA
    - Expert group for music content description MusaMelinda
  - Expert group for general content description (Sisällönkuvailun asiantuntijaryhmä)
  - Guidelines and suggestions on further development
  - Various library sectors have representatives in the groups
- Feedback and thematic surveys conducted in the partner libraries
  - To find out how the National Library has succeeded as service provider
  - Suggestions on further development
- Workshops and seminars for the Melinda community
  - Opportunity to build networks, to share information and expertise
  - Suggestions on further development
Contents of Melinda

- Bibliographic records
- Authority records in a dedicated database (Asteri), used together with Melinda
- No holdings or items
  - These reside in local databases
  - Availability information is fetched to the Melinda OPAC in real time
- No lending or end-user accounts
- No own collections
Material types

- Print end e-books
- Serials and magazines
- Maps, archival materials
- Music: recordings and sheet music
- Master's theses, doctoral dissertations
- Movies and games

- Host publications + component records: individual sound tracks, poems, short stories…
Principles of Melinda

- Melinda is foremostly a **tool for library personnel**
- A centralized platform for:
  - **Creating** metadata (cataloging)
  - **Sharing** metadata (fetching records)
  - **Developing** metadata (correcting errors, adding elements)
  - **Storing** metadata (permanent data storage)
- Besides cataloging, Melinda is used to locate materials for interlibrary loans
- There is a basic OPAC, but it is not actively developed -> **Finna-service** is designed for end users, is replacing the Melinda OPAC
Life in two systems

- Libraries catalog bibliographic records in Melinda
  - Aleph

- The records are then automatically replicated (i.e. copied) into their local databases
  - Voyager, public library systems

- Collection- and item-level data is kept in the local system

- As is lending functionality and customer information

- Melinda holds the "original copy" of each record
  - Should be usable to all libraries
Essential documents

- Melinda-wiki
  - An essential collection of all Melinda-related documents
  - For library personnel
- Working guide to Melinda
  - A document in Melinda-wiki
  - A concise guide to principles and practices of working in Melinda
- MARC 21 -format (Finnish and Swedish translations)
- RDA Toolkit
Training

- A basic course for new Melinda-catalogers
  - Once or twice per year
- "Janitor hour"
  - Duration: one hour
  - Short presentations of practical matters and new developments
  - Via remote access (Adobe Connect)
  - Are recorded on video and viewable later
  - Four sessions per year
Thank you!

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