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**Interoperability Solutions
for European Public Administrations**

ADMS SPECIFICATION

VERSION 0.9

Deliverable

DOCUMENT METADATA

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http://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/adms/release/09

CHANGE LOG

In the list below are the changes that were made since version 0.8.

Issue	Section	Change
	1.4, 6	Changed "owner" to "publisher" for consistency (4 occurrences)
	5.2	UML diagram removed, needs to be updated
	8.3	Textual changes
	9	Aligned references with preceding sections
145	5.4.3	Added property Supported Schema to Repository
157	5.4.1	Added relationship Included Asset to Asset
175	6.8	Added reference to French Cecill licence
180	5.1, 5.4.1, 5.5.2	Added concept Contact Information and relationship Contact Point
183	5.1	Deleted concept Example Asset
184	5.1, 5.5.7, 6.14	Renamed Included Item to Item
185	6.6	Added GeoNames as vocabulary for Geographic coverage
187	8.2	Deleted UML diagram for customisation
190	5.4.1	Changed cardinality of relationship Publisher to [1..*] for Asset
190	5.5.12	Changed cardinality of Publisher Type to [0..*] for concept Publisher
197	5.3	Replaced Date by DateTime and replaced reference to W3CDTF to ISO8601:2004
208	5.2, 5.3, 5.4.1	Added data type Identifier and changed data type of Asset.Identifier
209	5.1, 5.4.1, 5.5.13, 6.11	Added relationship Representation Language to Asset, added concept Representation Language and vocabulary for the concept
213	6.1, 6.4	Added sentence to allow use of local vocabularies for Asset Types and Domains (pending WG decision)
216	5.1, 5.4.1, 0	Added Temporal coverage and concept Period of Time and added relationship Temporal coverage to Asset
217	5.5.1, 5.5.4, 5.5.5, 5.5.8, 5.5.9, 5.5.13	Changed cardinality of ID to [0..1] for several concepts
218	6.7	Added reference to Lexvo.org
222	6.11	Changed status "Published" to "Completed"
224	4, 5.1	License -> Licence (3 occurrences)
225	4	Removed "legal" from definition of licence in the table
226	6.1, 6.2	Proposal for asset types
231	5.1	Added example of specification document
233	5.5.6, 5.5.7, 5.5.10, 5.5.15	Changed definition of "Label" from "Text label" to "A short phrase" and added property "Description"
236	5.4, 5.5	Added columns for data types of properties and targets for relationships
242	6.10	Added sentence to allow use of local vocabularies for Publisher
243, 264	5.1, 5.4.1	Added clarification for Item
244	5.4.1	Added property Version Notes to Asset

Issue	Section	Change
251	6.6	Added ISO3166 as vocabulary for Geographic coverage
252, 260	6.10	Added Publisher Types
256	5.4	Updated definitions
257	6.6	Section rewritten
259	5.1, 5.4.1	Changed "responsible for X" to "making X available" in definition of Publisher
261	1.3	Data -> Primary Resources
269	5.6	Small textual changes in last paragraph.
270	5.5.1, 5.5.8	IDs optional for Asset Type and Interoperability Level
271	5.4.1	Changed cardinalities of relationships Next Version and Previous Version to [0..*] for Asset

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1. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

1.1 ABOUT THE ISA PROGRAMME

This specification has been created as part of Action 1.1 of the Interoperability solutions for European public administrations (ISA) programme of the European Commission (EC). This programme funds initiatives to foster the efficient and effective cross-border electronic interactions between European public administrations. Action 1.1 of this programme is targeted towards improving the semantic interoperability of European e-Government systems. Action 1.1 attempts to address these by encouraging the sharing and reuse of semantic assets (see section 1.2 Terminology). As part of Action 1.1, the ISA Programme maintains a repository of semantic interoperability assets on Joinup, the ISA integrated collaborative platform.

1.2 TERMINOLOGY

This document uses the following terminology:

Semantic interoperability is defined as the ability of information and communication technology (ICT) systems and the business processes they support to exchange data and to enable the sharing of information and knowledge: *Semantic Interoperability enables systems to combine received information with other information resources and to process it in a meaningful manner* (European Interoperability Framework 2.0[1]). It aims at the mental representations that human beings have of the meaning of any given data.

A **semantic interoperability asset** is defined[2] as highly reusable metadata (e.g. xml schemata, generic data models) and reference data (e.g. codelists, taxonomies, dictionaries, vocabularies) which are used for eGovernment system development.

This definition is sufficiently broad to allow the inclusion of descriptions of various types of (meta)data to be included and managed in asset repositories. Possible types are for example specifications, guideline documents, metadata schemas, code lists, controlled vocabularies, and references to various types of entities in the real world, such as organisations, people and places.

1.3 LEVELS OF DATA

This document distinguishes four levels of data:

1. eGovernment Primary Resources: primary data resources such as documents, services, software, datasets

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[1] European Interoperability Framework http://ec.europa.eu/isa/documents/isa_annex_ii_eif_en.pdf
[2] Towards Open Government Metadata http://joinup.ec.europa.eu/elibrary/document/towards-open-government-metadata

2. eGovernment Metadata: descriptions of those primary information resources such as in metadata records or statements in databases that provide information about these eGovernment resources are and how they can be used.
3. Semantic Interoperability Assets: reference data that is being used in eGovernment metadata such as the ones mentioned in the previous section 1.2.
4. Descriptions of Semantic Interoperability Assets: descriptions of assets that can be contained in and made available from the semantic interoperability repositories.

The focus of Action 1.1 of the ISA Programme is on the semantic interoperability assets. ADMS, the Asset Description Metadata Schema, is proposed as a schema for the descriptions mentioned under the fourth level in the list above, and is intended to facilitate the federation of repositories of interoperability assets.

1.4 A MODEL FACILITATING FEDERATION

ADMS is intended as a model that facilitates federation and co-operation. It is not the primary intention that repository publishers redesign or convert their current systems and data to conform to ADMS, but rather that ADMS can act as a common layer among repositories that want to exchange data.

On the other hand, there is nothing prohibiting developers of new repositories, or publishers of existing repositories if they so desire, to build systems that allow the creation and maintenance of asset descriptions in an ADMS-compliant format.

The model described in this document is, as much as possible, technology-neutral so it can be implemented using different technologies. In section 7 of the specification, information will be provided on how to implement the model in RDF (Resource Description Framework)[3] and XML (eXtensible Markup Language)[4].

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[3] http://www.w3.org/RDF/
[4] http://www.w3.org/XML/

2. APPROACH

The work on ADMS builds on the work that was initiated in December 2010 under Action 1.1 of the ISA Programme. The interim result of Phase 1 was published on the SEMIC.EU site as version 0.6a[5] which was open for public comment in March and April 2011. The comments that were made in that public comment period are being taken into account in this deliverable.

In particular, the UML (Unified Modeling Language)[6] diagrams of version 0.6a were used as the starting point for developing the conceptual model in section 5. Furthermore, the Use Cases in section 4 were informed by the use cases considered in version 0.6a.

The development process of ADMS is based the methodology for the development of core vocabularies described in the document "Process and methodology for Core Vocabularies"[7]. One of the basic considerations of that methodology is that semantic elements will re-use existing vocabularies where possible. This will be the leading principle in the description of RDF and XML schemas in section 7.

This deliverable has been developed with the help of the ADMS Working Group and reviewed by the ADMS Review Group. These groups consist of a mix of representatives of the EU (European Union) Member States and external experts invited by the European Commission. The members of both groups are listed in section 10 Acknowledgements.

After iterative development of the drafts of this document, a public comment period took place giving interested parties the opportunity to review the specification and provide comments for improvement. After that, the document was submitted for endorsement by the EU Member States.

The specification serves as the basis for a pilot implementation of a federation of asset repositories.

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[5] In December 2011, the SEMIC.EU platform was migrated to Joinup. Version 0.6a of the ADMS specification is now available at https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/adms/release/06
[6] http://www.uml.org/
[7] https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/elibrary/document/isa-deliverable-process-and-methodology-developing-core-vocabularies

3. RELATED WORK

Several related activities have been identified as sources for the specification. Consideration has been given to:

- Ontology Metadata Vocabulary (OMV[8])
- Networked Knowledge Organization Systems/Services (NKOS[9])
- CEN eGov-Share[10]
- UN/CEFACT[11]
- Data Catalog Vocabulary (DCAT[12])
- Vocabulary of Interlinked Datasets (VOID[13])
- ISO/IEC 24706[14]

These related activities have informed the definition of the concepts, properties and relationships that are presented in section 5 Conceptual model.

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[8] http://omv2.sourceforge.net/
[9] http://nkos.slis.kent.edu/
[10] http://www.cen.eu/CEN/sectors/sectors/isss/workshops/Pages/wsegovshare.aspx
[11] http://live.unece.org/cefact/index.html
[12] http://www.w3.org/egov/wiki/Data_Catalog_Vocabulary
[13] http://vocab.deri.ie/void, http://www.w3.org/TR/void/
[14] http://metadata-stds.org/24706/index.html

4. USE CASE

Business need: e-Government system developers can benefit from *reusing* semantic assets. One of the barriers to reuse is the lack of information about semantic assets. To overcome this barrier, they need to be able to easily *explore* [FRSAD – Functional Requirements for Subject Authority Records[15]], *find, identify, select,* and *obtain* [FRBR – Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records[16]] semantic assets developed in *different* EU Member States, or other countries and organisations and originally catalogued or located in many *different* locations:

- to **explore** the semantic assets that are available in a particular subject area and to explore the relationships between semantic assets in order to understand the structure of a subject area and its terminology;
- to **find** semantic assets that correspond to the user's stated search criteria (i.e., to locate either a single semantic asset or a set of semantic assets in *multiple* repositories or catalogues as the result of a search using an attribute or relationship of the semantic asset);
- to **identify** a semantic asset (i.e., to confirm that the semantic asset described corresponds to the semantic asset sought, or to compare two or more semantic asset with similar characteristics in *multiple* repositories or catalogues);
- to **select** a semantic asset that is appropriate to the user's needs (i.e., to choose an semantic asset that meets the user's requirements with respect to content, format, etc., or to reject a semantic asset as being inappropriate to the user's needs);
- to **obtain** access to the semantic asset described (i.e., to access an entity electronically through an online connection).

Usage scenario: *Working on a new e-Government project, a user is interested in a specific semantic asset, for example a list of delicts for the European Arrest Warrant project.*

- **Without ADMS:** The user consults various semantic asset repositories and catalogues. To find, identify, select, and obtain semantic assets the user will be faced with a variety of user interface designs, different metadata, different languages, classification schemas, different access credentials and usage rights; etc.;
- **With ADMS:** The user consults one of the federated ADMS-enabled repositories or catalogues. To find, identify, and select semantic assets, the user is able to retrieve information about semantic assets hosted or documented in multiple repositories and catalogues. To obtain the semantic asset, the user is directed to the URL on the repository of origin or another location where the semantic asset can be retrieved.

Derived requirements: The ADMS must specify:

- The *minimal subset* (the ADMS Core) of metadata that must be exposed to federation partners and that are needed for the most frequent search cases;
- A subset of recommended metadata extensions;
- How to deal with multilingual properties;

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[15] http://www.ifla.org/en/node/1297
[16] http://www.ifla.org/publications/functional-requirements-for-bibliographic-records

- How to expose or exchange the metadata (the preferred API to exchange metadata descriptions).

Similar to the [FRBR] the table below contains a list of conceivable asset metadata properties and relationships. Plotted against each property and relationship are the five generic user tasks (i.e., explore, find, identify, select, and obtain). The symbols used in the tables (■ □ ○) indicate the relative value of each attribute or relationship in supporting a specific user task focused on a particular entity. The symbol ■ signifies that an attribute or relationship is highly important for supporting the designated task; the symbol □ signifies moderate importance; and the symbol ○ signifies relatively low importance. The absence of a symbol indicates that the attribute or relationship has no discernible relevance to that particular user task or sub-task. The properties and relationships greyed out have not been included in the ADMS conceptual model.

To **explore** semantic assets, high importance is attributed to metadata properties and relationships that allow exploring a set of related semantic assets that share common characteristics in a particular subject area (domain, subject, spatial coverage, interoperability level, related regulation, repository of origin, publisher type, and core concept). Medium importance is given to metadata properties and relationships that in more restricted cases will be used to explore a set of linked or similar semantic assets or a set of related information sources (publisher, related project, used by).

To **find** semantic assets, high importance is attributed to metadata properties and relationships that serve to identify a semantic asset (title, alternative title, identifier, publisher, version, and URI) and that are typically used as a primary search term (multilingual description, keyword). Medium importance is given to properties and relationships that are useful subdivisions of search results (subject, spatial coverage, format, asset type), that are useful secondary search criteria (domain) or that will serve to direct the user from one entity to another entity (related asset, translation, is replaced by etc.). Low importance is given to properties and relationships that under limited circumstances can be used to qualify a search (core concepts and concepts).

To **identify** semantic assets, high importance is attributed to metadata properties and relationships that serve to identify a semantic asset (title, identifier, publisher, version, and URI) and that differentiate semantic assets that have common characteristics (created, modified, replaced by, format, asset type, status). Medium importance is given to metadata that in specified circumstances will serve to differentiate semantic assets (domain, subject, spatial coverage, status, licence class, usage).

To **select** semantic assets, high importance is attributed to metadata properties and relationships that are a significant indicator of the asset's content (format, asset type, core concept, concept, status) or that may signal requirements for viewing or reusing the asset (licence, language). Medium importance is attributed to metadata that only in specific cases indicate an asset's content (domain, subject, spatial coverage, usage).

To **obtain** semantic assets, high importance is attributed to metadata properties and relationships that serve to identify a semantic asset (title, identifier, publisher, version, and URI)

to differentiate semantic assets that have common characteristics (created, modified, format, replaced by, asset type) and to locate the source from which the semantic asset (its Distribution) may be obtained (access URL, repository of origin) in the majority of the cases. Medium importance is given to metadata that in specified circumstances will serve to differentiate semantic assets.

Metadata category	Metadata property or relationship	Description	Explore	Find	Identify	Select	Obtain
descriptive metadata	name	the title of the semantic asset		■	■		■
	alternative name	the alternative name		■			
	description	descriptive text		■	■		
	keyword	word/phrase that describes the asset		■			
	identifier	any identifier for the asset		■	■		■
	ID	uniform resource identifier		■	■		■
	version	version number of the asset		■	■		■
	related asset	assets related to the asset		□			
	current version	most current version of the asset		□	□		□
	next version	next version of the asset					□
	previous version	previous version of the asset					□
	distribution	a distribution of the asset					□
applicability	domain	the domain of the semantic asset	■	□		□	
	subject	a pre-defined list of subjects	■	□		□	
	spatial coverage	geographic region in which the asset applies	■	□		□	
	Interoperability level	level according to the European Interoperability Framework (EIF 2.0)[17] that an Asset is related to	■	□	■		
	related regulation	related regulations from which the asset is derived.	■				
provenance	repository of origin	repository or catalogue that contains the primary description of the semantic asset	■	■			
	publisher	organisation responsible for the publication of the semantic asset	□	■	■		■
	publisher type	the kind of publisher	■				
	date of creation	date of creation				■	
	date of last modification	date of last modification				■	

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[17] http://ec.europa.eu/isa/documents/isa_annex_ii_eif_en.pdf

Metadata category	Metadata property or relationship	Description	Explore	Find	Identify	Select	Obtain
	development project	development project as part of which the semantic asset was developed	□				
format	format	format in which an asset is distributed	■	□	■	■	
	asset type	type of the asset	■	□	■	■	
availability	licence	A document giving official permission to do something with a Resource					■
	licence class	the class of licences that govern (re-)use of distributions (e.g. BSD)	■		□		
	licence type	coarse type of rights and obligations that come with the licence					
	status	status in the context of a particular workflow process				□	■
	translation	a translated version of the asset		□			
	language	language of the asset		□	□		
accessibility	access URL	URL of the distribution of the semantic asset					■
	documentation	documentation of the asset					○
	sample	a sample of the asset					○
	homepage	an associated web page					□
usage	used by	the organisations that use the asset	□		□	□	
	used in dataset	the dataset that uses the asset			□	□	
	used in public service	the electronic public service in which the semantic asset is used			□	□	
	implemented by software asset	the software asset that uses the semantic asset			□	□	
defined concepts	core concept	any core concept that the asset (implicitly) relates to	■	○			
	included item	the concept that the asset includes		○		■	
statistics	#concepts	the number of concepts defined by the asset (includes individual concepts)					
	#relationships	the number of relationships defined by the asset					

Metadata category	Metadata property or relationship	Description	Explore	Find	Identify	Select	Obtain
	#properties	the number of properties defined by the asset					
	#downloads	the number of downloads of the distribution of the asset					

5. CONCEPTUAL MODEL

5.1 DOMAIN MODEL

In the context of federation of repositories of Semantic Interoperability Assets, a number of concepts are relevant. The primary concepts to be described by ADMS are the following:

- A **Repository** is a system or service that provides facilities for storage and maintenance of descriptions of Assets and Distributions, and functionality that allows users to search and access these descriptions. A Repository will typically contain descriptions of several Assets and related Distributions.

- An **Asset** in the model is an abstract entity that reflects the intellectual content of the asset and represents those characteristics of the asset that are independent of its physical embodiment. This abstract entity combines the FRBR entities *work* (a distinct intellectual or artistic creation) and *expression* (the intellectual or artistic realization of a work)[18].
  Assets can be versioned. Every time the intellectual content of an asset changes, the result is considered to be a new asset that can be linked to previous and next versions of the Asset.
  The physical embodiment of an Asset is called a Distribution. A particular Asset may have zero or more Distributions.

- A **Distribution** in the model represents a particular physical embodiment of an Asset, which is an example of the FRBR entity *manifestation* (the physical embodiment of an expression of a work).
  A Distribution is typically a downloadable computer file (but in principle it could also be a paper document) that implements the intellectual content of an Asset.
  A particular Distribution is associated with one and only one Asset, while all Distributions of an Asset share the same intellectual content in different physical formats.
  Distributions themselves are not versioned. If Distribution D1 is the manifestation of Asset A1 and D2 is the manifestation of Asset A2, a version relationship will be expressed between A1 and A2, not between D1 and D2. For an illustration of two Assets that each have two Distributions (representations in different formats) see the diagram below.

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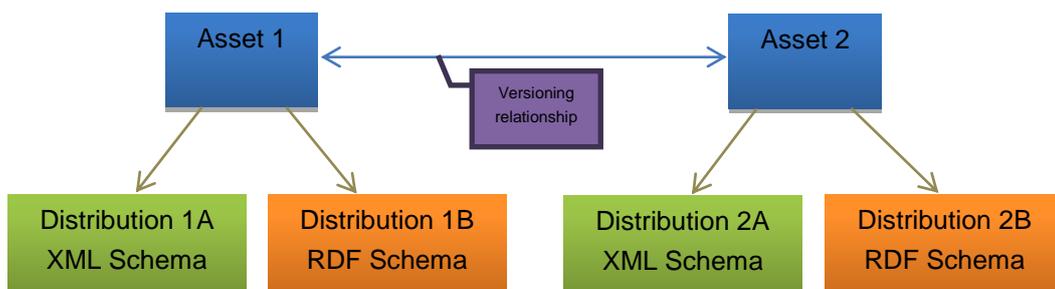
[18] http://archive.ifla.org/VII/s13/frbr/frbr_current3.htm

Concrete examples of the relationship between Assets and Distributions are:

- An Asset without a Distribution: even before we have finalised the ADMS 1.0 specification and are working on draft version 0.9, we can already create a description of what version 1.0 will be; for example, we can write a description for it, we know who will publish it, and we know it will be in English. We can only link it to the physical document when that becomes available; until that time the Asset will have no Distribution associated with it.

- An Asset and Distribution embedded in a single file: there are Assets that are specification documents, such as for example a standard published by W3C or OASIS. In those cases, the single file has some characteristics that are related to the intellectual content such as its description, its language, its version, and some characteristics that are related to the downloadable file (its location, its format, the usage conditions).

- An Asset with multiple Distributions: version 0.8 of ADMS (available at http://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/adms/release/08) has three Distributions associated with it: a specification document, an RDF schema and an XML schema. All three files are physical embodiments of the Asset ADMS.

In addition to these primary concepts, there are a number of secondary or supporting concepts:

- *Asset Type*: classification of an Asset according to a controlled vocabulary, e.g. code list, metadata schema

- *Contact Information*: contact point for further information about an Asset

- *Documentation*: document that further describes an Asset or give guidelines for its use

- *Domain*: government sector that an Asset or Repository applies to, e.g. "law" or "environment" according to a controlled vocabulary

- *File Format*: technical format in which a Distribution is available , e.g. PDF (Portable Document Format)[19] for a document, XSD (XML Schema Definition)[20] for an XML schema

- *Geographical Coverage*: country or region to which an Asset or Repository applies

- *Item*: item that is contained in an Asset, e.g. an individual term in a vocabulary, an individual code in a code list or some other 'atomic' element of an Asset

- *Interoperability Level*: level according to the European Interoperability Framework (EIF 2.0)[21] for which an Asset is relevant

- *Language*: language of an Asset if its contains textual information, e.g. the language of the terms in a controlled vocabulary or the language that a specification is written in

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[19] http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/adobepdf.html
[20] http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema11-1/
[21] http://ec.europa.eu/isa/documents/isa_annex_ii_eif_en.pdf

- *Licence*: conditions or restrictions that apply to the use of a Distribution, e.g. whether it is in the public domain, or that some restrictions apply like in cases attribution is required, or that it can only be used for non-commercial purposes etc.

- *Period of time*: time period relevant for an Asset, e.g. for its validity

- *Publisher*: organisation making a Repository, Asset or Distribution available

- *Representation Technique*: machine-readable language in which a Distribution is expressed

- *Status*: indication of the maturity of an Asset or Distribution

- *Subject*: theme or subject of an Asset, e.g. "elections" or "immigration" according to a general or domain specific controlled vocabulary

These supporting concepts are further described in section 5.5.

5.2 UML DIAGRAM

The model presented in the next figure shows the various concept types with their relationships and the descriptive information for the three main concepts Repository, Asset and Distribution.

The concepts, properties and relationships are described in more detail below the diagram.

Figure 1: ADMS Conceptual Model

5.3 DATA TYPES

Data type	Description
Code	String; value from a code list (see for examples section 6)
DateTime	String; syntax conforming to ISO8601[22,23]
Identifier	Complex type (based on UN/CEFACT Identifier. Type[24]) consisting of: • a content string which is the identifier (data type String) • an optional identifier for he identifier scheme (data type String) • an optional identifier for the version of the identifier scheme (data type String) • an optional identifier for the agency that manages the identifier scheme (data type String)
String	String of UNICODE[25] characters
Text	Complex type consisting of: • a content string (data type String) • an optional language code from RFC5646[26] (data type Code)
URI	String; syntax conforming to RFC 3986[27]
URL	String; syntax conforming to RFC 1738[28]

5.4 MAIN CONCEPTS

5.4.1 Concept: Asset

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Alternative Name	alternative name for the Asset. Note: this information may be used to provide additional access points, e.g. allowing indexing of any acronyms, nicknames, shorthand notations or other identifying information under which a user might expect to find the Asset	Text	0..*
Date of Creation	creation date of this version of the Asset	DateTime	0..1
Date of Last Modification	date of latest update of Asset	DateTime	1..1
Description	descriptive text for the Asset	Text	1..*
ID	URI for the Asset	URI	1..1
Identifier	any identifier for the Asset	Identifier	0..*
Keyword	word of phrase to describe the Asset	Text	0..*

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[22] http://www.iso.org/iso/catalogue_detail?csnumber=40874

[23] http://dotat.at/tmp/ISO_8601-2004_E.pdf

[24] http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/cefact/codesfortrade/CCTS/CCTS-DTCatalogueVersion3p1.pdf

[25] http://www.unicode.org/standard/standard.html

[26] http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc5646.txt

[27] http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3986.txt

[28] http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1738.txt

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Name	name of the Asset. Note: in cases that an Asset has parallel names, for example if more than one official name exists, or if an organisation or country has more than one official language, this field can be repeated for all name variants	Text	1..*
Version	version number or other designation of the Asset	Text	0..1
Version Notes	description of changes between this version and the previous version of the Asset	Text	0..1

Relationship	Description	Target	Cardinality
Asset type	type of the Asset	Asset Type	1..*
Contact Point	contact point for further information about an Asset	Contact Information	0..*
Current version	current or latest version of the Asset	Asset	0..1
Documentation	further documentation of the Asset	Asset	0..*
Domain	domain or sector to which the Asset applies	Domain	0..*
Included Asset	an Asset that is contained in the Asset being described, e.g. when there are several vocabularies defined in a single document	Asset	0..*
Included item	item that is contained in the Asset (e.g. a concept in a controlled vocabulary, an individual code in a code list or any other 'atomic' element)	Item	0..*
Interoperability level	interoperability level that the Asset is relevant for	Interoperability Level	0..1
Language	language of the Asset	Language	0..*
Next version	newer version of the Asset	Asset	0..*
Previous version	older version of the Asset	Asset	0..*
Publisher	organisation making the Asset available	Publisher	1..*
Related asset	unspecified relationship between Assets	Asset	0..*
Distribution	implementation of the Asset in a particular format	Distribution	0..*
Repository origin	Repository that contains the primary description of the Asset	Repository	0..1
Sample	sample of the Asset	Asset	0..*
Spatial coverage	geographic region or jurisdiction to which the Asset applies	Geographic Coverage	0..*
Subject	subject or theme that the Asset covers	Subject	0..*
Status	status of the Asset in the context of a particular workflow process	Status	1..1
Temporal coverage	time period relevant to the Asset, e.g. its validity	Period of Time	0..*
Translation	translation of the Asset	Asset	0..*

5.4.2 Concept: Distribution

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Access URL	URL of the Distribution Note: more than one URL may be available, for example if mirror sites are maintained.	URL	1..*
Date of Creation	creation date of the Distribution	DateTime	0..1
Date of Last Modification	date of latest update of the Distribution	DateTime	0..1
Description	descriptive text for the Distribution	Text	0..*
ID	URI for the Distribution	URI	1..1
Name	name of the Distribution	Text	0..*

Relationship	Description	Target	Cardinality
Format	format in which the Distribution is available (e.g. PDF, XSD, RDF/XML, HTML, ZIP)	File Format	1..1
Licence	conditions or restrictions for (re-)use of the Distribution	Licence	1..1
Publisher	organisation responsible for the publication of the Distribution	Publisher	0..*
Repository origin	Repository that contains the primary description of the Distribution	Repository	0..1
Representation Technique	language in which the Distribution is expressed Note: this is different from the file format, e.g. a ZIP file (file format) could contain an XML schema (representation technique)	Representation Technique	0..*
Status	status of the Distribution in the context of a particular workflow process	Status	1..1

5.4.3 Concept: Repository

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Access URL	URL of the Repository	URL	1..*
Date of Creation	creation date of the Repository	DateTime	0..1
Date of Last Modification	date of latest update of the Repository	DateTime	1..1
Description	descriptive text for the Repository	Text	1..*
ID	URI for the Repository	URI	1..1
Name	name of the Repository Note: in cases that a Repository has parallel names, for example if more than one official name exists, or if an organisation or country has more than one official language, this field can be repeated for all name variants	Text	1..*
Supported Schema	Schema according to which the Repository can provide data, e.g. ADMS version 1.0	Text	0..*

Relationship	Description	Target	Cardinality
Domain	domain or sector to which the Repository applies	Domain	0..*
Publisher	organisation responsible for the publication of the Repository	Publisher	0..*
Spatial coverage	geographic region or jurisdiction to which the Repository applies	Geographic Coverage	0..*

5.5 SUPPORTING CONCEPTS

5.5.1 Concept: Asset Type

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Code	Value from a list of controlled terms; see section 6.1 for proposed values	Code	1..1
ID	URI identifying the Asset Type	URI	0..1

5.5.2 Concept: Contact Information

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Full Address	The complete address written as a string, with or without formatting.	String	0..*
E-mail	An e-mail address for questions and feedback	String	0..*
Name	A name of the contact point, e.g. organisation or department name, function name or name of a person	String	1..*
Telephone	A telephone number for questions and feedback	String	0..*
Web page	A Web page where contact information is shown, or a Web form where questions and feedback can be entered	URL	0..*
Note: Although both E-mail and Web page are optional, one of the two should be provided.			

5.5.3 Concept: Documentation

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
ID	URI identifying the Documentation, or the URL where it can be accessed	URI	1..1
Title	Title of the Documentation Note: Documentation may have more than one title, e.g. in different languages	Text	1..*
Type	Value from a list of controlled terms; see section 6.3 for proposed values	Text	1..*

5.5.4 Concept: Domain

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Code	Value from a list of controlled terms; see section 6.4 for proposed values	Code	1..1
ID	URI identifying the Domain	URI	0..1

5.5.5 Concept: File Format

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Code	Value from a list of controlled terms; see section 6.5 for proposed values	Code	1..1
ID	URI identifying the File Format	URI	0..1

5.5.6 Concept: Geographic Coverage

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Description	Descriptive text for the Geographic Coverage	Text	0..*
ID	URI identifying the Geographic Coverage	URI	1..1
Label	A short phrase describing the Geographic Coverage	Text	1..*

5.5.7 Concept: Item

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Description	Descriptive text for the Item	Text	0..*
ID	URI identifying the Item	URI	1..1
Label	A short phrase describing the Item	Text	1..*

5.5.8 Concept: Interoperability Level

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Code	Value from a list of controlled terms; see section 6.1 for proposed values	Code	1..1
ID	URI identifying the Interoperability Level	URI	0..1

5.5.9 Concept: Language

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Code	Value from a list of controlled terms; see section 6.7 for proposed values	Code	1..1
ID	URI identifying the Language	URI	0..1

5.5.10 Concept: Licence

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Description	Descriptive text for the Licence	Text	0..*
ID	URI identifying the Licence, or the URL where the text of the licence is available	URI	1..1
Label	A short phrase describing the Licence	Text	1..*
Type	Value from a list of controlled terms; see section 6.9 for proposed values	Code	1..*

5.5.11 Concept: Period of Time

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Start	Beginning of the period	DateTime	0..*
End	End of the period	DateTime	0..*
Note: Although both properties are optional, at least one of the two should be provided.			

5.5.12 Concept: Publisher

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
ID	URI identifying the Publisher; if no URI is available, the URL of the organisation's home page may be used as an alternative	URI	1..1
Name	Name of the organisation responsible for the Asset or Repository Note: A Publisher may have one of more Names, e.g. if the organisation has names in different languages as may be the case in countries with more than one official language	Text	1..*
Type	Value from a list of controlled terms; see section 6.10	Code	0..*

5.5.13 Concept: Representation Technique

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Code	Value from a list of controlled terms; see section 6.11	Code	1..1
ID	URI identifying the Representation Technique	URI	0..1
Note: this concept indicates that one of the files in a Distribution is expressed in the Representation Technique. There may also be other files in the Distribution that are expressed in other Representation Techniques or even files that are not representations at all.			

5.5.14 Concept: Status

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Code	Value from a list of controlled terms; see section 6.12	Code	1..1
ID	URI identifying the Status	URI	0..1

5.5.15 Concept: Subject

Property	Description	Data Type	Cardinality
Description	Descriptive text for the Subject	Text	0..*
ID	URI identifying the Subject	URI	1..1
Label	A short phrase describing the Subject	Text	1..*

5.6 MULTILINGUAL CONSIDERATIONS

One of the crucial characteristics of the environment in which ADMS will be deployed is that it is intended to support interoperability in a multilingual environment. The following aspects are relevant:

- The content of Assets, as far as they contain textual information, will be produced in different languages; for example, codes in a code list or labels for terms in a controlled vocabulary may be based on a particular language such as is the case for the various language versions of EuroVoc[29].
- Repositories, Assets and Distributions are created, maintained and described in different languages; for example, a repository in Germany will contain descriptions in German; a Belgian registry may contain descriptions in Dutch or French or both.
- Users of the information will have different linguistic and cultural backgrounds and may expect to be able to search in their own language and find material both in their own and in other languages.

While the conceptual model of ADMS described in the previous paragraphs does not explicitly address the potential requirements for multilingual deployment in a federation of repositories, it does contain a number of capabilities to enable the support of multilingual environments.

First of all, all properties that are intended to contain "human-readable text" are defined with data type Text, which is a complex type consisting of text content and an optional language code.

Secondly, all such properties are repeatable, which allows the provision of different language versions with the appropriate language code.

The model does not attempt to declare any of the possible language versions the "main version" to allow flexibility on the side of the user interface in deciding which version to show to the user. If a content provider has provided parallel language versions in the metadata, a multilingual user interface would have the option to match user preferences with one of the available language versions.

The model is also silent on the source of translated information. Parallel language versions may be supplied by the content provider or be generated by automated translation tools.

Apart from the facilities provided for "human-readable text" as outline above, many of the concepts in the model are defined as having data type Code. Data of this type is intended to be language-independent. The semantics of the codes in a code list may be provided in multiple languages. For vocabularies, including code lists, recommended for use with ADMS, see section 6.

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[29] http://eurovoc.europa.eu/

6. CONTROLLED VOCABULARIES

The section identifies a number of controlled vocabularies to be used for specific concepts in the ADMS model. In this section, the term "vocabulary" is used as shorthand for various types of controlled vocabularies, including taxonomies (collections of controlled category labels or notations representing concepts in a hierarchical structure), thesauri (networked collections of controlled terms representing concepts in a networked structure) and other types of knowledge organisation systems.

In general, use of controlled collections of terms is recommended as far as possible. Where such collections do not exist, repository publishers should consider creating and maintaining such collections to ensure consistent description.

6.1 INTEROPERABILITY LEVEL VOCABULARY

The European Interoperability Framework   distinguishes the following interoperability levels:
- Political
- Legal
- Organisational
- Semantic
- Technical

6.2 ASSET TYPE VOCABULARY

The following semantic interoperability asset types are proposed[31].

- **Core Component**: A core component is a *context-free* semantic building block for creating clear and meaningful data models, vocabularies, and information exchange packages [UN/CEFACT CCTS].
    - o Related: **Core Vocabulary**: A Core Vocabulary is a simplified, reusable, and extensible data model that captures the fundamental characteristics of an entity in a context-neutral way [EGOV-CV].
    - o Examples: the Dublin Core Metadata Element Set, the UN/CEFACT Core Component Library.
- **Ontology**: a formal, explicit specification of a shared conceptualization [ISO 25964-1:2011].
    - o **Examples:** SNOMED CT (Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine -- Clinical Terms)
- **Domain Model**: A domain model is a conceptual view of a system or an information exchange that identifies the entities involved and their relationships [NIEM Glossary].
    - o Examples: the ADMS Conceptual Model in Section 5

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[30] http://ec.europa.eu/isa/documents/isa_annex_ii_eif_en.pdf

[31] With permission, some definitions are extracts from ISO 25964-1:2011 "Information and documentation - Thesauri and interoperability with other vocabularies -- Part 1: Thesauri for information retrieval" and ISO 9735-1:2002 "Electronic data interchange for administration, commerce and transport (EDIFACT) - Application level syntax rules (Syntax version number: 4, Syntax release number: 1) - Part 1: Syntax rules common to all parts" as indicated.

- **Schema**: A schema is a concrete view on a system or information exchange, describing the structure, content, and semantics of data.
  - o Examples: Trade Mark XML (TM-XML).
- **Information Exchange Package Description.** A collection of artifacts that define and describe the structure and content of an information exchange [NIEM Glossary]. An Information Exchange Package Description has a specific information exchange context and may refer to other semantic assets.
  - o Related: **Semantic Interoperability Agreement**: Concrete and binding agreement that sets out the precise obligations of parties cooperating across an 'interface' to achieve semantic interoperability [EIFv2].
  - o Examples: the ADMS specification, CEN/ISSS Business Interoperability Interfaces for Public procurement in Europe (CENBII), Global Justice Information Exchange Package (GJXDM).
- **Thesaurus**: controlled and structured vocabulary in which concepts are represented by terms, organized so that relationships between concepts are made explicit, and preferred terms are accompanied by lead-in entries for synonyms or quasi-synonyms [ISO 25964-1:2011].
  - o Examples: EuroVoc, AGROVOC, GEMET.
- **Taxonomy**: scheme of categories and subcategories that can be used to sort and otherwise organize items of knowledge or information [ISO 25964-1:2011].
  - o Examples: International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC), European classification of economic activities (NACE), United Nations Standard Products and Services Code (UNSPSC), the Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS).
- **Code List**: Complete set of data element values of a coded simple data element [ISO 9735-1:2002, 4.14].
  - o Example: ISO639-3 language codes.
- **Name Authority List**: controlled vocabulary for use in naming particular entities consistently [ISO 25964-1:2011].
  - o Example: IANA Media Types, geonames.org.
- **Mapping**: relationship between a concept in one vocabulary and one or more concepts in another [ISO 25964-1:2011].
- **Syntax Encoding Scheme**: Syntax Encoding Schemes indicate that the value is a string formatted in accordance with a formal notation, such as "2000-01-01" as the standard expression of a date. [DCMI Glossary].
  - o Example: xsd:date, dcterms:W3CDTF, ISO 8601
- **Service Description**: A service description is a set of documents that describe the interface to and semantics of a service [W3C WS-GLOSS].

The table below gives an overview of interoperability asset types per interoperability level in the European Interoperability Framework (EIF). Political, legal, organisational, and technical interoperability assets are greyed out, as they are outside the scope of this specification.

Interoperability Level	Interoperability Asset Type
Political	• Political Interoperability Agreement
Legal	• Legal Interoperability Agreement
	• Legislative Framework
	• Contract Template
	• Licence Template
Organisational	• Organisational Interoperability Agreement
	• Business Process Model
	• Business Service Description
Semantic	• Core Component
	• Ontology
	• Domain Model
	• Schema
	• Information Exchange Package Description
	• Thesaurus
	• Taxonomy
	• Code List
	• Name Authority List
	• Mapping
	• Syntax Encoding Scheme
	• Web Service Description
Technical	• Technical Interoperability Agreement
	• Security Specification
	• Communication Protocol
	• Software

In addition to the common Asset Types in the table above, Asset publishers may include data based on local vocabularies.

6.3 DOCUMENTATION TYPE VOCABULARY

The proposed vocabulary for Documentation Type is as follows:

- **Home page**: a Web page that is fully dedicated to the asset.
- **Related Web page**: a Web page that contains information related to the asset.
- **Main documentation**: the main documentation or specification of the asset.
- **Related documentation**: documentation that contains information related to the asset.
- **Implementation guideline**: documentation that contains information on how to implement a semantic asset.

6.4 DOMAIN VOCABULARY

The proposed vocabulary for Domain is the domain level[32] of EuroVoc[33]. In addition to this common Domain vocabulary, Asset publishers may include data based on local vocabularies.

6.5 FILE FORMAT VOCABULARY

The proposed vocabulary for File Format is the list of IANA MIME Media Types[34].

6.6 GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE VOCABULARY

Several vocabularies are available for geographic coverage. It is recommended that ISO 3166 Alpha 2 codes[35] are used for countries. For smaller subdivisions, NUTS[36], the Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics maintained by Eurostat could be used. Other possible vocabularies are GeoNames[37], DBPedia[38] or FAO Geopolitical Ontology[39]

6.7 LANGUAGE VOCABULARY

The proposed vocabulary for Language is the code list defined by IETF RFC 5646[40]. URIs for languages are maintained by lexvo.org[41] (for ISO639-3[42]) and the Library of Congress (for ISO639-2[43]).

6.8 LICENCE VOCABULARY

A proposed vocabulary entity Licence is the one defined by Creative Commons[44]. Other licence vocabularies may be considered depending on existing approaches and requirements, e.g. the ISA Open Metadata Licence v1.0[45] under which this specification is issued or the French Cecill licence[46].

6.9 LICENCE TYPE VOCABULARY

In addition to a reference to a specific licence (see previous section 6.8) a vocabulary is defined to classify the conditions and restrictions that are related to the specified licence.

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[32] http://eurovoc.europa.eu/drupal/?q=download/subject_oriented&cl=en
[33] http://eurovoc.europa.eu/
[34] http://www.iana.org/assignments/media-types/index.html
[35] http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_3166_code_lists
[36] http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/nuts_nomenclature/introduction
[37] http://www.geonames.org/
[38] http://dbpedia.org/About
[39] http://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/geoinfo.asp?lang=en

[41] http://www.lexvo.org/
[42] http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/
[43] http://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2/langhome.html
[44] http://creativecommons.org/
[45] https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/category/licence/isa-open-metadata-licence-v10
[46] http://www.cecill.info/

The following list of Licence Types is proposed:

- Attribution
- Public domain
- Viral effect (a.k.a. Share-alike)
- Non-commercial use only
- No derivative work
- Royalties required
- Reserved names / endorsement / official status
- Nominal cost
- Grant back
- Jurisdiction within the EU
- Other restrictive clauses
- Known patent encumbrance
- Unknown IPR

6.10 PUBLISHER TYPE VOCABULARY

Asset publishers may use a local controlled vocabulary for Publisher IDs and Names.

The proposed vocabulary for Publisher Type is as follows:

- Academia/Scientific organisation
- Company
- Industry consortium
- Local Authority
- National authority
- Non-Governmental Organisation
- Non-Profit Organisation
- Private Individual(s)
- Regional authority
- Standardisation body

6.11 SUPRA-NATIONAL AUTHORITYREPRESENTATION TECHNIQUE VOCABULARY

The proposed vocabulary for Representation Technique is as follows:

- Human Language
- Diagram
- UML (Unified Modeling Language)[47]
- XML Schema[48]

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[47] http://www.uml.org/

- SKOS (Simple Knowledge Organization Schema)[49]
- RDF Schema[50]
- Genericode[51]
- IDEF (Integration DEFinition Methods)[52]
- BPMN (Business Process Modeling Notation)[53]
- Archimate[54]
- SBVR (Semantics of Business Vocabulary and Rules)[55]
- DTD (Document Type Definition)[56]
- Schematron[57]
- OWL (Web Ontology Language)[58]
- SPARQL (Query Language for RDF)[59]
- SPIN (SPARQL Inference Notation)[60]
- WSDL (Web Services Description Language)[61]
- WSMO (Web Service Modeling Ontology)[62]
- KIF (Knowledge Interchange Format)[63]
- Prolog[64]
- Datalog[65]
- RuleML (Rule Markup Language)[66]
- RIF (Rule Interchange Format)[67]
- SWRL (Semantic Web Rule Language)[68]
- Topic Maps[69]
- Common Logic[70]

6.12 STATUS VOCABULARY

The proposed vocabulary for Status is:

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[48] http://www.w3.org/XML/Schema
[49] http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/
[50] http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-schema/
[51] http://www.genericode.org/
[52] http://www.idef.com/
[53] http://www.bpmn.org/
[54] http://www3.opengroup.org/subjectareas/enterprise/archimate
[55] http://www.omg.org/spec/SBVR/
[56] http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/sgml/dtd.html
[57] http://www.schematron.com/
[58] http://www.w3.org/2004/OWL/
[59] http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-sparql-query/
[60] http://spinrdf.org/
[61] http://www.w3.org/TR/wsdl
[62] http://www.wsmo.org/
[63] http://www-ksl.stanford.edu/knowledge-sharing/kif/
[64] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prolog
[65] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datalog
[66] http://ruleml.org/
[67] http://www.w3.org/TR/2010/NOTE-rif-overview-20100622/
[68] http://www.w3.org/Submission/SWRL/
[69] http://www.topicmaps.org/
[70] http://iso-commonlogic.org/

- Completed
- Under development
- Deprecated
- Withdrawn

6.13 SUBJECT VOCABULARIES

Many candidate vocabularies are available for Subject. Examples are the European Commission's ECLAS[71] Thesaurus and EuroVoc[72], EIONET's GEMET[73], FAO's AGROVOC[74], ZBW's STW Thesaurus for Economics[75], the Library of Congress' Subject Headings (LCSH)[76] and Thesaurus for Graphic Materials (TGM)[77] and others, The use of these vocabularies is closely linked to the domain to which t an Asset is related. It is recommended that terms should be assigned from a vocabulary that is most widely used in the domain covered.

6.14 OTHER VOCABULARIES AND REFERENCE COLLECTIONS

For the entity Item, the relationship could be directly to the items that are contained in the Asset if they can be referenced separately. Alternatively, a standardised concept vocabulary, such as the Universal Data Element Framework (UDEF)[78] could be used.

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[71] http://ec.europa.eu/libraries/doc/catalogues/index_en.htm
[72] http://eurovoc.europa.eu/
[73] http://www.eionet.europa.eu/gemet
[74] http://aims.fao.org/website/AGROVOC-Thesaurus/sub
[75] http://zbw.eu/stw/versions/latest/about
[76] http://www.loc.gov/aba/cataloging/subject/
[77] http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/graphicMaterials.html
[78] https://www.opengroup.org/udef/

7. RDF AND XML SCHEMAS FOR ADMS

Expressions of ADMS in RDF and XML are linked from Joinup[79].

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[79] http://joinup.ec.europa.eu/asset/adms/release/all

8. CUSTOMISATION

As ADMS is conceived as a core specification and requirements may evolve over time, there is a need to define a mechanism for extending, and more in general, customising ADMS. Through such customisation, the deployment of ADMS in different environments can be facilitated. Furthermore, this will also enable ADMS to develop over time while functional requirements and technical capabilities evolve.

8.1 ORGANISATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

The organisational aspects of customising ADMS will be based on the overall process and methodology for Core Vocabularies[80]. In particular, any changes in the model should be based on identified needs and the development process should lead to community consensus.

8.2 CONCEPTUAL CONSIDERATIONS

On the conceptual level, the customisation mechanism covers any changes to the model involving the addition of classes, properties and relationships, and options for variations in implementations.

Where the model that has been developed does not meet all business requirements, customisation is possible. Customising a model can be done in a variety of ways (based on the UBL 2 Guidelines for Customization[81]):

- **Annotation**. It is possible to customise a model by adding new information in the form of annotations.

- **Extension**. Extending the model means adding new information to the model that was not previously there.

- **Reduction – Restriction**. A model can be customised by imposing additional restrictions on the information that is captured in the model.

- **Reduction – Subsection**. For some use cases, a model can contain too much information. Using just a subset of the information contained in the original model is another means of customisation.

- **Rename**. When certain naming requirements are in place preventing use of the original model, it can be customised by renaming it.

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[80] https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/elibrary/document/isa-deliverable-process-and-methodology-developing-core-vocabularies

[81] http://docs.oasis-open.org/ubl/guidelines/UBL2-Customization1.0cs01.pdf

- **Replacement**. A model can be customised by developing a new model entirely replacing the first model.

Note that **Reduction** and **CustomisedConcept** are abstract concepts and are not extension mechanisms by themselves.

8.3 FURTHER WORK

Expressions of ADMS are developed in both RDF and XML (see section 7). These two expression approaches have different customisation capabilities. Guidelines will be created for each of these technologies, considering the options for customisation and the consequences for interoperability in either case.

9. REFERENCES AND LINKS

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