



On the need to develop an interoperability framework for Social and Solidarity Economy Web Based Information Systems



Mariana Curado Malta | Ana Alice Baptista

Information Systems Department | School of Engineering | University of Minho | Portugal
mariana@iscap.ipp.pt | analice@dsi.uminho.pt

INTRODUCTION

The Social and solidarity economy (SSE) is a third way, distinct from the market economy and the central state power.

SSE organizations are spreaded across geographical, language, legal, sectorial, and other boundaries and they need to exchange digital information in a meaningful way => semantic interoperability.

OBJECTIVES

To put in evidence the need for interoperability in the SSE web based information systems (WIS)

Dublin Core Application Profile as a framework to implement semantic interoperability among SSE WIS

METHODOLOGY

Literature review (interoperability and SSE WIS);

Analysis of: 10 SSE WIS;

Performance and analysis of 6 interviews.

FUTURE WORK

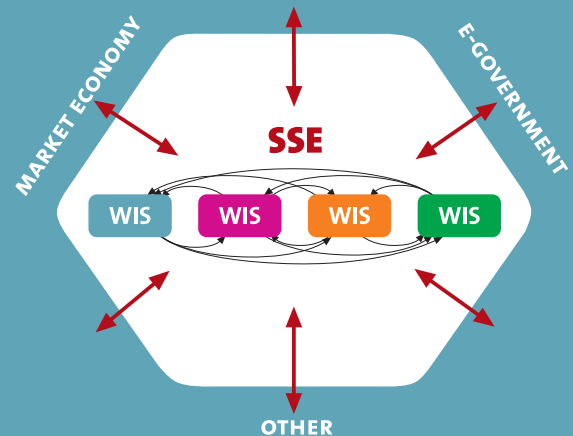
Monitoring SSE community developments on metadata schemes and controlled vocabularies definition;

State of the art development on DCAP, Metadata Application Profiles, metadata schemes Application Profiles, with a focus on: the metadata schemes used; the vocabulary encoding schemes and syntax encoding schemes used; and the methodologies used for the DCAP development;

Contribute to the definition of a methodology for DCAP development.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Nilsson, M., Baker, T., and Johnston, P. (2009). Interoperability Levels for dublin core metadata.
<http://dublincore.org/documents/interoperability-levels/>
Accessed 7th of June of 2012



↔ Interoperability between SEE WIS and market economy WIS, e-government institutions WIS or other WIS
 ↷ Interoperability among SEE WIS

RESULTS

SSE is more than commerce, it has a relationship dimension;

The existing metadata schemes seem not to hold the necessary semantics to express the whole of this commerce and relationship dimensions;

Interoperability also needed between SSE WIS and OTHER WIS outside SSE community;

SSE community is working on metadata elements and controlled vocabularies definition but there is no expectation in surpassing DCMI Level 2 of interoperability;

Our target: DCMI Level 4 of interoperability.

> 1: Shared term definitions	• Shared vocabularies defined in natural language
> 2: Formal semantic interoperability	• Shared vocabularies based on formal semantics
> 3: Description Set syntactic interoperability	• Shared formal vocabularies in exchangeable records
> 4: Description Set Profile Interoperability	• Shared formal vocabularies and constraints in records

Levels of interoperability according to DCMI [Nilsson et al., 2009]