BIBFRAME AT LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Sally McCallum
Library of Congress
DCMI – Oct 5, 2021
Challenges at the Library of Congress

• Large organization
• 300+ catalogers
• Many forms of material – books, serials, maps, music, moving image, still image, audio, digital, electronic, ...
• Many languages and scripts
So we began with Pilots

• Pilot 1
  • BIBFRAME ontology 1.0 – 2015-16
  • 50 catalogers doing MARC and BIBFRAME descriptions
  • “Fundamental” tools – database, editor, input functionality

• Cataloger evaluations said:
  • Needed better alignment with RDA
  • Needed more controlled term lists
  • Could not sustain 5 days a week
Pilots

- Pilot 2
  - BIBFRAME 2.0 – 2018-
  - Better alignment with RDA and more term lists
  - 2 days per week
  - 100 catalogers trained
  - Input to BIBFRAME and to MARC
  - As we adjusted system, used a local namespace for experimentation – bflc:
BIBFRAME 100

- Plan for 100% of catalogers to create and edit descriptions using BIBFRAME system
  - And eliminate double keying
- So for last 2 pilot years have been preparing
- Expect to need to move data between MARC and BIBFRAME for some years
Challenges to move to BIBFRAME 100

• More robust and streamlined system
  • Going from 100 to 300+ catalogers
  • Moved system to the cloud to enable size flexibility
  • Installed latest version of platform (MarkLogic)
  • Integrated cataloger database and public version
  • Developed new editor
  • Revising essential conversions – MARC to BIBFRAME and BIBFRAME to MARC

• Goal: end of 2021 or early 2022
Thanks!

- Key website: www.loc.gov/bibframe