Report of DCMI Asia-Pac Task Group Meeting at Lisbon on 2013-09-05

Attendee

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Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Background: Raju
3. Activity report
   a. DCMI Asia-Pac Workshop @ Singapore 2013-08-15
4. Free Discussion

Introduction Background and Activity report

After general introduction by Akira and self introduction by attendees, Raju explained the historical activities in related fields in DC community, background of establishment of this task group, and the last meeting in Kuching. Then, Raju reported the DCMI Asia-Pac Workshop held in Singapore on August 15. There were 108 registrations from 6 countries, and 81 actual partcipations excluding staff. There were two sessions, the first by Karen Coyle and the second by Sam Oh. The survey conducted after the workshop showed both sessions were successful.

Discussions

Language barrier

First topic was about language barrier. International activities, new developments etc. in metadata community are documented in English language. It is not easy to promote metadata activities in countries where major part of the audience (people working around libraries, digital archives, electronic publishing etc.) do not use English in everyday job. In english-speaking countries, promotion is relatively easy. For non-English speaking countries, some kind of bridge between international layer and regional layer is required. This observation is agreed and shared by all.

Target countries

Next topic was categorization of countries. In our scope, ASEAN countries, north-east Asian countries (China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan), India, New Zealand and Australia are included. But, analysis was made mainly on ASEAN countries and north-east Asian countries. There are english-speaking countries (e.g. Singapore, Malyasia etc.) and non-English speaking countries (e.g. Thailand, Vietnam etc.) in this region. It is agreed that different approach will be necessary for these countries, and in addition, further different approach may be necessary among non-english speaking countries depending on the individual country's situation.

Showing best practices

In general, to show the best practices will be the most effective way for promotion. This idea was accepted by all.

Japan, north-east Asia and other areas

Next topic was analysis of Japanese situation, as an exemplar of north-east Asian counties. Some ideas of strategy were talked.

– Convert traditional cataloging world people to LOD world, using RDA as a lever,
– New electronic publishing world people as the core of metadata community,
– Museum-Library-Archives cooperation to foster new metadata community,
– More contribution from NDL and NII will be necessary.

But, which way to choose or how to proceed was open for future discussion.

No discussion was made for other countries in this area, because of lack of appropriate attendees.

For India, it might be categorized as English speaking country.

For New Zealand and Australia, some observations were made, but were beyond effective analysis by attendees.

Workshop/Conference

The last topic was our immediate direction. It was agreed that workshop or conference is the most feasible and promising way of promotion. Such activity for ASEAN countries seems realistic. For north-east Asian countries, we should expect self development. In addition, such workshops or conferences should be planned conjunction with some existing conference, e.g. ICAD, for practicality. It is also pointed out that the approach will be different depending on the target country.

Conclusions

Different approach will be needed for two blocks of countries.

– One is for English speaking countries. Working with partners, for example NLB in Singapore, should be the basic strategy.

– The other is for non English speaking countries. For these countries, we need intermediaries who know international movements, and can approach to regional audiences. We should search and find such intermediaries using human network through both library community and academic community.

Actions and timeline

Two actions to be taken are identified:

– To identify partners / intermediaries.

– To plan at least two workshops, before DC2014

➢ English speaking countries

➢ Non english speaking countries