



International Federation of  
Library Associations and Institutions

# Guidelines for translations of the IFLA ISBD namespace in RDF

Compiled by the ISBD Linked Data Study Group for the IFLA Cataloguing Section's  
ISBD Review Group

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Superseded

# 1 Introduction

These guidelines are intended to encourage and support the translations of the ISBD namespace containing representations of the IFLA ISBD standard<sup>1</sup> in the Resource Description Framework (RDF)<sup>2</sup> from the English language into multiple other languages.

These guidelines will not repeat the general *Guidelines for translations of IFLA namespaces in RDF*<sup>3</sup>, published in 2013 to be applied to all IFLA standards, except that it is necessary to clarify specific aspects.

In such Guidelines, what can be translated is specified:

- Human-readable labels, names, titles, etc.
- Definitions, descriptions, etc.
- Notes, comments, etc.

These literals from the ISBD set of elements and vocabulary used in the Content Form and Media Type Area can be translated in both constrained<sup>4</sup> and unconstrained<sup>5</sup> namespaces. The translation of the unconstrained namespace can be generated automatically by a spreadsheet from the constrained namespace.

## 2 Acknowledgements

The *IFLA Guidelines for translations of the IFLA ISBD namespace in RDF* aims to give guidance to professionals on the process of translation of ISBD namespaces into their own languages.

The *Guidelines* have been compiled by the ISBD Linked Data Study Group<sup>6</sup>, a successor to the ISBD/XML Study Group formed by ISBD Review Group<sup>7</sup> and accepted by the Cataloguing Section Standing Committee during the IFLA meeting in Quebec, 2008.

Members of the ISBD Linked Data Study Group:

- Maria Violeta Bertolini (chair, 2014-)
- Boris Bosančić (2008-2009)

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<sup>1</sup> ISBD: International standard bibliographic description. Consolidated ed. Berlin, etc.: De Gruyter Saur, 2011; ISBD Consolidated ed., March 2011, [http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/cataloguing/isbd/isbd-cons\\_20110321.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/cataloguing/isbd/isbd-cons_20110321.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> RDF Primer: W3C Recommendation 10 February 2004, [www.w3.org/TR/rdf-primer/](http://www.w3.org/TR/rdf-primer/)

<sup>3</sup> IFLA Namespace Technical Group. *Guidelines for translations of IFLA namespaces in RDF (2013)*. Accessible at: <http://www.ifla.org/node/5353>

<sup>4</sup> ISBD elements: registration of classes and properties from International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD), consolidated edition: <http://metadataregistry.org/schema/show/id/25.html>

<sup>5</sup> ISBD elements (open), Experimental set of ISBD properties without domains or ranges, for use by non-ISBD communities and applications, and for mappings between ISBD and other namespaces:

<http://metadataregistry.org/schema/show/id/62.html>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.ifla.org/node/1795>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.ifla.org/isbd-rg>

- Gordon Dunsire, consultant
- Elena Escolano Rodríguez
- Massimo Gentili-Tedeschi (2013-)
- Lynne Howarth (2013-2015)
- Françoise Leresche (chair, 2011-2014)
- Dorothy McGarry
- Mirna Willer (chair, 2008-2011)

### 3 General guidelines

Priority of translation should be given to the vocabulary used in Area 0 Content Form and Media Type as this information is given in the language and script chosen by the cataloguing agency, and could be easily converted into the language of the catalogue in shared bibliographic records. Therefore the end user will soon benefit from translations.

The screenshot shows the Open Metadata Registry interface. At the top, the logo reads "open metadata registry" with the tagline "Supporting Metadata Interoperability". Navigation links for "sign in / register" and "about" are visible. Search boxes for "Search Vocabularies" and "Search Element Sets" are present. The main content area displays the "Vocabulary: ISBD Content Form" with "Concepts: dataset". A table lists various properties, their values, languages, statuses, and update dates. A "Browse..." sidebar on the right offers links to "Resource Owners", "Vocabularies", "Element Sets", and "SPARQL". A "Feedback" button is located on the right edge of the page.

skos:property	Value	Language	Status	Updated	Actions
preferred label	dataset	English	Published	3 March 2011 13:47	
definition	Content expressed by digita...	English	Published	14 March 2011 13:29	
scope note	Examples include numeric da...	English	Published	14 March 2011 13:29	
preferred label	conjunto de datos	Spanish	Published	14 March 2011 13:30	
definition	Contenido expresado por dat...	Spanish	Published	14 March 2011 13:30	
preferred label	Ejemplos son los datos num...	Spanish	Deprecated	25 August 2012 12:04	
preferred label	skup podataka	Croatian	Published	11 May 2011 11:01	
preferred label	dataset	Italian	Published	28 August 2012 8:58	
definition	Un contenuto espresso media...	Italian	Published	28 August 2012 8:58	
scope note	Gli esempi includono i dati...	Italian	Published	28 August 2012 8:57	
preferred label	набор от данни	Bulgarian	New-Proposed	24 August 2012 5:03	
definition	Съдържание, из...	Bulgarian	New-Proposed	24 August 2012 16:49	
scope note	Примерите вклю...	Bulgarian	New-Proposed	24 August 2012 16:51	
preferred label	электронные да...	Russian	New-Proposed	25 August 2012 7:00	
definition	Содержание, вы...	Russian	New-Proposed	25 August 2012 11:49	
scope note	Примеры включа...	Russian	New-Proposed	25 August 2012 11:49	
preferred label	skup podataka	Serbian	New-Proposed	25 August 2012 11:55	
scope note	Takvi primeri su numerički...	Serbian	New-Proposed	25 August 2012 11:59	
definition	Sadržaj izražen digitalno...	Serbian	New-Proposed	25 August 2012 12:02	
scope note	Ejemplos son los datos num...	Spanish	Published	25 August 2012 12:05	

Vocabulary: ISBD Content Form  
Concepts: dataset

skos:property	Value	Language	Status	Updated	Actions
preferred label	数据库	Chinese	New-Proposed	25 August 2012 14:32	
definition	用于计算机处理的数...	Chinese	New-Proposed	25 August 2012 14:35	
scope note	例如数值数据、环境...	Chinese	New-Proposed	25 August 2012 14:35	
preferred label	datu kopa	Latvian	New-Proposed	26 August 2012 10:26	
definition	Saturs, izteikts ar digitā...	Latvian	New-Proposed	26 August 2012 10:27	
scope note	Piemēri ietver skaitliskos...	Latvian	New-Proposed	26 August 2012 10:29	
preferred label	données	French	Published	14 August 2013 12:48	
definition	Contenu exprimé sous la fo...	French	Published	14 August 2013 12:48	
scope note	Par exemple, des données n...	French	Published	14 August 2013 12:49	

29 results

Second in importance are the translations of labels that also can be used for display and first remind to technical developers.

Definitions and notes can be translated if desired, at the same time or later on. They aim to facilitate the understanding of technical developers.

Translations of the ISBD namespace should be as close as possible to the source wording in the namespace, without losing coherency of meaning in the translated language and retaining consistency with the corresponding official translation of the ISBD standard in the local language, allowing natural language processing. Therefore it is supposed that technical developers would prefer to use the official local language translation of the standard as a reference source. If no such translation of ISBD is available, then the ISBD namespace should be translated directly.

## 4 Specific guidelines

### 4.1 Style

General guidelines on the use of upper case, lower case, and camelCase use of definite and indefinite articles; and use of singulars over plurals, are followed in consistency with local conventions. It should be kept in mind that the ISBD set of elements is declared as properties or sub-properties of the class Resource. Therefore verbal phrases for property labels are used. Properties are the predicate in an RDF data triple; the subject-predicate-object, adopting the form of a verb by prefixing the ISBD set of elements with “has ...”. Latin and other alphabets advise writing these properties labels with lowercase.

For e.g.: Resource XXXX “has title proper” xxxx

Element Sets: ISBD elements  
Elements: has title proper

Detail Statements History

Profile property	Show object	Lang	Status	Updated	Updated by	Actions
name	hasTitleProper	English	Published	13 June 2011 12:37	Gordon Dunsire (ifla)	
label	has title proper	English	Published	3 March 2011 15:21	Gordon Dunsire (ifla)	
type	subproperty	English	Published	13 June 2011 12:43	Gordon Dunsire (ifla)	
uri	http://iflstandards.info/...	English	Published	13 June 2011 12:37	Gordon Dunsire (ifla)	
status	Published	English	Published	13 June 2011 12:38	Gordon Dunsire (ifla)	
description	Relates a resource to the t...	English	Published	3 March 2011 15:22	Gordon Dunsire (ifla)	
note	The title proper includes a...	English	Published	3 March 2011 15:22	Gordon Dunsire (ifla)	
domain	http://iflstandards.info/...	English	Published	3 March 2011 15:22	Gordon Dunsire (ifla)	
label	tiene título propiamente d...	Spanish	Published	3 March 2011 15:23	Gordon Dunsire (ifla)	
description	Relaciona un recurso con el...	Spanish	Published	3 April 2011 13:55	Gordon Dunsire (ifla)	
note	El título propiamente dich...	Spanish	Published	3 April 2011 13:56	Gordon Dunsire (ifla)	
subpropertyOf	has title	English	Published	13 June 2011 12:43	Gordon Dunsire (ifla)	

12 results

Browse...

[Resource Owners](#)  
[Vocabularies](#)  
[Element Sets](#)  
[SPARQL](#)

Feedback

## 4.2 Disambiguation

The only parenthetical information used in the ISBD namespace elements set is in the subclasses “Title Proper (Compound) Of Series Or Multipart Monographic Resource Encoding Scheme”, and “Parallel Title (Compound) Of Series Or Multipart Monographic Resource Encoding Scheme” and is not for disambiguation but for clarification that the title proper and the parallel title proper can be composed of a common title and a dependent title.

## 4.3 Value vocabularies

As said in the General guidelines, grammatical inflection is rare in English, but common in many other languages.

It affects very strongly the translation of the controlled vocabulary used for the Content Form and Media Type in area 0. The qualifiers are given as adjectives to allow them to be used in user-friendly compound phrases; e.g. “image (cartographic)”, where “cartographic” is a qualifier. In Latin languages “cartographic” is inflected in two forms, e.g. in Spanish “cartográfica” and “cartográfico”, that depend on the gender of the noun being qualified: “imagen (cartográfica)” and “objeto (cartográfico)” and in the Croatian translation: “kartografski” and “kartografska”. The current approach used in the ISBD namespace is to record the inflected terms using the `skos:altLabel` property, which is repeatable for any language. This means there is no `skos:prefLabel` for the concept in those languages

Vocabulary: ISBD Content Qualification of Type  
Concepts: cartographic

Detail Properties History

Preferred Label: cartographic  
Language: English  
URI: http://iflastandards.info/ns/isbd/terms/contentqualification/type/T1001 (RDF)  
Top Concept?:   
Status: Published

Properties

scope note	UKljučuje geografske karte, atase, globuse, reljefne modele i tako dalje.	Serbian	New-Proposed
scope note	Includes maps, atlases, globes, relief models, etc.	English	Published
scope note	Incluye la carte geografiche, gli atlanti, i globi, i modelli in rilievo, etc.	Italian	Published
scope note	包括地图、地图册、地球仪、地形模型等。	Chinese	New-Proposed
scope note	Incluye mapas, atlas, globos, modelos en relieve, etc.	Spanish	Published
scope note	Включая карты, атласы, глобусы, модели на рельефе и др.	Bulgarian	New-Proposed
scope note	Comprend cartes, atlas, globes, maquettes, etc.	French	Published
scope note	Ietver kartes, atlantus, globusus, reljefa modeļus, u.c.	Latvian	New-Proposed
scope note	Включает в себя карты, атласы, глобусы, модели рельефа и т.п.	Russian	New-Proposed
preferred label	cartographic	English	Published
preferred label	cartografico	Italian	Published
preferred label	地图型	Chinese	New-Proposed
preferred label	картографски	Bulgarian	New-Proposed
preferred label	Contenido que representa la totalidad o parte de la Tierra o de cualquier cuerpo celeste a cualquier escala.	Spanish	Published
preferred label	cartografique	French	Published
preferred label	Сadržaj koji predstavlja Zemlju u celini ili neki njen deo, ili bilo koje nebesko telo u bilo kojoj razmeri.	Russian	New-Proposed
definition	Content representing the whole or part of the Earth or any celestial body at any scale.	Serbian	New-Proposed
definition	Un contenuto che rappresenta l'intera Terra o parte di essa, o qualsiasi corpo celeste a qualunque scala.	English	Published
definition	用任何比例尺表示地球或任何天体的整体或部分的内容。	Italian	Published
definition	Сadržакне, което представя повърхността или част от повърхността на Земята или на друго небесно тяло в какъвто и да е мащаб.	Chinese	New-Proposed
definition	Contenu représentant la totalité ou une partie de la Terre ou de tout corps céleste à une échelle quelconque.	Bulgarian	New-Proposed
definition	Satur, kas atspoguļ Zemes visu vai virsmas daļu, vai citu debess ķermeni jebkurā mērogā.	French	Published
definition	Содержание, отражающее поверхность или часть поверхности Земли или другого небесного тела в любом масштабе.	Latvian	New-Proposed
alternative label	cartográfico	Russian	New-Proposed
alternative label	cartografica	Spanish	New-Proposed
alternative label	kartografski	Spanish	New-Proposed
alternative label	kartografiska	Croatian	New-Proposed
alternative label		Croatian	New-Proposed

Feedback

In some languages one or another term is inflected, and the terms are not always the same.

Detail

Preferred Label: notated  
Language: English  
URI: http://iflastandards.info/ns/isbd/terms/contentqualification/type/T1002 (RDF)  
Top Concept?:   
Status: Published

Properties

preferred label	notated	English	Published
preferred label	notato	Italian	Published
preferred label	记谱型	Chinese	New-Proposed
preferred label	нотирани	Bulgarian	New-Proposed
preferred label	знаковый	Russian	New-Proposed
definition	Content expressed through a notational system for artistic purposes (e.g. music, dance, staging) intended to be perceived visually.	English	Published
definition	Un contenuto espresso mediante un sistema di notazione, a scopi artistici p.e. la musica, la danza, la rappresentazione scenica, destinato a essere percepito visivamente.	Italian	Published
definition	通过艺术（例如音乐、舞蹈、舞台）记谱系统来表示，用于视觉感知的内容。	Chinese	New-Proposed
definition	Contenido expresado a través de un sistema de notación con fines artísticos (por ejemplo, la música, la danza, la puesta en escena) destinado a percibirse visualmente.	Spanish	Published
definition	Съдържание, изразено чрез система за нотирани за художествени цели (напр. музика, танц и сценична постановка), предназначено за визуално възприемане.	Bulgarian	New-Proposed
definition	Contenu exprimé à des fins artistiques selon un système de notation (par exemple, musique, danse, mise en scène) et prévu pour être perçu visuellement.	French	Published
definition	Satur, izteikts ar nosacību zīmju apzīmēšanas sistēmu mākslinieciskā nolūkā (piem., mūzika, dejas, inscenējums), paredzēts vizuālai uztverei.	Latvian	New-Proposed
definition	Содержание, выраженное через определенную систему знаков с художественными целями (ноты, обозначение танцевальных и сценических движений), предназначенное для зрительного восприятия.	Russian	New-Proposed
alternative label	notado	Spanish	New-Proposed
alternative label	notada	Spanish	New-Proposed
alternative label	noté	French	New-Proposed
alternative label	notée	French	New-Proposed
alternative label	notirani	Croatian	New-Proposed
alternative label	notirana	Croatian	New-Proposed

Feedback

## 5 Procedure

If a translation of the ISBD знаков is intended, the ISBD Review Group should be contacted:



- 1) for declaring the intention to translate the namespace and
- 2) for publishing the translation in the ISBD namespace.

Later modifications resulting from the maintenance and updating of the translations should also be communicated to the ISBD Review Group and the IFLA Linked Data Technical Sub-Committee (LIDATEC), the successor of the Namespaces Technical Group<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup><http://www.ifla.org/node/5353>