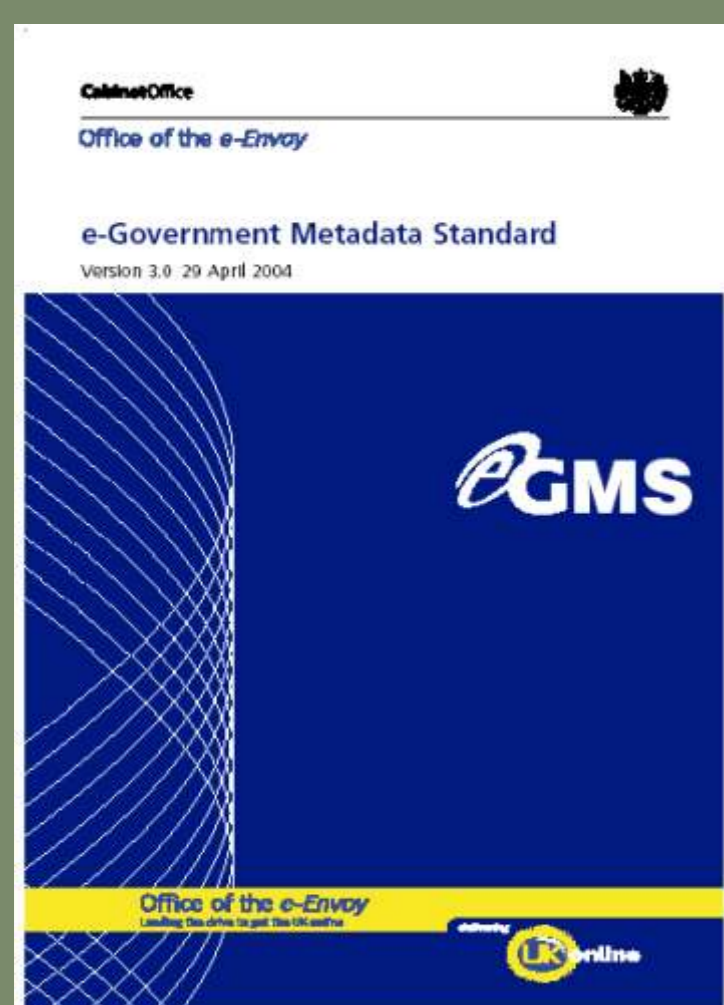


Emerging Metadata Standards Relevant to Marine Photograph Curation

Charlesworth M., Evans G. and Rickards L.

MED Co-ordination Team, 6 Brownlow Street, Liverpool, L3 5DA. E-mail: enquiries@oceannet.org

Metadata is associated information which is held with a particular collection of data. For example, a typical collection of photographs may have been collected from a single cruise. The metadata for that collection would then contain information such as the spatial extent of the collection, which habitats/species were recorded, the time and date of the cruise and contact details to obtain the images. Several metadata standards are currently emerging which will greatly improve the ability of the scientific community and public to discover and access the data. These include:

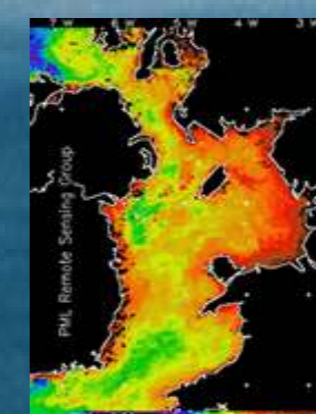
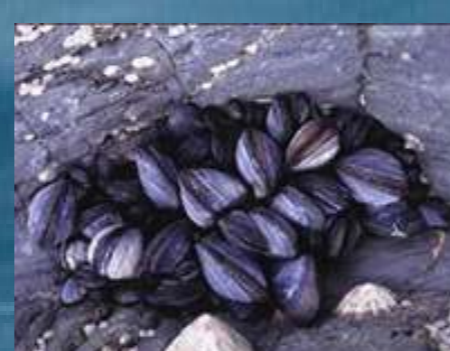


The eGovernment Metadata Standard (eGMS) aims to ensure maximum consistency of metadata across public sector organisations in the UK. It lists the elements, refinements and coding schemes to be used by government organisations when creating metadata for information resources or designing search interfaces for information resources.



ISO 19115 Geographic Information -Metadata, is an international standard which was published in May 2003. It sets out a number of metadata fields for describing spatial information datasets.

The UK GEMINI Discovery Metadata Standard is a defined element set for describing geo-spatial, discovery level metadata within the UK. It is derived and therefore compliant with ISO 19115 and eGMS. GEMINI was originated by the Association for Geographic Information and the e-Government Unit of the Cabinet Office and the UK Data Archive



Infrastructure for spatial information in Europe (INSPIRE) is a proposed Directive of the European Parliament which lays down Rules for an infrastructure for spatial information in the EU to support environmental policies and impacting policies. The elements of these infrastructures include metadata, spatial data sets and spatial data services; network services and technologies; agreements on sharing, access and use; co-ordination and monitoring mechanisms, processes and procedures.

Further information on data standards and links can be found at www.oceannet.org/medag/data_standards/data_standards_homepage.htm

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