

Accessibility Remediation Metadata (ARM) Working Group Work Plan

February 2024

Original Work Item Proposal:

<https://groups.niso.org/higherlogic/ws/public/download/30087>

I. Charge

Project Goals: To extend and refine the FRAME/EMMA metadata model to meet the needs of the broader accessibility community, focused on individuals and organizations involved in the remediation of content for accessibility and the consumption of remediated content.

Specific Deliverables and Objectives:

A common issue in the development of a metadata model like this is the extent to which it is human-readable and the extent to which it is machine-processable. In the context of FRAME and the development of EMMA, the priority was given to being human-readable, while providing sufficient specificity to enable or at least facilitate machine processing. This was done by first polling the DSOs about the terminology they use and then, where possible, providing controlled vocabularies (CVs) of permissible values for certain metadata properties. It is our objective, subject to the discussions in the Working Group that we propose to form, to maintain this balance.

Deliverables:

- a. Written documentation that clearly defines and describes the properties in the model, the values they can use, and the relationships between them. This documentation should include concrete examples for clarity.
- b. A schema that enables validation of content conformance to the model. This schema will be deliberately flexible, adaptable, and extensible so that it can be useful in as many different contexts as possible. While certain properties will be required, and where the relationships between properties will be specified, the presence of most properties will be optional and the values of some properties will be free text.

II. Work Plan

a. General Timeline

Appointment of Working Group	December 2023
Approval of initial Work Plan	February 2024
Information gathering	February – August 2024
Complete first draft of revised standard and circulate for public comment	February 2025
Complete final draft of revised standard and Working Group approval	May 2025
Approval by NISO Topic Committee	June 2025
Approval by NISO Voting Members	August 2025
Approval by ANSI (estimated)	October 2025

III. Information Gathering

a. Process

In order to identify additional properties or vocabulary terms that are candidates for inclusion in the NISO Accessibility Remediation Metadata (ARM) specification and schema, the Working Group has identified six areas of concern that may not have been addressed sufficiently in the EMMA Metadata model that provides the starting point for our work.

We formed six subgroups focused on those six areas, comprising members of the Working Group who have particular knowledge of and interest in one or more of those areas. The subgroups are described and the Working Group members they are each composed of are described below.

We have organized the six subgroups into three sets of two subgroups each. Beginning after the full Working Group meeting on February 15, 2024, the focus will be on the first two subgroups, who will work for approximately two months to develop candidate recommendations for the update of the ARM model. The second set of two subgroups will meet starting in mid-May, 2024, working similarly to develop their candidate recommendations by mid-July 2024. The third set of two subgroups will similarly work from mid-June until mid-August 2024, at which time the recommended changes to the ARM model from all six subgroups will be complete.

If any of the subgroups need more time than the two months allotted by this plan, they can continue to work as needed until their recommendations are finished.

However, the next subgroup will begin as scheduled, in order to keep this work plan as intact as possible.

When all of the candidate recommendations for updates to the ARM model have been finalized, this Information Gathering phase of the work will be considered finished.

During this Information Gathering phase, the Working Groups meeting cadence will continue, with meetings at noon EST on the first and third Thursdays of each month. The meeting on the first Thursday will be a full Working Group meeting, so that the subgroups can report on their progress and raise any issues that require the attention of the full Working Group. The meeting on the third Thursday will be devoted to a meeting of the two subgroups who are in process at the time.

Those subgroups will continue to do their Information Gathering work in the meantime, between Working Group and Subgroup meetings, by whatever method the given subgroup finds appropriate, e.g., collaboration via Google Doc, emails using NISO's Discussion Posts, subgroup-specific Zoom meetings, etc.

The deliverables for the Information Gathering Phase will be six Google Docs, one from each of the subgroups, documenting their recommendations. The Working Group as a whole will develop the format for those Google Docs by the first Working Group meeting in March, 2024.

b. Subgroups, in Sets A, B, and C

[Note: Based on the initial volunteering, only one Working Group member (other than Bill Kasdorf, a co-chair who will attempt to participate in all subgroups and attend as many subgroup meetings as possible), Charles LaPierre is a member of both subgroups in a given set, presenting a potential scheduling conflict for him. No other Working Group member is in more than one subgroup in a given set.]

SET A: SUBGROUPS 1 AND 2

Timeline:

Start Mid-February 2024

End Mid-April 2024

1. Resource Sharing

Focus on resource sharing between libraries (e.g., Interlibrary Loan, ILL) or other organizations.

What kinds of files are shared? What does the receiving institution need to know about the resource to address the needs of its user(s)? Do the source or receiving institutions ever remediate the shared resource? If so, how? Is the remediation carried forward or lost?

Members: Will Awad, Mat Harris, Anita Kazmierczak, Charles LaPierre, **Richard Urban**, James Yanchak, Bill Kasdorf, J. Stephen Downie

2. Non-Print Disabilities / Access Barriers

Focus on disabilities other than print disabilities, such as neurodiversity, motor disabilities, and others. Address access barrier issues in addition to access consumption issues.

Members: Jamie Axelrod, Jacob Jett, Charles LaPierre, Elaine Ober, Korey Singleton, Damita Snow, **Bill Kasdorf**

SET B: SUBGROUPS 3 AND 4

Timeline:

Start Mid-April 2024

End Mid-June 2024

3. Non-Text Media

Focus on media such as audio, video, animations, interactivity etc.

Members: **Jamie Axelrod**, Jacob Jett, Elaine Ober, Damita Snow, Bill Kasdorf, Mat Harris

4. Primary and Secondary Education

Focus on issues like workbooks, elementary math (e.g., addition, subtraction, long division), fixed layout, color issues, etc.

Members: Charles LaPierre, Richard Urban, Bill Kasdorf, Jacob Jett,

SET C: SUBGROUPS 5 AND 6, MEETING IN JULY AND AUGUST

Timeline:

Start Mid-June 2024

End Mid-August 2024

5. Higher Education

Focus on issues like tables, diagrams, math, etc.; include both journal articles and books.

Also address access issues like paywalls, institutional access, open access, etc.

Members: Will Awad, **Darrin Evans**, Dawn Evans, Mat Harris, Korey Singleton, Richard Urban, Evan Yamanishi, Bill Kasdorf, Ravit H David

6. Internationalization

Focus on languages, scripts, and needs in developing countries, low/no bandwidth.

Members: Jacob Jett, Richard Urban, **George Kerscher**, Bill Kasdorf

IV. Document Drafting and Editorial Plan

When the time comes to draft the recommendation, the group will work via a shared document to share recommended practices for public comment using the NISO Recommended Practice template for a basic outline.

Before the work goes out for public comment the group will send the document to a targeted list of stakeholders outside the group, so that any external feedback can be addressed in advance of the public comment period.