

Table of Contents

TDWGSDD Technical Review Meeting	1
1. Goals	1
2. Participants	1
3. Outcomes	1
4. Outlook	1

TDWG SDD Technical Review Meeting

3-7. April 2006 Federal Biological Research Center for Agriculture and Forestry, Berlin, Germany

1. Goals

The goal of the meeting was to resolve outstanding technical and substantial issues that resulted from implementations of the UBIF and SDD Schema version 1.0 finalized at the previous TDWG meeting in St. Petersburg, Russia. The primary motivation for both kinds of changes was to achieve the best possible foundation for improved documentations (primer and technical documentation). In the history of SDD several versions of primer and documentation were created for intermediate versions, but later became obsolete. The opportunity provided by TDWG to support a new round of primer and documentation development should be based on the best possible version.

2. Participants

- Bob Morris,
- Gregor Hagedorn
- Jacob Asiedu
- Damian Barnier (not Friday)
- Kevin Thiele (not Friday)
- Markus Döring (only Tuesday)

3. Outcomes

The technical issues (especially schema validation under different software implementation) were relatively minor and could be resolved in the first day. However, the discussion of more substantial problems caused several points of the previous design to be revisited. At the core of the problem was the relationship between descriptive concepts, characters, and character or concept hierarchizations. The recurring underlying problem is that SDD has to satisfy both operational and fundamental concepts. Whereas at the onset of the meeting the intention was to release a minor revision ("SDD 1.01"), the outcome after the agreed changes was called SDD version 1.1.

In addition, the meeting drafted the SDD [Charter] requested by the new TDWG TIP group, and revised and discussed the SDD presentation requested by Roger Hyam for the TAG meeting in Edinburgh (SDD participant: G. Hagedorn).

4. Outlook

Although initial implementations of SDD 1.0 were already carried out, wider implementation attempts were hampered by the lack of sufficient documentation and examples. Implementations of SDD 1.1 are agreed for Lucid and the EFG guides, and it is hoped that further groups find the

resources to implement SDD. Towards this goal the next meeting called "SDD lite" will try to bring potential implementers together and define a subset of SDD containing those concepts most urgently needed by these groups. The outcome of this meeting will inform the ongoing primer and documentation development, and may result in an explicit "profile" of SDD with a reduced complexity.

For further details of the discussions held see the technical report and meeting minutes.

-- GregorHagedorn - 24 May 2006