

## Contents

1. Introduction
2. Networks & Collaborations
3. Project Progress
  - 3.1. Discovery Service
  - 3.2. Data Services
  - 3.3. Security
  - 3.4. Vocabulary Service
  - 3.5. Metadata

## Contacts

**Wiki** - <http://proj.badc.rl.ac.uk/ndg/wiki>

Please note that technical problems should be reported directly to:

<http://badc.nerc.ac.uk/help/contact.html>

or by calling **01235 446432**

Please note that we encourage all technical queries and discussion to occur on

the **NDG-technical** mailing list:

[ndg-technical@ncas.ac.uk](mailto:ndg-technical@ncas.ac.uk).

(sign up at <http://lists.ncas.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/ndg-technical>)

**1. Introduction:** welcome to the seventh communications update from the NERC Data Grid Medium Sized Initiative Project. This issue contains an update on progress on the technical bits as well as the workshops; as always your feedback is welcome and appreciated.

## 2. Networks and collaborations.

**2.1 Defra** - following the Defra GI Network Conference in March, **Defra** have expressed interest in the NDG technology for possible input into their SPIRE Programme. An initial meeting with them will be held in early June to discuss possible knowledge exchange.

**2.2** Several meetings with **ERFF** have taken place which concluded that the Earth Observation Framework (EOF) database would link to NDG in some way but as EOF were currently primarily concerned with activity metadata rather than dataset metadata, this was not an urgent issue. It is hope that a link between the two will be available for their June Conference in Coventry.

**2.3** The Central Science Laboratory changed to the **Food and Environment Research Agency (FERA)** on the 1<sup>st</sup> April and continues to link to the NDG having developed a prototype facility to manage their metadata <http://dataportal.fera.defra.gov.uk/>. Future funding is currently being planned.

**2.4 CEH** have provided the first ISO metadata contribution which is providing a valuable testing resource for the ISO developments taking place within the NDG.

**2.5 The NERC Metadata Subgroup** have discussed and agreed a first draft of NERC's ISO metadata profile. This will not be officially approved by the end of this project (June 2009) and so the NDG will only be able to become ISO compliant once this profile has been agreed across NERC.

### 3. Project Progress.

Some delays have continued due to the impact of NDG staff delivering work for Defra for the UK Climate Impacts Programme. However, good progress has been made on the Discovery Service, Security and Vocabulary Services with the delays mainly impacting the visualisation developments.

---

#### 3.1. Discovery Service (Steve Donegan)

Tessella are now providing some support to the project and have helped to get metadata harvesting improved and more efficient. A significant amount of time has been spent working on the ISO profile with CEH providing some initial metadata records. Many of the NEC organisations are not yet ready to supply ISO records and this is largely dependent on NEC agreeing an ISO profile.

Portal	Unique Searches
Data Discovery Service (includes BADC, BODC, AEDC, CEH, BGS)	21,749
Environmental Data Portal	105

This table shows the activity on each of the Discovery Services hosted by NDG for April 2009.

---

#### 3.2. Data Services (Stephen Pascoe & Dominic Lowe)

Work during April was mostly focussed on delivering work for Defra and the UK Climate Impacts Programme.

---

#### 3.3. Security (Phil Kershaw)

Work this month has focused on testing security with the work done on data services, in particular the web mapping services.

---

#### 3.4. Vocabulary Service (Roy Lowry, Olly Clements & Quyen Luong)

The vocabulary editor service and the associated client are now complete and are ready for testing on the development servers.

Vocabulary versioning work is now nearing completion and is ready for testing.

---

#### 3.5. Metadata (Bryan Lawrence)

The date for the MOLES workshop is 13<sup>th</sup> May 2009 and it will be held at CEH Lancaster. All places have been filled.

**On behalf of the NDG Team  
James Doughty (April 2009)**