



International Federation of
Library Associations and Institutions

Committee on Standards

ISBD Review Group

<https://www.ifla.org/isbd-rg>

Update on the Work of the ISBD Review Group

1. Development of New Work Plan for the ISBD Revision

Following the decisions made on the post WLIC 2019 daylong meeting, on Friday 30 August 2019, the ISBD Review Group developed a *Revised Work Plan for the ISBD Revision* highlighting the main changes in the scope of work, the methodology, the proposed workflow, and the estimated timeframe.

The ISBD *Revision Plan* emphasizes two aspects of the Revision, Updating and Transforming, affecting the ISBD Standard in two different directions, however both complementary and required. In this light, the *Plan* was drafted by the Chair of the ISBD Review Group, and it was discussed, amended and finalized by the members of the Review Group via emails.

2. Establishment of Revision's Task Forces and their Terms of Reference

The Updating and Transforming aspects of the *ISBD Revision* entails a reorganization into two sub-groups, named task forces, allowing both tracks of the Revision to be tackled in parallel for better focus on the objectives.

The terms of reference of these two task forces were drafted by the Chair of the ISBD Review Group based on discussions that started on the daylong meeting and continued through emails. They were amended and finalized via emails by the members of the ISBD Review Group. The self-nomination of members in task forces, as well as the nomination and appointment of the Chairs, were done via emails.

3. Update to the ISBD Consolidated Edition 2011

This aspect of the ISBD Revision entails producing a *draft content update to the 2011 Consolidated Edition*, that extends the coverage of the ISBD to a larger array of resources, especially unpublished resources, and stipulations and instructions on how to record and describe them, in addition to clarifications and refinements, augmentations, and insertion of new Elements as required.

Three subgroups were established within the Content Update Task Force, Chaired by Elena Escolano Rodriguez, for Cartographic resources updating; Unpublished resources; and

Component parts. In total, this TF had one face to face meeting¹ and 7 Zoom meetings, in addition to emails.

The Task Force produced late July 2020 an [Updating draft of the ISBD standard](#) in full. The Draft is now passing to review by ISBD RG and the Liaison and community of selected experts.

The future *2020 Update to the ISBD Consolidated Edition 2011* has achieved the following broadening of scope and enhancements:

- The content of the ISBD standard was extended to include *unpublished resources* of any kind, especially the manuscripts (without colliding with the archival standards used for archival collections). The ISBD, therefore, is no longer a standard only for published resources.
- The ISBD has integrated stipulations for the application of the ISBD to the description of *component parts*, to allow for the granular description of component parts, a step that asserts ISBD's position as an international standard that provides internationally agreed on stipulations for the different granularity needed by different types of libraries, including those which perform cataloguing of analytics.
- Broadening and refining the description of *cartographic resources*, by completing the stipulations for the description of celestial cartography, clarifying some stipulations and distinguishing elements already existing in the *Consolidated ISBD*, providing more in-depth and reorganized description of these materials.
- Creation of new elements as required by the above broadening and extensions, augmenting the ISBD glossary and appropriate *Areas of the ISBD* as required.
- A draft introduction for the *2020 Update of the ISBD Consolidated Edition 2011*² outlining the scope of this Update.

4. Aligning the ISBD Standard to IFLA LRM Conceptual Model

This aspect of the ISBD Revision is concerned with *transforming the ISBD*, aligning it to the new bibliographic paradigm presented by the IFLA LRM Conceptual Model, which entails deconstructing the current ISBD Standard and reconstructing it on a brand new basis as needed.

The *Manifestation Task Force*, chaired by Renate Behrens, centralized - in the Basecamp - and studied, the documents and guidelines produced by the former IEG, as well as those produced in the past years, like the previous mappings ISBD to FRBR and ISBD to LRM and requirements. The Task Force had 4 Zoom meetings and produced a number of key documents for the transformation of the ISBD, as follows:

- A concept note by Gordon Dunsire³ outlining the principles and Terms of reference of aligning the ISBD to LRM-Manifestation, that was commented by members of the Task Force and finalized during a Zoom meeting.
- A Top-level set of relationship and attribute elements for an ISBD Manifestation. This fills-out the top-level framework for interoperability between ISBD and LRM (a detailed spreadsheet that sets out the core of a database for the ISBD transformation and alignment to LRM - Manifestation).

¹ In February 2020 at National Library of Spain, before the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown, by some of the members of the subgroup residing in Madrid.

² Temporary title.

³ Member of the ISBD RG and of the Manifestation Task Force, Independent Consultant and international bibliographic standards expert, and Former Chair of RDA Steering Committee, and Former Team Leader in the RSC. Also member of Cataloguing Standing Committee, and Liaison to the BCM Review Group.

- A bottom-up analysis of transcribed ISBD elements, a parallel sub-component of the ISBD to LRM alignment that will develop and be integrated at a later stage in the Top-Level set and other sub-components to complete the work.

A Zoom meeting for the Manifestation Task Force is foreseen early September to discuss these technical issues and outline the further procedure and next steps.

5. ISBD Vocabularies and IFLA Namespaces

The [ISBD vocabularies](#) are now on the IFLA Namespaces website, allowing for their use in the semantic web and Linked Open Data applications by libraries, archives and museums and the IT communities. The ISBD vocabularies published consist of 2 *Element Sets*: constrained and unconstrained, and 7 *Value Vocabularies* as follows: ISBD Content Form; ISBD Content Form Qualified Base; ISBD Content Qualification of Dimensionality; ISBD Content Qualification of Motion; ISBD Content Qualification of Sensory Specification; ISBD Content Qualification of Type; and ISBD Media Type.

All the phases of the work have been done through the ISBD Linked Data Study Group, a sub group of the Bib Standards Linked Data Study Group, Chaired by Mélanie Roche, under LIDATEC's supervision. During the testing phase, many members of ISBD Review Group also contributed to testing the server and reviewing the ISBD vocabularies. Official tests and reports have been done by Mélanie Roche and members from her Bib Standards Linked Data Study Group, and Rehab Ouf, as Chair of the ISBD RG and CoS Liaison to LIDATEC. Their reports have been submitted to Joseph Hafner, Chair of LIDATEC, and changes were made by Joseph as required.

6. New Information Architecture for the ISBD RG webpage

The Information Coordinator and the Chair of the ISBD Review Group are working together on a new information architecture for the ISBD Review Group webpage, highlighting also where some new text is needed. It is expected to possibly discuss it and finalize it during the next Zoom meeting of the ISBD RG.

7. Liaisons and Work Coordination with External Bodies

Harmonization between the ISBD, ISSN and RDA standards is an ongoing activity of the ISBD Review Group, as the Review Group has in its composition Liaisons from the external bodies developing these standards. The Liaisons keep the ISBD Review Group updated about the developments in their respective institutions and standards, and vice versa to ensure that their institutions are informed about the developments in the ISBD Review Group and Revision.

The Liaisons from ISSN Network (Mikael Wetterstrom) and RDA RSC (Renate Behrens) are also members of the Task Forces to better concretize this harmonization and reflect it in the technical work of the *ISBD Revision*. The ISBD Review Group also have liaisons from other Sections in IFLA like the Rare Books and Special Collections, and other external bodies like IAML, and their role has been essential in developing the *2020 Update*.

8. ISBD Review Group Meetings: October 2019 – September 2020

The ISBD Review Group had a number of Zoom meeting for different purposes as follows:

- **Early October 2019:** Presentation, discussion and finalization of the Action Plan 2019 – 2020.

- **Mid-June 2020:** Two mid-point meetings took place to follow up on the work of the ISBD RG and the ISBD Revision, including the consequences of COVID-19, cancellation of required face-to-face meetings, WLIC 2020 cancellation on the work of the ISBD RG and Revision.
- **Early July 2020:** Discussion of the *IFLA Governance Review Proposal*; reflections and outcomes were sent to the Chair of the Committee on Standards.
- **Early September 2020 (forthcoming):** The cancelled WLIC 2020 Business Meeting.

9. Documents Produced During the Reporting Period

Plans

- *Action Plan 2019-2020* (requested by IFLA HQ, published)
- [New Work Plan](#) for the ISBD Revision
- [Terms of Reference](#) of the ISBD Revision Task Forces

Reports

- [Minutes of the post WLIC 2019 daylong meeting, by the Chair of the former IEG](#) (Friday 30, 9.30-16.30, Premises of the Friends of Music Society, Athens Concert Hall, MAICC)
- [Report by the Chair of the ISBD Review Group on the post WLIC 2019 daylong meeting](#) (see previous)
- *Annual Report 2018-2019* (requested by IFLA HQ, published)
- *Unit update Report* (requested by IFLA HQ, submitted to IFLA's Support Officers)

Articles and Publicizing Activities

- An article by the Chair of the ISBD RG introducing and detailing the work of the Revision of the ISBD was contributed to the *IFLA Metadata Newsletter*, December 2019 Issue.
- Translation of the ISBD into the Slovenian language has been published on the *Translations of ISBD* webpage, and the news about it was conveyed to the ISBD Community of users and relevant mailing lists.

10. Implications of COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic situation resulting in the cancellation of required physical meetings (in Spring and Fall 2020) as in the approved Revision Plan in 2018, required some rearrangements in the methodology for the ISBD Revision. This was at the expensive cost of workload, inconveniences and tremendous efforts devised by members; more on that to be discussed and figured out based on the world developments.

This is the end of the report on the update on the work of the ISBD Review Group until August 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Rehab Ouf
Chair of the ISBD Review Group