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Sarah Hartmann, Brigitte Wiechmannn

RDA and Authority Files: Impact on GND

Benefit of Authority Control

- Standardization of access points for the description of resources
- All variant names of an entity and attributes for its description are clustered
- All variant names can be used for searching and lead to the same result
- Cooperative creation and reuse of records
 - Establish an authorized access point (AAP) once
 - Efficiency of the cataloguing process

RDA and Authority Control

- Basically all FRBR entities can be authority data
- Entities, attributes and relationships are defined which can be used for authority control
- Establishing a preferred name or authorized access point is a vital task of RDA, but identification of entities and clustering variant namens and attributes is important as well
- The usage of controlled vocabularies (value vocabulary) is favoured

Gemeinsame Normdatei (GND) Integrated Authority File

- Run cooperatively
- Hosted by the German National Library (DNB)
- Partners
 - German National Library (DNB)
 - all library networks in the German-speaking countries
 - Bavarian State Library and Berlin State Library
 - German Union Catalogue of Serials (ZDB)
 - Swiss National Library
 - Numerous other institutions like special libraries, libraries which are not part of a library network, museums, archives and several projects

GND History

Separated authority files

Initial position

PND

- Persons

GKD

- Corporate bodies
- Conferences

SWD

- Subject headings
- Persons
- Corporate bodies + Conferences
- Works
- Geographic names

DMA-EST

- Title of musical works

Goal

one authority file

GND

Merging of
redundant data

GND History

Different guidelines

Initial position

RAK-WB

RAK-M

RSWK

Transitional phase

RAK-WB

RAK-M

RSWK

GND-Rules
for transitional
phase

Goal

common rules

RDA

RSWK

GND History

Different formats

Initial position

MAB-PND

MAB-GKD

MAB-SWD

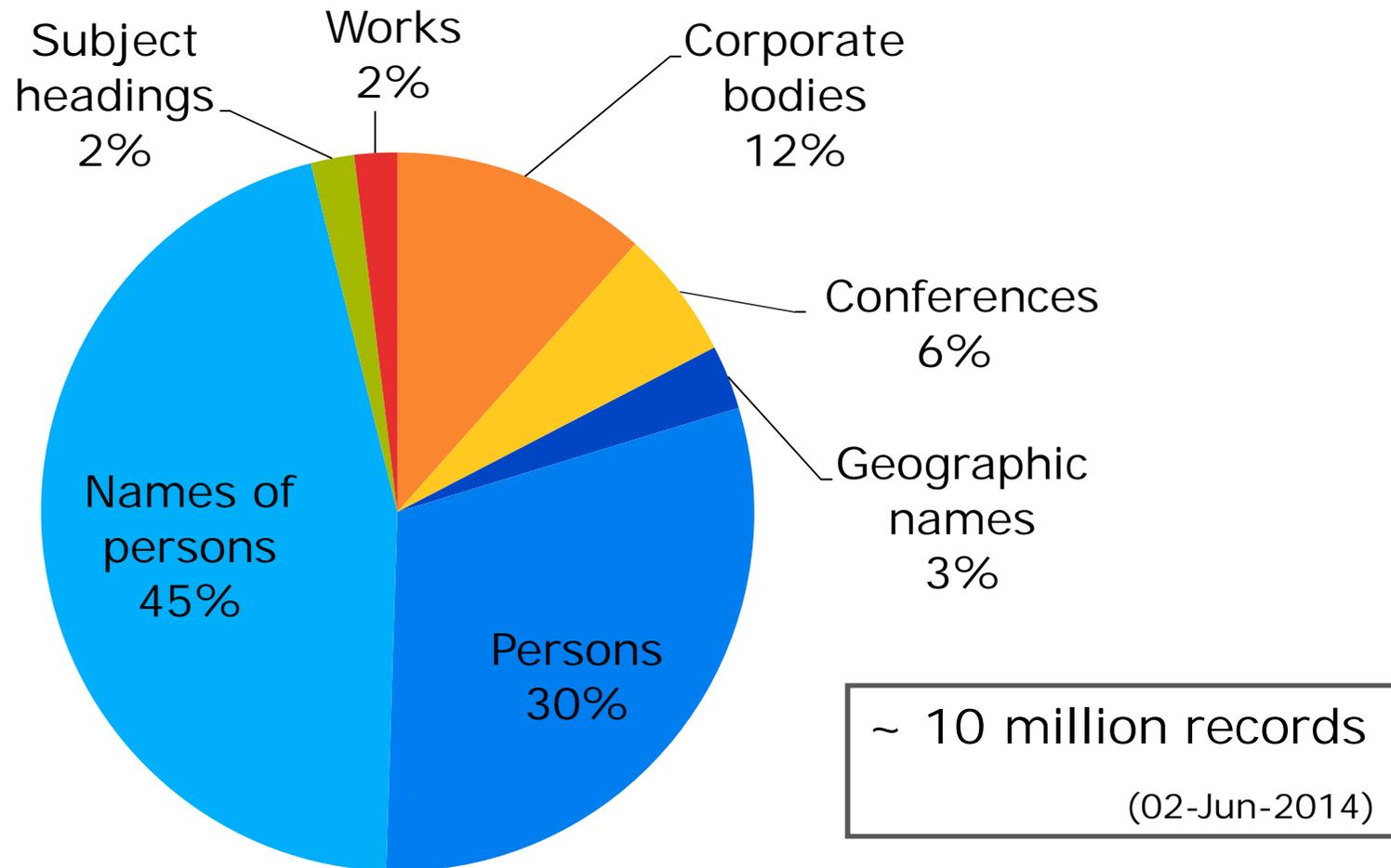
Goal

common format

Exchange
Format
MARC 21
Authority

Description
Format
closely based on
MARC 21
Authority

GND Figures



GND Characteristics

- Record describes one entity
 - except names of persons (undifferentiated)

- Entity vs. Entry
 - entry: constructing authorized access points in order to establish a „unique heading“ or default form (by adding attributes to the preferred name)
 - Entity: all attributes recorded as separate data elements identify the entity

- Relationships vs. attributes
 - associations between entities are treated as relationships between these entities (e. g. profession or occupation)

GND Sustainability

- Unique and persistent identifier
 - facilitates links between authority and bibliographic records
 - URI for all records for the purpose of identification and linking in the (semantic) web
- All attributes and relationships are searchable
- Type of relationship between entities are expressed by using codes (URIs)
- Facilitates to record in the script of the original

GND Services

Interfaces and formats

GND 	PICA	MARC 21 / XML	RDF/XML	turtle	JSON	
DNB OPAC		•	•			} passive
Data Service FTP		•	•	•		
OAI-PMH		•	•			
SRU		•	•			
Linked Data Service GND-Ontology			•	•		
Entity Facts					•	} active
Direct Entry Cataloguing client WinIBW	•					
APIs SRU Record Update, Z39.50		•				

Implementing RDA

Mandate and tasks

- Mandate
 - ☑ to check if the current guidelines and policies are compliant with RDA and to determine the format
- Tasks
 - ☑ to check where GND practice is different from RDA
 - ☑ to develop policy statements and explanations if needed
 - ☑ to develop training material and instructions for recording GND RDA records
- Sub-Working Group „GND“ (Part of AG RDA)

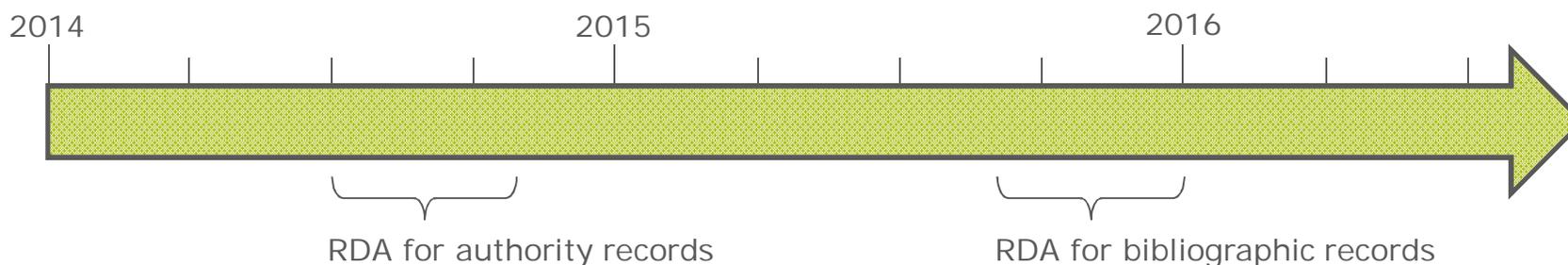
Approach: Experts for specific topics compile all relevant aspects of that topic (e. g. saints and spirits, conferences, families)

Implementing RDA

Timeline and legacy data

- Course of action
 - First: Authority records (GND)
 - Then: Bibliographic records
- Implementing GND
 - Change within period: 01-Jul-2014 – 15-Oct-2014
- Legacy data
 - Existing GND records are still in use, but they may be updated if required - mainly AAP, entire record only when needed

updates are optional



Impact on GND

Overview

- Well prepared for RDA implementation
 - ☑ major set of rules and policies for GND were already formulated with regard to RDA
 - ☑ GND and RDA generally are based on the same principals
- Only a few modifications were necessary on format and display specification
- GND uses more codes as relationship designators than they are provided by RDA at the moment (Appendix K)



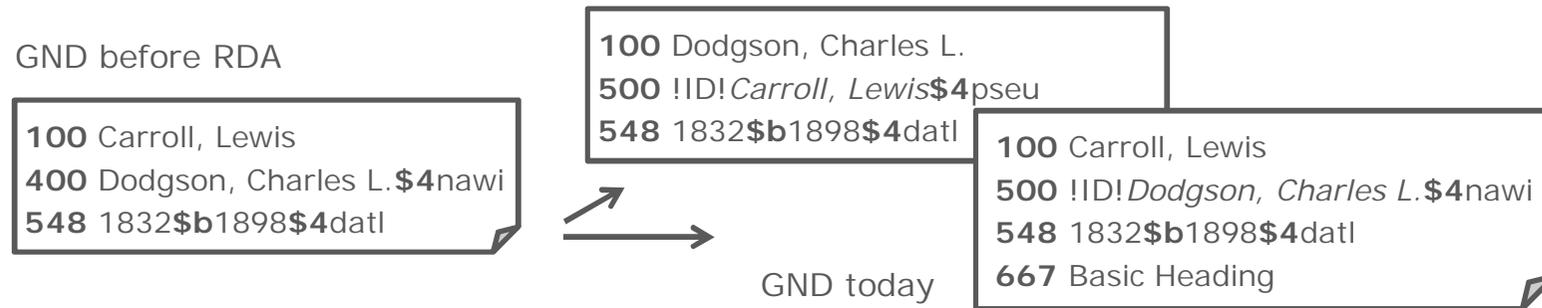
RDA focuses more on constructing an AAP, while GND promotes the entire record

Impact on GND

Rules

- Persons and Families
major changes: pseudonyms, religious persons,
title of nobility and families

almost no changes
necessary on names
of contemporary
persons



- Corporate Bodies
major changes: subordination, institutes of universities, conferences
- Geographic Names
under discussion: recording of larger places



Impact on GND

Format

- Almost no changes on the existing GND format
only added MARC 040 to description format in order to label new or updated records as RDA records
- Minimal changes on the existing Display format for GND
only had to change a few punctuations

we don't display dates and professions as part of the heading

brief display		full display	
 3	Merkel, Angela 1954- / Politikerin	Person	Merkel, Angela
 4	Crawford, Alan joined Bloomberg News as German government correspondent in Prague after the fall of the Berlin Wall and he	Akademischer Grad	Dr.
			weiblich
			Kasner, Angela Dorothea (Früherer Name)
			LCAuth Internet
			Lebensdaten: 1954- Deutschland (XA-DE)
		zug	Geburtsort: Hamburg
			Politikerin Physikerin
			Dt. Politikerin, Bundeskanzlerin
			Sauer, Joachim (Ehemann)

only in a very few cases our OPAC display is slightly different to RDA Appendix E

Perspectives and Plans

Relationships to publishers

- Integrate relationships to publishers etc. (PPDM) in bibliographic descriptions
- Project: Import of the Address Book of the German Book Trade (Adressbuch des deutschen Buchhandels) into GND



GND Record

110 **Lauscherlounge Records**
551 !GND-ID!Berlin\$4orta
982 **5220714**

ONIX [Message Books in Print]

<title>Plan B
<NameCodeType>05
<NameCodeValue>**5220714**

DNB Bibliographic Record

245 Plan B
264 \$aBerlin\$bLauerschlounge Records\$c2009
710 !GND-ID!**Lauscherlounge Records**\$4pbl

Perspectives and Plans

Works

- Establish authority records for works
- Work level in bibliographic records
 - as links to authority records (GND) or as work attributes in the composite description
- Clustering
 - based on (work)titles and attributes in bibliographic records
 - and/or use results of VIAF or WorldCat Work clustering processes
 - generate authority records for works



Future Challenges

Internationalization

- Use of International Standards
e. g. ISO Standard for dates and geographic codes

- Overcome language dependent rules

Library of Congress [MARC 21 Authority]

```
100 $aElizabeth$bI, $cQueen of England, $d1533-1603
510 $aEngland and Wales. $bSovereign (1558-1603 : Elizabeth I)
```

- Recommendation for structured data instead of text strings

GND [MARC 21 Authority]

```
100 $aElisabeth$bI.$cEngland, Königin$d1533-1603
548 $a1533-1603$94:datI
548 $a07.09.1533-24.03.1603$94:datx
550 $OGND-ID$aKönigin$94:obin
551 $OGND-ID$aGreenwich$94:ortg
551 $OGND-ID$aRichmond$9g:Surrey$94:orts
551 $OGND-ID$aEngland$94:ortw
551 $OGND-ID$aWales$94:ortw
```

Future Challenges

Linking to data of other data providers

- Ease the reuse of authority data or just link to entities described in other files, systems or domains
- Include cultural heritage domain and other communities
- Provide even more links between entities and between representations of the same entities, e. g. VIAF



Thank you

Questions?

Please contact us

b.wiechmann@dnb.de

s.hartmann@dnb.de

<http://www.dnb.de/EN/gnd>