VIVO as a front-end for an underlying ‘monolithic’ CRIS (II):
The UPF approach by SIGMA AIE
What we will see…

1. Who we are?
2. The SIGMA CRIS
3. VIVO for SIGMA
4. Some initiatives with VIVO
5. Conclusions
Introduction
Introducing us…

SIGMA is a non-profit organization made up of relevant academic institutions in Spain. Our main goal is to help higher education institutions to optimize their management with information technologies (IT).

SIGMA offices are located in Barcelona and Madrid.
The SIGMA CRIS
CASE STUDY: The SIGMA CRIS

SIGMA universities have a Research information system since 1996

CRIS is for Researchers, groups, managers and institution (CERIF compliant)

- Authorizations & roles management
- Researchers profile maintenance
- Reporting & Evaluation
- Research activities registry
- Impact management
- Grants, Awards & contracts lifecycle management
- CV’s Generation
- Showcasing of the research results, impact and experts profiles
CASE STUDY: The SIGMA CRIS

The goal is: Collect data once, reuse it many times...
VIVO for SIGMA
CASE STUDY: VIVO for SIGMA

SIGMA’s Roadmap guideline: “Modernize the current Portal for the research showcasing and experts guide with a semantic tool.”

- We found that VIVO semantic model and functionalities fits almost 80% with the Spanish model for research, and is evolving and adapting to new trends. We take into account the openSource approach with a great community behind.

- We start doing a test uploading information to a VIVO installation (download from GitHub), and validate how the information looks like.

- We could upload a lot of information in the ontology from SIGMA CRIS. This test satisfied us and finally we decided to use VIVO.

- We also participate in the Leadership Group of VIVO to align our strategy with the VIVO evolution.
CASE STUDY: VIVO for SIGMA

VIVO

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CRIS is for Researchers, groups, managers and institution

Replace
CASE STUDY: VIVO for SIGMA

Our vision: The Research ecosystem (… very simplified) with VIVO as the institutional frontend to the world.
First results for our journey: VIVO@SIGMA (Beta version)
Some initiatives with VIVO
VIVO in Spain

Create a Spanish VIVO community to enhance the use of VIVO on top-of-the-CRIS in Spain.

The idea is to create an Spanish VIVO community with these an other interested universities and centres.

+4 new universities in VIVO in 1 year term
VIVO in Europe

Italy, Denmark, Spain and Germany: user group to communicate and exchange expertise.

Would you like to join us? Contact us!
The CERIF2VIVO Project

This project will be a collaboration between: euroCRIS, VIVO and SIGMA.

The goal of this project is to define an interface to upload information to VIVO always the same way independent of the source, so, the standard CERIF, seems the best option.

We have had a first experience with CERIF in the collaboration with CSUC to upload information in the PRC (Research Portal of Catalan Universities). Even though PRC only uploads a subset of the information that is stored in a CRIS (articles, books, book chapters, projects and thesis), it was a good experience.
The CERIF2VIVO Project

To do this project, we must avoid one of the current drawbacks of CERIF, which is its complexity. The CERIF model is large and complex, therefore a refactoring of the CERIF model has been planned first.

This refactoring proposes to divide the CERIF model in a CORE model that will contain the essential entities, and then the definition of specific areas of entities that completes the model and that should be defined by experts in the area.

Once the CERIF refactoring project was done, the mapping to VIVO will be carried out.

euroCRIS has created a Technical Committee for Interoperability and Standards (TCIS), to lead and coordinate the CERIF refactoring project. Can find more information here.
Conclusions

- The implementation of VIVO instances is growing across Europe, which might offer the opportunity to consider some kind of user group for practitioners to communicate and exchange expertise.

- There are initiatives in course for improving the system interoperability mechanisms that will allow VIVO platforms to be more easily fed from underlying CRIS systems.