The creation of a harmonised, semantically enriched Flemish research discipline list: about pitfalls and opportunities

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Reduction of research reporting
(Peters et al. 2011+)

Data collection
Research classifications
Semantics

Past
Plethora of research discipline lists varying in characteristics & use (reporting, review & communication)

Flanders Research Information Space
www.researchportal.be
75,262 researchers
2,047 organisations
29,635 projects
319,682 publications

Flemish research discipline list
Classification governance
Dynamic list
Multiple use purposes
Scheme, semantics, roles
Evaluation procedure,
automated gap identification
4 hierarchical layers
7 > 42 > 382 > 2866 codes

Classification development
1. Flemish code lists
2. International code lists
   - FOS/FORD
   - ANZSRC
   - ...
3. Gap analysis
4. Draft discipline list

Evaluation
1. FWO expert groups
2. Stakeholders (i.e. FWO, VLIR, FRIS)
3. Researchers, research societies based on expertise

Semantics
1. Initial definition based on online sources
2. Evaluation by experts
3. Flemish research discipline list

Concordances
1. Development of concordance schemes
2. Evaluation by experts
3. Fixed concordance schemes allow for uniform usage

Implementation
1. Different organisational database systems
2. Adaptations in FRIS (portal, validator, …)
3. Different implementation trajectories

Procedural evaluation by Steering Committee
Dynamic follow-up

Semantic interoperability of research information systems
At the benefit of policy formation, scientific discovery & open innovation