



En route to Linked Data

A study for Abes

Maurits van der Graaf; Pleiade Management & Consultancy; BIBFRAME workshop 2023



Content of this presentation

- Study for Abes
- Overview of the French landscape
- Metadata en route to Linked Data:
 - International route
 - French route
- Consequences for the French libraries in the Higher Education sector



Study for Abes

- **Central research question:** What are the practical implications of the bibliographic transition for libraries in the French HE sector?
- **Three focus areas:**
 - International situation
 - French situation
 - Practical implications for the French HE libraries
- **Other details:**
 - Commissioned by Abes
 - Based on 30 interviews and a literature search
 - Report is published at the site of Abes

Overview of the French landscape

BnF

- Bibliographic agency for all non-HE libraries
- Produces many metadata records
- Internal format: InterMarc
- Exchange format: Unimarc

Abes

- Bibliographic agency for all Higher Education libraries
- Manages the shared cataloguing system SUDOC
- Exchange format: Unimarc (et Marc21)
- ± 200 HE libraries participate

Bibliographic transition as envisaged:

French version of RDA (RDA-FR) + Unimarc-ER *entities-relations*

International route to linked data

2000 - 2024	2025 - 2030	2030 - 2040
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Cataloguing rules

Gradual implementation of RDA-INT Original version

Gradual Implementation of RDA-INT official version
LoC, Melinda using BIBFRAME

Progressive adoption of BIBFRAME and RDA-INT by international libraries

Bibliographic format

BIBFRAME cataloguing by LoC

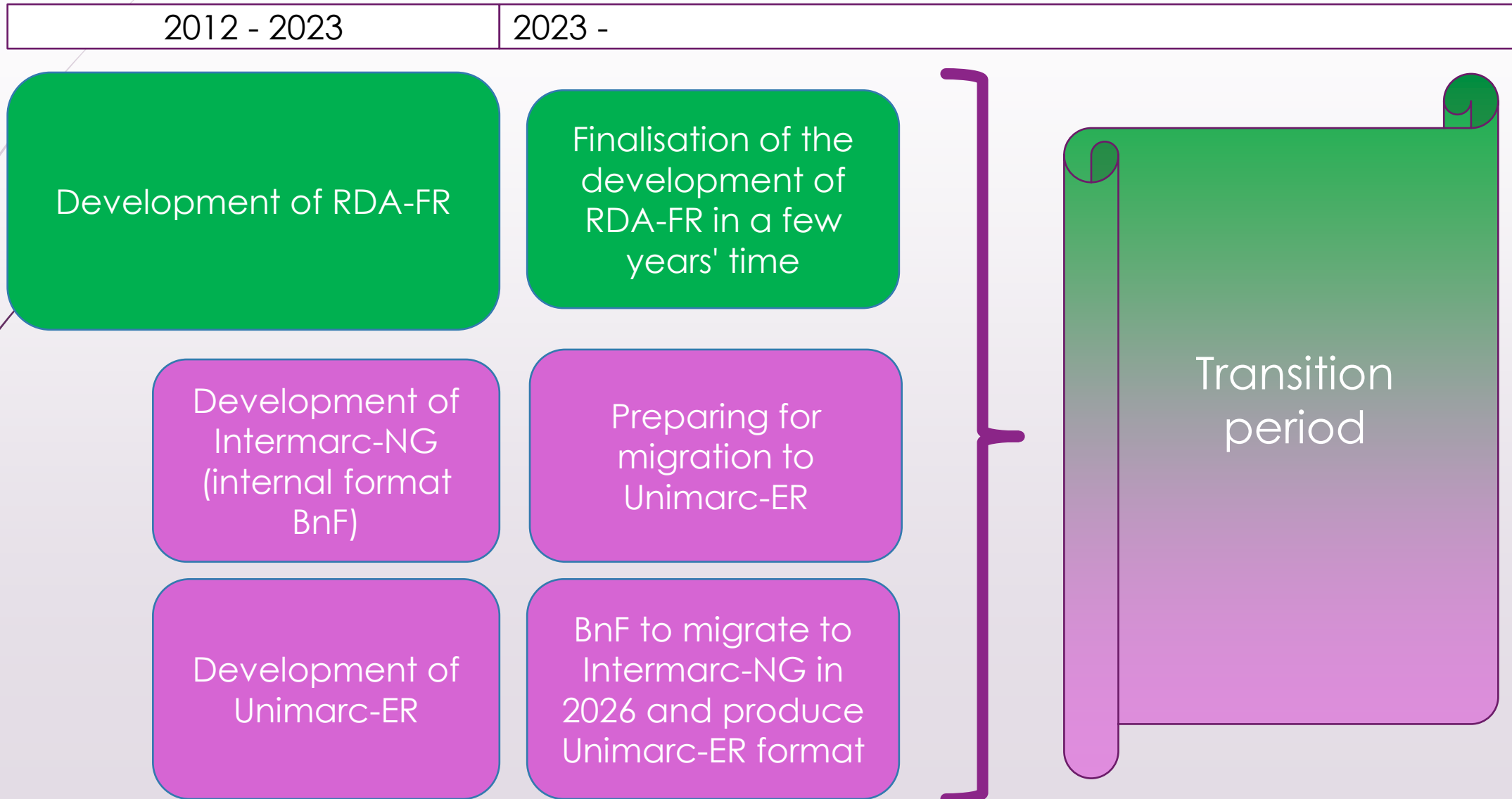
BIBFRAME t.b. implemented in 2024 in LoC

Development of BIBFRAME compatible with RDA official version by Melinda

Other initiatives [Stanford; Share-VDE; LIBRIS-XL; ...]

Period of practical problem-solving by innovators using BIBFRAME

French route to linked data



Possible scenario for the French bibliographic transition for the HE libraries

Stage 0
Test
environment

Stage 1
Training before Day 1

- Training for cataloguers who create bibliographic records
- Training for cataloguers who adapt existing bibliographic records (derived cataloguing)

Step 2
Support after Day 1

Internal support:

- Pairs (each examining the other's work)
- Periodic sessions (Q&A)

Support from Abes :

- For difficult questions

Metadata production :

- A lower production is envisaged for several months after D-Day 1

Step 3
Adaptation of LMS and
discovery tool

New discovery tool :

- Ingestion of Unimarc-ER records from Sudoc
- Front office staff training
- Teaching materials for end users

SGB adapted to Unimarc-ER:

- Preparing to ingest pre-cataloguing records in Unimarc-ER from book suppliers

Cataloguers from different libraries with different types of collections to carry out cataloguing tests with RDA-FR and Unimarc-ER

D-Day 1:
Sudoc →
RDA-FR + Unimarc-ER

D-Day 2:
LMS and discovery tool →
Unimarc-ER compatible



Main consequences for French HE libraries

- **Two D-days:** (1) transition of Sudoc; (2) transition of LMS and discovery tool per library
- **Long transition period with a hybrid situation:** exchange format = Unimarc-ER but LMS/Discovery systems unchanged for a multi-year period
- **Additional costs:**
 - Conversions of BIBFRAME ↔ Unimarc-ER
 - International providers of LMS and discovery tools:
 - Probable extra charges for adaptations to Unimarc-ER
 - Less investments in innovations because of smaller user-base