

From WINISIS into ABCD: First trials developing a Technical Reports Database at INIDEP, Mar del Plata, Argentina



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INTRODUCTION

The INIDEP Library (National Institute for Fisheries Research and Development, Argentina), has worked for already two decades with ISIS/UNESCO software (Microisis/DOS and WinISIS/Windows), and now since the ISIS3 3rd ISIS World Congress last September 2008 held in Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, with the launching of ISIS-Network Based Platform (NBP), it is confronting the challenge to migrate to the new ABCD System. The ABCD, still in Beta version, is an Integrated Library Management Software comprising the basic library functions. It is "Free and Open Source Software" (FOSS), freedom to run, copy, distribute, study, change and improve; FOSS nowadays is becoming a serious option that all libraries must consider as part of any software procurement process.

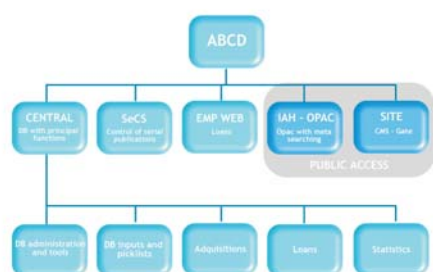
The INIDEP Computing Center and The Library faced the need to solve the metadata retrieval and digital storage of 9 types of Internal Technical Reports, produced by INIDEP scientists, core institutional grey literature, most of them assessment reports for the Fisheries Authority, with a great variety of circulation level restrictions.

With this purpose, a Referential Database with ABCD was recommended and developed. The final product highly satisfied the demand of the INIDEP Scientific Administrators because the local web-interphase is easy to handle by inputters; the possibility of data output in Excel format is of great value for scientific evaluation purposes, and many other interesting features.



INIDEP was created in 1977 on the basis of the former Mar del Plata Marine Biology Institute in order to perform integral research programs on fishing grounds, emphasizing the assessment of Argentine fishing resources and a sustainable fishing development. It is a decentralized agency depending on the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Fishing and Food of the Ministry of Economy and Production. The projects being developed generate and adapt knowledge, information, methods and technology for the sustainable development, use and preservation of Argentine fisheries and they mainly aim at the assessment of the fishing resource.

Since 2000 INIDEP has undergone a significant increase in institutional advising requests from the following bodies: Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Fishing and Food; Federal Fishing Council; National Directorate of Fishing and Aquaculture, etc. The answers are channeled through Technical Reports and Executive Reports, research survey reports and the publications (Research and Development Magazine, Scientific Documentation, INIDEP Technical Reports and papers in other national and foreign magazines).



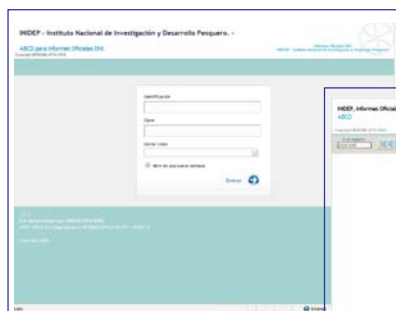
BASIC FUNCTIONALITIES AND ATTRIBUTES

ABCD is an Integrated Library Management Software comprising the main basic library functions:

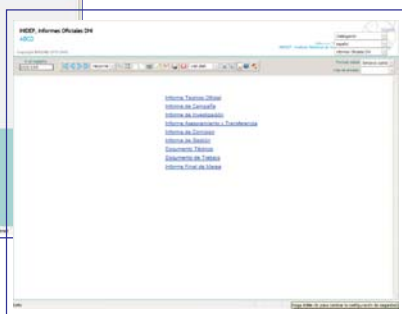
- Definition of any number of new databases (similar to Winisis), which includes: FDT, PFT, FST, and worksheets directly on the Web, or copying from existing ones either from the Web or from Winisis on a local hard disk
- Cataloguing of books and serials, independently of the format: MARC, LILACS, AGRIS, etc.
- End-user searching (OPAC)
- Loans circulation
- Acquisitions
- Statistics
- Library services like SDI, barcode printing, quality control, etc.

- The software will be compatible with CDS/ISIS database technology for the bibliographic databases, i.e. reading ISIS-databases and making use of ISIS Formatting Language (or something functionally similar) for producing output (PFT) and indexing (FST) of records
- The software will run on both Windows and Linux platforms
- The software will allow the use of MARC-21 cataloging formats and other current standards or protocols (Dublin Core, METS, Z39.50)
- The software will be published as Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) with the accompanying tools for the developer community
- The software will be intrinsically multi-lingual, with English, Spanish, Portuguese and French interfaces
- The software will be fully documented for system-managers in at least one language, preferably English
- UNICODE-compatibility will at least be envisaged and prepared, if not in the actual version then for an upcoming future version, which is part of the ISIS-NBP parallel project

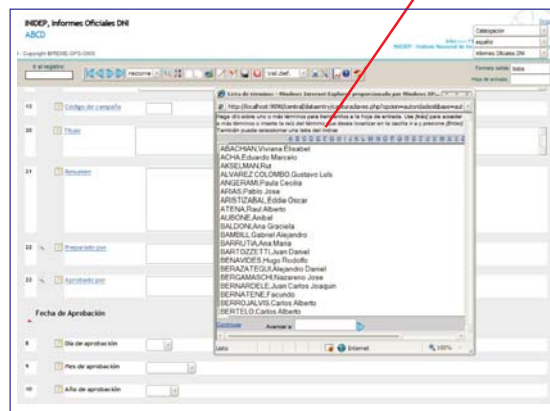
Interface of "INFOR"



* **Start Menu** shows a List with the different types of Reports to be selected. Click on one and the screen opens up to complete the metadata.



* **Author database** (in ABCD) created as an Authority List, to fill in the field "Preparado por"



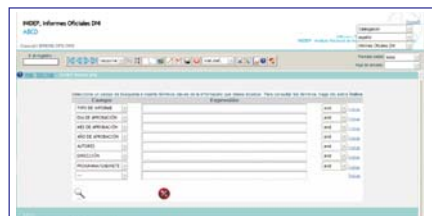
Field Definition Table (FDT)

In the upper left corner of the field name for formatting guidelines ABCD allows to validate by "mandatory fields" (not developed yet for this database INFOR). Data entry form for fields are: Date, YES/NO choose, picklist, operator and date (administrative), upload digital file by browse.

Search Interface

The different fields can be combined by AND / OR / AND NOT

For the retrieval operation, the field information is sending to the "Index/Dictionary" by prefixes



Showing the Results



XLS format:
This format allows to generate an output in *.xls format, with predefined fields, by mfn range. This output allows to analyze the scientific production of the INIDEP



Default format:
shows the "complete" with all the information



Quote format:
Shows the quote of the reports allowing export bibliographic lists.

CONCLUSIONS

- The Computer Center staff now appreciates the interdisciplinary work accomplished with librarians allowing future projects.
- The succes with INFOR experience will facilitate an easier migration of INIDEP Library databases to the ABCD.
- Currently, Institutional managers appreciate this important tool for the management and administration of official reports, with internal monthly, displays of Excel spreadsheets in the Intranet.