

ASFA – Aquatic Commons Conversion Tool

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Background

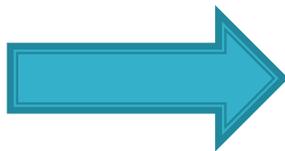
ASFA supports digitization of grey literature

- ▶ ASFA has provided financial support to several ASFA Partners to assist them in digitizing their grey literature
- ▶ The ASFA Partners deposit their grey literature in open access repositories, such as AC
- ▶ Links to the full text of the grey literature are included in the ASFA records
- ▶ Comparative advantage of ASFA, i.e. added value



Background

- ▶ Freshwater Biological Association (FBA, UK) ASFA Trust Fund Project: “Digitization, Open Access Deposition and ASFA Record preparation of Freshwater Grey Literature 1940–2007”
- ▶ 550 ASFA records
- ▶ 550 Aquatic Commons records



A lot of copy & paste!



The process

1. Prepare ASFA records

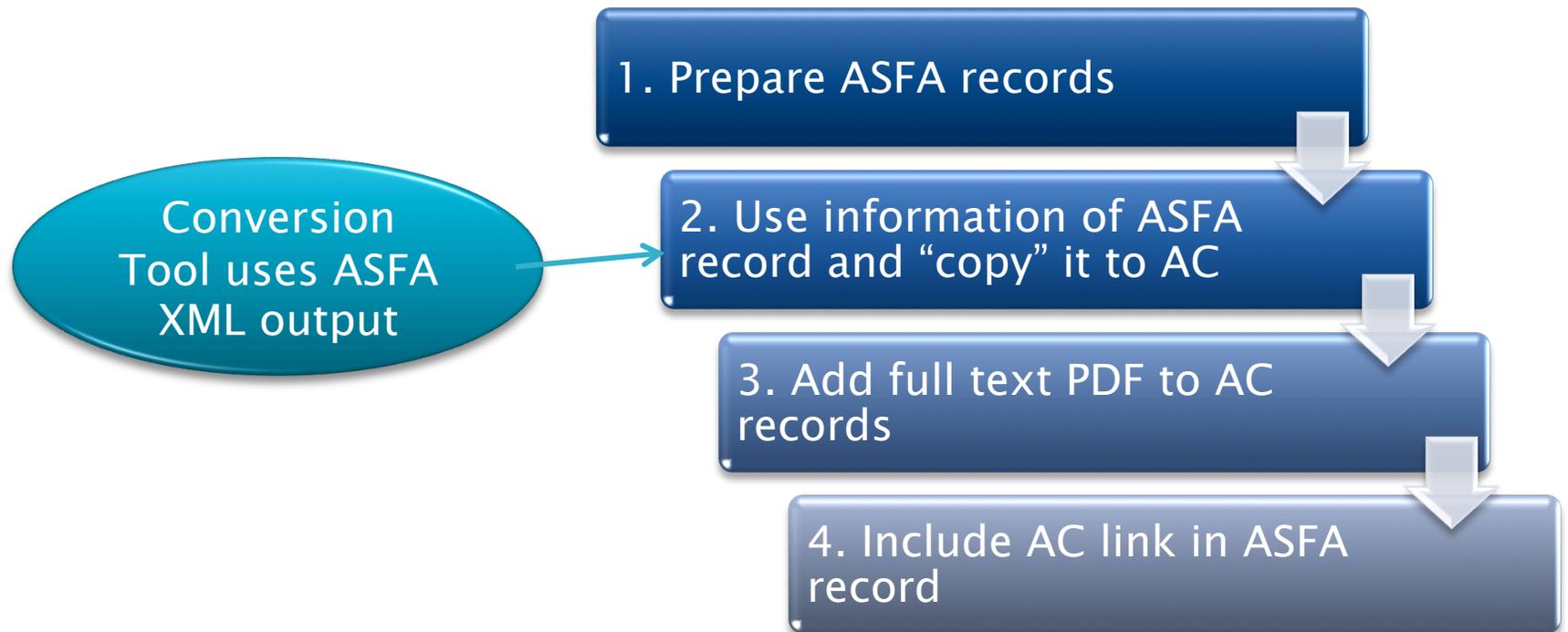
2. Use information of ASFA record and “copy” it to AC

3. Add full text PDF to AC records

4. Include AC link in ASFA record



The idea



Issues

The “conversion process” is complex:

- Some fields are only present in ASFA or AC
- ASFA has more fields than AC (a worksheet has between 40–50 fields)
- Different metadata standards: ASFA (www-isis-asfa) versus AC (Eprints)



How it works

- ▶ Because the software used by ASFA Partners to prepare ASFA records (www-ISIS-ASFA) has more fields, the conversion tool works only one way: ASFA to AC
- ▶ The fields in both systems are not exactly the same, therefore they have to be mapped
- ▶ This mapping is called a *metadata crosswalk*
- ▶ ASFA has 5 worksheets, AC has 9 item types!
- ▶ This means many crosswalks!



How it was done

- ▶ Information was needed regarding the metadata specifications of the 2 systems (www-ISIS-ASFA and Eprints)
- ▶ The mapping was carried out by FBA in collaboration with the AC Board and IODE



Conclusions

- ▶ This Conversion tool saves time when converting 5 or more ASFA records to AC
- ▶ It assists ASFA Partners in making their grey literature more visible and easily accessible
- ▶ It contributes towards making the ASFA database unique with respect to grey literature content



Future work

- ▶ The next release of the www-ISIS-ASFA software will incorporate the conversion process
- ▶ Records will be exported directly in a format ready for uploading into AC



Happy conversions!

