

# META-SHARE the Open Resource Exchange Facility

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META-FORUM 2010: Challenges for Multilingual Europe Brussels, Belgium, November 17/18, 2010

# Building META-SHARE, an open resource exchange



- Data has become a key factor in LT R&D. A few indicators:
  - Increasing size and importance of the LREC conference, corpora mailing list etc.
  - Citation ranks of publications on language resources
  - High-ranking demand in all three META-NET Vision Groups
- No matter what technology or application one intends to build, a substantial, bulky data set together with the associated basic processing tools/services is indispensable
  - (Statistical) machine translation, speech recognition/synthesis, ...
  - Information extraction and higher level text and media analysis and annotation (e.g. sentiment, persuasion, etc)

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## A few observations



- Language research and language technology belong to the **Data** Intensive Sciences
- Data collection, cleaning, annotation, curation, maintenance, etc is a very costly business
- Data become considerably valuable through sharing.
- However, the long demanded and well-contemplated instruments for managing and sharing this data are *still missing*.

# **META-SHARE:** Key Features



- META-SHARE is an open, integrated, secure, and interoperable exchange infrastructure for language data and tools for the Human Language Technologies domain
- A marketplace where language data and tools are documented, uploaded and stored in repositories, catalogued and announced, downloaded, exchanged, discussed, aiming to support a data economy (free and for-a-fee LRs/LTs and services)
- Standards-compliant, overcoming format, terminological and semantic differences.

## **META-SHARE**



Data Centres ELRA, LDC, NICT

LT industry, SMEs

Acquisition projects
PANACEA, TTC,
ACCURAT, LET's MT,

Regional & national LR projects & initiatives



Academic catalogues & repositories

**CLARIN** 

Harvesting initiatives
LRE Map,
Harvesting Day

National data centres

### **META-SHARE** architecture



- META-SHARE is implemented as a network of distributed repositories
  - Local (organisation-based), and
  - Non-local (central) repositories
- Local repos store and maintain the organisation's LRs (data sets and tools)
- Non-local repos act as storage and documentation facilities for LRs of organisations not wishing to set up their own repository, or donated or orphan LRs, etc.
- LRs are described according to a metadata schema, including their rights of use

## **META-SHARE** architecture (2)



- Actual LRs and their metadata (MD) reside in the local repositories.
- Each repository
  - maintains an inventory (a local inventory) with all MD of their LRs
  - exports MD
  - allows their harvesting.
- Harvested MD are stored in the META-SHARE central servers, which .
   share MD in a p2p fashion
- Central servers create, host and maintain a central inventory with all MD descriptions of all LRs available in the distributed network.

### Metadata Schema



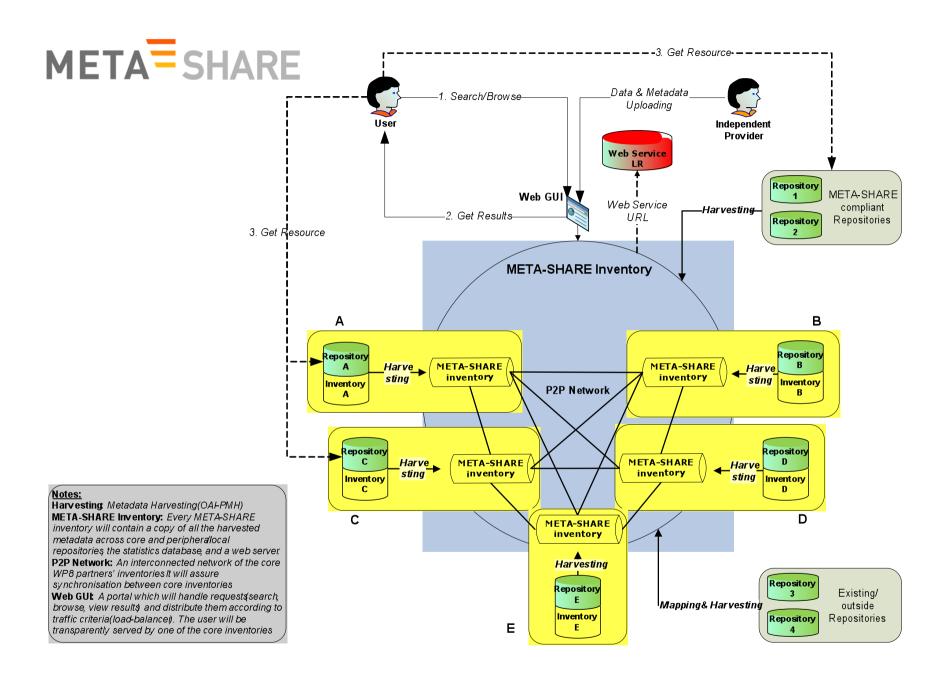
- External metadata (description of resources)
- We're not reinventing the wheel: harmonize existing schemas and adapt them to the requirements of the HLT community
- Mappers for widespread schemas
- Ready-to-be-used profiles depending on the type of a resource
- Metadata are component based
- Main desiderata:
  - clarity of semantics
  - flexibility
  - interoperability
  - extensibility

- expressiveness
- customisability
- user friendliness
- harvestability

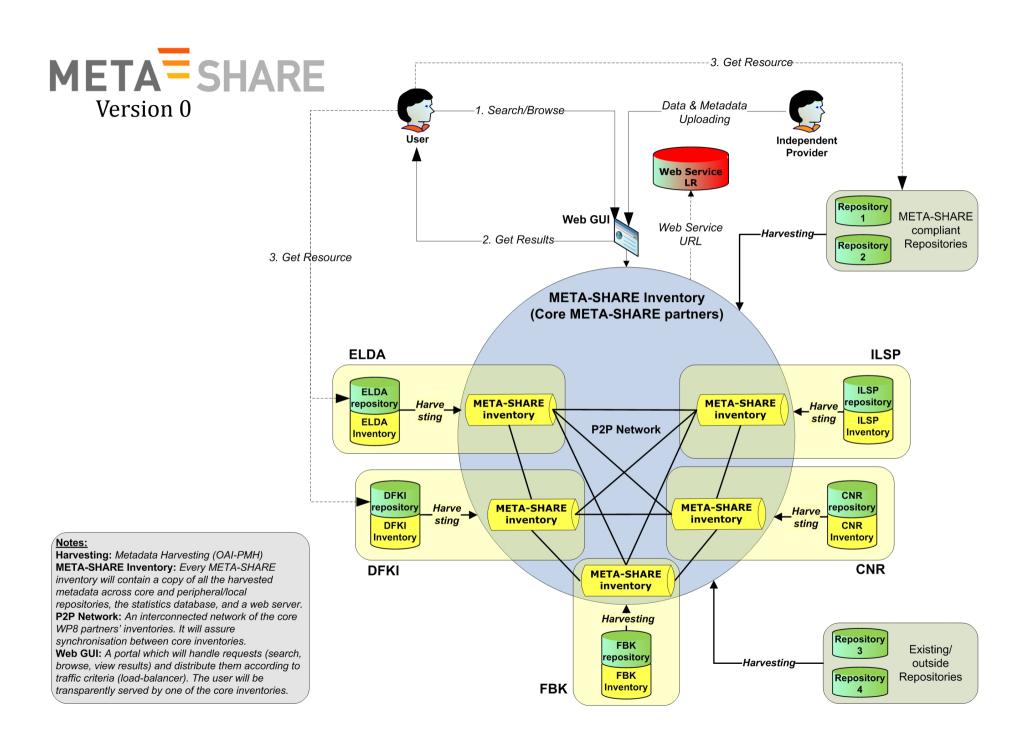
## **META-SHARE** architecture (3)



- Users (language resources seekers/consumers) will be able to
  - log-in once <u>www.meta-share.eu</u> or <u>www.meta-share.org</u>
  - search the central inventory using multifaceted search facilities, and
  - access the actual resources by visiting the local (or non-local) repositories for browsing and downloading them.
- To access LRs (data, tools, language processing services) users need to agree with the terms and conditions of use spelt out in the licence of the respective LR
- Rights of use and related restrictions under the control and responsibility of LR owners and the repository where the LR resides
- META-SHARE favours and aligns with open data and open source movements
- Does not exclude LRs for a fee, fosters commercial use of LRs



http://www.meta-net.eu



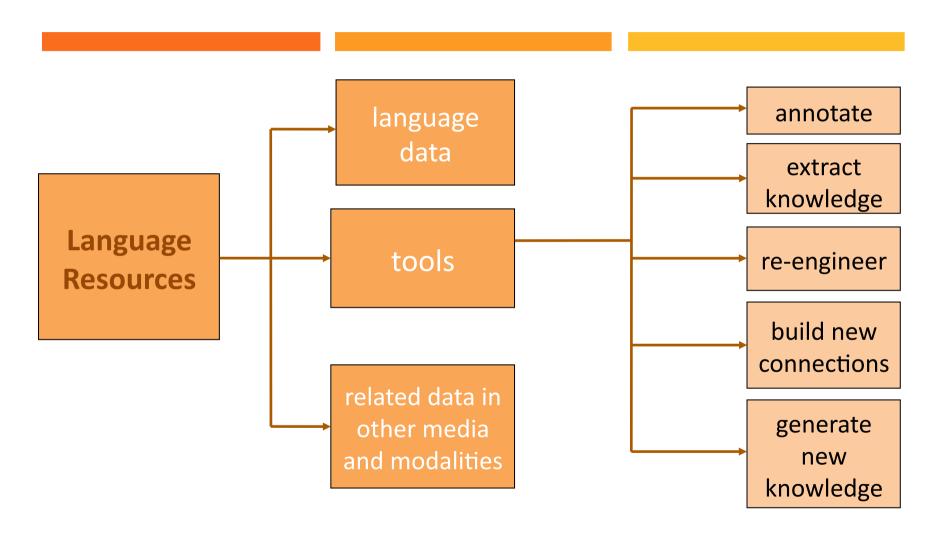
# Steps of integration



- Start by integrating relatively few nodes/centres, notably those represented by the partners of the META-NET network
- Gradually extend to encompass more nodes/centres and provide more functionality (richer metadata, recommendation services, collaboration facilities, etc.),
- Turning into an as largely distributed infrastructure as possible as the project progresses.

## In the future, within META-SHARE...





http://www.meta-net.eu

# In a nutshell: META-SHARE is now offering



- A channel to share and distribute language data and tools.
- Technical solutions for building your own repositories.
- Protocols and mechanisms for making the descriptions of your resources (and the actual resources) harvestable.
- Guidelines and recommendations on standards used in the LR production and documentation processes.
- Recommendations on data and tools licensing issues.
- Access to large catalogues of documented, high-quality resources, as well as the actual data and tools.

### **Features**



# META SHARE

- Open Source
- Service-Oriented
- Distributed
- Replication/Backup
- Reporting & Statistics

- Single Sign-On
- Easy Administration
- Metadata Harvesting
- Persistent Identifiers (PIDs)
- Intuitive Search

### **Sneak Peak**





Version o



META-NET is designing and implementing META-SHARE, a sustainable network of repositories of language data, tools and related web services documented with high-quality metadata, aggregated in central inventories allowing for uniform search and access to resources. Data and tools can be both open and with restricted access rights, free and for-a-fee. META-SHARE targets existing but also new and emerging language data, tools and systems required for building and evaluating new technologies, products and services.



#### About the partners

META-SHARE will start by integrating nodes and centres represented by the partners of the META-NET consortium. It will gradually be extended to encompass additional nodes/centres and provide more functionality with the goal of turning into an as largely distributed infrastructure as possible.

Please select one of the following META-SHARE network nodes to proceed:



CNR - National Research Council of Italy



DFKI - Deutsches Forschungszentrum für künstliche Intelligenz



Language resources Distribution Agency



FBK — Fondazione Bruno Kesslein



ILSP - Institute for Language and Speech Processing



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Browse metadata - Search metadata

#### What is it? About the project.

META-NET aims at creating META-SHARE, a sustainable network of repositories of language data, tools and related web services documented with high-quality metadata, aggregated in central inventories allowing for uniform search and access to resources. Data and tools can be both open and with restricted access rights, free and for-a-fee. META-SHARE targets existing but also new and emerging language data, tools and systems required for building and evaluating new technologies, products and services. In this respect, reuse, combination, repurposing and re-engineering of language data and tools play a crucial role.

META-SHARE will eventually be an important component of a language technology marketplace for HLT researchers and developers, language professionals (translators, interpreters, content and software localisation experts, etc.), as well as for industrial players, especially SMEs, catering for the full development cycle of HLT, from research through to innovative products and services.

#### How can I use it? First steps.

More specifically, META-SHARE will be a freely available facility, supported by a large user and developer community, based on distributed networked repositories accessible through common interfaces. Users (consumers, providers or aggregators) will have single sign-on accounts and will be able to access everything within the repository. Each language resource will be given a permanent locator (PID). One of the key features of META-SHARE will be metadata harvesting, allowing for discovering and sharing resources across many repositories.

META-SHARE will also cater for advanced metadata schemata regarding description, harvesting and discovery of resources. It will be accompanied by a search function, so that users can search and navigate through its resources in the most flexible way possible. META-SHARE will allow the easy integration of new functionalities and services. In order to ensure modularity and robustness, it will follow a service-oriented architecture. Moreover, it will handle equally effective diverse file types. Finally, META-SHARE will provide the ability to compile and produce statistical reports, according to the different user types. The repository administrator will be able to supervise all of the above.

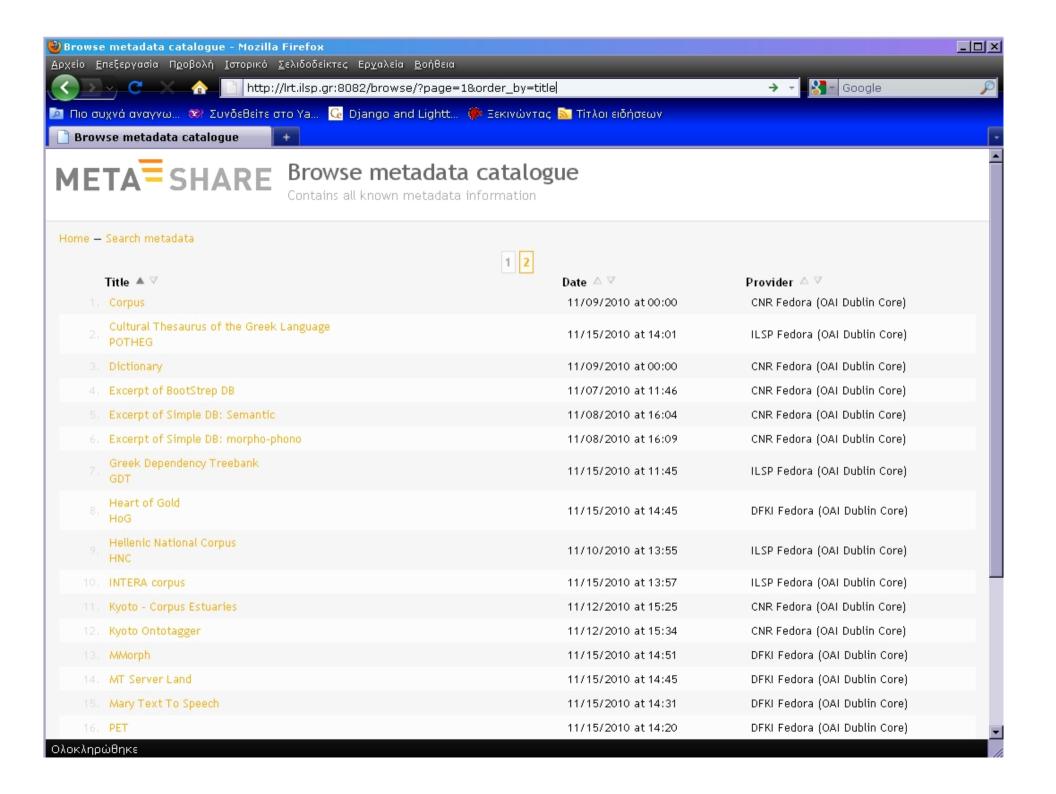
#### Connect and share! Our vision.

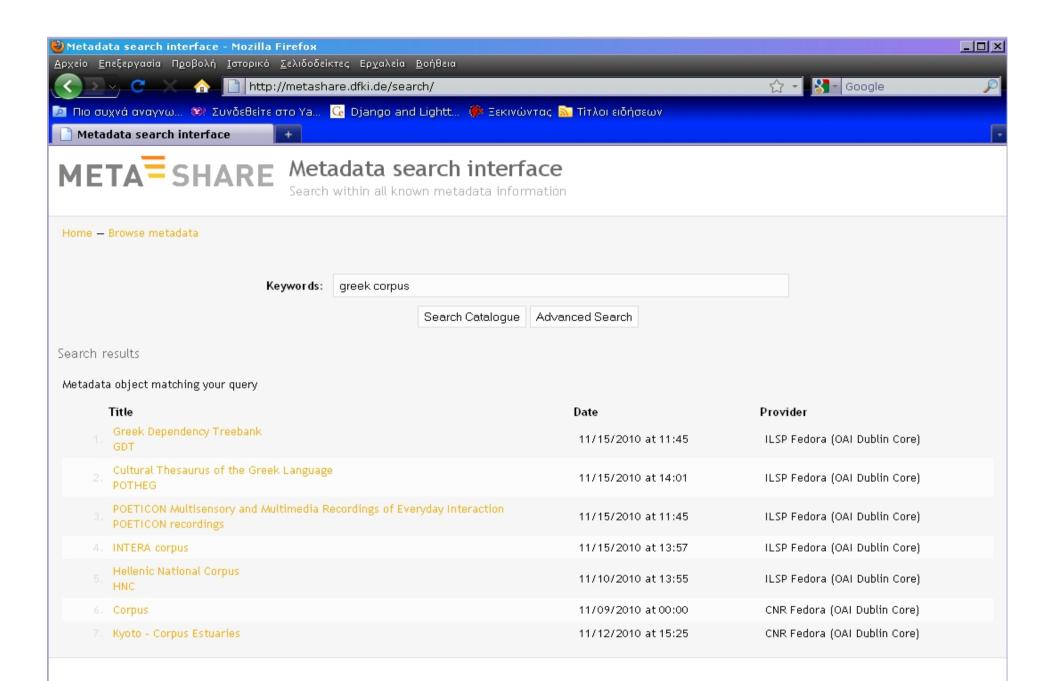
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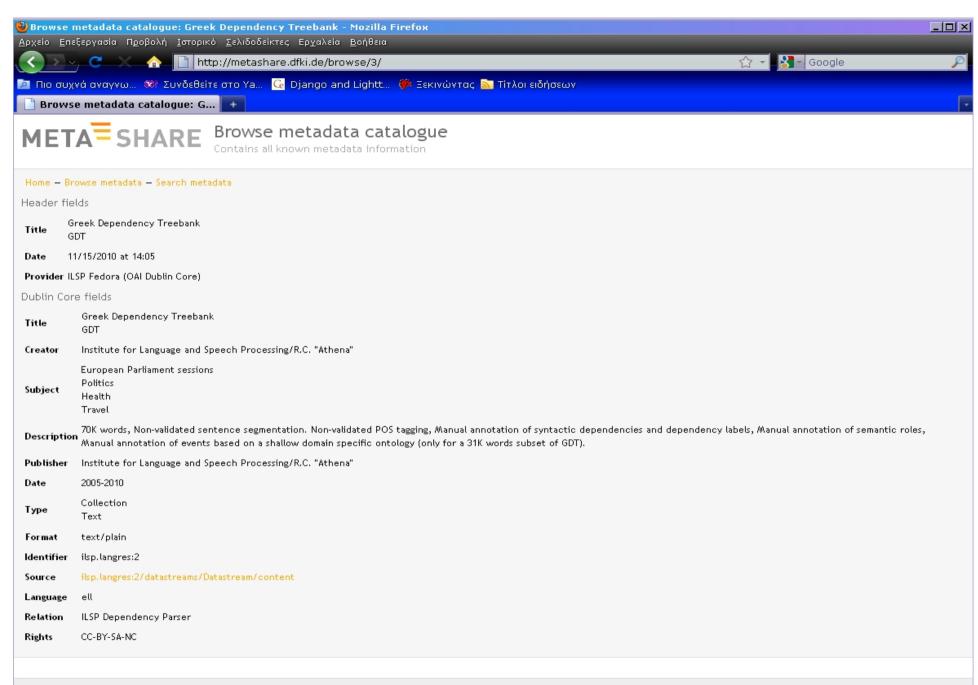






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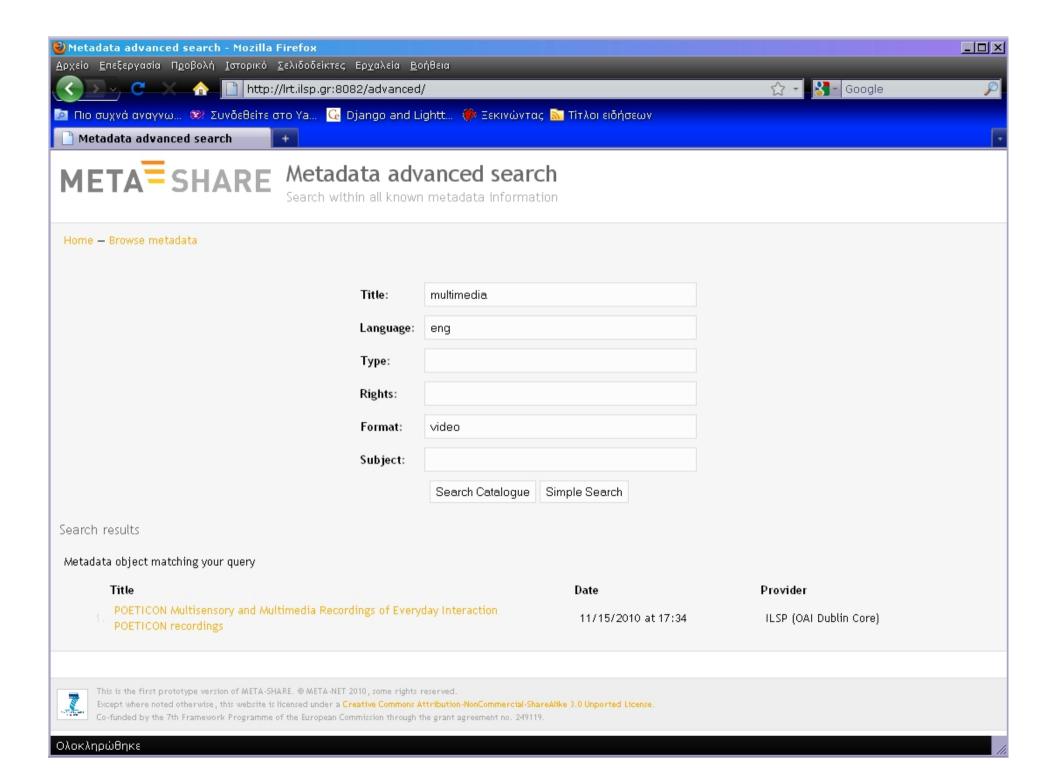


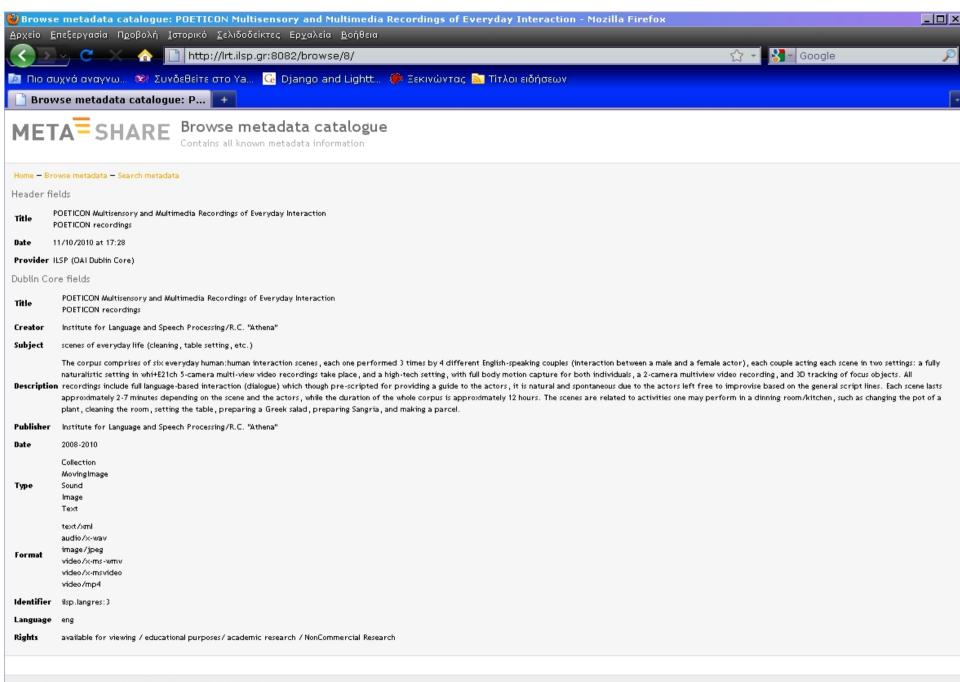
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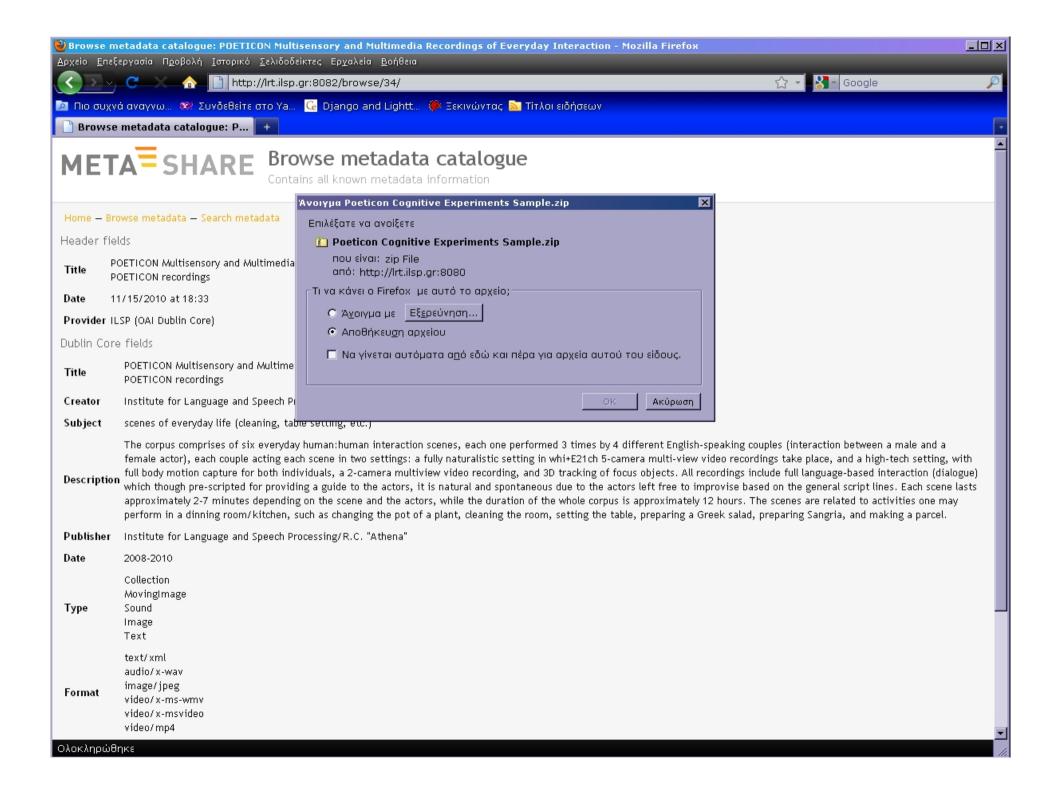
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# **META-SHARE: Next Steps**



### META-SHARE Version 0: November 2010

First prototype demo'ed at this first META-FORUM.

### META-SHARE Version 1: July 2011

 Stable, working version of META-SHARE to be rolled out within the META-NET network.

### META-SHARE Version 2: February 2012

Stable version, ready for production use.



# **Collaborations**

http://www.meta-net.eu 28

## **Collaborations**















## **CLARIN and META-NET**





- Facilitates research by coordinating and making existing Language Resources and tools available and readily useable for the Social Sciences and Humanities.
- Offers resources and services to allow computer-aided language processing (e.g., querying data and complex processing of data sets).
- Focus on eResearch, eScience.



- Building and offering results for Language Technology at large.
- Clear orientation towards development, innovation and services (including commercial).
- Focus on the distribution of Language Resources (currently).
- End user: the European citizen.
- Goal: to address the problem of multilingualism in Europe.



# Join in!

# Increase your share



# Thank you!