

Process and Rationale for the New DDI 3.3 Version, a User Point of View

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01 Background



History of DDI versions at Insee

- From the early DDI 3.1

Back in 2011, Insee started a prototype on questionnaire development. It was based on DDI 3.1. This generator:

- Took DDI 3.1 as inputs
- Produced fillable Open Document and PDF files
- XSLT-based
- Too complex and a lot of “tweaks” embedded

History of DDI versions at Insee

... To DDI 3.2

Tweaks since some pieces missing in DDI 3.1.

- Feedback to the DDI Technical Committee
- Discussed the use cases many times
- Differentiate between layout and semantics
- Workshop in our offices with Wendy Thomas

- Several features added:
 - Grids in economic surveys
 - Flow logic with parameters
 - New response domains
 - Etc.

History of DDI versions at Insee

- From DDI 3.2 to 3.3

DDI 3.2 has been used since early 2014

- New “Eno” questionnaire based on 3.2 developed
- DDI 3.2 as input, Xforms (web forms) and PDF as outputs
- Most of our economic surveys use this questionnaire generator
- Work in progress on the household questionnaires (complex flow logic)
- Also built a designing tool (GUI) integrated with “Eno” (fast iteration, one click): “Pogues”
- But still some features missing in 3.2.
- Reported on-the-fly, as they arose

02 Process



- Feedback submitted on the Alliance's bug tracking system ([Jira](#))
- Provide examples and description
- Exchanges by e-mails
- Or wormed my way into the weekly Technical Committee online meeting
- The goal is to clarify things and the line of reasoning
- And come to an agreement/decision
- Each step is recorded in Jira.
- Transparency: publicly available, only need an account to comment.

03

Requests for Changes



Issues

-

Categorisation

The user can classify them:

- Documentation (task)
- Bug
- Improvement

- ConceptualVariable
- InOutExample
- UnitTypeReference

Issues

-

Categorisation

The user can classify them:

- Documentation (task)
- Bug
- Improvement

- PhysicalInstanceGroup
- CreateSummary
- OtherMaterial

Issues

- Categorisation

The user can classify them:

- Documentation (task)
- Bug
- Improvement

- DateTimeDomain: start and end dates
- TypeOfComputationItem
- DisplayCode attribute in CodeDomain
- Attribute "isExternalVariable"
- PhysicalStructure *Simple -*
- ScaleDimension *Accepted*

- MeasurementUnit and Measure in QuestionGrid
- "Other, please specify" and "secondary response domain"

Related each other

Issues

- Categorisation

The user can classify them:

- Documentation (task)
- Bug
- Improvement

- RequiredResourcePackage
- AnalysisUnit in RepresentedVariable
- Universe/UnitTypeReference

Rejected

- MeasureDefinition

Downgraded

Issues

-

Categorisation

The user can classify them:

- Documentation (task)
- Bug
- Improvement

- Total in QuestionGrid
- Fixed values in Question Grid
- ConditionalText
- NoDataByDefinition

Complex/Intertwined

04

Next internal steps



- Take into consideration the outputs of the public review
- Check the backward compatibility
- Assess the impact of the changes on our IT applications
- Implement the changes step-by-step
- Liaise with the editors of commercial tools

05

Conclusion



- Really encourage to get involved in the elaboration and/or the review of versions of the standard
- The more views, the richer and more robust is the standard
- Act as stakeholder
- This is how generally standards are/should be built, involving the user community
- The DDI Alliance has set up an efficient process supported by appropriate tools (Jira, COGS, etc.).

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