IASSIST Latin Engagement Action Group (2010-2012)

Co-chairs:

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Latin America, Spain, and Portugal Data Organizations and Resources: An Evolving Discussion
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Mission:

To propose a set of activities that IASSIST could undertake to further engage with data professionals from Ibero-american academic and research institutions

Identify data infrastructures and resources from Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries to further develop the establishment of collaborative data networks

Scope:

Research data support services (Social Sciences but not exclusively so) in academic environments including those involved in:

● developing data management tools
● research data support and training
● developing technical solutions such as data analysis and visualisation tools
● research data repositories ingesting or planning to ingest, research data

Phase 1 (2010) - Spain

Targeted telephone interviews, online BOS Questionnaires

Responses from library & support services from national & regional universities, data centres, statistical agencies

3 areas of interest:

- **Traditional data library role**
- **Research data management & curation**
- **IASSIST –**
  - **Role of IASSIST**
  - **What can IASSIST do for you?**

The Latin Engagement Action Group came up with 3 outreach activities aimed at supporting data professionals from Spanish and Portuguese speaking educational institutions, namely:

- **Research Data Management (RDM) webinars for Spanish/Portuguese data specialists (http://www.recolecta.net/buscador/webminars.jsp)**

  Stuart Macdonald and Luis Martínez-Uribe in collaboration with Alicia López Medina (UNED, Spain), the Spanish Agency of Science and Technology (FECYT) and the network of Spanish repositories RECOLECTA organised a series in 3 strands (Nov – Dec 2011) to discuss RDM issues:

- **Strand 1 - RDM Strategy**

- **Strand 2 - RDM Tools and models (Stuart Macdonald presented on IASSIST & Latin Engagement, RDM at Edinburgh**

- **Strand 3 - Research Data Management Experiences (Kate McNeil-Harmen (MIT) , Luis Martinez Uribe (Juan March Institute) presented on institutional approaches to data support and RDM**

- Spanish and Portuguese translation of the main pages of the IASSIST site

  – Working with the IASSIST web editor Robin Rice to scope and implement translation of the main landing pages on the IASSIST website (IASSIST brochure in first instance)

- Preparation of a Latin-American session in next IASSIST annual conference in collaboration with Fellows Committee

  – Organise another Latin-American session at IASSIST 2012 (complete with NGO representation) led by Bobray Bordelan (Princeton)

  – Liaise with the Fellows Committee to fund and invite data professional colleagues from Latin America to participate in this session.