

How to contribute

To enrich People Australia the National Library is collaborating with a wide range of online services that create, maintain and provide records about people and organisations.

The People Australia program has adopted a metadata harvesting model to harvest metadata records from contributors. These records will form part of an overall identity record for a person or organisation and will provide links to our contributor's resources.

Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH)

People Australia generally uses the [Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting \(OAI-PMH\)](http://www.openarchives.org) to ingest records about people and organisations. General and technical information about the protocol is available at <http://www.openarchives.org>.

OAI Repositories providing metadata to People Australia need to :

- conform to the [OAI-PMH Protocol Specification \(Version 2\)](#) or to the [OAI Static Repository Specification \(Version 2\)](#)
- ideally provide records using EAC but other record formats may be supported.

The OAI website provides useful [Implementation Guidelines](#).

Two sites that provide a useful overview of the OAI Protocol are:

- [NSDL Metadata Primer](#) which includes an introduction to metadata, an introduction to Dublin Core use, and several FAQs.
- [Open Archives Forum OAI for Beginners tutorial](#)

OAI Implementers can test their repositories using the [OAI Repository Explorer](#).

Static OAI Repositories

For small collections the People Australia program supports harvesting from Static OAI Repositories, these are essentially a single xml file containing records to be harvested and are a low barrier way of providing metadata using the standard. Static OAI Repositories need to conform to the [Specification for an OAI Static Repository](#).

Other harvesting methods

Where a contributor does not currently support the OAI-PMH the People Australia program will work with contributors to identify other ways of harvesting metadata.

To discuss contribution please [contact us](#).