Institutional research data management systems go mainstream: how ANDS is responding

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Outline

- ANDS Context
- Metadata Stores program
- Changing institutional environment
- ANDS’ response
ANDS enables the transformation of:

Data that are:
- Unmanaged
- Disconnected
- Invisible
- Single use

To Structured Collections that are:
- Managed
- Connected
- Findable
- Reusable

so that Australian researchers can easily publish, discover, access and use/re-use research data.
Key differentiators for ANDS

- Don’t store data
- Nationally co-ordinated approach
- Institutionally-focussed engagement
  - “helping them meet their research data ambitions”
- Engaging with large nationally-funded discipline investments
- Bulk of funds spent outside ANDS
- All disciplines covered
- Focus on adding value to data and re-use
Problem statement

- Institutions had no way to track the data outputs of their researchers
- ANDS had no way to enable discovery of these data outputs
- Researchers had no easy way to register the existence of their research data outputs
- Result: Lack of coherence in research data infrastructure
ANDS’ Response

- Metadata Stores
  - should have been “Research Data Asset Registry”
- Funding to 23 (of the 39) biggest AU ROs in 2011/2012
- Required: integration with institutional sources of truth
- Required: publishing to Research Data Australia
Available solutions

- ReDBoX (Fedora based)
- VIVO
- Institutional Repository based
- Other homegrown
- Generally successful as a niche program
- Most systems still in use
But the world is changing

- Data is now a mainstream institutional concern
- Many institutions are reviewing their internal CRI/RIM systems
- Data management offerings both more numerous and more mature
- So, how to ensure integration between research management, data management and national services?
ANDS’ Response this time around

- Engage with institutions around what they put in tenders
- Engage with solutions providers around what their offerings provide
- Coordinate with others facing related challenges
  - particularly internationally!
  - which is one reason I am here
Thank you/Questions?

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