3.1 Publishable summary

Libraries and museums are memory institutions, both strive to preserve cultural heritage and provide universal and equitable access to information about it to people, communities and organizations. High quality library and information services help guarantee that access. So, they often share the same users. As memory institutions which preserve the cultural heritage, documents and objects, both were created in the same cultural context or period, sometimes by the same agents, and they provide evidence of comparable cultural features. Local information and heritage are particularly interesting to the web community because often they are not accessible by web search engines and, therefore, this information and objects are not open to the world. This is because museums and libraries have their own data codification and representation method. If that information and objects were open or accessible by standard web applications, these local institutions could be more efficient because they could reuse related published information and datasets from the web to describe and catalogue their collections, and, likewise, other institutions will avoid the duplication of data already created by these specialized institutions. Also, web (semantic web) and open access to this information would avoid geographical access and language limitations to information and heritage around the world.

ALIADA (*ally* in Spanish, female genre) aims to automatize the publication in the Linked Open Data cloud of datasets hosted by different Library or Collection Management Software.

ALIADA consortium is made up five partners with different profiles: two SMEs, two cultural institutions and a technological centre from three different countries: Spain, Italy and Hungary:

- SCANBIT S.L. (Spain)
- @Cult (Italy)
- Fundación Tecnalia Research & Innovation (Spain)
- Artium Museum (Spain)
- Museum of Fine Arts of Budapest (Hungary).

ALIADA is partially funded under the 7th Framework programme of the European Commission in the ICT-2013-SME-DCA call.
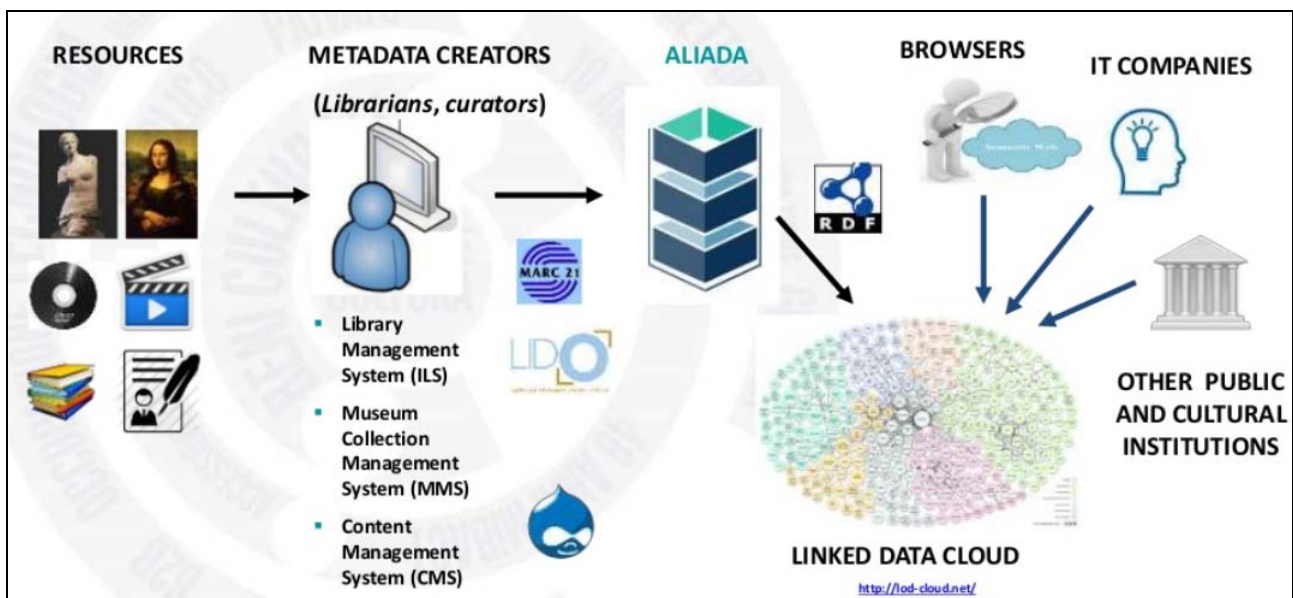
ALIADA will support the whole life cycle of reuse of multilingual open data from public museums and libraries, providing a usable and open source tool that automatize the selection, publication and linking of datasets in the Linked Data Cloud.

ALIADA will be a plugin for the library and collection management software as well as for CMS (Content Management Systems), initially for the ones developed by the SMEs in the Consortium and already installed in the public bodies involved in the project: Amicus Librisuite, TMS and Drupal.

Usability in ALIADA tool will be a key aspect, as the final users will have little or no experience in Linked Data technologies and processes. ALIADA is multilingual: English, Spanish, Italian and Hungarian are the initially foreseen languages.

ALIADA provides a unique access point to the published datasets. Such access point will offer a RESTful interface that can be invoked from multi-device platforms willing to use the linked datasets for innovative applications.

A key objective in the project is to open ALIADA to library or collection management software developers and to cultural institutions communities, generating high impact through demonstration of capabilities of ALIADA and subsequent possibilities, easing open data publication under Linked Data paradigm.

The work performed during the first 12 months is:

At the management level,

Methods are set and continuously being improved, means and tools regarding the management of the project created to ensure rules are clearly understood and followed.

Thus, process, methods and tools have been deployed for:

- Information and document exchange and sharing between partners (the Collaborative Website, ALIADA documentation templates and associated guidelines).
- To assure the quality of the project outcomes and the processes efficiency.

At the operational level,

The ambitious objectives of the first year have been successfully accomplished:

- The specification of the requirements of ALIADA tool.

- The engineering of the ALIADA ontology: http://aliada-project.eu/2014/aliada-ontology

- The architecture design of ALIADA tool.

- The development of the first prototype of ALIADA tool: http://aliada.scanbit.net:8080/aliada-user-interface-1.0/

- The opening to the community of the first prototype of ALIADA tool: https://github.com/ALIADA/aliada-tool/

- The celebration of the initial usability workshop.

At dissemination level:

The following dissemination activities have been achieved:

- The ALIADA website: www.aliada-project.eu
- The ALIADA communication materials:
  - The ALIADA factsheet: http://www.aliada-project.eu/sites/default/files/ALIADA_fact_sheet_0.pdf
  - Flyers, videos and PPT presentations.
- Relevant meetings and fairs where ALIADA was present at:
  - LIBER 2014
  - IFLA 2014
  - ADLUG 2014
  - VII Encounters of Art Museums
  - LuBeC 2014
  - Art Libraries Facing the Challenges of a Digital Age - 2014
  - Networkshop 2014
  - PUCK Project Seminar – 2014
- Social media diffusion:
  - Twitter: @aliadaproject
  - Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/aliadaproject
  - Linkedin: https://www.linkedin.com/company/aliada-project