PARADISEC

THE PACIFIC AND REGIONAL ARCHIVE FOR DIGITAL SOURCES IN ENDANGERED CULTURES (PARADISEC)

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https://paradisec.org.au

I acknowledge and pay respect to the original owners of the land I work on, the Woiwurrung people of the Kulin Nation

What we need

A nationally funded and guaranteed data service that will curate research data with appropriate licences so that it is available in future

In the meantime, we have to shepherd our data through various platforms, ensuring it is able to migrate from one to the next

Improving access to and sustainability of the Pacific and Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC)

Access

- Online catalogue
- API feed to a number of services
- Clear licence conditions
- Ability to deliver arbitrary subsets of items with tailored catalogs

Sustainability

- Bitstream preservation
- Multiple backups
- Research-Object Crate (metadata stored with files)

Orphaned tapes:
senescence of the analog
evanescence of the digital

THERE IS NOW CONSENSUS AMONG AUDIOVISUAL ARCHIVES INTERNATIONALLY THAT WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPORT LARGE-SCALE DIGITISATION OF MAGNETIC MEDIA IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE. TAPE THAT IS NOT DIGITISED BY 2025 WILL IN MOST CASES BE LOST FOREVER.

No tape left behind, the deadline of 2025: Collections at risk

National and Film and Sound Archive (Australia) DEADLINE 2025

Urgent need to digitise, and then to provide a repository for these files

BAKING TAPES AT LOW TEMPERATURE TO EXTRACT ALL MOISTURE

https://www.paradisec.org.au/blog/2007/05/baking-tapes-or-analogue-audio-restoration/

CASSETTE LUBRICATION MACHINE

BUILT BY SAM KING(2025)

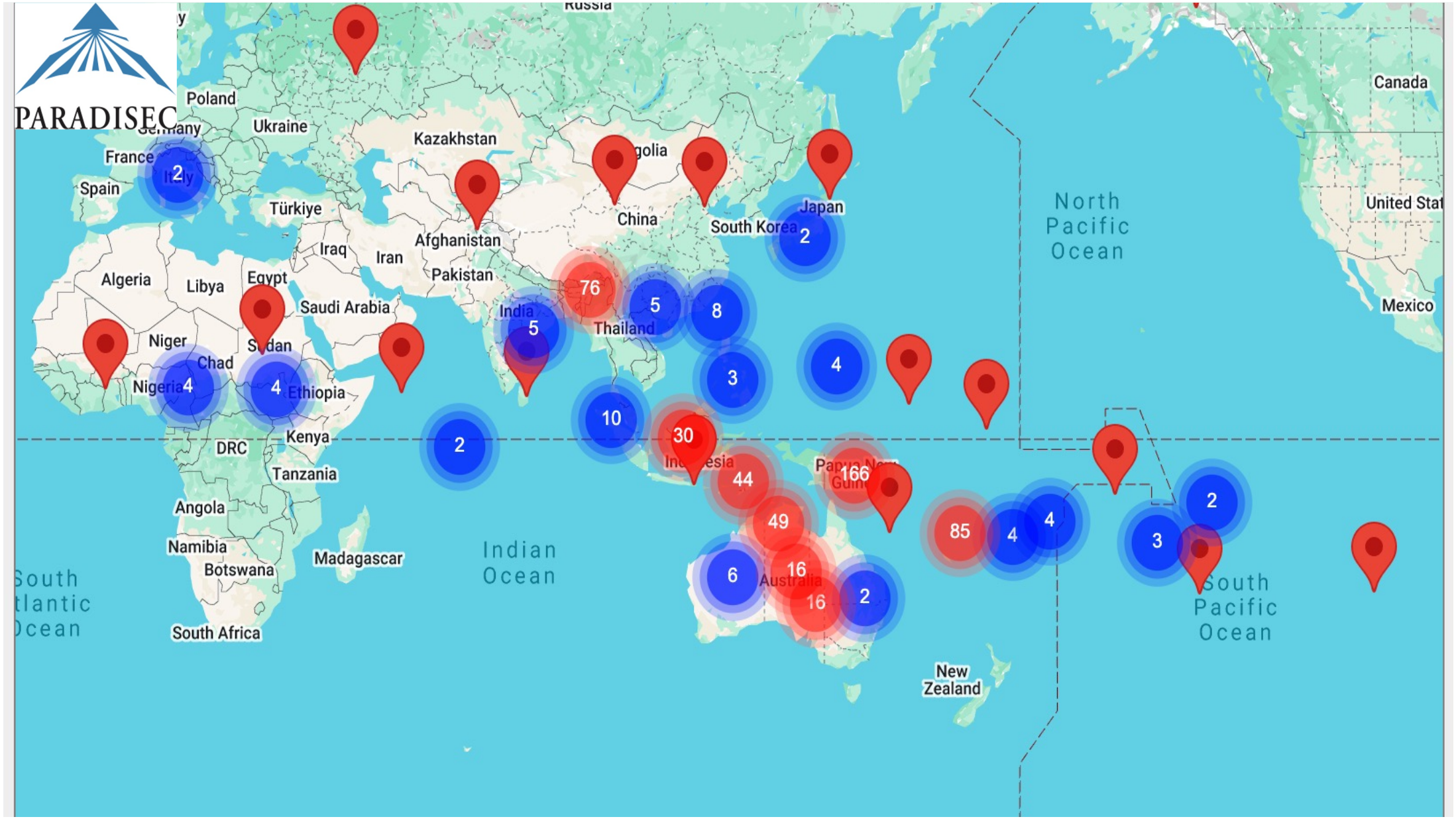
https://www.paradisec.org.au/blog/2025/01/the-tape-restorator/

PACIFIC AND REGIONAL ARCHIVE FOR DIGITAL SOURCES IN ENDANGERED CULTURES (PARADISEC)

- Established 2003
- Researchers concerned to digitise, preserve, and make accessible recordings in the many languages of the region around Australia
- Initially designed to digitise analog research recordings, now also a major community-facing resource
- No other agency taking responsibility for these recordings so they were at risk of loss

PACIFIC AND REGIONAL ARCHIVE FOR DIGITAL SOURCES IN ENDANGERED CULTURES (PARADISEC)

- No core funding, relies on grants (Australian Research Council Future Fellowship, ARC Centre of Excellence, ARDC Language Data Commons of Australia funding, ARC Linkage Infrastructure and Equipment and Facilities)
- Catalog exposes the existence of these recordings
- Currently represent
  - **1,380** languages, many of which have no other presence on the web
  - **260** terabytes, with over **17,900** hours of audio recordings, plus **3,500** hrs video, text (incl 14,000 Elan transcript files), and images
- Moved to S3 storage in 2023, managed by the University of Sydney


PARADISEC
Russia
Poland
Ukraine
Kazakhstan
France
Spain
Italy
Türkiye
Iraq
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Afghanistan
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South Korea
Japan
Canada
United Stat
Mexico
North Pacific Ocean
Algeria
Libya
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Saudi Arabia
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Namibia
Botswana
Madagascar
South Africa
Indian Ocean
South Atlantic Ocean
Australia
New Zealand
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6
16
16
2

Countries represented in PARADISEC

Afghanistan (2), American Samoa (5), Australia (9814), Austria (2), Azerbaijan (3), Bangladesh (32), Bhutan (66), Bolivia (7), Botswana (2), Brunei (65), Bulgaria (3), Cambodia (4), Cameroon (15), Chad (1), Chile (25), China (1178), Cook Islands (201), Czech Republic (2), Denmark (2), East Timor (118), Egypt (1), Estonia (2), Ethiopia (143), Fiji (762), Finland (2), France (19), French Polynesia (104), Georgia (3), Germany (4), Ghana (34), Greece (3), Greenland (1), Guam (2), Hong Kong (2), Hungary (3), Iceland (3), India (741), Indonesia (4028), Iran (1), Italy (380), Japan (190), Kiribati (30), Korea, North (2), Korea, South (3), Laos (346), Latvia (4), Lebanon (2), Libya (1), Lithuania (2), Macedonia (2), Madagascar (18), Malaysia (307), Maldives (5), Marshall Islands (9), Mauritius (35), Mexico (6), Micronesia (158), Monaco (14), Myanmar (3427), Nauru (8), Nepal (577), Netherlands (2), New Caledonia (116), New Zealand (100), Nigeria (132), Niue (3), Northern Mariana Islands (31), Norway (3), Pakistan (27), Palau (5), Palestinian West Bank and Gaza (1), Papua New Guinea (9952), Philippines (342), Poland (2), Portugal (1), Romania (2), Russian Federation (167), Réunion (1), Samoa (166), Singapore (33), Slovakia (2), Solomon Islands (2105), Somalia (1), South Africa (8), Spain (2), Sri Lanka (19), Sudan (204), Sweden (2), Switzerland (3), Taiwan (36), Thailand (113), Tonga (100), Tuvalu (1), Uganda (2), United Kingdom (7), United States (205), Vanuatu (4477), Viet Nam (7), Wallis and Futuna (32)

Working with cultural agencies in the region

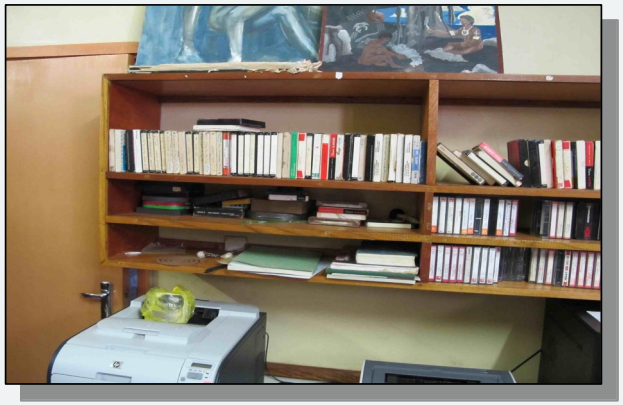
- to return materials recorded there in the past
  - Typically by Australian researchers (linguists, musicologists, anthropologists)
- to digitise their analog tapes
  - No local playback machines, little capacity to do this work in situ

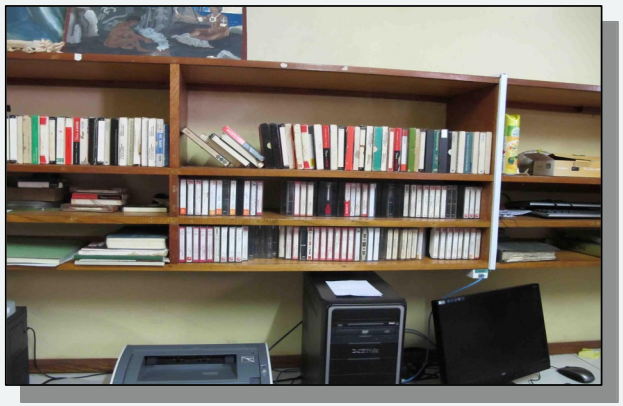
- Vanuatu Kaljoral Senta – Digitising 320 tapes
- University of New Caledonia – Digitisation of mouldy field recordings in Drehu
- Tjibaou Centre – New Caledonia – discussion of metadata and archiving methods
- Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies – provision of CD copies of tapes, inclusion of funding for attendance our conferences
- Divine Word University – Madang, PNG – digitising open reels
- Solomon Islands National Museum – digitising 400 tapes
- University of French Polynesia – training courses, digitising tapes, helping set up a new archive there

120 YAP STATE ARCHIVES TAPES
DIGITISED IN 2023

UNESCO
Memory of the World Committee for the Asia-Pacific, Asia Culture Center
Grant of $USD 5,000

Solomon Islands National Museum





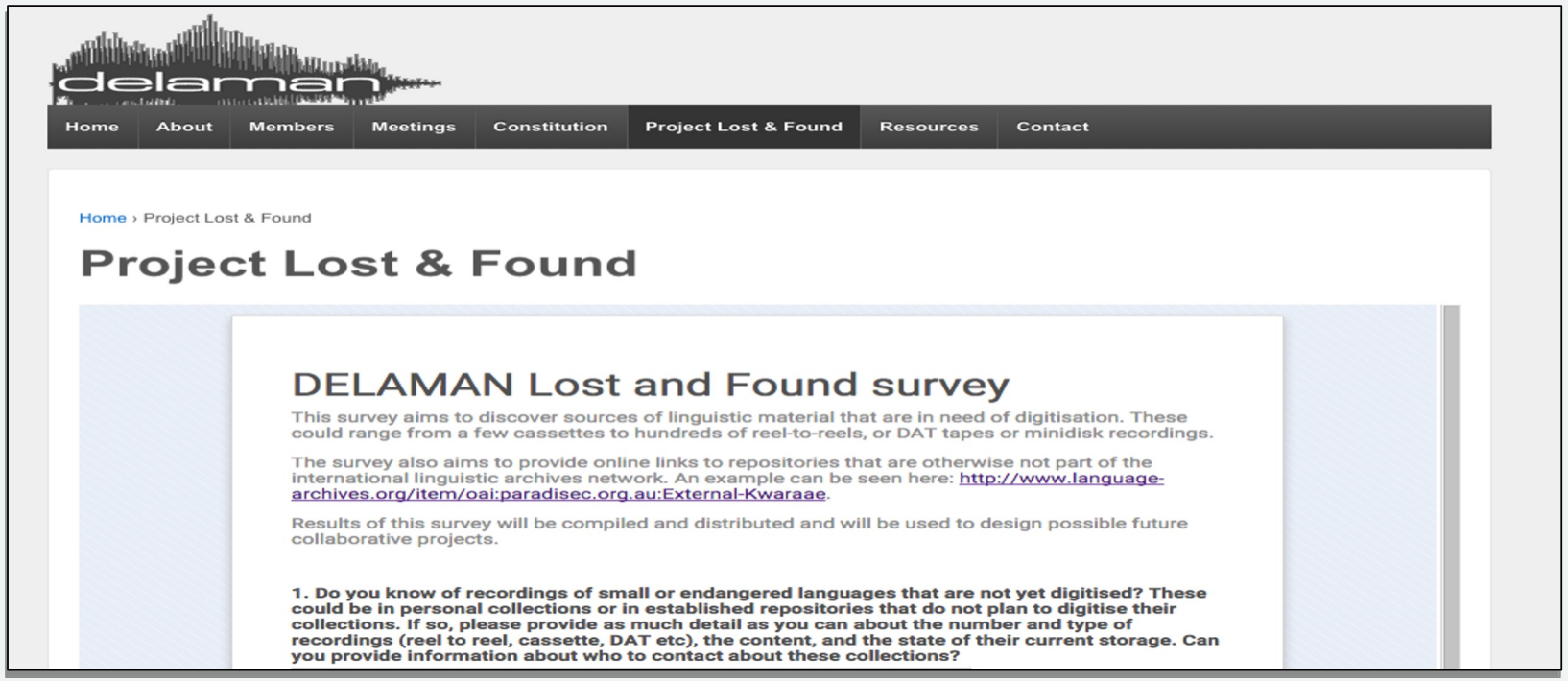
> 600 more tapes need digitising, most include oral tradition in local languages
2014 – Endangered Archives Programme funding to digitise 200 tapes

Creating archive-ready material in the field

Devise naming conventions for files

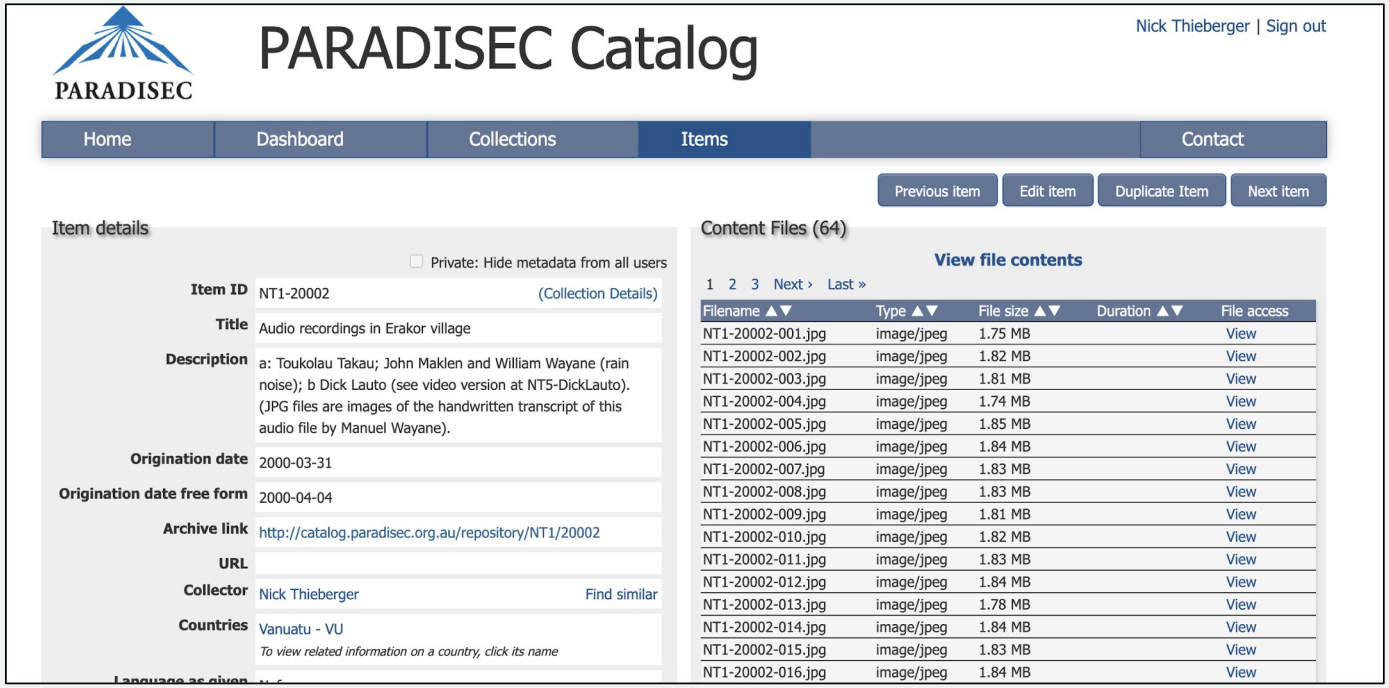
Use tools to help create structured metadata in the field

Looking for analog tape collections
2013 -



Digital Languages and Musics Archives Network
http://www.delaman.org/project-lost-found/

Online catalogue: https://catalog.paradisec.org.au



API feeds picked up by various services to increase reach of catalog, Digital Pasifik, NLA Trove, Open Language Archives Community (OLAC), Research Data Australia, google, etc

API
from our catalog

PARADISEC API Documentation

The PARADISEC catalog exposes a number of APIs for harvesting the public data of the site. PARADISEC makes use of OAI-PMH for its harvesting APIs.

The public data is also available through a GraphQL API .

Harvesting Collections

RIF-CS

A RIF-CS feed is available at http://catalog.paradisec.org.au/oai/collection

For example, you can get a feed of all publicly available collections of PARADISEC:
http://catalog.paradisec.org.au/oai/collection?verb=ListRecords&metadataPrefix=rif

About RIF-CS: http://ands.org.au/guides/cpguide/cpgrifcs.html

Harvesting Items

OLAC

A OLAC feed is available at http://catalog.paradisec.org.au/oai/item

For example, you can get a feed of all publicly available items of PARADISEC:
http://catalog.paradisec.org.au/oai/item?verb=ListRecords&metadataPrefix=olac

Or you can get all the details of a single item of PARADISEC like this:
http://catalog.paradisec.org.au/oai/item?verb=GetRecord&identifier=oai:paradisec.org.au:AA1-002&metadataPrefix=olac
Just replace the item identifier with the identifier that you are after to get its metadata.

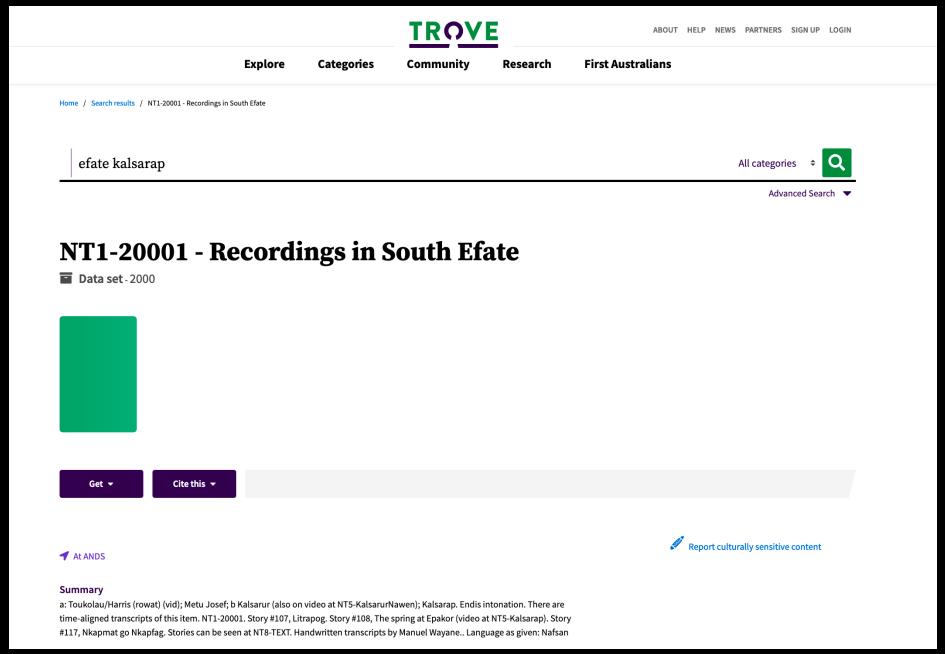
About OLAC: http://www.language-archives.org/documents.html#Standards

GraphQL API

GraphQL

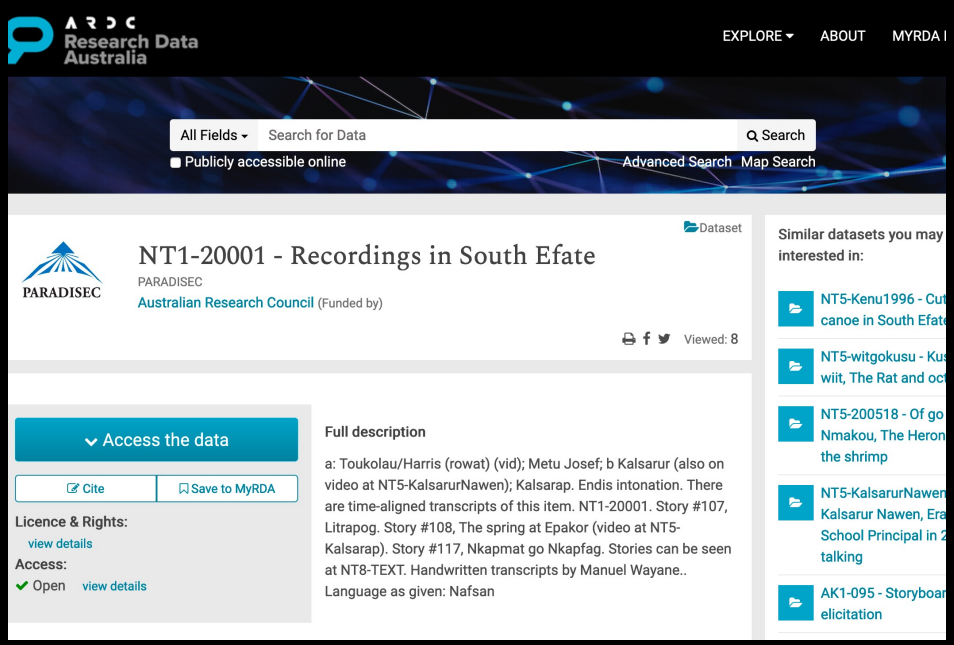
https://catalog.paradisec.org.au/apidoc

Our catalog via the National Library of Australia



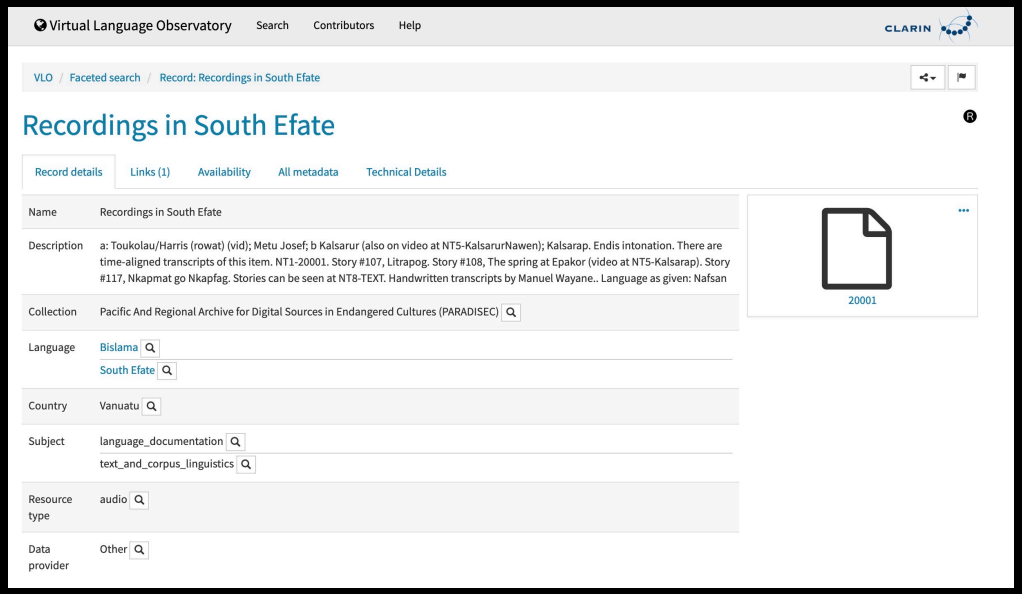
https://trove.nla.gov.au/work/243668228

Our catalog via Research Data Australia



https://researchdata.edu.au/nt1-20001-recordings-south-efate/1576056

Our catalog via the Virtual Language Observatory



https://vlo.clarin.eu/record/oai_58_paradisec.org.au_58_NT1-20001

Our catalog via the Open Language Archives Community (OLAC)

OLAC resources in and about the South Efate language

ISO 639-3: erk

The combined catalog of all OLAC participants contains the following resources that are relevant to this language:

- Primary texts
- Lexical resources
- Language descriptions
- Other resources about the language
- Other resources in the language

Other known names and dialect names: South Efate, Erakor, Fate, Southern Efate

Use faceted search to explore resources for South Efate language.

Primary texts

1. ONLINE *Report on Arthur Capell Estate by Peter Newton.* Peter Newton. 1995. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC1-000
2. ONLINE *Fila Story: A Oa Erua; B&C: Lamenu (cont.); Baki; Pango-Erakor-Eratap.* Arthur Capell (compiler); Arthur Capell (recorder). 1970. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC1-203
3. ONLINE *Oriya, Lowolwol.* Arthur Capell (compiler); Arthur Capell (researcher). 1970. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC1-411
4. ONLINE *Prodigal Son in Efate Dialects.* Arthur Capell (compiler); Arthur Capell (recorder). 1900. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC1-416
5. ONLINE *Natus ni Naterausien.* Pastor Sope. 1900. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC2-VEFAT25
6. ONLINE *Texts in languages from Efate.* Arthur Capell. 1999. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC2-VEFAT403
7. ONLINE *The Prodigal Son Story in Samoa Point/Havannah Harbour.* Arthur Capell (compiler); Arthur Capell (compiler); Arthur Capell (researcher); Peter Newton (depositor). 1999. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC2-VEFAT404
8. ONLINE *The Gospel According to Luke in the language of Efate.* Arthur Capell (compiler); Arthur Capell (researcher); Peter Newton (depositor). 1877. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC2-VEFAT501
9. ONLINE *Tusi Nafausien ni Nafisna Uia Ni Atua Efate.* Arthur Capell (compiler); Arthur Capell (researcher); Peter Newton (depositor). 1999. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC2-VEFAT502
10. ONLINE *Spirax notebook, N.H.I. (Efate).*. Arthur Capell (compiler); Arthur Capell (researcher); Peter Newton (depositor). 1900. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC2-VFN14
11. ONLINE *Notes on Nguna-Efate dialects.* J. Graham Miller. 1999. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC2-VNEFAT104
12. ONLINE *Notebook containing information about Efate and other South Vanuatu languages.* Arthur Capell. 1999. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC2-VSEFAT301
13. ONLINE *Prodigal son text in Efate.* Arthur Capell (compiler); Arthur Capell (compiler); Arthur Capell (researcher); Peter Newton (depositor). 1999. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC2-VSEFAT306
14. ONLINE *Prodigal Son text in Erakor.* Arthur Capell. 1999. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC2-VSEFAT307
15. ONLINE *Prodigal son text in Eratap.* Arthur Capell (compiler); Arthur Capell (compiler); Arthur Capell (researcher); Peter Newton (depositor). 1999. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AC2-VSEFAT308
16. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-002
17. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-003
18. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-004
19. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-005
20. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-006
21. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-007
22. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-008
23. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-009
24. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-010
25. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-011
26. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-012
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33. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-019
34. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-020
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36. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-022
37. ONLINE *Dialogue and elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-023
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42. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-029
43. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-030
44. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-032
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53. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-043
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58. ONLINE *Storyboard elicitation.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-050
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62. ONLINE *Dialogue.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-054
63. ONLINE *Dialogue.* Ana Krajinovic. 2017. Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC). oai:paradisec.org.au:AK1-055

http://www.language-archives.org/language/erk

Automated processes mean we can run with limited staff

New items

Depositor fills out deposit form – access conditions

Depositor fills out metadata spreadsheet or uses the tool *Lameta* (https://lameta.org)

Access determined by the depositor

Items and collections can be open or closed

All metadata can be ‘private’ so it is not visible to the public, but can be made visible to selected users

Some users can be given rights to view, edit, and download items that are otherwise closed

Automated processes mean we can run with limited staff

Files are uploaded into our system, automatically checked and go through a series of automated steps to get put into the collection

Transcode to archival format and delivery format (e.g., tif and jpg, wav and mp3, mov and mp4)

Deposited material can be online the same day or shortly after

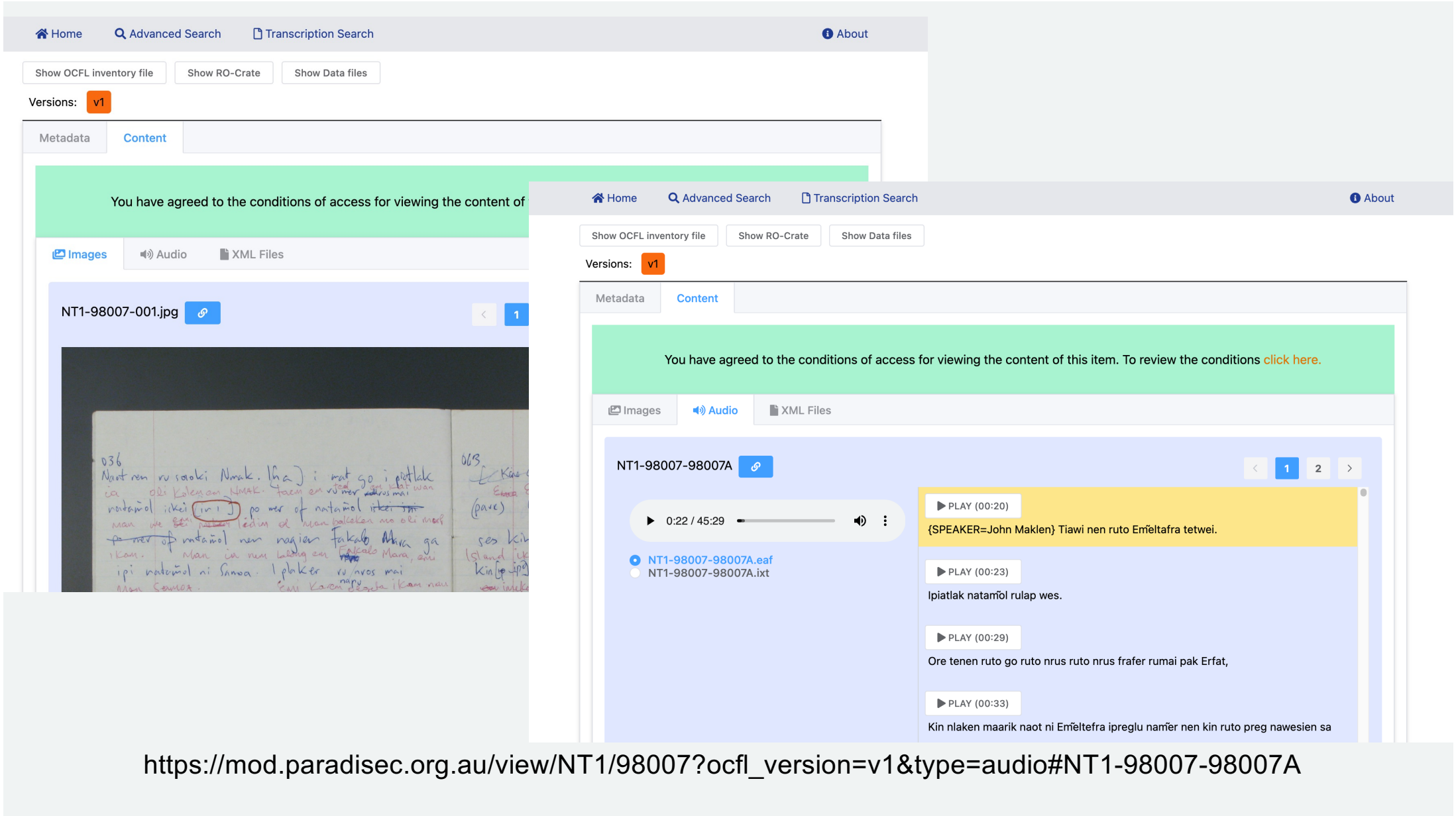
With this automated system we are able to keep operating with minimal funding

Linked data standards and Research Object Crates

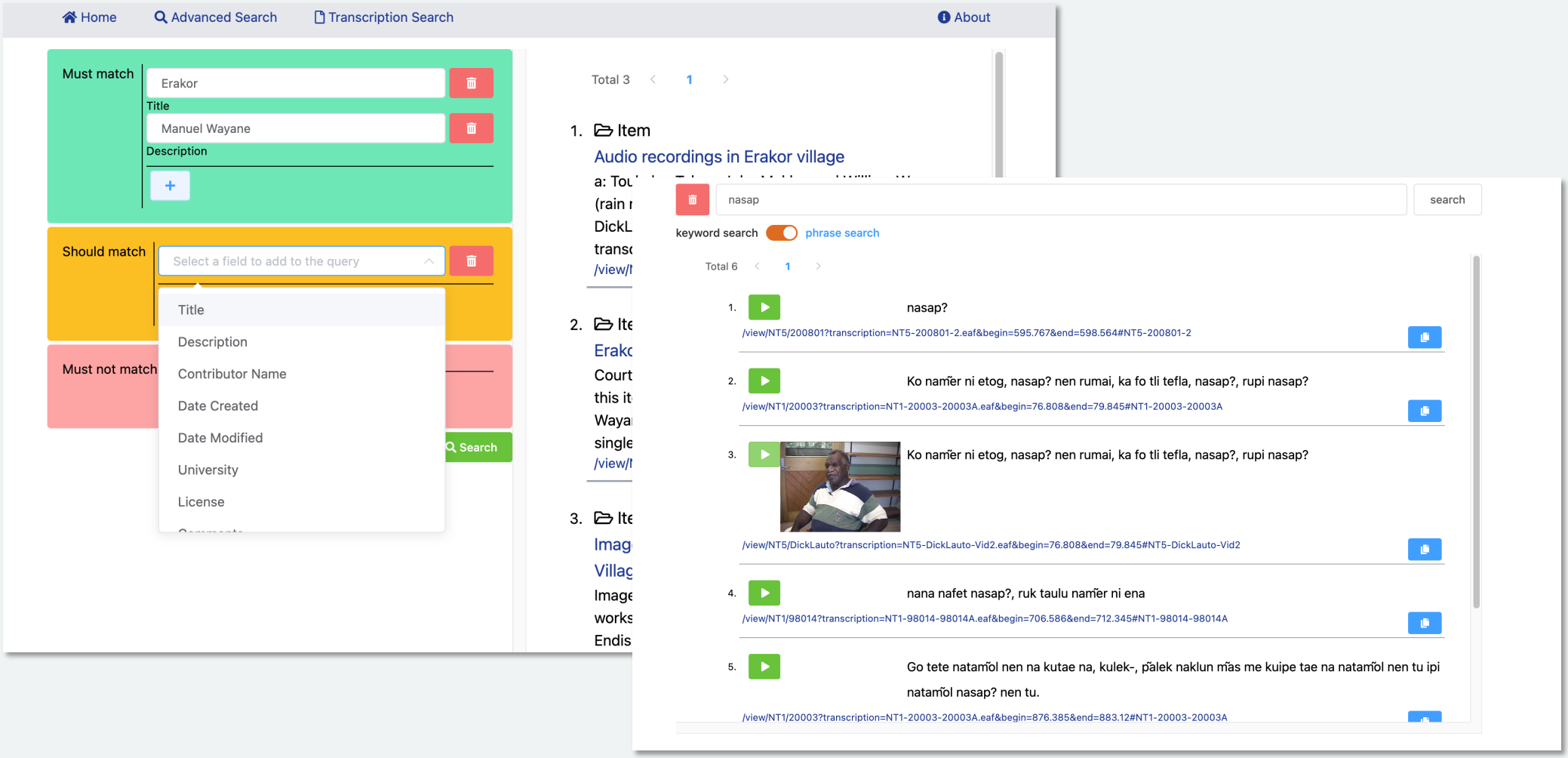
What is RO-Crate?

- lightweight approach to packaging research data with their metadata
- schema.org annotations in JSON-LD
- collection 'at rest' is completely self-describing

https://www.researchobject.org/ro-crate/ - RO Crate spec



https://mod.paradisec.org.au/view/NT1/98007?ocfl_version=v1&type=audio#NT1-98007-98007A



https://mod.paradisec.org.au/

Returning files

JL5-002_4_2_SA2.wav
JL5-002-Ma_2_1a_SAR1.wav
JL5-002-Ma_2_1b_SAR1.wav
JL5-002-Ma_2_2_AS10.wav
JL5-002-Ma_3_1_AMAS1.wav
JL5-002-Ma_3_2_IN2.wav
JL5-002-Ma_4_1_AA12.wav
JL5-002-Ma_4_2_NA2.wav
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JL5-002-SH_1_2_MH4.wav
JL5-002-SH_2_1_SMH1.wav
JL5-002-SH_2_2_FAD1.wav
JL5-002-SH_3_1_FM2.wav
JL5-002-SH_3_2_SH4.wav
JL5-002-SH_4_1_AZ3.wav
JL5-002-SH_5_1_AM6.wav
JL5-002-SH_5_2_MN7.wav
JL5-004-SH_4_0.wav

PARADISEC collection

42,266 items

440,332 files

Subcollections

Copying the files leaves them orphaned, with no catalog description.

Research Object Crates enable the creation of subcollections.

For example, all items related to a particular village and putting them on a hard disk, with a catalog of just that set of items.

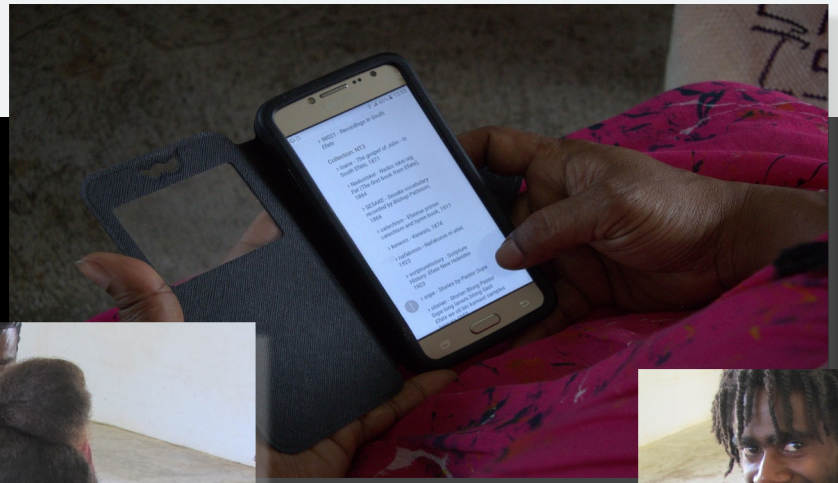
Raspberry Pi is a low powered webserver
wifi transmitter
The USB drive stores the data

Delivery of archival files avoiding bandwidth cost

We wrote a service (dataloader) to convert sets of items from PARADISEC into a new sub-collection, with a catalog, loaded to hard disk or to a Raspberry Pi

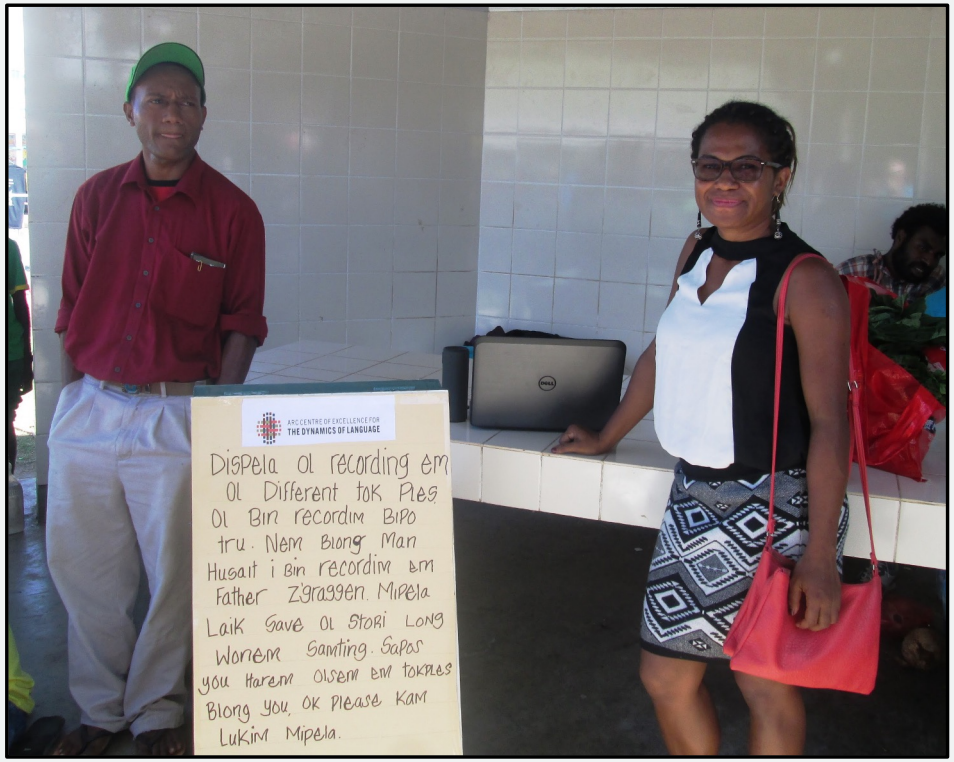
https://www.paradisec.org.au/blog/2024/02/using-raspberry-pi-in-ranongga/

Elisa Alphonse in Erakor village



Kalonuk Albert & Gino Joseph in Erakor village

Enriching metadata



http://www.paradisec.org.au/blog/2017/06/improving-the-metadata-of-papua-new-guinea-collections/

VIRTUOUS CIRCLE

- Research recordings are made available for the source communities and re-used, perhaps to learn forgotten traditions, or just to hear ancestors talking
- Research is properly grounded in the recordings, that can be cited and re-used
- New research can be based on recordings that have licences for re-use
- Collaboration with museums and archives in the Pacific that need help preserving analog tape.

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