

HEKTÁR is a current project funded by ITEM with the participation of the Department of Distributed Systems of MTA SZTAKI and the National Széchenyi Library. The project aims at interconnecting several digital libraries based on the recommendations of the Open Archives Initiative (OAI). OAI defines two basic terms: the data provider and the service provider. A data provider exposes its metadata to the public through the OAI-PMH protocol. A service provider uses metadata harvested via the OAI-PMH protocol as a basis for building value-added services.

Within this project MTA SZTAKI will implement an open source reference implementation for the OAI-PMH protocol, and will apply this software for the Hungarian Electronic Library (MEK) as data provider. We will also implement and operate an example for a service provider. There are numerous technical advantages of using OAI, and additionally it places data providers on a much wider global scope as the member of the dynamically growing OAI community. Therefore, we try to spread the use of OAI and accompanying technologies (e.g. Dublin Core) among Hungarian digital libraries.