

## Curriculum Exchange Format (CEF) Data Model

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

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English Version

## Curriculum Exchange Format (CEF) - Data model

Format d'échange de curriculum (CEF) - Modèle de données

Curriculum-Austauschformat (CEF) - Datenmodell

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 3 March 2011.

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## Foreword

This document (EN 15943:2011) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 353 “Information and Communication Technologies for Learning, Education and Training”, the secretariat of which is held by UNI.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by October 2011, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by October 2011.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This European Standard for a Curriculum Exchange Format (CEF) specifies a data model in a thesaural based format for exchanging vocabularies relating to curriculum information. It is based partially on an extended application profile of Zthes version 1.0 [<http://zthes.z3950.org>] but is not restricted to Zthes as an exchange format. It has been produced in the light of implementation experience and the CEF requirements agreed in the CEN Workshop Agreement - Curriculum Exchange Format (CWA 16078, CEN/WS LTS N 576, January 2010).

There are three main sets of information in the CEF:

- information about the whole CEF instance. This is provided using properties from Dublin Core plus some extensions. Information includes date, title, description and identifier;
- CEF terms. Information including the term name, identifier and type. Though “term” is used throughout as the name for an item in a CEF instance, the model can equally well be used to describe a conceptual approach;
- relationships between terms as a sub-record of a term.

Further information about the background and guidelines on usage can be found in CWA 16078.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

## 1 Scope

This European Standard is applicable to the digital exchange of information about terms or concepts relating to curriculum information. This includes values to be used in metadata to describe learning resources and learner profiles.

The main uses of CEF instances and related services are expected to be the provision of:

- controlled vocabularies;
- navigation structures;
- additional curriculum information;
- mappings.

## 2 Data model

### 2.1 Table headings

**Label** = the preferred name of an element to be used in bindings such as XML. These may vary depending on the binding used.

**Occ** = number of occurrences and obligation. The figure in brackets is the smallest permitted maximum – that is the minimum number of values (for repeatable elements) a conforming **application** shall support. It is assumed that when an upper limit is given that is the smallest permitted maximum.

**Name** = the recommended English name that can be presented to users. Some names may not be needed, as they can be implicit in the way that information is presented. A CEF schema could provide alternative names in other languages.

### 2.2 CEF Information

This data model explains the use of various elements (or properties). It does not indicate the order of elements.

The following elements are used to describe a Curriculum Exchange Format instance.

**Table 1 — Elements to describe a Curriculum Exchange Format instance**

| Label      | Occ  | Name      | Value space        | Description                                  |
|------------|------|-----------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| dc:title   | 1    | CEF Title | stringOrLangstring | The name of the CEF instance.                |
| dc:creator | 0..* | Creator   | stringOrLangstring | The name of the creator of the CEF instance. |
| dc:subject | 0..* | Subject   | stringOrLangstring | The topic areas covered by the CEF instance. |