DESCRIPTION

CIDOC-CRM is an ontology and standard for cultural heritage documentation that ensures semantic consistency. It is a Conceptual Reference Model (CRM) developed by the International Committee for Documentation (CIDOC). When implemented in a Content Management System (CMS), it enables structured and meaningful data entry, storage, and sharing across institutions. Integrating CIDOC-CRM into CMS enhances interoperability, long-term preservation, and contextual understanding of cultural objects.

IDEAL SCENARIO

CMS platforms used for cultural heritage documentation often follow CIDOC-CRM principles. The system supports semantic relationships between entities and events, enabling rich and linked metadata that promotes reuse and data integration across museums and collections.

TIPS

Do	Don't
- Map metadata before CIDOC-CRM integration - Ensure object metadata conforms to the vocabularies - Use CMS platforms that support semantic data - Regularly validate data to conform to CIDOC-CRM	- Avoid using unstructured metadata models - Avoid relying on CMS that is not semantically compatible - Avoid to neglect semantic mapping of data.

FURTHER RESOURCES

- CIDOC CRM, official website https://cidoc-crm.org/
- CIDOC CRM, ICOM special interest group, https://cidoc.mini.icom.museum/working-groups/crm-special-interest-group/
- CIDOC, CRM version 7.3.1; Bekiari C. et al. (2025). *Definition of the CIDOC Conceptual Reference Model.*

Figure: CIDOC-CRM from: https://cidoc-crm.org/