DDI Alliance Training Principles
January 13, 2012

The following principles serve as the foundation for DDI Alliance training.

Principle 1 – Audience
Training and training materials will be customized for various audiences, with an emphasis on these important groups:

- High-level directors and managers
- Funding agencies
- Archivists, librarians, and data scientists
- Researchers
- Developers/implementers

Principle 2 -- Formats
Training will be provided through a variety of formats to accommodating different learning styles. Formats will include:

- Online Webinars and tutorials
- Face-to-face training
- Library of training materials for individual learning

Principle 3 – Training levels
Training will be tailored to audience needs by providing basic and more advanced levels covering both DDI Codebook and DDI Lifecycle and incorporating hands-on training when appropriate:

- Overview training – Emphasizing the purpose of DDI as a metadata standard and showcasing what it can do; may be considered the business perspective – why to use DDI
- Technical training – Educating implementers on how to use DDI effectively

Principle 4 – Pedagogical perspective
All training will be conducted from the perspective of providing sound pedagogical instruction -- being prepared and responsive, engaging with the audience, and following up when needed. Training evaluations will be conducted and discussed by the training team to make improvements. Materials will be continually improved.

Principle 5 – Regional and international dimensions
Training will be regionally based with regular national and international exposure when the opportunities arise.

Principle 6 – Peer-to-peer learning
Whenever possible, trainers will be recruited from the DDI membership and community with the expectation that those who are trained may someday be called upon to train others.

Principle 7 – Non-profit status
Alliance-branded training opportunities should be available to all who need them, and they are typically of two types:

- Community-based training (covers costs but not the time of instructors) – This type of Alliance training is appropriate when the trainers' home organizations permit the trainers to use work time for training or creating training materials.
- Non-profit training (incorporates instructor costs into fees but without typically earning a profit or surplus) – This type of training may sometimes generate surplus revenues, but they are reinvested by the Alliance to fund future activities.

Commercial training (revenue-generating, not sponsored by the Alliance) is another option. This is typically offered by individual trainers who are paid to do in-depth training customized to meet the needs of specific organizations.