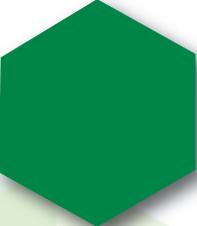




**DIGITAL
CULTURAL HERITAGE
ROADMAP
FOR PRESERVATION**



The project

DCH-RP Digital Cultural Heritage Roadmap for Preservation is a coordination action supported by the European Commission under the e-Infrastructure Capacities Programme of the Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7). It aims to design a Roadmap for the implementation of a federated e-Infrastructure for preservation of Digital Cultural Heritage (DCH) content, as part of a more general vision towards the Open Science Infrastructure for DCH in 2020. The Roadmap will be supplemented by practical tools for decision makers and will be validated through a range of proofs of concept, where cultural organisations and e-Infrastructure providers will cooperate on concrete experiments.

START DATE: 01/10/2012

Background

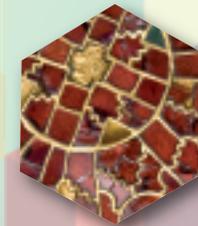
The DCH sector is producing a large amount of digital content that needs to be safely stored, preserved and curated over time to allow efficient resource discovery and re-use. Long term preservation is in fact one of the most challenging problems of the current digital era. The amount of digitised material is growing very rapidly thanks to numerous national and European initiatives for the digitization of DCH content belonging to Museums, Libraries and Archives. In this context, e-Infrastructures for research play an important role, and cooperation and coordination among institutions, e-Infrastructure providers, research and private organisations is a key factor. E-Infrastructures allow easy and controlled online access to facilities, resources and collaboration tools, and bring the power of ICT for computing, connectivity, storage and instrumentation.





Related projects

DCH-RP is part of a wider process which started 10 years ago among cultural institutions with the projects DC-NET <http://www.dc-net.org> and INDICATE <http://www.indicate-project.eu>, two pioneer projects in the DCH e-Infrastructures area that identified the implementation of a preservation infrastructure for DCH as the first priority in this sector.



Objectives

- Harmonisation of data storage and preservation policies in the DCH sector at European and global level
- Promotion of dialogue among DCH institutions, e-Infrastructure providers, research and private organisations
- Identification of the most suitable models for the governance, maintenance and sustainability of such integrated infrastructure for digital preservation of cultural content
- Development of the network of common interest for contributing to the ongoing process of setting up the DCH research community
- Development of sustainability strategies for the preservation infrastructure for DCH

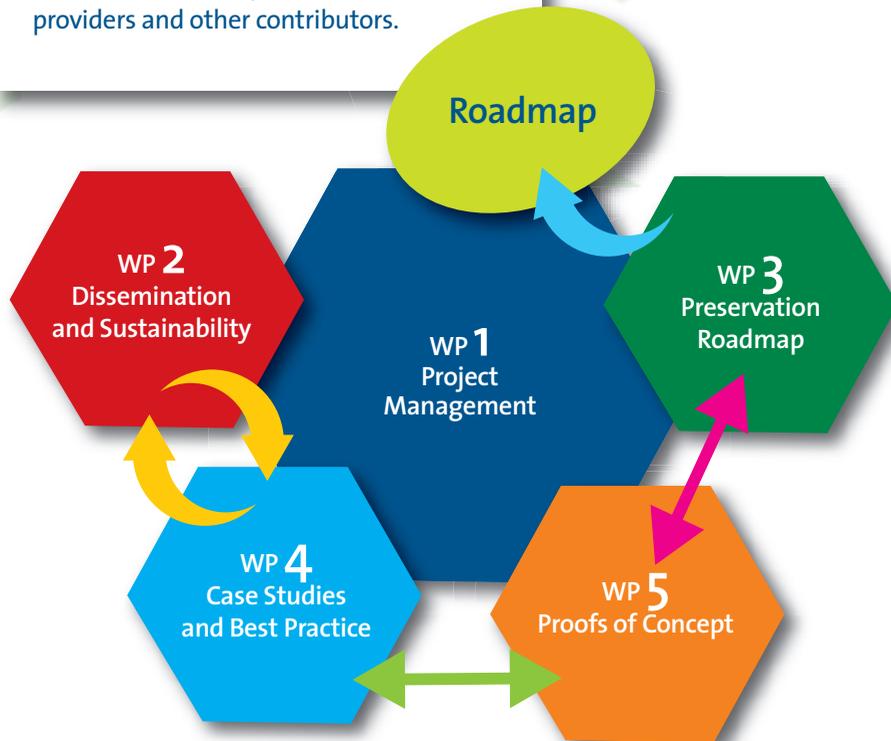


Outcomes

- Roadmap for the implementation of a preservation infrastructure for DCH supplemented by practical tools for decision makers
- Validation of the Roadmap through a range of proofs of concept, where cultural institutions and e-Infrastructure providers work together on concrete experiments

Activities

The project consists of **5 Work Packages** which carry on activities involving cultural institutions, e-Infrastructure providers and other contributors.



Within the activities of the WPs, the implementation of a preservation infrastructure for DCH is the main goal of the project and the main channel for the delivery of advanced services to the digital cultural heritage sector.

Preservation Roadmap WP3

- To identify key characteristics and requirements for a Preservation Roadmap for DCH
- To develop a registry of services and tools
- To investigate how Infrastructure as a Service can contribute to digital preservation services for DCH
- To design and validate the Preservation Roadmap for DCH
- To explore the state of the art in cultural heritage and e-Infrastructure, and interoperability principles for digital preservation in order to inform the two communities about their other's practice
- To consider how standards and interoperability principles can be adopted by the cultural heritage and e-Infrastructure communities in order to maximise their potential benefits



Case studies and best practices WP4

Starting from the results of existing projects and initiatives, relevant case studies will be analysed to extract knowledge and best practice to promote future interoperability and the adoption of common standards, tools, approaches and business models.

This analysis together with an ongoing discussion with e-Infrastructures and DCH organisations will validate the defined Preservation Roadmap for DCH. WP4 also includes work around the design of a suitable trust model to be used by DCH in an e-Infrastructure environment. This module also encompasses the design of a new trust model suitable for the case of e-Infrastructures, including recommendations for user authentication and access control systems and for engaging with commercial partners.



Proofs of concept WP5

Two proofs of concept will be carried out where cultural institutions and e-Infrastructure providers will experiment with the use of grid and cloud methodologies to store cultural digital resources and will point out how to implement and validate the concepts established in the Preservation Roadmap. The proofs of concept allow end users in the DCH community to store, access and manage digitalised facsimiles of artifacts of human culture using a common distributed e-Infrastructure.

The execution of the experiments is based on the evolution of the e-Culture Science Gateway produced by the INDICATE project and other services. The results will influence the evolution of the Preservation Roadmap.



DCH-RP website

The main dissemination tool used by DCH-RP to promote the project and its achievements is the project website www.dch-rp.eu. Its main goal is to allow the visitor to obtain a clear idea of the project's objectives, its activities and the main results achieved, as well as to meet the partners and to better understand the origins and background of the project.

The project website is mainly targeted at experts in the field of DCH and e-Infrastructures, including cultural institutions, scientists, national authorities, the content-contributing community, government and policy bodies, the private (publishing) sector, etc.



A show-case on digitalmeetsculture.net

Digitalmeetsculture.net is an interactive online platform for cooperation and information in the field of digital technologies applied to cultural heritage and the arts. The DCH-RP project is advertised on the portal www.digitalmeetsculture.net through a dedicated showcase, which presents general information about the project, a link to the project website and to each partner's website, project contacts and an auto-refreshing RSS news feed that redistributes news items that appear on the DCH-RP website. This showcase aims at supporting the dissemination activities of the project to a wider audience, including both professionals and the general public, and promotes access to the official DCH-RP website.





Target audience

The DCH community includes a range of players with a wide variety of needs.

Firstly, content providers who need the infrastructure to preserve their content and a solid Roadmap as a reference for taking decisions (e.g. cultural managers of national institutions and libraries, small institutions, private and public publishers, etc.).

Secondly, policy makers and programme owners at different levels (national, regional and local) who invest in the construction of research infrastructures and need guidance before deciding on future actions. Thirdly, end users who need the infrastructure to get safe access to data for their research (e.g. researchers, practitioners, students and members of the public) who are interested in the humanities and in particular in themes connected with digital technologies and cultural heritage.

Finally, e-Infrastructure providers and R&D institutions active in digital preservation.



Partners

The Consortium

The consortium is composed by **13 partners from 8 European countries**, representing the different key stakeholders.



Coordinator

Central Institute for the Union Catalogue of Italian Libraries and for Bibliographic Information (ICCU) – **Italy**



Riksarkivet

The National Archives (RA) – **Sweden**



Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Center (PSNC) – **Poland**



EDITEUR – **United Kingdom**



Belgian Federal Science Policy Office (BELSPO) – **Belgium**



Italian National Institute of Nuclear and Particle Physics (INFN) – **Italy**



Trans-European Research and Education Networking Association TERENA – **Netherlands**



Ministry of Culture, Republic of Estonia (EVKM) – **Estonia**



National Information Infrastructure Development Institute (NIIFI) – **Hungary**



MICHAEL Culture Aisbl (MCA) – **Belgium**



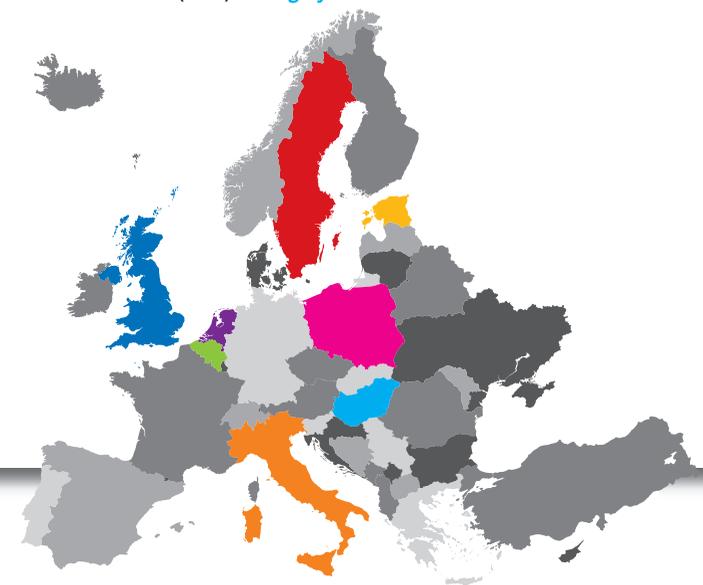
Promoter Srl (PROMOTER) – **Italy**



European Grid Initiative (EGI.eu) – **Netherlands**

Collections Trust

Collections Trust (CT) – **United Kingdom**





PROJECT COORDINATOR

Rossella Caffo

Ministero per i beni e le attività culturali
Istituto centrale per il catalogo unico
delle biblioteche italiane (ICCU)

viale Castro Pretorio 105
00185 Roma, Italy

Ph. +39 06 49210427

f +39 06 4959302

rosa.caffo@beniculturali.it

info@dch-rp.eu

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR

Antonella Fresca

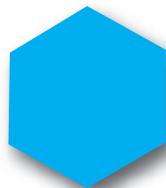
Promoter s.r.l.

via Boccioni 2
56037 Peccioli, Italy

Ph. +39 0587 466881

f +39 0587 829666

fresca@promoter.it



design mteresa milani_roma

