DC-NET: a European Network for Digital Cultural Heritage Research

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DC-NET in a glance

• DC-NET is an ERA-NET aiming to the coordination of programmes
• Research field: e-infrastructure for the digital cultural heritage
• Duration: 24 months
• Starting 1\textsuperscript{st} December 2009
• Public launch 17\textsuperscript{th} February 2010
• Main outcome: Joint Activities Plan

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e-IRG workshop
Madrid, 17/07/2010
7 Ministries from 7 EU countries

- **Italy:** Ministero per i beni e le attività culturali - Istituto Centrale per il Catalogo Unico (coordinator)
- **(*) Belgium:** Politique scientifique fédéral/Federaal Wetenschapsbeleid - STIS
- **Estonia:** Eesti Vabariigi Kultuuriministeerium
- **France:** Ministère de la Culture e la Communication – Mission de la Recherche
- **Greece:** Υπουργείο Πολιτισμού [Hellenic Ministry of Culture]
- **Hungary:** Oktatási Kulturális Minisztérium
- **Slovenia:** Ministrstvo za Kulturo Slovenia
- **(*) Sweden:** Riksarchivet

(*) in Belgium & Sweden partners were delegated from their respective national/regional Ministries

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**e-IRG workshop**

**Madrid, 17/07/2010**
The state of the art

The last 10 years have been devoted to:
- initiate the mass digitization in Europe
- develop a common platform of standards and recommendation for digitization
- create portals and websites

The current challenges:
- To reduce cost of digitization and to increase volume of data to a real “critical mass”
- To create advanced services for access, use, re-use and preservation of digital content
- To integrate different sources of data into a common infrastructure for the research and the “citizens researchers”

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e-IRG workshop
Madrid, 17/07/2010
RECOMMENDATION & GUIDELINES

DATA MODEL, ORGANISATION, GOVERNANCE

DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES & DEPLOYMENT OF SERVICES

DIGITAL CULTURAL HERITAGE
e-INFRASTRUCTURE

NATIONAL & REGIONAL INITIATIVES


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DC-NET overall strategy

Threee main directions:

I. to bring people together and to establish a **dialogue** between the Cultural Heritage and the ICT
   *(working groups, international conferences & publications)*

II. to explore how e-Infrastructures can **add value** to the research in the digital cultural heritage and to anticipate a range of services *(focused seminars and workshops)*

III. to develop and to **endorse a Joint Plan of Activities** *(commitment from the stakeholders)*
Building blocks

MINERVA & MICHAEL

– **ICT research projects**: e.g. Caspar, Diligent, Delos, Bricks, Digital Preservation Europe, Imagination, Multimatch, DL.ORG, etc.

– **National and regional cultural portals**: e.g. CulturalItalia, BAM, CultureFrance, Kulturpool, etc.

– **e-Infrastructures**: e.g. Driver

– **Digital libraries projects**: e.g. ATHENA and Europeana

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Research topics to be addressed by the next initiatives

- Standards and metadata
- Automatic extraction of knowledge
- Protocols for interoperability
- Empowered search engines for complex data
- Advanced repositories architectures
- Digital preservation
- Rights management
- Use and re-use of content
- Secure access and identity management
- Advance services for collections management
- Multilingualism
- Linked data and persistent identifiers
Current Project Activities 1/2

Network of common interest:

- national **working groups** to identify initial set of research priorities (→ national reports)

**e-Infrastructure awareness:**

- **Questionnaire** to explore the e-Infrastructures available in each Member State
- **E-Infrastructure concertation meeting** - Tallin, January 2011
- **Memoranda of Understanding** between cultural sector and e-Infrastructure providers

**New service priorities:**

- **Best practice** analysis of new services
- **New Services workshop** – Paris, February 2011
Dissemination & Training:

- Publications, website and 2 EU Presidency conferences:
  - Brussels, 29 October 2010
  - Budapest, 23-24 June 2011

- Training national events

Validation

- Evaluate technical feasibility, cost and sustainability of the new services

Joint Activities Plan:

- Joint Research Agenda for digital cultural heritage using e-Infrastructures, to commit programme owners

- Joint Activities Plan as the follow up of the ERA-NET
International dimension

INDICATE in a glance

a support action for the Mediterranean region (under final negotiation)

Expected start date: 1st September 2010

Participants from:

- Italian and French Ministries of Culture
- Slovenia – Governmental agency for preservation of cultural heritage
- National Technical University of Athens
- i2CAT in Barcelona
- E-Infrastructures: GARR and Cometa
- Med countries: Jordan, Turkey and Egypt

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INDICATE expected results

2 pilots about use of e-infrastructures for digital cultural heritage

1 international conference in Egypt to present result of the pilots

3 thematic workshops:
  Jordan – virtual exhibitions
  Turkey – preservation of digital cultural heritage
  Slovenia – geocoded data for cultural heritage

2 publications, summing up results of pilots and workshops
Impact

• Impact on **e-Infrastructures**:  
  – Foster new use of the e-Infrastructures by the digital cultural heritage community

• Impact on **cultural heritage research**:  
  – Awareness, shared guidelines, common standards

• Impact on the **general public**:  
  – Online museums, libraries and archives more accessible  
  – Usable and re-usable research cultural data for education  
  – Access to cultural data for long-life learning, non-professional cultural interests  
  – Exploitation of cultural research for cultural tourism applications

• Impact on **European and national cultural heritage programmes**: → JPI
Website: www.dc-net.org
Thank you for your attention

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