

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 1st December 2009
- Public launch 17th February 2010
- Main outcome: Joint Activities Plan



Partners:

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

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”

RECOMMENDATION & GUIDELINES



**DATA MODEL,
ORGANISATION,
GOVERNANCE**

DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES & DEPLOYMENT OF SERVICES



**DIGITAL CULTURAL
HERITAGE
e-INFRASTRUCTURE**

NATIONAL & REGIONAL INITIATIVES

2002

2005

2009

2011



DC-NET overall strategy

Three 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

MICHAEL



MINERVA &



- ***ICT research projects***. e.g. Caspar, Diligent, Delos, Bricks, Digital Preservation Europe, Imagination, Multimatch, DL.ORG, etc.
- ***National and regional cultural portals***. e.g. CulturallItalia, BAM, CultureFrance, Kulturpool, etc.
- ***e-Infrastructures***. e.g. Driver
- ***Digital libraries projects***. e.g. ATHENA and Europeana



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**

Project Activities 2/2

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



International dimension

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

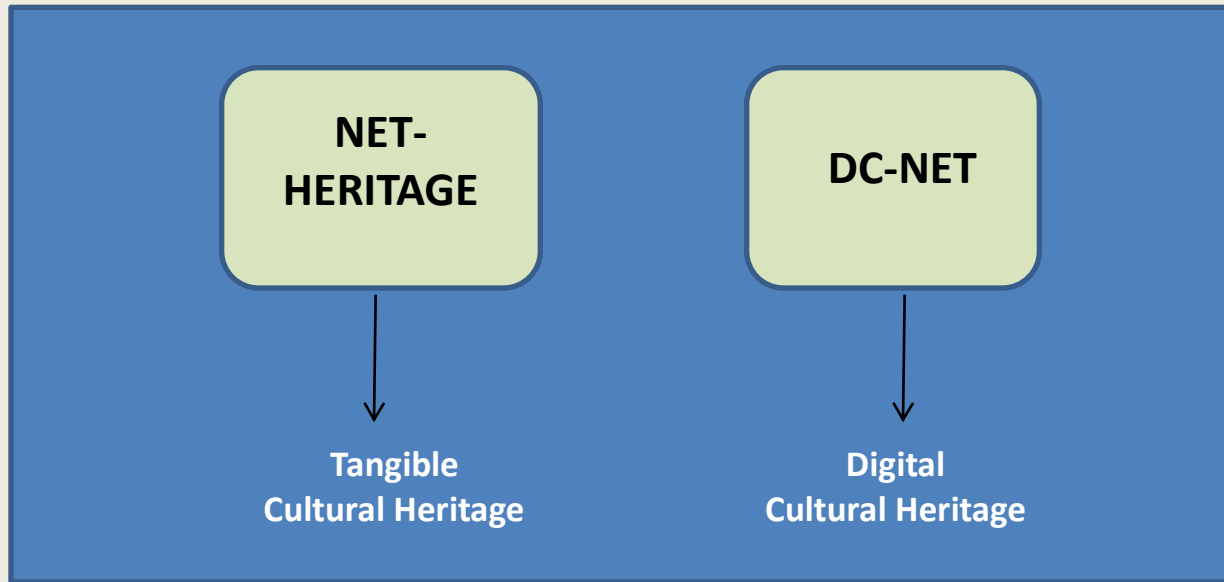
Turkey – preservation of digital cultural heritage

Slovenia – geocoded data for cultural heritage

2 publications, summing up results of pilots and workshops

- Impact 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

JPI for Cultural Heritage





Website: www.dc-net.org

The screenshot shows the DC-NET website homepage. At the top left is the DC NET logo. Below it is a navigation menu with links: About, Partners, Work Packages, EU related projects, Useful documentation, How to join, Dissemination, Reserved Area, News archive, and Events archive. The main content area features a header with the DC NET logo and the text 'Digital Cultural Heritage Network'. Below this is a paragraph about the project's purpose: 'The main aim is to develop and to strengthen the co-ordination of the public research programmes among the European countries, in the sector of the digital cultural heritage.' This is followed by a paragraph about the project's scope and a timeline: 'The DC-NET project started on the 1st of December 2009 and will last 2 years, until December 2011.' Below the text are logos for the European Union, Michael (Multilingual memory of Cultural Heritage in Europe), Minerva, and CAPACITIES (supported by the European Union). On the right side, there is an 'Events' section listing several events: 'Rome: Public launch of the DC-NET project' (17 February, 2010), 'Padua: 6th Italian Research Conference on Digital Libraries - IRCDL 2010' (28-29 January, 2010), 'Rome: Kick-off meeting' (17-18 December, 2009), 'EVA Moscow 2009' (30 November - 1 December, 2009), and 'Lund: Improving access to European Cultural Heritage: goals, ways and means' (15-16 October, 2009). At the bottom, there is contact information for the DC-NET Project, including the address 'viale Castro Pretorio, 105, 00185 Roma, Italy', phone number '+39 06 49210427', and email 'info@dc-net.org'. There is also a copyright notice: 'Copyright 2010 DC-NET Project' and 'Page created 2005-10-05, last modify 2010-01-12'.



Thank you for your attention

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