Existing infrastructures to bring cultural heritage online, and new needs for such infrastructures

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Topics

- Facilitate the **deployment of existing digital collections**
- Foster the **re-use** of manipulated digital objects, ongoing research findings and completed research results etc. - within one discipline and across disciplines
- **Digitise further collections** and make them online available
- Provide long-term storage, accessibility and archiving
- Further recommendations

Facilitate the deployment of existing digital collections

- Build one virtual resource for search and navigation
- Make single resources (“granularity”) available for unlimited usage scenarios within Research, Academic Teaching and Education

Recommendations for actions I

- Create an OAI-PMH interface to all existing collections (collection and object level)– serves harvesters, search engines, subject based databases etc.
- Provide a focussed set of relevant descriptors (core set across all types plus some specific data)
- Provide export (“save as”) routines for single objects and collections to be freely assembled (“basket” function)
- Provide a range of common download formats for objects

Recommendations for actions II

- Provide a set of freely accessible **tools** to view, manipulate and save single objects or arbitrary collections of objects (annotate, hyperlink internally and externally etc.; *“Open Office for Digital Objects”*)
- Provide **repository systems** to research groups, teaching collaborations, education networks (temporarily – ongoing work processes, permanent – completed research)

Recommendations for actions III

Define common terms and conditions for online dissemination (“good practice”) of materials in Research & Academic Teaching & Education

➔ in the spirit of open access, but also protecting the rights of content providing institutions

Potential Obstacles

- Many proprietary access (search/navigation) interfaces to digital collections
- Institution specific policies for the use of digital objects – governed by the institutions “reproduction policies”
- No budget to modify functionalities for existing collections
- Reduced scientific personnel at libraries, museum, archives (curator’s tasks)
- Sometimes no full control over digital collections by the content provider institution
  - Digitisation and online access outsourced to third-party service providers
  - Collaborative systems with university computing centres

Foster the re-use of manipulated digital objects and collections

- Stimulate and support a culture of community /collaborative R&AT&E (such as the Wikipedia concept)
  - To deposit /register their manipulated objects, research results, etc. at the content providing institution plus the virtual subject library
  - In the spirit of community research & teaching
  - To the benefit of the content providing institution, extend their virtual collections
- Support the use of ”creative commons” to protect the IPR of research
- Provide institutional/subject based repositories and registries for ongoing and completed works

Digitise further collections and make them online available

Consider research & content provider interests!

- Content selection
- Digitisation standards
- Light descriptors (formal, technical, subject describing)
- Generate the necessary financial resources

Provide long-term storage and accessibility

- Distributed systems (LOCKSS, U.S., international)
- Nationally coordinated strategies and systems (e-Depot, NL; KOPAL, GER)
- Trusted service providers (Porthico, U.S.)

Further recommendations

Explore synergies between the initiatives to build infrastructures for **Open Access**

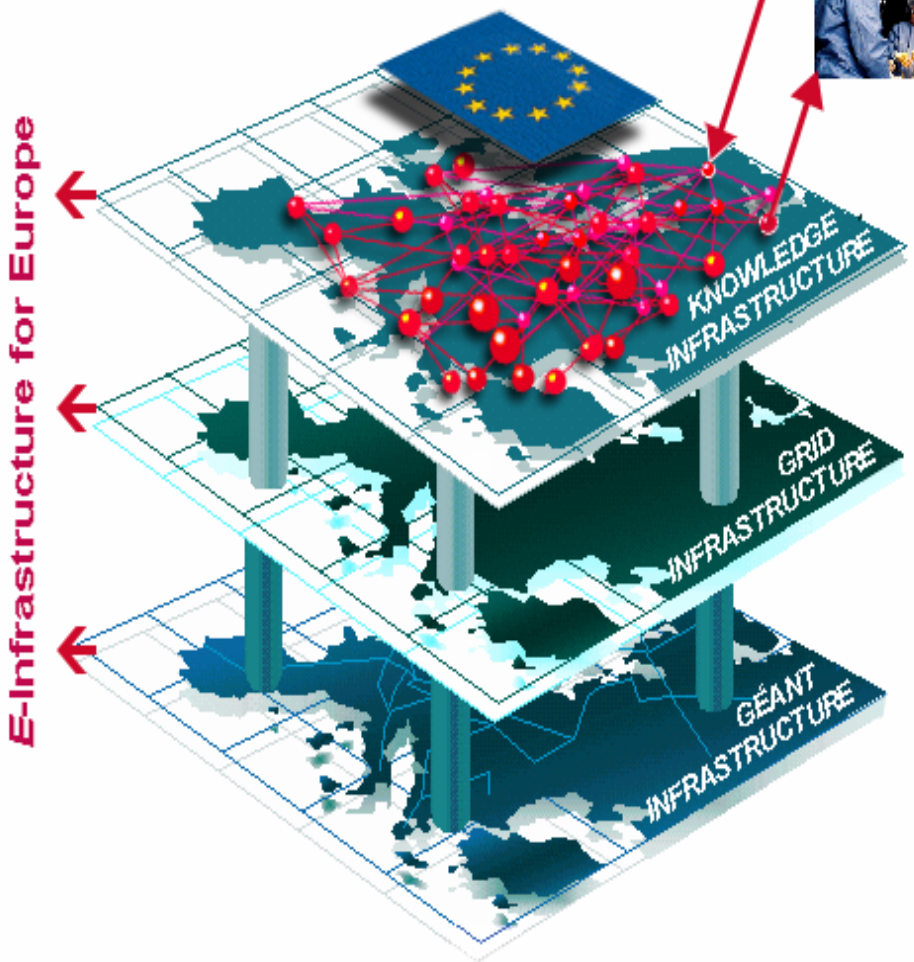
to cultural heritage on the one side and

to science records on the other,

➔ both should build the future “Knowledge Infrastructure” relying on **the concept of worldwide networked digital repositories** (see: EU Testbed-“Project“ **DRIVER** – Digital Repository Infrastructure Vision for European Research)

driver

Digital Repository Infrastructure
Vision for European Research



builds

TESTBED brings together:

Awareness, advocacy

Studies

Organisation

Content

Technology, Standards

TESTBED delivers:

Integrated Infrastructure of contentbased Digital Repository and gridbased Middleware

Thank you for your attention!

Questions?

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