	ENUMERATE Specialist Meeting 4
	Monitoring and Measuring Digital Preservation Practises

Place and Date
5 October 2012, The Hague
Venue
Digitaal Erfgoed Nederland (DEN)

Participants:

Name	Organisation
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Background to the meeting:

The fourth specialist meeting's topic was *"Improving the methodology for measuring digital preservation practises".*

Main questions discussed were:

- What are the main motivations for memory institutions to monitor the status of digital preservation?
- How useful is it to compare national strategies for digital preservation?
- What tools and methodologies regarding preservation issues can be recommended for inclusion in the ENUMERATE statistical framework?
- Can the implementation of specific standards for digital preservation be measured?(OASIS, PREMIS, DRAMBORA,TRAC…etc) If so, how?
- Recommendations for the ENUMERATE Thematic Survey.

Agenda and Minutes

Agenda item	Minute
Introduction	This meeting is the 4th of series of specialist meetings to prepare the ENUMERATE Thematic Survey. The meeting was originally planned to take place in Berlin, to coincide with a meeting of the NESTOR network. Due to circumstances around the NESTOR meeting, the plan had to be abandoned.
	An alternative meeting planned in The Hague turned out to coincide with the iPres conference in Toronto. In the end, 8 digital preservation specialists, mostly from the Netherlands, met in The Hague to have a first discussion on the measuring of digital preservation practices. The purpose of this specialist meeting on Digital Preservation was to support methodology development for the ENUMERATE survey framework.The main task of this group was to prepare the meeting of the ENUMERATE Focus Group on Digital Preservation, which will take place in Janurary 2013, as part of the Thematic Survey itself. A report of this Focus Group meeting will be presented as part of the fainl report to come out of the Thematic Survey.
	In the description of work for ENUMERATE the topic of monitoring digital preservation is introduced in the following paragraph:
	The key factor impeding the widespread adoption and implementation of Digital Preservation Policies is no longer technical knowledge. Over recent years, a considerable corpus of research has generated detailed specifications and guidance to promote sustainable digital assets. Instead, it seems that the key factor is intelligence – there is no overall picture across the EU, or within Nations, about how Digital Preservation policies are being adopted and implemented. There is no statistically-valid basis upon which to benchmark Digital Preservation, or through which to normalise or harmonise issues such as cost and format.
	ENUMERATE will extend the NUMERIC model in order to address this intelligence gap by generating the beginnings of a longitudinal dataset about the following:
	• *The adoption of Digital Preservation policies at an institutional level* • *The growth rate of digital content held by cultural institutions* • *An assessment of the stability of that content and the quality of its preservation*
	As a preparation to the meeting all participants were asked to reflect on the type of intelligence that would be needed, both in order to support individual institutions in the management of their collections - an essential incentive to participate in any kind of survey - and also, in the long run, to support national and EU governments in adopting and implementing digital preservation policies.
	Some guidance questions were distributed to be discussed at the meeting to

help shape the methodology and framework of the ENUMERATE project.

- What are the main motivations for memory institutions and other stakeholders (e.g. policy makers, funding agencies) to monitor the status of digital preservation?
- Are the needs for monitoring preservation practice in the various heritage domains (archives, libraries, museums) comparable?
- How useful is it to compare national strategies for digital preservation?
- Is the amount of time and money needed to monitor digital preservation in individual institutions in proportion with the possible benefits to be gained?
- What kind of monitoring data are feasible? To what extent can these data be quantitative in nature?
- Is there a reason to assume that the cultural heritage sector requires a specialised, domain specific methodology, or can/should a wider, more generic methodology be applied?
- What can we learn from neighbouring domains (e.g. science, government)?
- What is the usefulness of the existing cost models on digital preservation for cultural heritage institutions?
- Can one specific cost model be regarded as the best to fit the needs of the ENUMERATE project?
- What other tools, methods and methodologies regarding preservation issues can be recommended for inclusion in the ENUMERATE statistical framework?
- Can the implementation of specific standards for digital preservation (OAIS, PREMIS, DRAMBORA, TRAC etc.) be measured? If so, how?

A second request to all was to review a few questions on the topic of digital preservation that were part of the ENUMERATE Core Survey (February-March 2012). These questions were distributed together with an analysis of the answers given by the institutions that participated in the survey.

Finally all were asked to think about existing initiatives in this field in order to share them with the group.

Outcomes of the discussion	**a. Review of the Core Survey questions on digital preservation** This following question from the Core Survey should be reconsidered: • Is your organization included in a national or institutional digital preservation strategy? This question actually contains two questions: • Is there a national strategy on digital preservation in your country? • Is your organization included in that national strategy on digital

preservation

The same holds for the question on the digital preservation infrastructure.It would be better to separate these quetsions.

Another question that could be added:

- What type of staff is involved in the digital preservation process in your organisation (IT, Collection etc.)?

b. Possible new questions on digital preservation

A survey about digital preservation cannot ignore one of the most important tools available to underpin and safeguard the level of preservation: the OAIS model. The following questions should be considered for inclusion in the ENUMERATE Surveys:

- Are you familiar with OAIS, as a model or strategy of digital preservation?
- Do you understand how it works, what is needed etc?
- Have you implemented OAIS in your organization?
- How have you implemented OAIS in your organization?

A target for ENUMERATE could be to provide an answer to the question: "How many repositories are there in Europe in Cultural heritage sector that meet the mandatory requirements of the OAIS ISO standard, ISO standard 14721 (2003)?"

In addition, ENUMERATE may also make it clear "How many e-deposits have done an audit based on the TRAC ISO standard?". However, this question may come too early, as it is the general expectation that the amount of digital archives that indeed have done an audit is very limited.

Other standards for digital preservation that could be included directly in ENUMERATE Surveys, are:

- Do you know / are you familiar with PREMIS?
- Do you have your data available in PREMIS?
- In which way does this help your organisation? [think of a better formulation]
- Ask for all four standards: OAIS (see above), PREMIS, DRAMBORA, TRAC

Finally, it was suggested to ask for relationships with third parties. These appear to be crucial in the area of digital preservation.

- Do you use a system from another institution to preserve your digital collections?

During the final preparation of the TS Methodology, it will be decided whether

	these questions will be implemented and tested during the Thematic Survey
	c. About the role of the National coordinators It was recommended at the start of the thematic survey to ask the National Coordinators if they want to cooperate with the Thematic Survey and which parts they prefer to cooperate in. In this phase we can also ask the national coordinators about the state of the national strategy on digital preservation in their country (**Which countries have an established national preservation strategy?) • Is there an established national preservation strategy in your country? • What is the status of this strategy? and: • Is there an established national digital preservation infrastructure in your country? • What is the status of this infrastructure? Etc.