



Alliance Permanent Access to the
Records of Science in Europe Network

Introduction to the APARSEN Project

Sharon McMeekin, DPC

sharon@dpconline.org

@SharonMcMeekin

Trust & Digital Preservation, Dublin, 4th-5th June 2013



What is APARSEN?

- A **Network of Excellence** in digital preservation
- Funded by European Commission
 - 7th Framework Programme — Digital Libraries and Digital Preservation
- January 2011 to December 2014 (4 years)
- Coordinated by Science and Technology Facilities Council (UK)
- **31 renowned partners from 13 countries** (10 EU countries + Israel, Russia, Switzerland)

APARSEN – Project vision

APARSEN is a Network of Excellence that aims to

- Unify a diverse set of practitioner organisations and researchers in digital preservation (DP)
- Bring coherence, cohesion and continuity to research into barriers to the long-term accessibility and usability of digital information and data through a common vision
- Build a long-lived Virtual Centre of Digital Preservation Excellence (VCoE)
- Take DP to a higher level of recognition within the EU and beyond.

APARSEN Common Vision on digital preservation (DP)

The APARSEN partners represent a wide range of backgrounds in DP:

- Content holders and researchers, libraries and scientific data, many previous projects, ...

... and will formulate a Common Vision of the present and future of DP

- Establishes a common framework for discussing DP
- Defines the DP research agenda
- Underpins the Virtual Centre of Excellence

APARSEN Common Vision on digital preservation (DP)

APARSEN defines four topics of DP in which it undertakes research of state of the art and gap analysis:

- Trust
- Sustainability
- Usability
- Access

APARSEN outcomes feed successively into the common vision in the course of the project.

APARSEN Approach



Trust – Activities

- Authenticity and provenance
- Annotation, reputation & data quality
- Peer review/3rd party certification of repositories
- Common test environments

Sustainability – Activities

- Cost/benefit data collection and modelling
- Business Cases
- Preservation services
- Storage solutions

Usability – Activities

- Common standards
- Common tools, software repository and market place
- Interoperability and intelligibility
- Scalability

Access – Activities

- Identifiers and citability
- Data policies and governance
- Digital Rights and Access Management

Spreading Excellence – Activities

- Liaison with Stakeholders
- Visualisation of Expert Centres in DP – Interactive Map of Stakeholders
- Formal Qualifications
- Training Courses
- Internal workshops, symposia and events
- External workshops, symposia and events
- External communications and awareness raising

Spreading Excellence - Objectives

- Raise awareness of the issue of digital preservation (DP)
- Identify relevant stakeholders and multipliers
- Initiate collaboration and exchange with stakeholders
- Contribute to defragmentation in DP
- Identify gaps in formal qualification and professional training and initiates development of DP education

APARSEN Spreading Excellence – Approach

Communication channels used:

- Conferences and workshops
- Webinars - Next 13th June 2013
- Website
- Social media
 - Twitter [@APARSENProject](#), LinkedIn, Facebook
- Publications
 - Reports, Brochures, Newsletter
- Surveys done in several fields e.g. DP education/business cases
- Communication collaboration

Visualisation of Expert Centres in DP – Interactive Map of Stakeholders



Interactive Map of actors and stakeholders in Digital Preservation

Show Organisations [Help](#)

Categories
[Select all](#) | [Deselect all](#)
 Funding and Policy
 Research
 Preservation
 Qualification and Training

Countries
[Select All Europe](#) | [Deselect all](#)
 Croatia
 Bosnia and Herzegovina
 Serbia
 Montenegro
 Albania

Communities
[Select all](#) | [Deselect all](#)
 Agriculture and nutrition
 Behavioral sciences
 Humanities
 Life sciences
 Medicine
 Physical sciences
 Socio-cultural sciences
 Social sciences
 Technology
 Psycholinguistic
 <no Community>



Credits
 The interactive map includes information given by Digital Preservation Europe (DPE). We would like to thank the organisation of DPE for supplying their data set.

This service builds on research and development work of the PARSE.insight project.

The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme FP7/2007-2013 - ICT-2009.4.1: Digital Libraries and Digital Preservation - under grant agreement No 269977.

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Training Courses – Outcomes

- Report on Survey of Training Material/ Assessment of Digital Curation Requirements published (Jan 2013)
 - Gap analysis of provision vs training needs
 - Recommendations include more advanced, practical training
 - Contains topics not covered and participant requirements
- Training courses
 - 6 training events planned based around report conclusions (2013/2014)
 - Developing online training resource centre (Dec 2013)

Virtual Centre of Excellence - VCoE

Who will benefit from the VCoE?

- Researchers in DP
- Research data producers
- Information curators
- Decision makers
- Suppliers of products/services for preservation

Virtual Centre of Excellence - VCoE

The process of building the VCoE

- Reduce risk by building on the existing APA
- Series of workshops to address particular questions
- Capitalising on the experience of others who have done something similar
- Creating a “blueprint”
 - What are the offerings?
 - What is the membership model?
 - ...
- Launch in 2014



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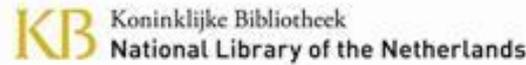
Network of Excellence



Data Archiving and Networked Services



In|Con|Tec



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