



MINISTERO
PER I BENI E
LE ATTIVITÀ
CULTURALI

MEDCULT

kick off meeting

MINERVA

MINERVA is a network of the EU ministries of culture, including also Israel and Russia.

It aims at correlating and harmonising the activities carried out in the field of the digitisation of the cultural heritage.

MINERVA is the operative section of the National Representatives Group for digitisation (NRG).

The European framework

NRG and MINERVA operated in the framework of the European initiatives eEurope (until 2005) and now the new Dynamic Action Plan which addresses the topics about digitisation of the cultural heritage across Europe.

<http://www.minervaeurope.org/publications/dap.htm>

MINERVA endorsement

MINERVA became a European point of reference for the digitisation issues and the creation of cultural web sites.

The European commissioner Viviane Reding mentioned several times MINERVA and its tools as European point of reference for the digitisation of the cultural heritage (June 2005).

How MINERVA works

MINERVA set up a network of hundreds of European experts of many fields of the cultural heritage (museums, archives, libraries etc.).

MINERVA created a shared European platform made up of recommendations and guidelines on digitisation, standards, long-term accessibility, and quality of cultural web sites.

MINERVA generated spin off projects like MICHAEL (www.michael-culture.org) and MINERVA eC (under evaluation).

The MINERVA products 1

- Technical Guidelines for Digital Cultural Content Creation Programmes
- Good Practice handbook
- Data model for the description of digital cultural inventories
- Prototype French-Italian portal
- Annual Progress Report on digitisation
- Guide to Intellectual Property Rights and Other Legal Issues

The MINERVA products 2

Tools for the quality of cultural web sites:

- *Handbook for quality in cultural Web sites*
- 10 Quality Principles
- *Quality Principles for cultural Web sites: a handbook*
- *Museo&Web*

Technical Guidelines for Digital Cultural Content Creation Programme

Available in: de - en - fr – it

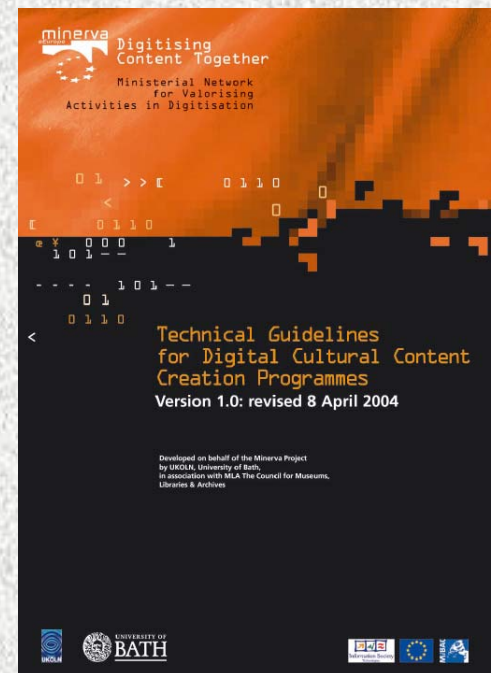
Url:

<http://www.minervaeurope.org/publications/technicalguidelines.htm>

Downloaded files:

8,000 (on MINERVA website)

11,000 (on French Ministry of Culture website)



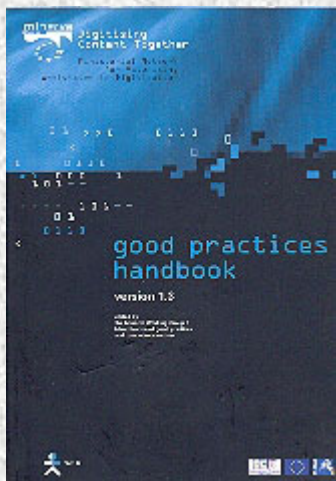
Good Practice Handbook

Printed copies:

3,000 (en) + 1,000 (fr) + 1,000 (it)

Online version: de – en – el - fr – hu - it – lv -
pt – sk

Url: http://www.minervaeurope.org/structure/workinggroups/goodpract/document/goodpractices1_3.htm



Downloaded files:

25,000 (on MINERVA website)

5,000 (on French Ministry of Culture
website)

Handbook for quality in Cultural Web sites

Printed copies

500 (en) + 3000 (it)

Online versions: en - it

Url:

<http://www.minervaeurope.org/publications/qualitycriteria.htm>

Downloaded files:

35,000 (on MINERVA website)



Cultural Website Quality Principles – Postcards

Printed copies:

1000 x 5 (de - en - fr - it - nl)

url:

<http://www.minervaeurope.org/publications/tenqualityprinciples.htm>



Example of use of the MINERVA products

The MINERVA tools for the quality of the cultural web sites were endorsed by the Italian Ministry and used for:

- The official web sites of museums, libraries, archives of the Ministry
- The Italian Culture Portal
- The Observatory for the technology applied to the CH (www.otebac.it)

Quality Principles for Cultural Website: a handbook

Printed copies:

4,000 (en)

it+fr under preparation

Online version: ee - en - el - hu

url:

http://www.minervaeurope.org/publications/qualitycommentary_en.htm



MINERVA and IFAP

Preparatory actions:

- MINERVA and NRG were introduced at the *Information for All Programme* conferences in Russia (Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky September 2003 and Saint-Petersburg June 2004);
- Official invitation to the formal meeting of the IFAP board in Paris in October 2004 and Tunis in March 2005.

May 2005:

MEDCULT project approved by UNESCO for funding.

MEDCULT main goals

General scope:

promoting information literacy, through capacity
building particularly for information professionals

In particular:

- To translate and diffuse among partners the MINERVA criteria for a quality web communication of the cultural heritage
- To organised workshops over the countries involved for experts of both cultural and education sectors
- To set up a replicable model of workshop
- To outline a study on the creation of a permanent network of experts

Available tools

- Cultural web sites quality principles:
12 EU languages (including EN & FR) > translation into Arab
- *Quality Principles for cultural Web sites, a handbook*: available in EN, FR, IT > translation into Arab
- Museo&Web: available in EN, FR, IT

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