

Luxembourg

Patrick Peiffer
Bibliothèque nationale de Luxembourg

A. DIGITISATION AND ONLINE ACCESSIBILITY

A1. Progress on the systematic gathering of information about current and planned digitisation of books, journals, newspapers, photographs, museum objects, archival documents, audiovisual material and the availability of overviews of such digitisation in order to prevent duplication of efforts and promote collaboration and synergies at European level.

Systematic gathering of information about current and planned digitisation is done at the institution level. There have been successful attempts under the eCulture programme previously, but these are planned to shift to a new structure informed by the Numeric study requirements. There is, however, still an acute lack of dedicated personnel devoted to establish a national approach and overview. There is little danger of duplication of effort on a national level, as there are few institutions with clearly defined and separate missions. On a European level, the situation is similar as Luxembourgish content is prioritised which is usually not available outside of Luxembourg. When this core content will be available digitally in the future, more European networking ties need to be established to avoid duplication of effort.

A2. Progress on the development of quantitative targets for the digitisation of analogue material in archives, libraries and museums, indicating the expected increase in digitised material which could form part of the European Digital Library and the budgets allocated by public authorities.

There are currently no overall national quantitative targets. As with the systematic gathering of information, this activity is limited to institutional planning. Some institutions have defined clear targets and secured the financial backup to realising them, but most desire first to develop an adequate strategy with additional human resources in order to make any real progress.

A steering group is planned to be set up in 2008 by the National library as national aggregator to collect content which is suitable for ingesting into the European Digital Library.

Funding by the Ministry of Culture has increased in 2008 and is moving into more structural funding for digitisation activities. Unfortunately many institutions are suffering from long term underinvestment in technology and personnel. This opens the potential to leapfrog with proven technology into a mature digital environment.

A3. Progress on partnerships between cultural institutions and the private sector in order to create new ways of funding digitisation of cultural material.

This area could be expanded, but the small market size of Luxembourg makes it difficult to define exclusive or monetisable uses of content for such partnerships.

A4. Progress on the set-up and sustaining of large scale digitisation facilities.

Large scale digitisation projects are outsourced to commercial service providers. The small size of the country requires European approaches and makes national progress a complex matter.

A5. Progress of cultural institutions, as well as publishers and other rightholders to make their digitised material searchable through the European Digital Library. Describe in particular the progress on the application of common digitisation criteria by cultural institutions and, where relevant, private companies, in order to achieve interoperability with the European Digital Library and to facilitate cross-language searchability.

Because of the small size of the Luxembourg market it is inherently difficult to recoup the costs of digitisation projects. The technological innovation that digitisation projects can bring to the visibility and accessibility of cultural content is therefore largely

dependent on government funding. Bringing on board commercial partners in order to promote commercially available material through national portals and the European Digital Library is nevertheless on the agenda and partnerships are being discussed.

A6a. Progress on mechanisms to facilitate the use of orphan works.

A6b. Progress on mechanisms to facilitate the use of works that are out of print or out of distribution.

The Model Licence presented by the High Level Group on Copyright is seen as too restrictive for heritage institutions and complicated to put into use. A much more liberal approach and win-win scenarios involving Collecting Societies, heritage institutions and rightsholders are seen as feasible but are at exploratory stages. Also see point A3.

A6c. Progress on the availability of lists of known orphan works and works in the public domain.

See point A6b.

A6d. Progress on the identification of barriers in your legislation to the online accessibility and subsequent use of cultural material that is in the public domain – and the steps taken to remove them.

No barriers have been identified.

B. DIGITAL PRESERVATION

B1. Progress on national strategies for the long-term preservation of and access to digital material. Describe the organisational approach, indicating the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved as well as the allocated resources. Describe the specific action plans outlining the objectives and a time-table for the specific targets to be met.

There is no national strategy for long-term preservation and access yet. Several institutions are currently setting up multi-site, replicated storage systems. Most institutions have clearly expressed a desire

to have such a strategy, reasons range from a need to capture and archive digital-born content, clarify the legal framework for access, and most crucially, to have guidance on setting up their own institutional long-term preservation and access strategies.

B2. Progress on exchange of information with other Member States on your strategies and action plans.

Several institutions have joined European networks and projects. Until the set-up of a mandated national strategy group, exchanges with other Member States will have to rely on ad-hoc contacts.

B3. Progress on legal provisions for multiple copying and migration of digital cultural material by public institutions for preservation purposes.

There is no barrier in current legislation for repetitive copying and format shifting.

B4. Progress on policies and procedures for the deposit of born-digital material. Please note how you are taking into account developments in other Member States in order to prevent a wide divergence in depositing arrangements.

Although broadly taken into account in current legislation, there is a need to clarify the framework for digital born publication archiving. A working group between the National Audiovisual Archives, the National Library and the Ministry of Culture is finalising a proposal (including Internet archiving). Depositing arrangements, and plans for such, from other Member States have been reviewed in order to avoid divergence.

B5. Progress on legal provisions for the preservation of web-content by mandated institutions.

Although broadly taken into account in current legislation, there is a need to clarify the framework applicable for Internet archiving. A working group between the National Audiovisual Archives, the National Library and the Ministry of Culture is finalising a proposal (including digital-born publication archiving).