

Malta

Noel Zammit, David Zahra
Heritage Malta

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.

Heritage Malta is currently embarking on a project to introduce a Collection Management System with an aim of generating a database of all (national) collections. The process of collecting the necessary information, including digitisation, is already underway for the collections in the National War Museum, National Fine Arts Museum and National Museum of Archaeology.

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.

A research project is currently underway to identify the methodologies and standards required to start the cataloguing and digitisation of a series of old photographs and glass plates, part of HM's national collections. This information will eventually form part of a database. Such a project will eventually be extended to other archival material.

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

With the involvement in MICHAEL Plus project by Heritage Malta, other institutions have been roped

in to basically catalogue their digitized collections in the MICHAEL portal.

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

Heritage Malta is in the final stages of setting up a 'professional' photography studio to cater for the documentation/digitisation of the various (types of) objects in its collections. In the interim, a small photo lab had been set up for digitization.

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.

The aim is to centralise all the data generated during documentation and conservation projects in a central server, organised according to the relevant project (number), which is generated by a central database. All conservation information will eventually be searchable through this database, and eventually integrated with the CMS.

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

Through the MICHAEL portal.

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

Creative Commons Licence for text and some prints.

