

“Digital Cultural Heritage – Roadmap for Preservation (DCH-RP) is a coordination action supported by the European Commission under the e-Infrastructure Capacities Programme of the Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7). The project from 2012 to 2014 developed a Roadmap to implement a preservation infrastructure for digital cultural heritage (DCH) as a part of a more general vision towards an Open Science Infrastructure for DCH in 2020”.

Participate to DCH-RP Forum to provide feedback and comments on the Roadmap and to be informed on other relevant material, information and services that are linked to the Roadmap itself. See it at [www.dch-rp.eu/](http://www.dch-rp.eu/) and in the DCH-RP showcase of Digitalmeetsculture [www.digitalmeetsculture.net/heritage-showcases/dch-rp/](http://www.digitalmeetsculture.net/heritage-showcases/dch-rp/).

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# A ROADMAP FOR DIGITAL PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE CONTENT A CONDENSED VERSION



DIGITAL  
CULTURAL HERITAGE  
ROADMAP FOR  
PRESERVATION



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## SHORT TERM / 2014-2015

A short term action plan is proposed by DCH-RP project in order to initiate the development of a preservation services infrastructure.

### STEP 1

WHERE ARE WE NOW AND WHERE WE WANT TO GET TO?

Before starting planning for the use of distributed digital preservation solutions, there are some basic considerations:

→ Agree on a vision – what will distributed digital preservation look like?

→ Decide about challenges to target

→ Have a clear understanding of advantages to explore

### STEP 2

TAKE ACTIONS IN MAJOR IDENTIFIED AREAS OF THE ROADMAP

**Harmonise data storage and preservation**

- Define critical system requirements (general and specific) - understand and articulate your requirements
- Choose a suitable AA control system
- Look into laaS

**Improve interoperability**

- Review best practice and how-to guides (avoid re-inventing the wheel)
- Consider aspects of internal interoperability to avoid building digital silos within the organization – set up a mandate

**Establish conditions for cross-sector integration**

- Decide about standards to use and look into available tools for guidance
- Use the DCH-RP registry of preservation tools to find what suits your organization best

**Establish a governance model for infrastructure integration**  
Decide on high level models for

- General governance
- Trust
- Business

### STEP 3

CHOOSE SERVICES TO ADDRESS

Decide about addressing services according to:

- Functional areas
- Service types and objects
- Type of architecture
- Level of maturity
- Licence conditions

## MID TERM / 2016-2017

Summarize priorities, decisions and considerations made during the short-term stage into a Preservation as a Service (PaaS).

### STEP 1

WHERE ARE WE IN 2 YEARS FROM NOW AND WHICH ARE THE NEXT STEPS

Summarise priorities, decisions and considerations made during the short-term stage into a Preservation as a Service (PaaS) adjusted to conditions and needs of the institution in mind.

### STEP 2

TAKE FURTHER ACTIONS IN IDENTIFIED MAJOR AREAS OF THE ROADMAP

**Harmonise data storage and preservation**

- Transform the PaaS into solid technical solutions
- Test these technical solutions in DCH environment with focus on the following parameters:
  - Long-term storage, bit-level preservation
  - Multiple entry points
  - Operational benefits
  - VRE development
  - Support framework
  - Middleware services
  - Authentication and authorisation infrastructure
- Investigate possibilities for sharing technical solutions with other services.

**Improve interoperability**

- Develop and test tools facilitating interoperability addressing the following aspects:
  - Technical
  - Semantic
- Decide about what to preserve.

**Establish conditions for cross-sector integration**

- Fill in gaps in cross-sector integrations according to needs identified at the end of the short-term stage.
- Introduce a programme for raising awareness about distributed digital preservation targeting different stakeholders like owners and managers of digital collections and holdings and their staff as well as policymakers

**Governance models for infrastructure integration**

- Make solid analysis of needs for redesign of existing internal infrastructure in order to get it effectively integrated with solutions for distributed digital preservation services
- Define a set of governance principles for digital preservation in DCH aiming at e-infrastructure integration

### STEP 3

PLAN FOR WORK DURING THE LONG-TERM STAGE

## LONG TERM / 2018 and beyond

TAKE FURTHER ACTIONS IN IDENTIFIED MAJOR AREAS OF THE ROADMAP

**HARMONISE DATA STORAGE AND PRESERVATION**

Consolidate mature requirements for preservations in the DCH environment

**IMPROVE INTEROPERABILITY**

Implement tools, developed and tested in earlier stages, in selected e-Infrastructures facilitating interoperability aspects in the technical and semantic field.

**ESTABLISH CONDITIONS FOR CROSS-SECTOR INTEGRATIONS**

Fill in remaining gaps in cross-sector integration according to needs identified in earlier stages.

**GOVERNANCE MODELS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE INTEGRATION**

Offer mature business model for preservation services for different types of institutional settings