PREservation FORMAts for culture information/e-archives

PREFORMA plans for sustainability, future use, and exploitation
Borje Justrell,
Swedish National Archives
Coordinator

PREFORMA
Challenge Brief

Empower memory institutions to gain full control over the technical properties of digital content intended for long-term preservation.

Categories of Sustainability

When planning for how to sustain the results of the PREFORMA project, there are three main categories to have in mind:

- Sustainability of the PREFORMA network
- Sustainability of the PREFORMA infrastructure
- Sustainability of the PREFORMA tools

Sustaining the PREFORMA network

I.e. the community of project's partners, suppliers, and associate partners

- who are working together at different levels in the project and
- who share an interest in the development of tools to meet the PREFORMA Challenge.

Sustaining PREFORMA infrastructure

❑ Discussions in the PREFORMA consortium on how to ensure long-term availability of the PREFORMA software and associated digital assets after the end of the project.

❑ The idea is to find an agreement between Riksarkivet (the project coordinator) and a public sector organisation to ensure the technical maintenance of the PREFORMA infrastructure.

Sustaining the PREFORMA tools

I.e. the open source conformance checkers developed by the suppliers.

The sustainability of the results of PREFORMA relies most of all

– On the commitment of the suppliers to continue to maintain and improve the tools after the end of the funding period and on

– On their ability to establish a sound open source community of users and developers

Suppliers

- **The veraPDF consortium** is not a commercial entity bringing products to market. Nevertheless, veraPDF will underpin a variety of commercial offerings from third-parties including both PDF industry and repository vendors offering additional services and integration into adopted open-source repository systems.

- The **Open Preservation Foundation** is a partner of veraPDF consortium, and a part of its mission is the sustainability of results from projects in the digital preservation field

Suppliers

- **Easy Innova** will guarantee the sustainability of the DPF Manager project as this is part of their core business as an SME

- **MediaArea** is already exploring opportunities to extend and improve the functionalities of MediaConch and seeking sponsorships to add additional formats to the validation checker.

Open source and open data

The Open Source Portal
- through which the software released by the suppliers, the documentation and other related material is made available to the community under the PREFORMA open source licenses

The PREFORMA Repository
- where the datasets are made available for examination, training, evaluation and dissemination purposes by the memory institutions.

Future development

Three main lines of actions have been identified so far to follow up the results of PREFORMA:

- **First line – research**: continue the research on formats, consider new PCP proposal to develop new services to make the archives more resilient (Work Programme 2019-2020)

- **Second line – implementation**: consider PPI proposal to deploy the services procured in PREFORMA and create an infrastructure which can serve different users with different needs

- **Third line – networking**: create/reinforce the community of organisations and institutions interested to use PCP instruments in the cultural heritage field

In this light, a document has been sent to the European Commission providing some ideas that could serve as an input for the finalisation of the H2020 Work Programme 2018-2020

Route to market of the PREFORMA tools

A first attempt has been made to " map the route" based on preliminary business analysis and models developed by the three suppliers.