

UNESCO PERSIST

results and challenges for UNESCO's initiative for the preservation of digital documentary heritage

Ingrid Parent

University of British Columbia
Former President, IFLA

David Fricker

President ICA
Director-General, National Archives of Australia



2017
ALA-ICA
CONFERENCIA
CIUDAD DE MÉXICO



ABOUT IFLA

- **Global Voice** of the Library and Information Profession
- **>1400** Members (Associations, Institutions, Individuals), from **142** Countries
 - HQ in the Hague, The Netherlands
- **44** Thematic Sections, **15** Special Interest Groups
- **3** Regional Offices – Argentina, South Africa, Singapore, 4 Language Centres – Senegal, Argentina, Egypt, Russia
- Motivated by the belief that **free and effective access to information** builds **stronger, fairer and more participatory societies**



IFLA'S OBJECTIVES

- Support the profession to improve services and practices
- Advocate for libraries and their users in international fora (copyright, cultural heritage, freedom of access to information, Internet governance)
- Support library associations to maximise effectiveness
- **Current Priority:** develop a Global Vision of a United Library Field



Number of people—7 Billion

Number of fish--??

Number of Internet users—3 Billion

Amount of data--??





"Documentary heritage is an open door to the world's rich cultural heritage and the diversity that surrounds us. But that heritage is fragile, in both tangible and intangible forms. Together we must protect it."

**Irina Bokova,
Vancouver,
2012**



 **UNESCO**
United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

 **20**
Memory of the World
20th Anniversary

The Memory of the World in the Digital Age: Digitization and Preservation

26-28 September 2012
Vancouver, BC, Canada

<https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/dis/latest-news/newsarticle/title-121923-en.html>



United Nations
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Memory of
the World



International Council on Archives
Conseil International des Archives



UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT PRESERVATION

- Digital documentary heritage is the primary means of knowledge creation and expression;
- We have not yet found sustainable economic solutions to achieve "continuity of content";
- Preservation is a shared responsibility between public and private sectors;
- Main parties are Governments, Memory Institutions and the ICT Industry;
- UNESCO has the convening power to bring these three parties to the table.

PERSIST

» SUSTAINABILITY OF THE INFORMATION SOCIETY «

POLICIES
CONTENT CURATION
USER NEEDS

WHAT DATA
NEEDS TO BE
PRESERVED?

MARKET
NEEDS?

"IF YOU CAN'T
FIND IT, YOU
DON'T HAVE IT"

FUTURE GENERATIONS

END USERS

0110

BIG DATA

BUILDING
BLOCKS

GLOBAL
PLATFORM

CONTINUITY OF CONTENT

Who is
responsible?

ROLES

EXPLORE
PERSPECTIVES

DATA
LIFE CYCLE

HOW CAN
I HELP
YOU?

HOW CAN
YOU HELP
ME?

LET'S
START!
(Agile)

CONTENT

REQUIRE-
MENTS

TECHNICAL
SOLUTIONS

MEMORY
INSTITUTIONS

ICT-
COMPANIES

GOVERN-
MENTS



The Hague, 6th Dec 2015

visualisation: Elske van Staveren, 2015

Platform to Enhance the Sustainability of the Information Society Transglobally (PERSIST)

<http://ow.ly/ywZRt>



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The UNESCO/PERSIST Guidelines for the selection of digital heritage for long- term preservation

By the UNESCO/PERSIST Content Task Force

March 2016

Authors:

Sarah CC Choy (Legislative Council Archives, Hong Kong)
Nicholas Crofts (ICOM CIDOC)
Robert Fisher (Library and Archives Canada)
Ngian Lek Choh (National Library Board of Singapore)
Susanne Nickel (Eskilstuna stadsmuseum)
Clément Oury (ISSN – International Centre)
Katarzyna Ślaska (National Library of Poland)

Chair of the Content Task Force: Ingrid Parent (University of British Columbia)
Secretary of the Content Task Force: Julia Brungs (International Federation of Library
Associations and Institutions - IFLA)

Endorsed by:



THERE'S PLENTY GOING ON!

- an active international Digital Preservation Research and Development Community
- conferences, forums and workshops
- research and development in institutions, universities, ICT Industry
- diagnostic tools, emulators, data migration tools, virtual machines and technical registries
- digital preservation resources for Archives, Libraries and other memory institutions



RECOMMENDATION ON DOCUMENTARY HERITAGE

- adopted at the 38th General Conference, November 2015
- Mandate for Memory of the World programme to coordinate a global response
- a collaborative framework for the world's memory institutions



WHERE CAN PERSIST ADD VALUE?

Need to avoid duplication

- No desire to re-invent capabilities
- Not a 'competitive' initiative

Value for Practitioners

- Gather requirements of Memory Institutions in the field of digital heritage
- Evaluate and accredit tools and services
- Maintain the availability of legacy software to retain authenticity of digital content

Value for Providers and Enablers

- Strategic direction for the research and development community
- Endorsement and support for research activity
- Partnership opportunities for the Open Source community and ICT Industry



PERSIST OBJECTIVES

mission

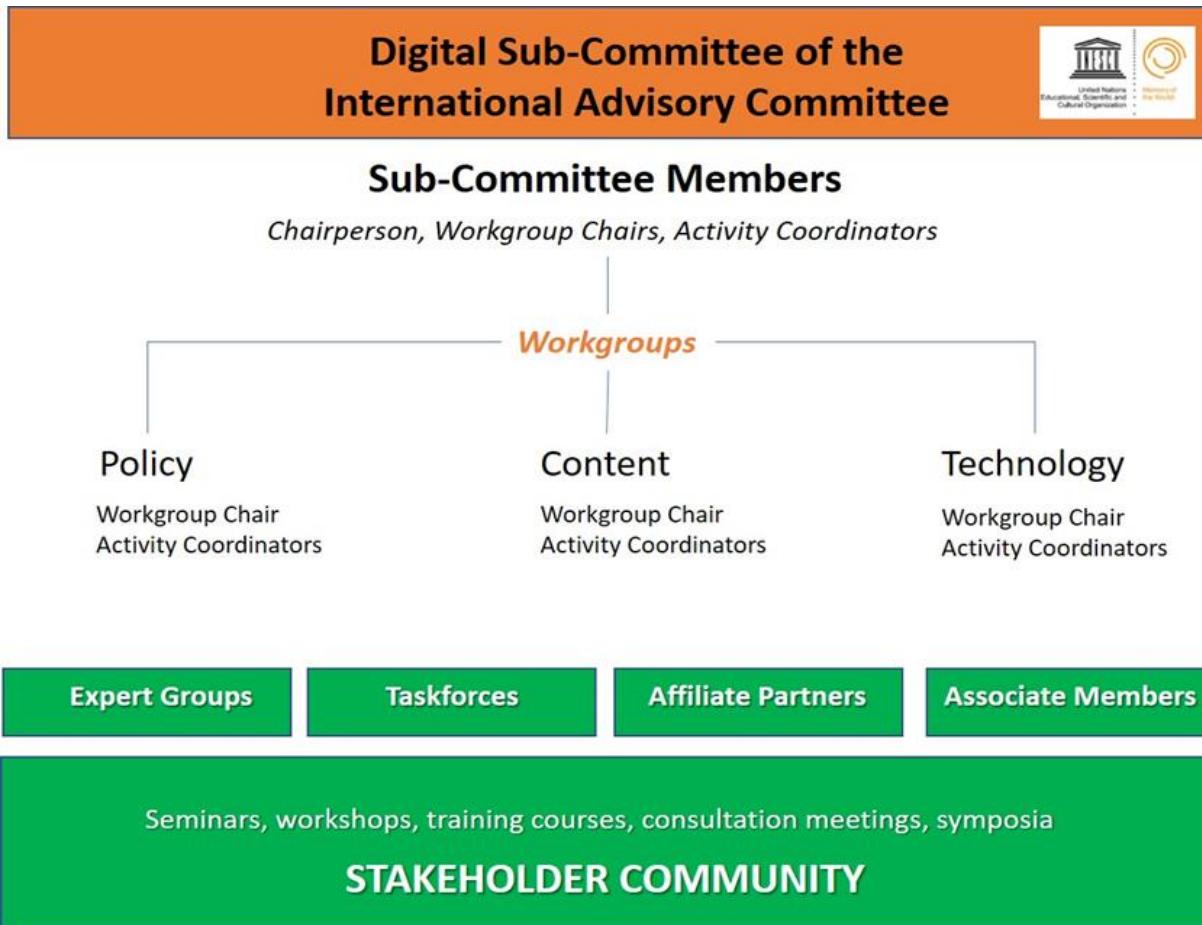
develop effective policies, strategies, and practices for the preservation and sustained use of digital artefacts

vision

the World's Digital Heritage is accessible to future generations, without barriers, such that they will be able to experience and learn from digital artefacts that represent achievements of humanity



PROPOSED UNESCO GOVERNANCE



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

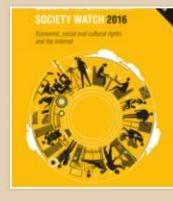
- UNESCOPERSIST.org is the principal information portal
- Working closely with key stakeholders & focal point for initiatives
- Engagement with the Community
- #UNESCOPERSIST

UNESCO PERSIST Programme

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EVOLVES FAST. PERSIST IS A UNESCO PROGRAMME TO HELP ENSURE THAT DIGITAL INFORMATION CAN CONTINUE TO BE ACCESSED IN THE FUTURE

SEARCH

ABOUT PERSIST PERSIST ACTIVITIES PUBLICATIONS CONTACT

GISwatch 2016: Preserving our digital culture for the future

BY UNESCO PERSIST on 12 DECEMBER 2016 • 0 (0)
Last week the Global Information Society Watch published GISwatch 2016. GISwatch is their yearly report covering the state of the information society from the perspectives of civil society. This year's edition contains an article on the challenges of preserving digital... [Read More](#)

Tweets

#unescopersist

 Nathalie Cormic Retweeted  UNESCO PERSIST  @unescopersist
In @giswatch 2016 there's an interesting article on the challenges of preserving digital culture #unescopersist [unescopersist.org/2016/12/12/gis...](#)

 GISwatch 2016: Prese...
Last week the Global In... [unescopersist.org](#)

 Stein van Oosteren  @Oosterenvan  @LiekeR Merci Zeer interessant. Net een

Featured Categories

CONTENT & BEST PRACTICES >

Launch of PERSIST Selection Guidelines
10 March 2016

PERSIST Selection Guidelines discussed at 'Digital Heritage 2015'
2 October 2015

DIGITAL PRESERVATION POLICY >

Recent Posts

Meet the PERSIST Coordinator
BY UNESCO PERSIST on 1 DECEMBER 2016 • 0 (0)
 As of November 2016, Stein van Oosteren will act as the PERSIST Coordinator. Stein was already a member of the PERSIST Programme Committee. His personality, his communication skills and his close involvement with UNESCO made him the ideal candidate to... [Read More](#)

Short report of WLIC session, 15-08-2016
BY UNESCO PERSIST on 5 OCTOBER 2016 • 0 (0)

CHALLENGES

Limited people power

Lack of sustainable funding

ICT Industry must be at the table

Change of mindset is needed

Governance

Relationship to UNESCO

THANK YOU



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