

PARTNERS

The Planets consortium brings together the unique experience required to research, develop, deliver and productise practical digital preservation solutions. Coordinated by the British Library, the partners are:

LIBRARIES

The British Library
The National Library of the Netherlands
Austrian National Library
The Royal Library of Denmark
State and University Library, Denmark

ARCHIVES

The National Archives of the Netherlands
The National Archives of England, Wales, and the United Kingdom
Swiss Federal Archives

UNIVERSITIES

University at Cologne
University of Freiburg
HATII at the University of Glasgow
Vienna University of Technology

TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES

ARC Seibersdorf research GmbH
IBM Netherlands
Microsoft Research Limited
Tessella Support Services Plc



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digital preservation, research and technology

www.planets-project.eu

FURTHER INFORMATION

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Planets is a four year project, co-funded by the European Commission Information Science and Technologies Framework Programme 6 Call 5. The Project began on 1 June 2006, and has a total spend of €14m.



The Planets project brings together European National Libraries and Archives, leading research institutions, and technology companies to address the challenge of preserving access to digital cultural and scientific knowledge.

As successive file formats are superseded and become obsolete, information held in older formats may become difficult or impossible to retrieve. Planets estimates that European organisations face the loss of electronic documents holding information worth an estimated €3 billion. To address this problem, Planets will deliver a sustainable framework to enable long-term preservation of digital content, increasing Europe's ability to ensure long-term access to its cultural and scientific heritage.

CHARACTERISATION

Organisations that are responsible for the maintenance of digital objects need to plan their preservation paths based on knowledge about the properties of the objects and the possibilities of retrieving them on future computer systems. The **characterisation** initiative will deliver tools that can automatically analyse digital objects to establish significant properties.

PRESERVATION ACTION

Innovative **preservation action** solutions will be developed to tackle identified gaps in support for the preservation of key formats of digital content. Existing tools will be wrapped, enabling them to be plugged into the Planets **interoperability framework**.

DISSEMINATION AND TAKEUP

Intensive **dissemination and take-up** activities will ensure the widest possible adoption of results in the user community as well as enabling commercial tool and service providers to compete in a new market place for differentiated preservation services and tools.

The **interoperability framework** will enable seamless choreography of both Planets and external tools.

PLANNING

Preservation planning services will empower organisations to define, evaluate, and execute preservation plans based on both collection oriented and organisational requirements. This will enable practical and cost effective management of digital collections for the long term, via the orchestration of Planets preservation tools.

TESTBED

Integrated services will be explored, evaluated and refined in the **Preservation testbed**. The results of ongoing evaluation within the **testbed** will provide essential feedback to guide the development of Planets tools and services. In its second phase, the **testbed** will provide a service to external users and developers.

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preservation and long-term access via **networked services**