



The story of the APE

The APEnet project and the Archives Portal Europe

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The origin of the project

Even if founded by the eContent*plus* program, the portal and the project has an official (and political) sanction of its own right within the Union, reporting its progress to the European Council through the Commission

- Resolution on archives in the Member States in 2003 (2003/C 113/02) "enhancing coordination, information sharing and exchanging of good practice between the archives services"
- Report on archives in the enlarged European Union 2005 (ISBN: 92-79-00870-6)

An elaborated action plan by the *National Experts Group on Archives of* the EU Member States and EU institutions and organs at the request of the Council of the European Union where Priority action 3 is a European Gateway for Documents and Archives

Stockholm, 23th May 2012





The APEnet consortium

Started out with:

Archivos Estatales Spain

National Archives Finland

Direction des archives France

Bundesarchiv Germany

National Archives Malta

Nationaal Archief Netherlands

National Archives Poland

National Archives Portugal

Riksarkivet Sweden

State Archives Latvia

General State Archives Greece

Archives of the Republic of Slovenia

European Digital library (Europeana)

All partners (except Europeana) are National archives <u>or</u> their representatives at the ministries





And ended up with:



- 1 Archivos Estatales, SPAIN
- 2National Archives, FINLAND
- 3 Direction générale des Patrimonies Service interministériel des Archives de FRANCE
- 4 Bundesarchiv, GERMANY
- 5 National Archives, MALTA
- 6 Nationaal Archief, THE NETHERLANDS
- 7 National Archives, POLAND
- 8 National Archives, PORTUGAL
- 9 Riksarkivet, SWEDEN.
- 10 State Archives, LATVIA
- 11 General State Archives, GREECE
- 12 Archives of the Republic of SLOVENIA
- 13 Europeana Foundation
- 14 National Archives of IRELAND
- 15 Algemeen Rijksarchief en Rijksarchief in de Provinciën Archives générales du Royaume et Archives de l'État dans les Provinces, BELGIUM
- 16 Rahvusarchiv, ESTONIA
- 17 Department of Archives Administration and Records Management of the Ministry of the Interior of the CZECH REPUBLIC
- 18 Archives State Agency of Republic of BULGARIA
- 19Maguar Orszagos Leveltar, HUNGARY
- 20Hrvatski Drzani Arhiv, CROATIA

Stockholm, 23th May 2012





What we set out to do

To build A gateway to Archives and documents in the European Union - the Archives Portal Europe (APE):

- with a user interface and
- a content provider interface

A simple and clean objective and a much needed result







How we organised the work

6 workpackages

WP1: the logical model (standards and structure) Germany

WP2: the physical model (technical development) Spain

WP3: interoperability (with Europeana) The Netherlands

WP4: the content framework (data ingestion tools) France

WP5: dissemination and awareness, Sweden

WP6: project management, Spain







How we organised the work

Project Coordinator was Archivos Estatales, Spain Scientific Coordinator (Angelika Menne-Haritz, Bundesarchiv, Berlin) Technical Coordinator (Wim vanDongen Nationaal Archief Den Haag) Decisions were made in the General Assembly (GA)

A Project Management Team (PMT) ran the day to day decisions





Structure of the portal

The user interface is built in three layers:

- 1. The archival landscape
- 2. The holdings guide
- 3. The finding aides

The content provider interface (Dashboard)

- 1. Conversion and validation of local data
- 2. Upload and integration at the central host
- 3. Indexing and integrated display on the portal





The three layers

- the EAD archival landscape as top layer representing a list of the participating archival institutions grouped f.i. in countries
- -> horizontally related to the EAG documents describing the archival institutions (contact details, opening hours, etc.)
- -> vertically related to the EAD holdings guides as a list of all fonds and collections of one archival institution
- the EAD holdings guide a middle layer
- -> horizontally related to the EAC-CPF documents describing the creators of the archival material (to be implemented)
- -> vertically related to the EAD finding aids
- the EAD finding aids as bottom layer
- -> horizontally related to the digitised materials





The metadata to be used

EAD, Encoded Archival Description, (built on ISADG)

EAC-CPF Encoded Archival Context for Corporate bodies, Persons and

Families, (built on ISAAR-CPF)

EAG Encoded Archival Guide, (built on ISDIAH)

METS

OAI-PMH

(EAF) Encoded Archival Functions, (built on ISDF)





Metadata implemented during the APEnet project:

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√EAD, as "APEnet EAD"
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√EAG

√ OAI-PMH





Interoperability

With Europeana:

- Problems to implement a hierarchical display in ESE and EDM
- Generally difficult to explain the need for context in archival metadata

On the other hand:

- A growing interest from particularly CIDOC CRM working groups to create bridges between museum and archival metadata standards.
- Also a growing interest from commercial and noncommercial archival/ALM service providers to create export/import functionalities for archival metadata standards





APEnet goes APEx





A follow-up project proposed under ICT Policy Support Programme (ICT-PSP), 5th call for proposals, objective 2.1 (Aggregating content in Europeana)

- started on 1st March 2012
- duration: three years
- 28 project partners plus one associated partner
- -> 23 of 27 European Union Member States
- -> 5 non-EU countries (Croatia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland)
- -> 1 multinational organisation (ICARUS)





APEx emphasise:

Broadening and deepening

- standards (EAC CPF, Mets)
- open up for regional-, local-, NGO archives et.c.
- Country Managers
- initiate the Archives Portal Europe Foundation
- usability
- and more...







The European archival juggernaut is on the move!





Thank You for your attention!

www.apenet.eu

www.apex-project.eu (upcomming)

www.archivesportaleurope.eu

