



This project has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no 632694



CIVIC EPISTEMOLOGIES

Development of a Roadmap for Citizen Researchers in the age of Digital Culture

Roxanne Wyns

CIVIC EPISTEMOLOGIES Representative

KU Leuven / LIBIS



*Europeana Vlaanderen
Brussel, 17/04/2015*

KU LEUVEN

- Call details
- Research infrastructures
- Main objectives & project details
- Main tasks
- Workshops & Focus groups
- Input for the Roadmap
- Pilot in Western Ireland
- Lessons learned



Call details

- Call: FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2013-2 (deadline 2013)
- Topic: Coordination and support actions (CSA-SA) on policy development, including international cooperation, for e-Infrastructures
- Objectives of the funding scheme:
 - **Optimise the use and development of research infrastructures** existing in Europe
 - Help to create in all fields of science and technology **new research infrastructures of pan-European interest** needed by the European scientific community to remain at the forefront of the advancement of research
 - To help the **industry** to strengthen its base of knowledge and its technological know-how

Research infrastructures

What is it:

- Unique research **facilities, resources** (eg. collections, archives or scientific data) **and related services** used by the scientific community to conduct top-level innovative research in their respective fields

Types:

- **Single sited:** a single resource at a single location (e.g. physical labo, CERN)
- **Distributed:** a network of distributed resources (e.g. several digital archives, appearing as one unique centre via a single web interface)
- **Virtual:** the service is provided electronically, so-called e-infrastructure (e.g. high-capacity network ...)

Research infrastructures

Specific:

- Brings together a wide diversity of stakeholders in an international context (network aspect!)
- Accessibility is key. Shared access to unique or distributed scientific facilities
- Bring together state-of-the-art projects and technologies

Purpose:

- Produce knowledge through research
- Diffuse it through education
- Application through innovation (industry)

Main objectives of the project

To produce a validated Roadmap for the use of **e-infrastructures**

- ❑ To support the **participation of citizens** in the research processes and
- ❑ the **participation of creative industries** in the exploitation of digital cultural content



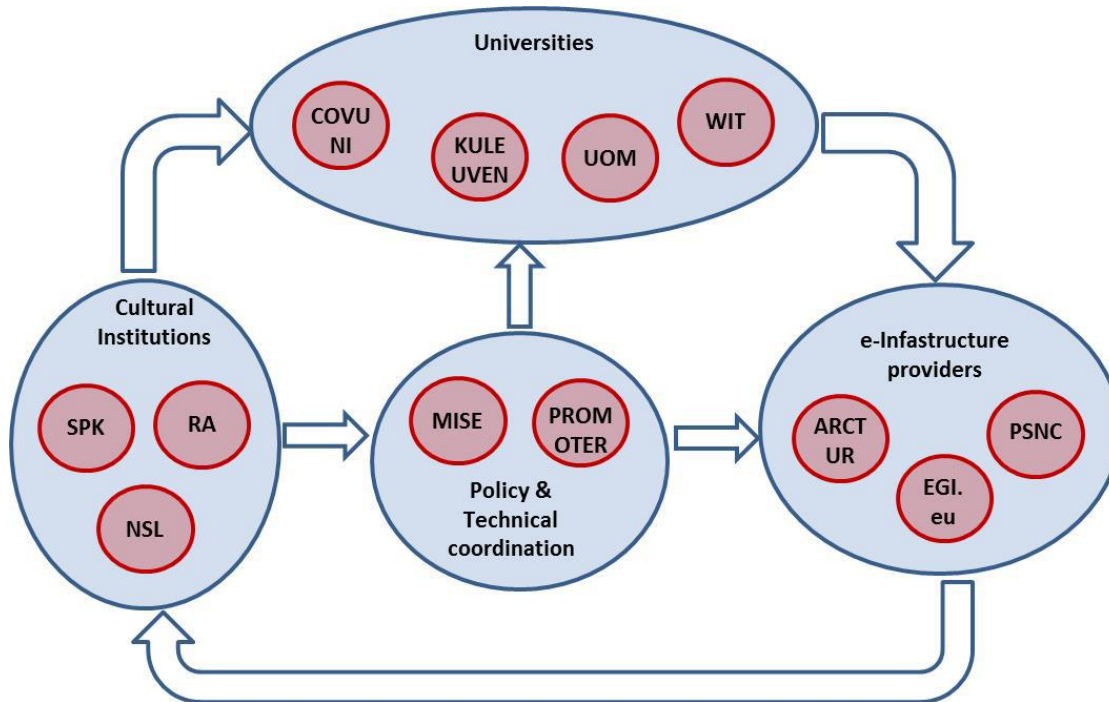


Project details



- 16 months (August 2014 – November 2015)
- 12 partners from 11 European countries
- Small budget
- 1 review (yesterday)

12 partners from 11 European countries



Partner name	Country
Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico (MISE) - Coordinator	Italy
Promoter srl – Technical Coordinator	Italy
Riksarkivet (RA)	Sweden
Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz (SPK)	Germany
National Széchényi Library (NSL)	Hungary
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU LEUVEN)	Belgium
Coventry University (COVUNI)	UK
University of Malta (UoM)	Malta
Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Center (PSNC)	Poland
Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT)	Ireland
Arctur d.o.o. (ARCTUR)	Slovenia
Stichting European Grid Initiative (EGI.eu)	The Netherlands

Project workplan

- WP1: Project Management (WP leader: MISE)
- WP2: Identification of requirements (WP leader: UoM)
- WP3: Roadmap development (WP leader: RA)
- WP4: Pilot and Case Studies (WP leader: COVUNI)
- WP5: Dissemination, communication and sustainability (WP leader: PROMOTER)





- Survey, analyze and map the **requirements** of researchers, citizens, cultural institutions and creative enterprises **concerning the prerequisites for collaboration in research** (tools, policies, knowledge & training ...)
- Propose a set of **priority steps** for the EC that allows them
 - to strengthen the development of a consistent and dynamic European **policy** for e-infrastructure for arts & humanities
 - focused on **interaction** between scholars, citizens and creative industry in the field of social sciences and humanities
- **Establish a durable network of common interest** to connect cultural institution, research bodies, creative industries, e-infrastructures and citizen associations



This will result in a **Roadmap for e-infrastructure to support citizen science**

Citizen science/Expert science/Crowd-sourcing

- “A citizen scientist is a volunteer who collects and/or processes data as part of a scientific enquiry.”
- “Citizen science is a process whereby citizens are involved in science as researchers.”
- “Citizen science refers to a programme in which a network of volunteers, many of whom have little or no specific scientific training, perform or manage research-related tasks, such as observation, measurement, or computation.”
- “Citizen science is a research technique that enlists the public in gathering scientific information.”
- “Citizen scientists are volunteers who participate as field assistants in scientific studies.”
- “Citizen science is a method by which the researchers identifies the problem and design the study, and volunteers collect data to be analyzed and interpreted by the researcher”

Citizen Science refers to the general public engagement in scientific research activities when citizens actively contribute to science either with their intellectual effort or surrounding knowledge or with their tools and resources.

Gathering input for the Roadmap

- An online questionnaire directed to CH institutions
- 3 Focus Groups
 - Valletta, Stockholm and Coventry, October – December 2014
- 2 Case study meetings
 - Coventry, December 2014
- 3 Workshops
 - Valletta - **“User needs”**, 25-27 November 2014
 - Leuven - **“Roadmap”**, 20 February 2015
 - **Budapest - “Innovation in CH institutions”, 9-10 July 2015**
- Final International Conference
 - **Berlin, 12-13 November 2015**

Workshop in Leuven (20th of February '15)

- Morning session devoted presentation on the project and it's objectives
- Afternoon:
 - Presentations from experts in the field e-infrastructures, digital humanities and citizen engagement, Art & ICT
 - Discussion on roadmap priorities



Workshop in Leuven (20th of February '15)

Presentations from experts:

<http://www.civic-epistemologies.eu/workshop-on-roadmap-leuven-20-february-2015/>

- Research Infrastructures for digital cultural heritage and humanities – *Chris De Loof, BELSPO*
- STARTS – Science, Technology and the Arts: potential contributions from the arts to innovation in digital heritage – *Luis Miguel Girao, Artshare, Portugal*
- From Warburg to Wiki: Multidimensionality and Democratisation of culture in the age of the Semantic Web - *Stefano Caneva, Wikimedia Belgium*
- Heritage management and citizen – *Anna Busom Arruebo, Generalitat de Catalunya; Maria Dolors Portus Vinyeta, Diputació de Barcelona, Spain*
- *Erland Ringborg, The Federation of Swedish Genealogical Societies, Sweden*
- Europeana Creative: engaging SMEs and the wider public – *Cláudia Silva, EBN, Belgium*
- Ajapaik.ee – gamified crowdsourcing of geotags and rephotos for historic photographs – *Vahur Puik, Estonian Photographic Heritage Society*
- A community archive for heritage activists around the world – *Breandán Knowlton, Historypin, UK*
- e-Infrastructure or e-Infrastructure adapted services for Citizen Science? – *Rosette Vandenbroucke, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium*

Case Studies and Pilot

Two case studies and one pilot whose results are analysed to extract knowledge, lessons learnt and best practice





Case Studies in Coventry

The case studies examines how community groups of citizens engage with cultural heritage and participate in the generation and reuse of cultural heritage using digital technologies:

1. one case study focuses on the participation of volunteers in cultural activities (e.g. theatre, dance, music, art, film making, photography);
2. the other case study works with a visitor app of Coventry City Council, providing new user perspectives and understandings of the role of cultural heritage knowledge in local economic regeneration and growth.

Pilot in Western Ireland

91

Dunkill castle

We were often told by the old people stories about old ancient structures especially Dunkill old castle. Well it is built on the river running from Annes town into the Suir, and it was called Danile and the river was called the River Ulease. Well it was occupied by the Powers, and it was attacked by a wing of Cromwell's soldiers. They were defeated and the gunners had to retreat. When the gunner exhausted called for a drink, and the drink he got was butter-milk which he thought very little of as he expected a drink of beer, so the defenders got huffed and raised the white flag at the same time.

The pilot runs an ethnographic study focused on Western Ireland, to record, capture and document heritage composed of stories heard from elderly relatives and neighbours.



Pilot in Western Ireland

An inter-generational digital mapping toolkit for recording place names

Three distinct phases to this work:

1. Design & development of intergeneration digital toolkit
 2. Use and Evaluation of toolkit in early field work recording place names
 3. Presentation & dissemination of recorded data and final toolkit
- Identifying and reaching out to possible stakeholders
 - Engagement with schools (teachers, students)
 - Engagement with other place names and oral history experts
 - Engagement with senior citizens



Approach

- **Initiate contact with schools** - Enter into contract of participation with particular schools, students
- **Network** - Contact other relevant **experts** and **cultural heritage organisations** already experienced in digitising place names in Ireland.
- **Investigate routes for engagement** – Will it be grandparents and neighbours or will we find we want to contact older people via a community group or society? Local newsletter - radio station?
- **Plan boundaries** – ie length of time required by students and teachers in school and for extra curricular involvement.
- **Outline expected activities** - ie meet and greet, discuss places, students gather material on places, return with maps, etc, get input from older person on the places, activities. Translate to digital media toolkit
- **Develop digital toolkit**
- Provide scaffolding for engagement between different age groups: how do students get in touch with elder people
- **Set up Teams** of students and older people
- **Select** locality based on older persons knowledge or townlands surrounding school
- ...

Lessons learned from the pilot ...

- Ingenuity, generosity & willingness to network essential
- **Trust**, clear **privacy** policies and **security** are required
- Engagement, education, execution, logistics, availability of people, analysis and presentation of data, and project sustainability are key aspect to Citizen Science DH projects
- Ethical Considerations of participants must be given priority
- Clear codes of conduct for researcher, citizen scientist and volunteer participants required
- Citizen Science could enable increased participation in cultural heritage recordings
- Dependency on links to well known trusted organisations and academic institutions support trust
- Other researchers are supportive and interested
- Need to clarify adaptation of methods & acceptable approaches for non-professionals
- **New methodologies** required for non-professional researchers – ie citizen scientists.
- Access to **copyright** material is an issue
- Data bottlenecks at analysis stage are an issue that need to be considered
- Attribution, ownership and archiving of data collected need more discussion and clarity
- ...

Input received on the roadmap ...

- Know your audience (stakeholder study)
- Speak the **same language** as the “Citizen”
- Success of participation rate driven by outbound **communication**
- **Social media** play an important role in attracting visitors and participants
- Community support is needed (organisational, funding, tools ...)
- Accessibility, user friendly tools and user experience play a key role
- Share and reuse existing tools and infrastructure
- Provide clear and understandable documentation
- Have a **data management policy and plan** in place
- User identification (3th party identification, no federated identity possible)
- Good public connectivity to the internet
- ...

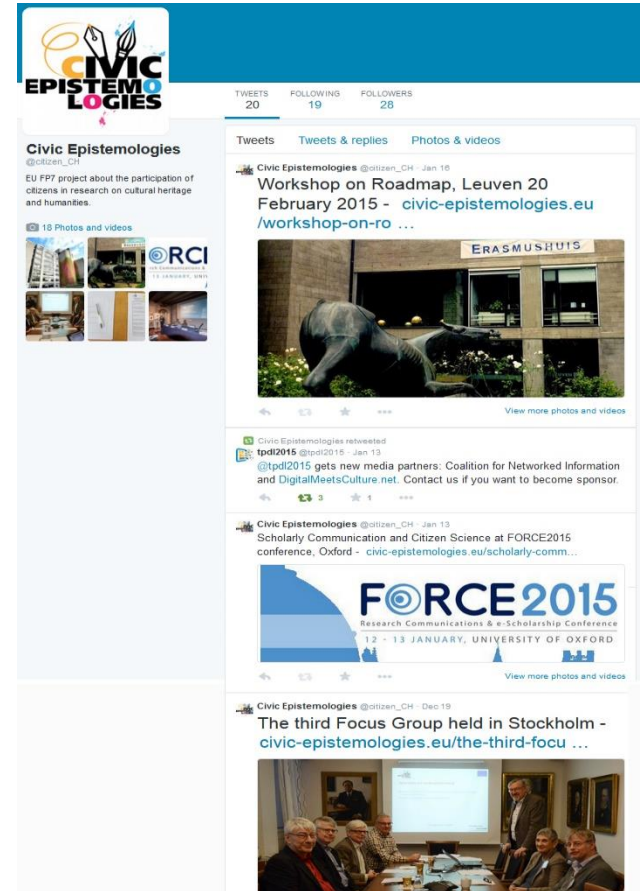
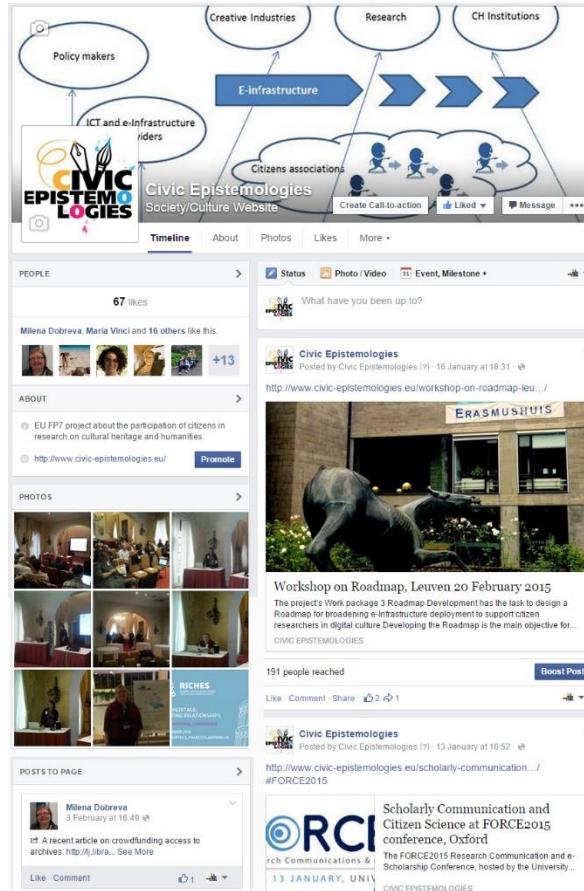


Follow us online !

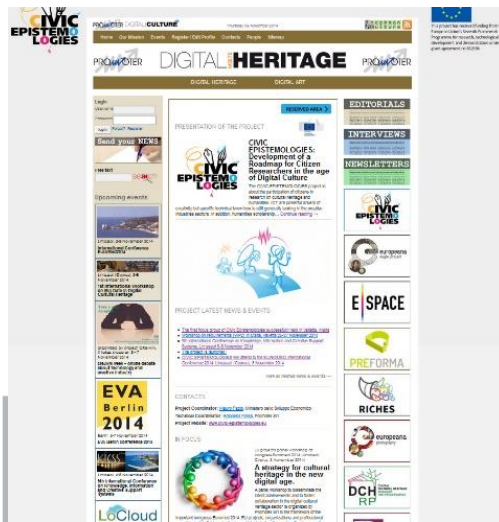
Project website:
www.civic-epistemologies.eu

Find us on
Facebook

Follow us on
Twitter



...on Digital Meets Culture:
www.digitalmeetsculture.net



Questions?

www.civic-epistemologies.eu
info@civic-epistemologies.eu

Contact

Roxanne Wyns, Roxanne.Wyns@libis.kuleuven.be

Fred Truyen, Fred.Truyen@kuleuven.be