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

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A potential not yet exploited:

- A vast quantity of digital cultural heritage is now ready to be used, but the actual exploitation of these content is lacking dynamism
- In particular, citizens risk to remain disconnected from the digital culture, because of several technical and legal problems:
  - Connectivity
  - IPR
- Cultural institutions are focusing more on digitisation than on creativity and artistic expressions, including co-creation processes

- Citizen science in digital culture, including crowdsourcing as a specific area of work can unlock this potential
A twofold project’s scope

- To develop and validate a **Roadmap** for the use of **e-Infrastructures** to support the participation of European citizens in research on cultural heritage and digital humanities

- To contribute to improve **social cohesion** by understanding Europe’s citizens common and individual cultures
Project Objectives

- To analyze the needs of researchers, citizens, cultural institutions and creative enterprises aiming to work together
- To propose a set of priority steps (for researchers, cultural institutions, students, scholars, e-infrastructure providers, creative industries) contributing to the definition of a shared Roadmap
- To validate the Roadmap through pilots and case studies
- To deliver a strong communication and dissemination plan
- To establish a durable network of common interest to connect cultural institution, research bodies, creative industries, e-infrastructures and citizen associations
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)
# Project’s phases

A very ambitious and compact action: 16 months

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<th>Preparatory phase: gathering requirements</th>
<th>Development Phase</th>
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<td>Aug 2014</td>
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Case Studies and Pilot

The CIVIC EPISTEMOLOGIES Roadmap is validated by two case studies and one pilot

→ Extract knowledge
→ Learn lessons
→ Identify best practice
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

The pilot runs an ethnographic study focused on Western and South-Eastern Ireland, to record, capture and document heritage composed of stories heard from elderly relatives and neighbours.
A questionnaire for CH institutions

- An online questionnaire was launched in December 2014 to investigate the involvement of cultural heritage institutions with projects that involve citizen scientists and crowdsourcing activities.
- It attracted 85 responses from 23 countries:
  - 19 from the EU
  - 2 from North America
  - 2 from Asia

The results confirmed the intersection between citizen science and crowdsourcing.

It showed a generally positive attitude towards the use of citizen science in the digital cultural heritage as an opportunity for the sector.
The Roadmap online
http://www.civic-epistemologies.eu/outcomes/roadmap/

ROADMAP FOR CITIZEN SCIENCE

The main objective of CIVIC EPISTEMOLOGIES is to design a sound Roadmap for the implementation of an e-infrastructure:

- to enable creation, access, use and re-use of DH4I content,
- to provide learning resources,
- to provide communication services to multidisciplinary research teams located in different geographical places,
- to enable citizens to participate in a range of research goals established at European level together with cultural institutions and universities.

The ultimate aim is to address the scientific processes in DSHI and to bring citizens, through their associations, into the process of planning research.

Form and Content of the Roadmap:

- RETHINK general objectives for making a roadmap
- WHO: who to address target group and/or user groups, stakeholders in general, members of society
- WHERE: where to go. Specific objectives and goals for the roadmap to be a basis for requirements (e.g., improving access, amount, quality of heritage/institutional, social internet on...)?
- WHEN: when shall these specific objectives and goals be reached (time line for implementing the roadmap)
- WHAT: what to produce a roadmap, but what are the basic drivers and the added values of citizen research and creation as a method and what are benefits of using distributed e-infrastructure
- HOW: how shall the roadmap be structured (address each target group and/or user group or be structured on general level)

First versions of the Roadmap for Citizen Science

The first draft version of the Roadmap has been presented during the Workshop on the Roadmap organised in London on 26 February 2015, where all interested parties (e.g., the cultural heritage community, researchers, citizens, artists, creative enterprises, e-infrastructure communities), and I were invited to provide their feedback.

The objective of this first draft version of the Roadmap was to provide a description of what a Roadmap for the use of a infrastructure to support citizen research could look like.

The Consortium released an improved draft version of the Roadmap in June 2015. This will be the basis for the discussion that we will continue to carry out with our community, both online and in the occasion of the new Workshop in Budapest on 10 July 2015. In fact, we intend the Roadmap as a living document, which grows and expands as more people become involved in the project in its various activities, including the pilot, the case studies, the workshops, the website, the participation to third parties events, etc.

- Download the second version of the Roadmap
- Download the first version of the Roadmap

Send us your feedback filling in the form below. We will take it into account for the publication of the final version.

Your Name (optional):

Your Email (optional):

Subject:

Your Message:

Comments and feedback from users

Description of the Roadmap

Link to download the second version of the Roadmap

Link to the Information on the Workshop

Workshop about Innovation Policies for CH Institutions
Budapest, 10 July 2015
Contribution to the Registry

- EDIT-A-THON special session at the end of the Workshop:
  - ✓ add your tools/services/apps/portals useful for supporting the involvement of citizens in the scientific development process
Project public events

- 3 Focus Groups
  - Valletta, Stockholm and Coventry, October – December 2014
- 2 Case study meetings
  - Coventry, December 2014
- 3 Workshops
  - Valletta - “User needs”, November 2014
  - Leuven - “Roadmap”, 20 February 2015
  - Budapest - “Innovation in CH institutions”, 10 July 2015
Next appointments & events

- **Final International Conference**, Berlin, November 2015

- **Third party events where CIVIC EPISTEMOLOGIES will participate:**
  - ELPUB 2015, Malta 1-3 September 2015
  - Digital Heritage, Granada 28 September-2 October 2015
  - ICT2015, Lisbon 20-22 October 2015 (proposal for a networking session under submission)
  - DCDC - Discovering Collections Discovering Communities Conference, Manchester 12-14 October 2015
Follow us online!

Project website:
www.civic-epistemologies.eu

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