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APEnet – Interoperability Issues in an Archival Portal Project

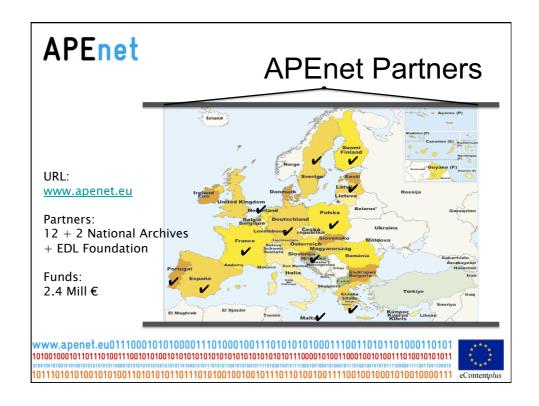


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Two Directions

- Into the portal
 - EU has 23 members
 - With even more official languages
 - Different archival and administrative traditions
 - Own archival systems
- From the portal
 - To EUROPEANA the European digital library





Get Content in

- Starting point
 - Most national archives have databases conforming to the ISAD(G) data model
 - Some have experiences with EAD for data exchange
 - Few use EAD for data capture and display
 - All have structured displays of their descriptive data on the Internet



Workflow

- Archives: Export data to own EAD-subsets
 Identification (CAD of the content of the cont
 - Using ISAD(G) EAD crosswalk
- Archives + project: Draft a mapping from local EAD to APEnetEAD
- Project develops transformation style sheets and provides converting tools
- · Archives: convert, validate and upload data



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Next Steps

- Install flying WP4 team
 - Visit several countries and prepare the conversion of their data on site
- Form an APEnet-Liaison-Group with non EUcountries who are members of EURBICA
 - To help them preparing their data for integration
- · Launch the pilot
 - End of 2010



Deliver Content to EUROPEANA

- EUROPEANA (European digital library)
 - Only wants digitized material
 - No display of structured descriptions
 - Data model based on DC with CIDOC-CRM
- APEnet has developed a converter from APEnetEAD to EUROPEANA data format (ESE)
 - Hierarchy is "inherited" to descriptions on lowest level (<c level=file>)
- · Link back to the original presentation



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Open Question

- EUROPEANA display
 - Search result: digital image
 - Thumbnails are required
 - · Albums with photos, atlases with maps?
 - · Volumes of textual records?
 - All upper series titles are shown as one text block together with the image
- No real discussion yet about the display



APEnet Objectives of the Project

- Provide tools for repositories
 - Adapted to their local data format
 - Doing all necessary conversion and preparations
- Support later adaptation to new developments of local systems
 - Tools have to fit into the local systems
 - They have to be flexible enough



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Interoperability in the Portal

- A key for being accepted as useful by content providers
- Maintaining interoperability on the long run is as necessary as providing it now – but even more difficult

