

INDICATE International Network for a Digital Cultural Heritage e-Infrastructure



The goal and content of the INDICATE project

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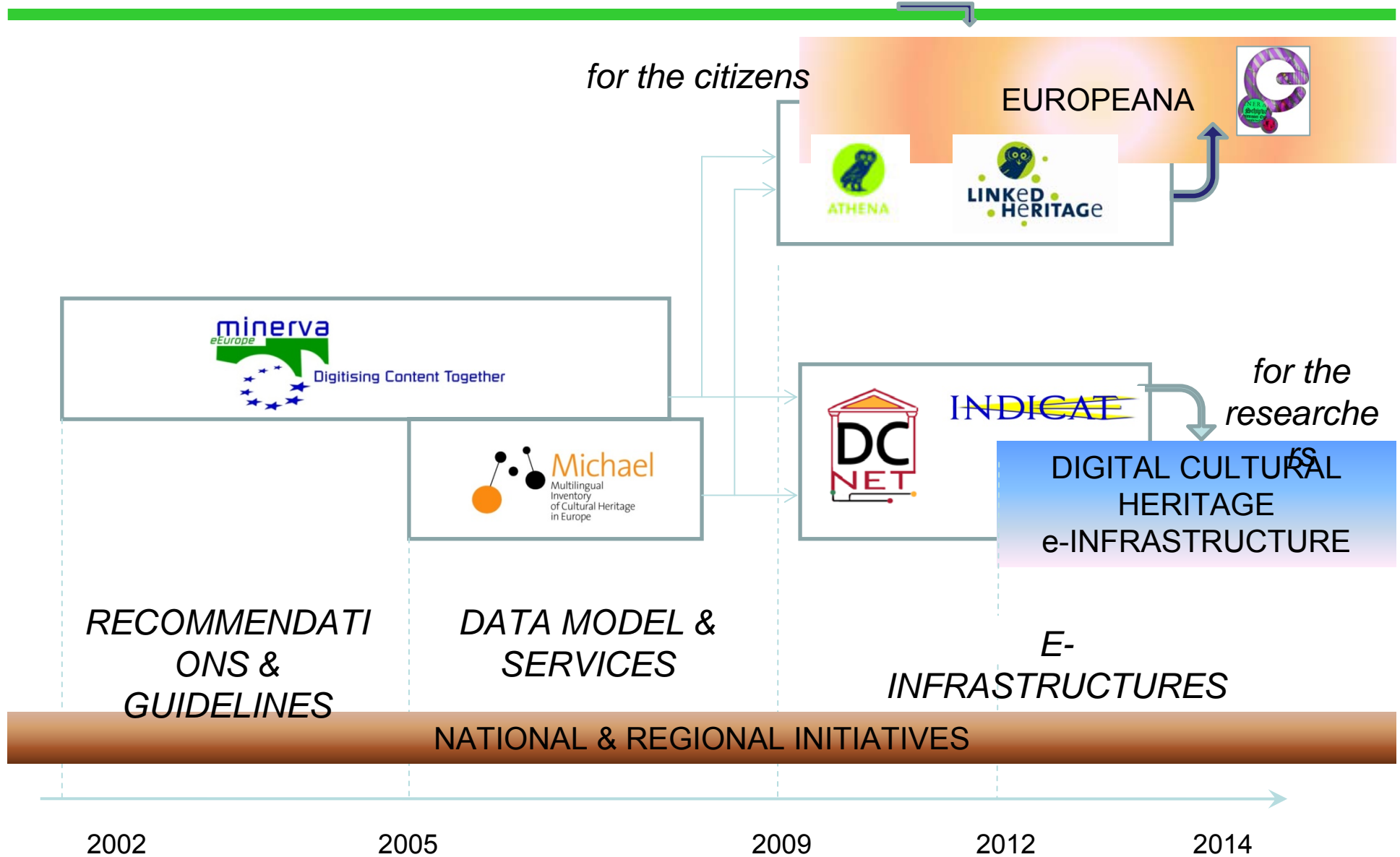
- Background
- Vision: towards a DCH e-infrastructure
- Impacts and context
- INDICATE overview
- The Network of common interest
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Initiatives of the European Member States in the last 10 year

A wide range of activities:

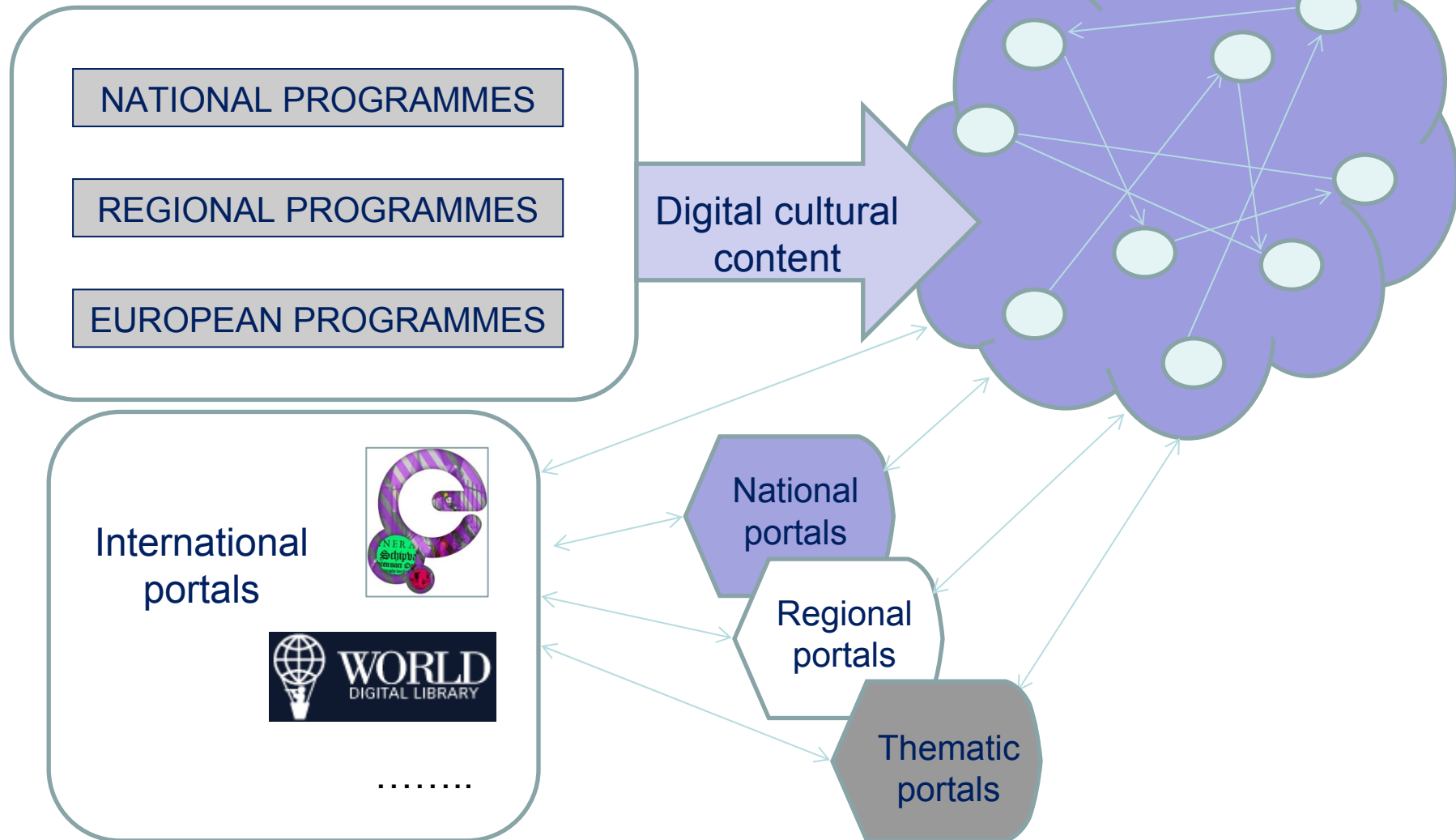
- Building a shared platform of recommendations and guidelines
- Agreement on common data models
- Experimenting and launching innovative online services
- E-infrastructures for the citizens
- E-infrastructures for the research
- International cooperation: in Europe and abroad
- Digitisation within national and regional programmes

INDICAT



THE VISION

Data Continuum

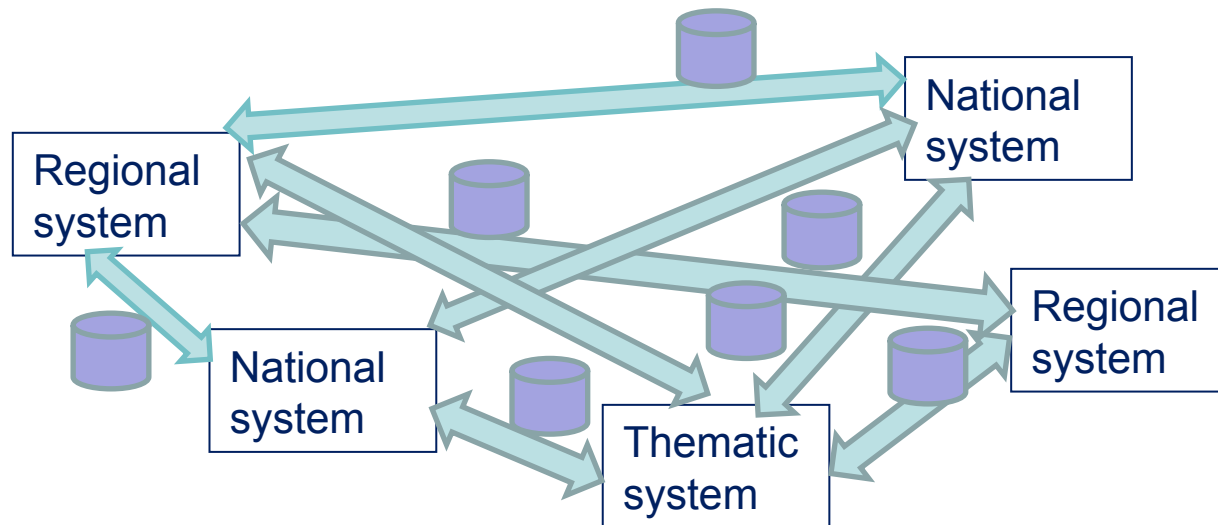


The e-infrastructure for DCH

It is not a “new infrastructure”, but it is instead a “**new approach**”

- based on **national and regional systems**
- Valorising **existing resources**

The keyword is **INTEROPERABILITY**



Expected impacts

- **e-Infrastructures**

The adoption of the e-Infrastructures by the digital cultural heritage community will open new scenarios of use and exploitation

- **Cultural Heritage**

Cultural managers will become more aware about the potential that the e-infrastructures can offer to their work: storage, preservation, access services for the cultural institutions, etc.

- **Research**

A better integration of the cultural sector with the e-Infrastructures will enable the research of new advanced services and applications

- **Other sectors**

Digital cultural content will become more usable and re-usable for education, cultural tourism, long-life learning, non-professional cultural interests, creative industry, etc.

Context

- **e-Infrastructures** enable exciting and valuable new research also in the Arts, Humanities and Digital Cultural Heritage (DCH), but it is still a relatively **new phenomenon**
- New regional, national and EU initiatives continue to emerge, but there is a **lack of coordination structures** for sharing best practice and experience
- **Guidelines** are often missing
- **Standards** and **requirements** of the DCH sector are still not fully known by the e-Infrastructure providers
- **People and organisations** of DCH and e-Infrastructures seldom know each other and refer to different national authorities
- DCH is not fully aware of the **policies** of access to e-Infrastructure and the policies of the DCH sector to join the research e-infrastructures are still under-developed

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A concrete approach within an international dimension

- Stimulating the **international cooperation** of eInfrastructures providers and cultural heritage users
- Target areas:
 - Mediterranean region, (Egypt, Turkey and Jordan)
 - Cooperation with China in liaison with the EPIKH Grid School
 - exchanges with South America in the frame of experiments for live distributed performances
- Pilots, case studies, policies and dissemination

Started in September 2010, it will last until September 2012

A project funded by EC FP7 e-Infrastructures

The consortium

10 partners from 8 countries:

Egypt

- Center for documentation of cultural and natural heritage (CULTNAT)



France

- Ministère de la culture et de la communication (MCC)



Greece

- National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)



Italy

- ICCU  
- Consortium GARR 
- COMETA 

Jordan

- Department of Antiquities



Slovenia

- Avtorska Agencija za Slovenijo Doo 

Spain

- Fundacio privada I2CAT, internet i innovacio digital a Catalunya



Turkey

- Türkiye Cumhuriyeti Kültür ve Turizm Bakanlığı

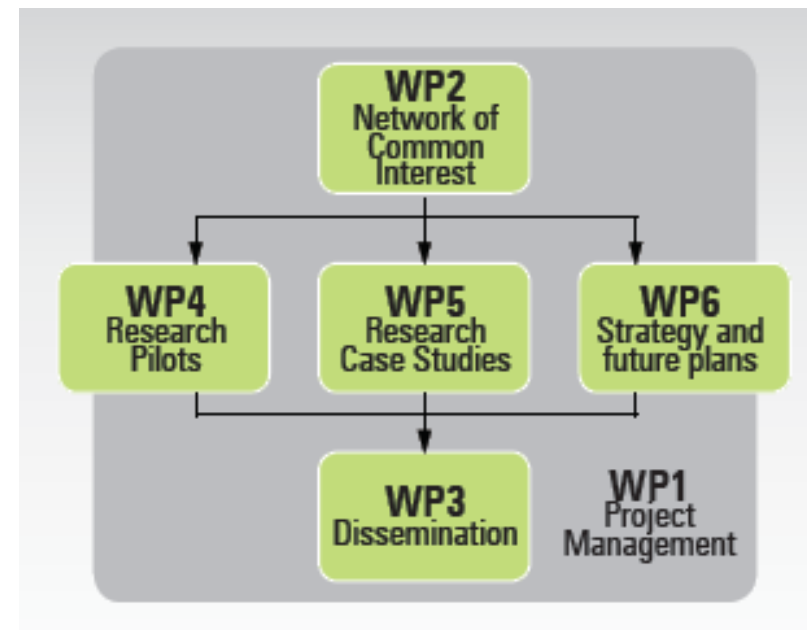


Key actions

1. **Coordination of policy** regarding the use of e-Infrastructures for digital cultural heritage in countries all around the Mediterranean
2. **Pilots and case studies** as demonstrators of the processes relevant to establishing cultural initiatives on the e-Infrastructure platforms
3. **Dissemination** and contribution to the establishment of the DCH Community

The workplan

- **Management** (Wp1)
- Developing a **network of common interest** (WP2)
- Research **pilots** and **case studies** (WP4 & 5) to demonstrate the potential of eInfrastructures to the DCH sector
- **Strategies** and **future plan** (WP6) to contribute to the harmonisation of policies in DCH sector
- **Dissemination** (WP3)



Pilots and case studies

Pilots

- Semantic Search pilot
- e-Collaborative Digital Archives

Case studies

- Long Term Preservation
- Virtual exhibitions
- Geo-coded Digital Cultural Content

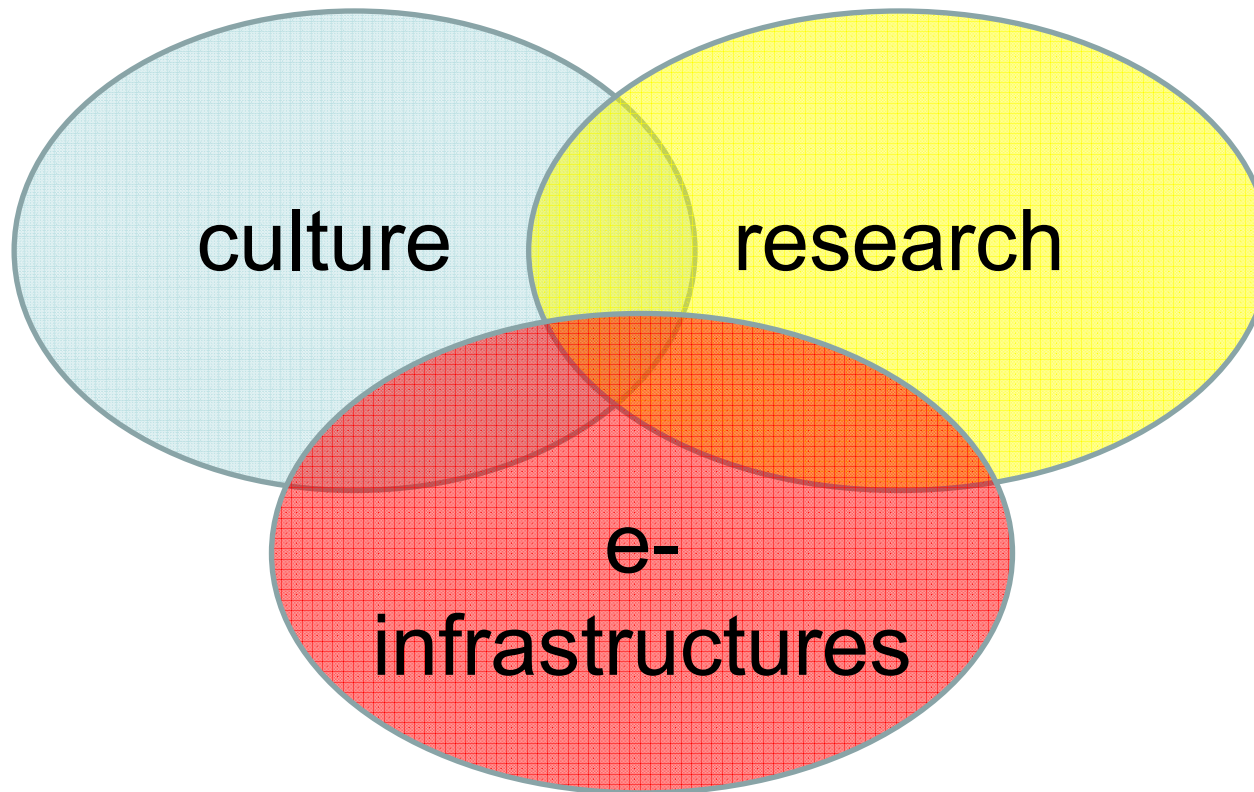
The network of common interest

It combines:

- regional, national and international levels,
- bottom-up (working groups) and top-down (Joint Programming) approaches

Working groups: experts seconded by their cultural, research and infrastructure organisations

Cooperation with other networks and projects: EPIKH, CHAIN, EUMEDGRID-Support, EUMEDCONNECT2, LINKED HERITAGE,



Cooperation and coordination among these three sectors is at the core of the DCH e-infrastructure

Liaisons with strategic bodies

Factual cooperation is established with:

- e-IRG** e-Infrastructure Reflection Group
- ESFRI** European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (SSH thematic working group)
- EGI** European Grid Initiative
- TERENA** Trans-European Research and Networking Association
- MSEG** Member States Expert Group on digitisation
- ASREN** – Arab States Research and Education Network

Next appointment

8 March 2012, Rome – DC-NET Final Conference

20 April 2012, Catania – INDICATE Technical Conference to demonstrate the e-Culture Science Gateway and to present the result of the use case studies on long-term preservation, virtual exhibitions and geo-coded cultural content

9-10 July 2012, Cairo – INDICATE Final Conference

Thank you

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