

About LoCloud

LoCloud is a Best Practice Network co-funded by the European Commission under the CIP ICT-PSP programme.

LoCloud supports small and medium-sized cultural institutions to make their digital content available through Europeana. It makes use of cloud technologies and provides a series of micro-services to benefit both content providers and end users.

The Consortium

Includes a strong group of technical partners with specific expertise in key areas of project work.

National and regional aggregation services or content providers who will both provide new content and act as pilot implementers of the cloud services.

Content providers representing specific content domains (such as specialised museums, house museums, public libraries and local archives).

Funding:



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Co-ordination:

Riksarkivet
(National Archives of Norway)

Project partners:

32 institutions from
26 countries

Start date:

March 2013

Duration:

36 months

Keywords: Europeana, local heritage, small & medium institutions, cloud computing, geo-location, metadata enrichment, Wikimedia, multilingual vocabularies, historic place names, crowd-sourcing.

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LoCloud

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@LoCloudProject

LoCloud Local Content in a Europeana Cloud



Co-ordination
Project
Management

Austria

Belgium

Bulgaria

Croatia

Cyprus

Czech Rep.

Denmark

France

Germany

Greece

Iceland

Ireland

Italy

Lithuania

Netherlands

Norway

Poland

Portugal

Spain

Romania

Serbia

Slovakia

Slovenia

Sweden

Turkey

UK

Partners

Riksarkivet (National Archives of Norway), Norway

2Culture Associates Ltd, UK

- AIT Angewandte Informationstechnikforschungs-gesellschaft mbH
- Provincie Limburg
- Pencho Slaveykov Regional Library
- Gradska knjižnica Rijeka
- Cyprus University of Technology
- Narodni Pamatkovy Ustav
- Kulturstyrelsen
- Conseil Général de la Gironde - Archives Départementales de la Gironde
- University of Duisburg-Essen
- National Technical University of Athens
- Athena Research and Innovation Centre in Information Communication & Knowledge Technologies
- Future Library
- Minjastofnun Íslands /The Cultural Heritage Agency of Iceland
- The Discovery Programme
- Fondazione Ranieri di Sorbello
- Vilniaus universiteto Komunikacijos fakultetas
- Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschap
- Asplan Viak Internet AS
- Instytut Chemii Bioorganicznej Pan
- Fundacao Museu Nacional Ferroviario Armando Ginestal Machado
- Ministerio de Educacion, Cultura y Deporte
- Universidad del pais Vasco
- Biblioteca Judeteana Octavian Goga - CLUJ
- Biblioteka grada Beograda
- Univerzita Komenského Prírodovedecká fakulta Katedra aplikovanej a environmentálnej geofyziky
- Javni Zavod Republike Slovenije za Varstvo Kulturne Dediscine
- Jara, Zavod za Razvoj Knjiznic
- ABM Resurs Västernorrland
- Hacettepe Universitesi
- University of York - Archaeology Data Service

Adding content to Europeana

LoCloud aims to add over **four million digitised resources** from European cultural institutions to Europeana.

Europeana provides access to millions of digitised items from European museums, libraries, archives and multi-media collections. It collects contextual information (metadata) about the digital items, providing links to the web sites of the relevant content providers.

Supporting local heritage institutions

Content from local museums, archives, libraries, archaeological sites, and other similar institutions is still underrepresented in Europeana and, in general, on the internet. LoCloud supports **small and medium-sized cultural institutions** to make their digitised content accessible through Europeana.

LoCloud and the cloud

LoCloud has developed a **cloud-based infrastructure** for metadata aggregation and harvesting for local heritage institutions lacking the technical capacity to aggregate their digital content, or who lack access to an aggregation network. It is also working to provide a series of **micro-services** such as metadata enrichment (by including additional information, e.g. historical place names and links to thesauri), multilingual vocabularies for local history and archaeology, a Wikimedia application to handling relevant 'crowd-sourced' content and a geo-location tool. These services will enrich the content, increasing its usefulness and relevance, thereby enhancing the user's experience.

Geographic location

Geo-location is an important aspect of local history. It enables users to reconnect, for instance, museum objects with archaeological sites and monuments as well as with archival documents. LoCloud places an emphasis on geo-location and is developing a tool to enable the enrichment of digital content with geographic information, offering a more coherent representation of the available digital cultural heritage of any given locality.

LoCloud collections

LoCloud is implementing lightweight digital library software for deployment in a cloud environment, and compatible with Europeana requirements. This will benefit data providers requiring a user-friendly, scalable system for cataloguing their digital content and metadata.



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