ATHENA
Access to cultural heritage networks across Europe

דיגיטל הריטג', ישראל
Digital Heritage, Israel

EVAMinerva 2010

*e*Content*plus*

ATHENA lessons learnt

1. The importance of the workflow

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Italian Ministry of cultural heritage, ICCU

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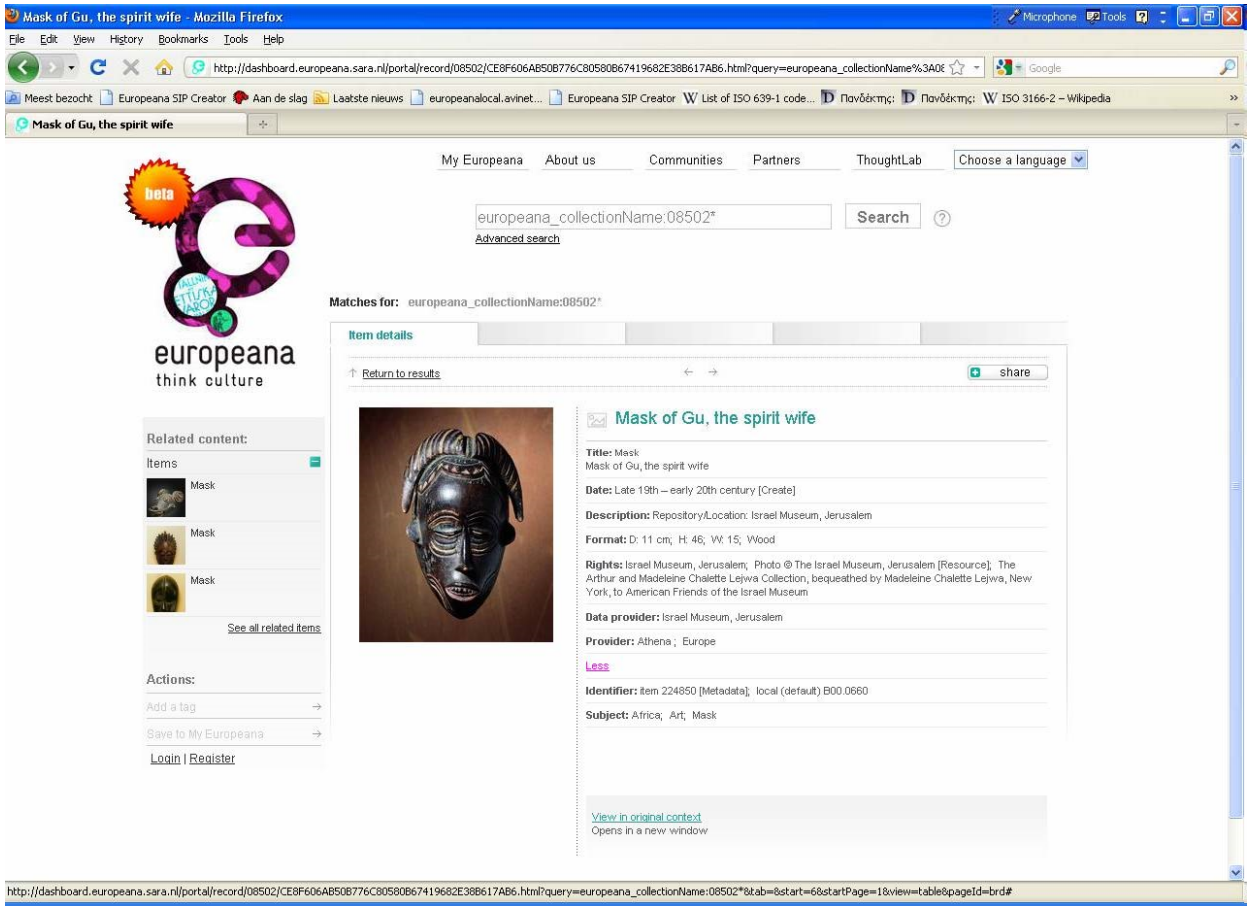
Amitiè, Italy

ATHENA

What's behind this screenshot?



Listen to a story…

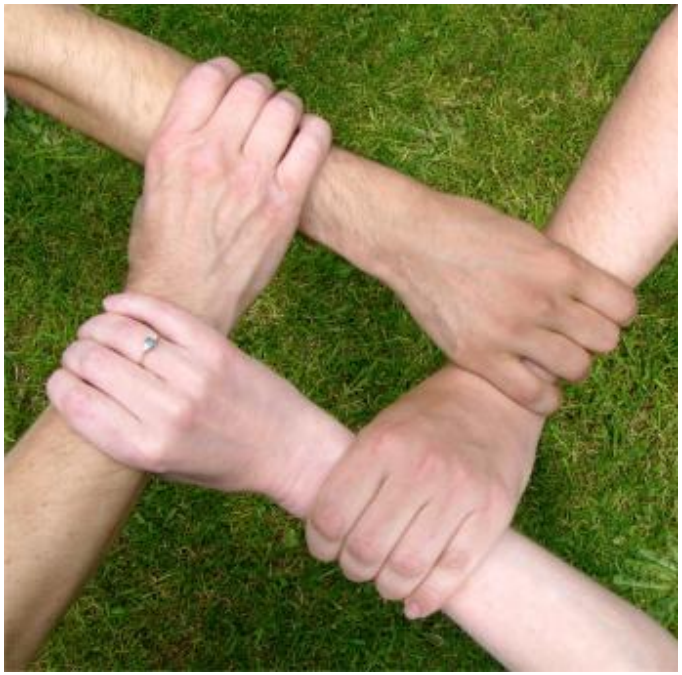
ATHENA

ATHENA is
a network of good practices financed by programme *e*Content*plus*

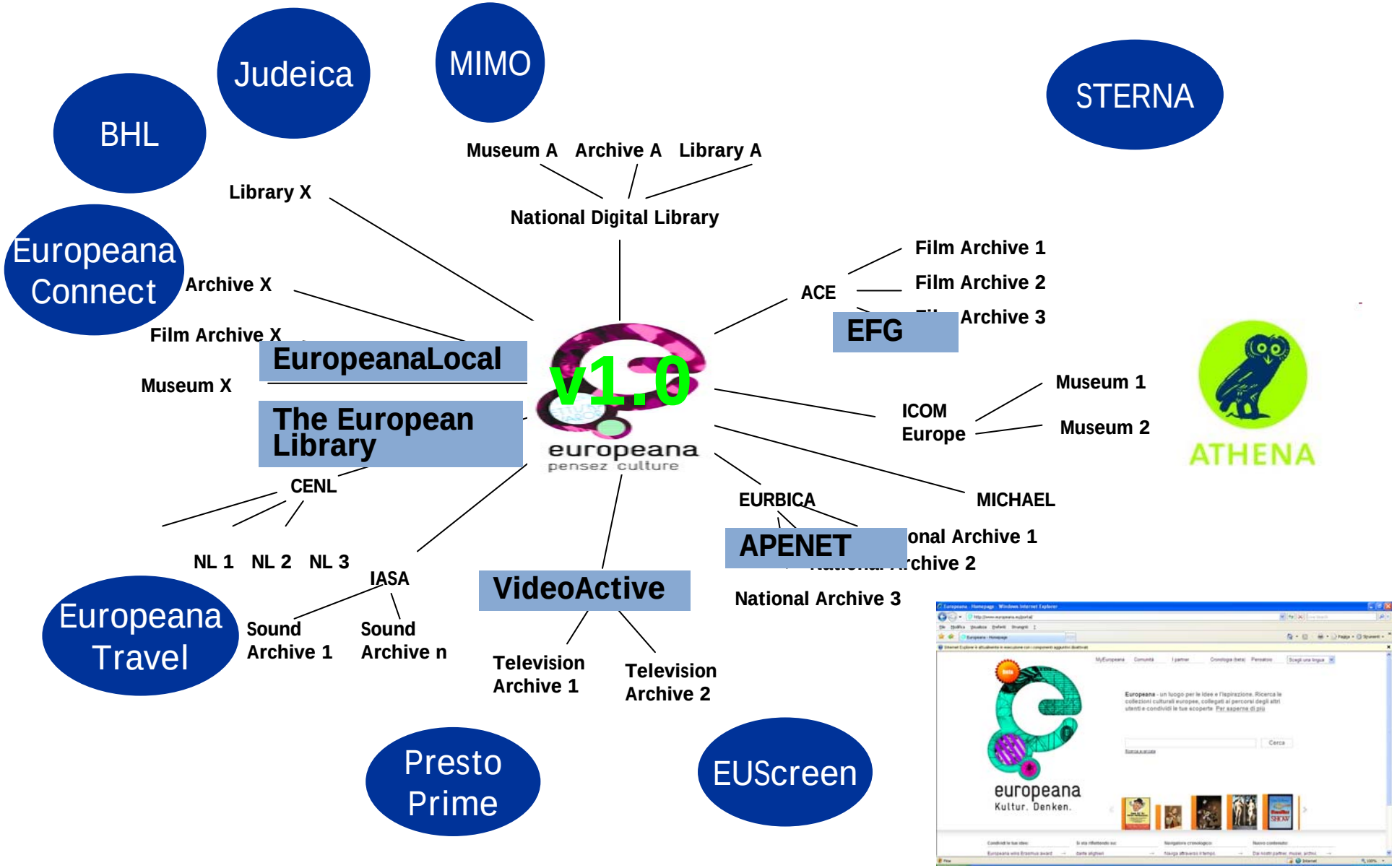
a 30 month project (2008-2011) coordinated by MiBAC

a result of the MINERVA project

ATHENA involves:
20 EU Member States, Israel, Russia
109 museums and other important cultural institutions in Europe
plus new entries



The Europeana Family



National contact points

Belgium
Bulgaria
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Israel
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
The Netherlands
Poland
Romania
Russia
Slovak Republic
Slovenia
United Kingdom
Europeana

Trait d'union between content providers and the organisation and technical management

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ATHENA Survey on Standards

- Content provider information
- Collection description
- Digital object metadata
- Information scheme(s) (metadata)
- Intellectual Property Rights (including copyright)
- Geographic name terminology and co-ordinate standards
- Date format and time period terminology
- Subject terminology
- Person and organisation terminology

By ATHENA WP3

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Survey conclusions a big mess

- European museums have different approaches in cataloguing, in digitisation, in the use of metadata standards
- Museum metadata standards are not much used by the other domains
- Museums use other domain metadata standards
- Dublin Core is a popular metadata scheme
- A significant number of museums (and organisations from other domains) use an in-house developed metadata schemes
- About half of collections are using adapted standards

By ATHENA WP3

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Complexity of museum objects
Which standard to use in ATHENA?

… with objects cooperation is more difficult …

Painted 1784

Not painted …

but „produced“ 1540

EVENTS

Painted 1769

Not painted …

not produced …

But: „first described“ 1863

Painted 1739

Not painted …

Produced (when ??)

More important: „used“ around 530

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Towards standardisation

LIDO Basics: XML Harvesting schema

- **LIDO = Light Information [for] Describing Objects;**
- **Uses *CIDOC Conceptual Reference Model* (CRM);**
- **Has Display elements and Indexing elements;**
- **Full support for Multilinguality;**
- **Aligned to Getty's *CDWA Lite* schema;**
- **Informed by *SPECTRUM*;**
- **In 'use' in BAM Portal.**

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Towards standardisation

LIDO Top Level Elements

- Identifier
- Category
- Object Classification:
  - Object / Work Type (mandatory)
  - Classification
- Object Identification:
  - Title / Name (mandatory)
  - Inscriptions
  - Repository / Location
  - Record (mandatory)
  - State / Edition
  - Object Description
  - Measurements
- Event:
  - Event Set
- Relations:
  - Subject Set
  - Related Works
- Administrative Metadata:
  - Rights
  - Record (mandatory)
  - Resource

Ingestion Plan

AGREEMENT AUTHORIZATION	PUBLISH PROCEDURE	UPLOAD	COUNTRY	DATA PROVIDER (institution, aggregator)	COLLECTION NAME	TECHNICAL CONTACT PERSON	E-MAIL	APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF DIGITAL OBJECTS	OBJECT TYPES (i sound, vi
		Danube	BE_007	RMCA	Photograph collection database			100000	text/imges
OK	OK (14006 ESE items). Alcuni items sono stati cancellati perché non andavano bene per europeana	27952 LIDO items	BE_008	KIK-IRPA	Photographic collection of art objects belonging to the other Belgian participating scientific institutions.	Erik Buelinckx	erik.buelinckx@kikirpa.be	14044	text/images
OK		Danube	BE_009	RMAH	Museum collection database	Chris De Loof	c.deloof@kmkg.be	613 objects	images

Today: 270 collections

Ingestion plan: the workflow of the collections until the publication into Europeana. Will they all be published in the European portal?

The collections' quality

The cases

- Collections ready to be ingested (very few)
- Collections with low quality images
- Collections with metadata to be corrected
- Collections not yet fully digitised
- Technical problems
- Management problems
- Waiting for IPR clarifications
- Duplications with other projects
- Need to be ingested first in the national aggregator
- ...

IPR

Europeana Data Provider Agreement with Europeana
(ready in May 2010)
Europeana Data Aggregator Agreement with Europeana
(ready in May 2010)

Long discussion among all stakeholders on

- Metadata reuse
- Non commercial reuse

Content Providers' Authorisation to ATHENA to deliver content to Europeana

Ingestion system

Cultural Heritage metadata aggregation
Organization, user and records management
Alignment of proprietary schemata
Export (XML, XSLT) & publish (OAI-PMH)

By
NTUA

Ingestion system

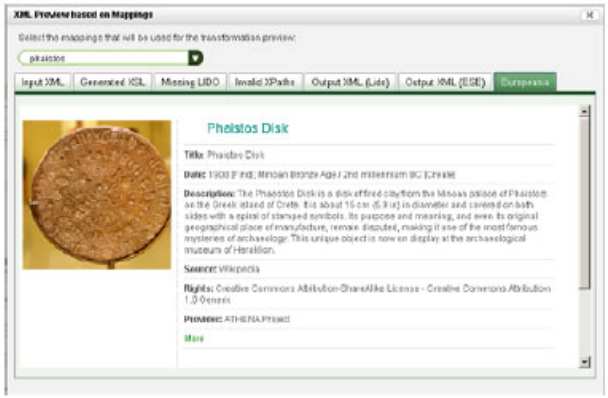
Friendly interface

Easy to learn

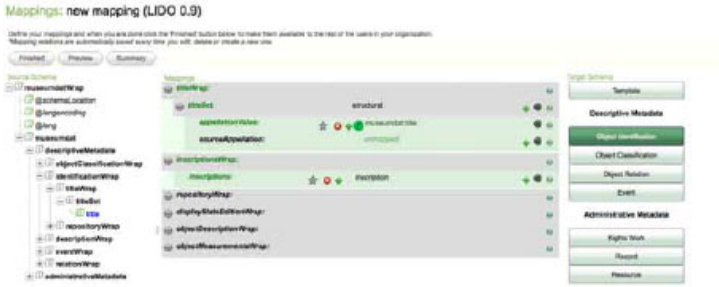
Still in progress

Bugs

XML analysis, statistics & preview



Visual mapping (XSL) editor

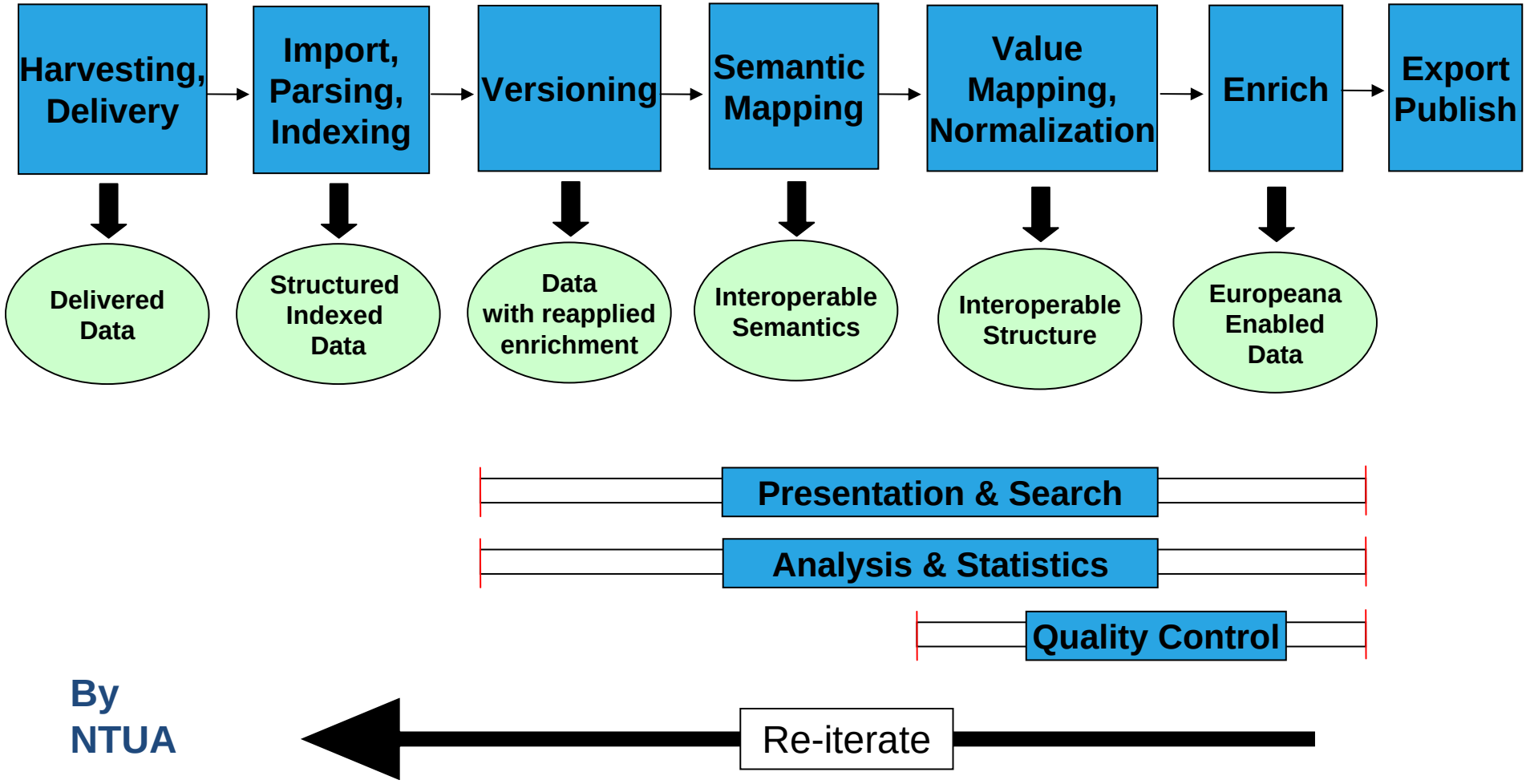


XPath & constant value mappings, value concatenation
String value transformation functions based on XSL

Complex condition editor

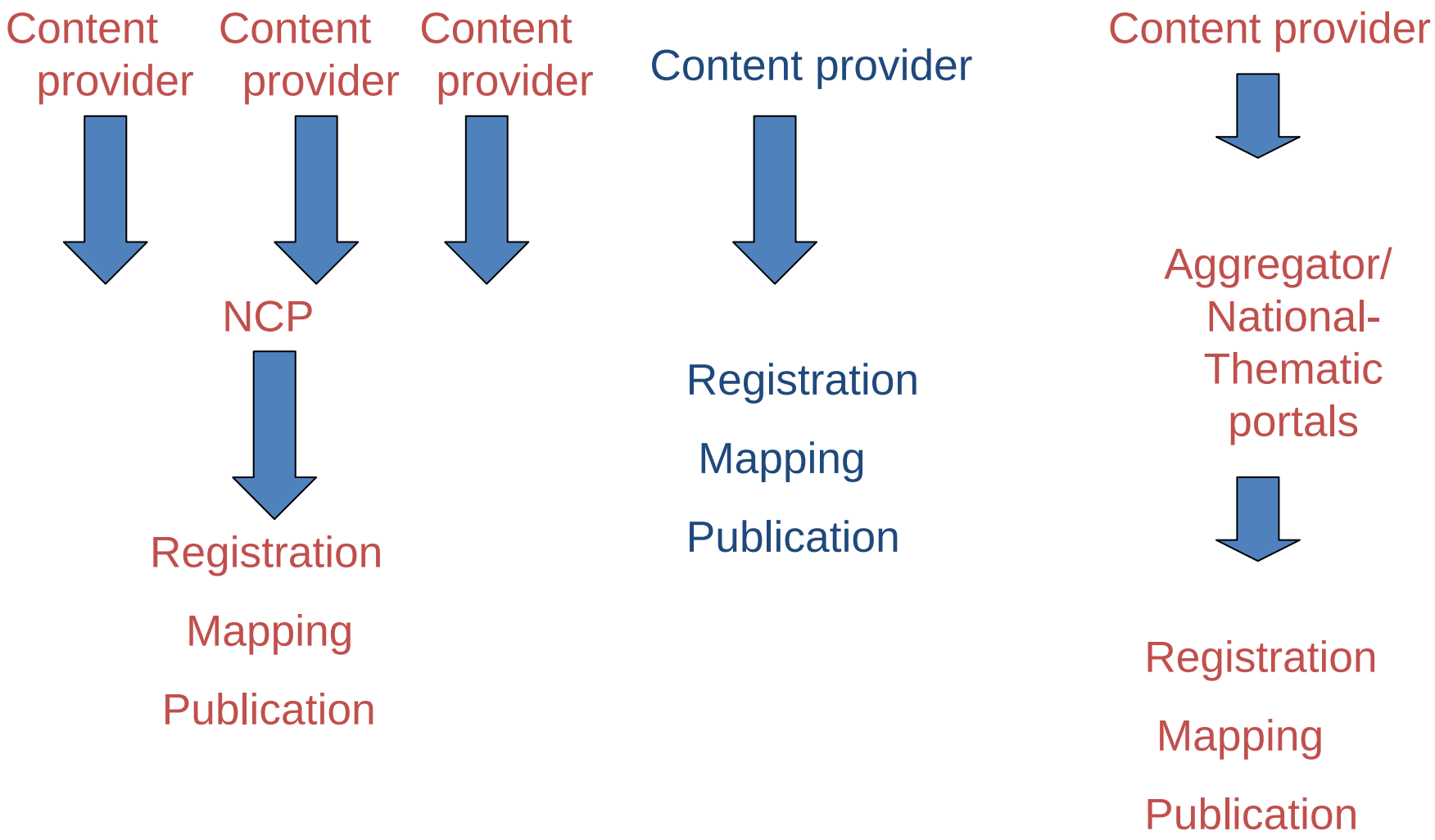
By NTUA

Ingestion system



By NTUA

Different cases



Training

PERIODIC TRAINING WORKSHOPS

TESTS (TEST SERVER / FINAL SERVER)

ONLINE TRAINING MATERIAL

Documents
Presentations
Guidelines
Videos
Worksheets

VIDEO TUTORIALS

TECHNICAL HELP-DESK

managed by WP3 and WP7 experts
targeted at content providers

Errors

Mapping errors

Thumbnail blurring

Shown at / Shown by

Images caching failed

Repetitions of items

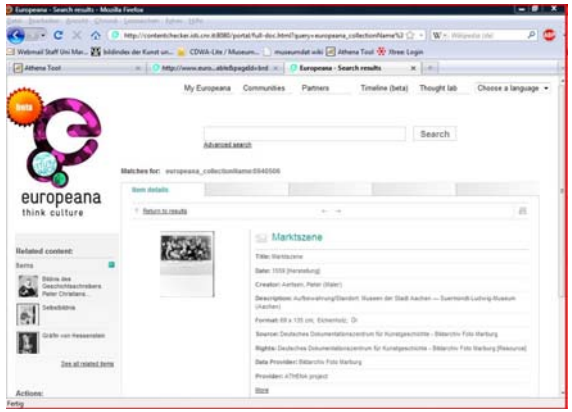
Confusion in the names of content providers

Difference from ATHENA previews
Europeana content checker

Items duplications

New element europeana:dataProvider

Ecc.



Hundreds of conversations

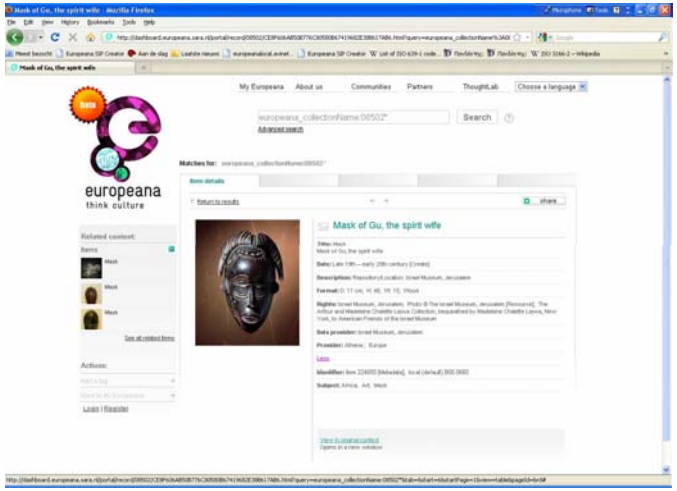
“G. asked me to fix dcterms:title and change it to dc:title, map dc:source to europeana:dataProvider, leave dc:description as it is. I cannot change the display order of dc:extent. Dc;Type was another issue I now mapped it to dc:subject because this fits better. I tried to differenciate between dc:type and dc:subject but currently this information is all mapped to dc:type in the input file and there is no pattern that I could filter for. Not all items contain a true dc:type as first element in their metadata”.

Stakeholders in the process

- Technical team
- Metadata experts
- Ingestion plan coordinator
- Management
- Europeana Team
- Content providers

Where is and how to solve the problem?

Houston
We have lift off!!!!



10 November 2010

2 millions ATHENA data
in Europeana / half way

Testimonials:

“How exciting to see it live! All of everyone's work is coming together. Well done”

“thank you for all your efforts and hard work - we are absolutely thrilled to be in Europeana”

“I would like to thank to the Europeana Ingestion Team”

“great news with the publication, congratulations and thank you for all you hard work. Their organisations should be the judges, within the limits of the systems, as to the quality of the results”

We are in Europeana

Museum-digital, Germany
Museum of History of Kazan University, Russian Federation
RybinskStateHistory,ArchitectureandArtMuseum-reserve, Russian Federation
Institute for Cultural Memory(CIMEC), Bucharest, Romania
Chouvashia State Art Museum, Russian Federation
Petofi Literary Museum, Hungary
Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia
Bibliotheksservice-Zentrum Baden Wurttemberg, Germany
Royal Institute For Cultural Heritage, Belgium
Hellenic Maritime Museum, Greece
ArtPast, Italy
Israeli Museum, Israel
FotoMarburg, Germany

Conclusions

- Respect technical guidelines in digitisation projects
- Image quality is very important
- Training, training, training…
- Help desk: it is strategic!
- Human interoperability: cooperation and exchanges of good practices between ICT technicians and cultural professionals

Open to new museums

New museums who want to publish their digital objects into Europeana are welcome!!!

ATHENA can be the right bridge!!!

Cooperation with other European projects

ATHENA cooperates with other ongoing trans-European projects to fully support the development of Europeana:

EUROPEANA LOCAL
connecting cultural heritage

MIMO
musical instrument museums online

APEnet

europeana
Judaica Europeana

STERNA

In order to

- avoid duplications
- steer the content providers to the right project according to its needs
- share the project results
- exchange good practices
- coorganise dissemination events

More information

http://www.athenaeurope.org
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