National coordination of digital cutural heritage

Göran Konstenius, National Library of Sweden, Kiev mars 2016
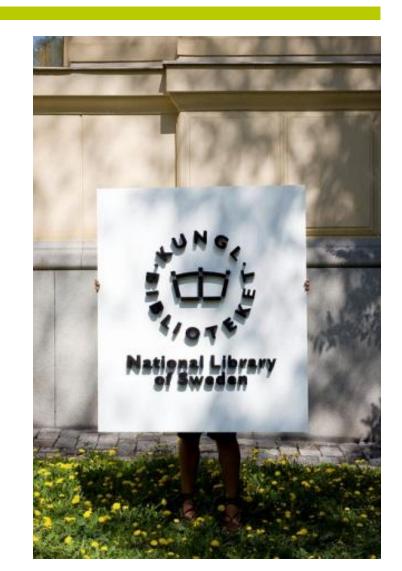
National Library
of Sweden

The National Library of Sweden –
some facts

The National Library of Sweden has been collecting, as legal deposits, virtually everything printed in Sweden or in Swedish since 1661. We also collect TV and radio programs, movies and videos distributed in Sweden, Swedish music and computer games.

We coordinate services and programs for all publically funded libraries in Sweden and we manage and develop **Libris**, the national library catalog system. 2015 we got the mission to develop a national library strategy including all library types.

The National Library of Sweden is a state agency. We are a staff of about 320 and our main offices are in Stockholm.

The National Library of Sweden – digitalisation an digital legal deposits

Large scale digitisation of older newspapers, radio- and television programmes

- **1.8 million hours** sound and video

- **12 million pages** of newspapers

Fast growing digital legal deposits of radio- and television programmes

- **3 million hours**

A new **legal Deposit Act for Electronic Materials** which serves as a complement to the Legal Deposit Act

- **2.6 million objects**

The National Library of Sweden – legal Deposit Act for Electronic documents

Subject to legal deposit - Electronic documents are:

- **documents publicly accessible in Sweden** on electronic networks

- **documents available exclusively on the web**, not in analog form

- **documents that have a defined electronic file format** and are comprised of any combination of text, sound, and image

- **documents with a permanent form** each and every time they are accessed

(not blogs and social media)

- **documents regarded as Swedish.**

  a. significant portions of them are in Swedish

  b. they can be attributed to a Swedish author or artist

  c. the intention is to make them available to the general public in Sweden

DIGISAM - National coordination of digitisation

DIGISAM - National coordination of digitisation – background

- **2006 –** The EU-commission gives a recommendation for member states to increase their efforts in digitisation and to set up national plans

- **2008 –** The establishing of Europeana – a platform for gathering the digital cultural heritage of Europe: www.europeana.eu

- **2011 –** Sweden launches a National strategy of digitisation 2011-2015

- **2011 –** Sweden estatblishes a National coordination center for digitisation, digital preservation and digital access to cultural heritage (DIGISAM), hosted by Swedish National Archives

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Digisam – **mission and vision**

Mission

- To present advice for digitising and access to collections and archives to support priorities in the digitisingwork and future use of common formats and standards

- To present national guidelines including a coordinated digital handling of information and a coordinated and cost efficient long term digital preservation of collections and archives, including audiovisual archives

- The guidelines shall include a proposition how to distribute responsibility amongst the govermental instituions, responsble for digital access and digital long term preservation of the digital cultural heritage

Vision

The cultural heritage is digitised, accessable and usable for everyone. There is a coordinated cost effective infrastructure suporting digitising, use and preservation of high quality.

Digisam - national coordination of digitisation – organisation

The Swedish National Archives is hosting the Digisam-secretariat.

The steering group consists of the heads of:

- Swedish National Archives

- The National Library of Sweden

- The Swedish National Hertage Board

- Musikverket (Swedish Performing Arts Agency)

Digisams final report 2015 – future needs of cooperation, examples

- Increased colaboration regarding technical equipment and competence, related to the missions of the institutiones and actual resources

- Increase the number of small development projects aming att good results out of limited fundings

- Deepen the relations between cultural heritage institutions and the universities

- Increase the competence about linked open data (LOD) in all cultural heritage sectors

- Develop and formalise the relation between institutions holding aggregators, as for example national catalogues and similar services

- Develop the relations with regional cultural heritage institutions

- Create a shared working space for working with EU-projekt

- The work with digital preservation and storing needs to be better coordinated

Fourteen guiding principles for working with digital cultural heritage

- The fourteen guiding principles for working with digital cultural heritage are developed in consultation with Digisam's participating authorities and institutions. The principles were decided by Digisam's steering group 2014.

- The principles will not contain or reference any specific techniques, as they will be used over an extended period of time.

- The principles are divided based on the areas of **govern**, **produce**, **use** and **preserve**.

- Digisam's guiding principles for working with digital cultural heritage is translated into English!

Google

"digisam guiding principles in english" there is a link in the

 end of the text.

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Guiding principles for working with digital cultural heritage – Govern

EXAMPLE - Govern

P1. Digitisation activities shall be **governed by the management** of each institution

Statement: Digitisation activities shall be based on **plans and strategies** decided by the institution.

Why?: Digitisation activities that do not have support from management are at risk of not gaining the resources needed to implement effective production or for accessibility and longterm management of produced or collected data.

Implications: A defined strategy and plan for digitisation, accessibility, and preservation are required at each institution. Each institution needs to decide on the planned digitisation activities. Plans and strategies are formulated based on national recommendations.

Guiding principles for working with digital cultural heritage – Produce

EXAMPLE Produce

P4. Digitisation shall be performed so that resources and expertise are used efficiently and effectively

Statement: In conjunction with the planning and implementation of digitisation projects, an assessment shall be conducted to decide where and how the digitisation efforts can be implemented in the most effective and efficient way based on defined specifications. Largescale digitisation should always be considered.

Why? : Prior investments are better utilised by using existing digitisation equipment. It leads to higher quality, lower costs, and better use of the competence available at each institution. By concentrating production to fewer and larger-scale production plants, the total equipment and maintenance cost for society and the development of skills can be optimised.

Implications: Each institution needs to examine the options available (within and outside the public sector) before procuring its own equipment or initiating in-house production. Any institution that has made investments in equipment and skills ought to facilitate sharing of these resources with other institutions.

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Guiding principles for working with digital cultural heritage - Use

P3. Interconnections between stakeholders' information shall be pursued

Statement: Information shall be contextualised in a standardised way by linking it to information outside of the institution.

Why?: Heritage information has natural links to many places, events, time periods, persons and objects. By linking digital information with other sources, the opportunities for reusing this material increases. When the linkage is done in a standardised way, the threshold for users of the information lowers, and new opportunities are opened for research, among other things.

Implications: Digital objects need to be provided with persistent identifiers in accordance with common guidelines.

The institution strives towards semantic linking to external information resources

The institution needs to make it easy for others to semantically link to information managed by their own institution.

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Infrastructure to provide digital cultural heritage for resaerch - Sunet

- Sunet is the common infrastructure for data communication for the nation's institutions for higher education. Large amounts of data are sent daily on the Sunet networks in Sweden and also out in the world via other countries' research networks.

- Sunet has its own board appointed by the Swedish Research Council, where the higher education sector, researchers and students are represented.

- There is now a discussion between Digisam and Sunet about using the network to store and to distribute the digital cultural heritage. In the long run there is the possibility to connect special research tools for digital humanities.

Digisam - the future?

- Digisam will proceed its activities 2016. The long term decission of Digisams future will probably be decided 2017, when the Goverment bill of the cultural heritage will be released.

- The discussion between Digisam and Sunet about using the network to store and to distribute the digital cultural heritage will continue.

- Three pilots are ready to be launched - **Digitalisation of photgraphs**, **digitalisation of audiovisual collections** and **storage at Sunet**.

- As a result of Digisams final report The Swedish National Archive got a mission to investigate the conditions for **establishing a large scale national digitalisiation** center in Fränsta, northern Sweden. This mission will be rapported in september 2016.

Summary

- The National Library of Sweden have a large and fast growing digital archive

- In the context of Digisam The National Library contributes for making the cultural heritage digitised, accessable and usable for everyone

- Digisams 14 Guiding principles for working with digital cultural heritage is an important step towards linking the four main cultural heritage sectors together – libraries, archives, museums and audiovisual archives

- The discussion between Digisam and Sunet about using the network to store and to distribute the digital cultural heritage will continue.

- Digitised cultural heritage, stored and accessible in a standardised way, opens for digital humaniora and new ways to process content