SITAR Project: a Territorial Information Web Platform for Public Archaeology of Rome

Through shared and collaborative knowledge
Towards integration in e-infrastructures for Research and Cultural Heritage

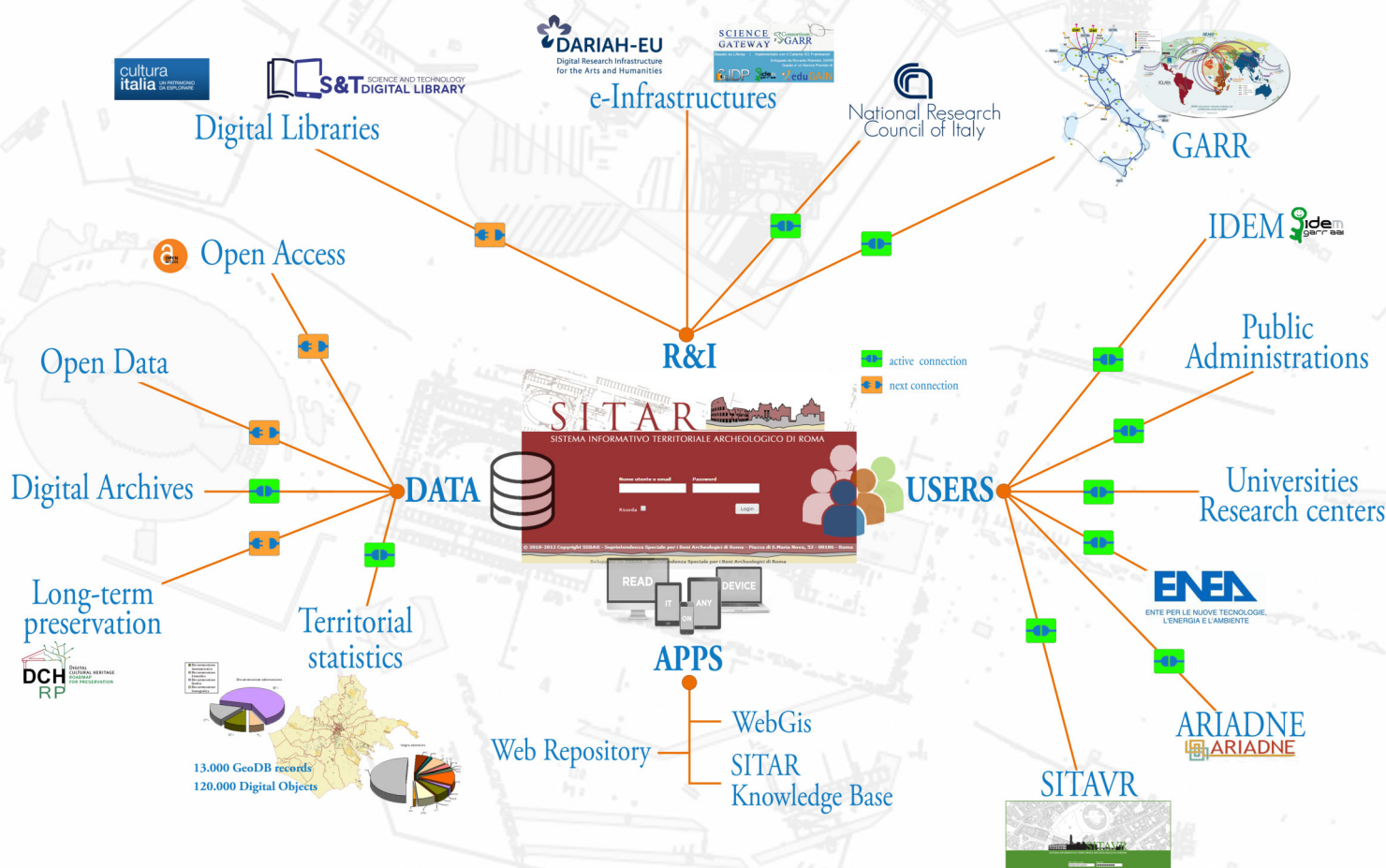| 1748	1893-1901	2008-2014
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The SITAR Project

In 2008, the Special Superintendence for Archaeological Heritage of Rome launched the SITAR Project in order to primarily design, implement and develop the first digital archaeological cadastre of Rome, by means of an Archaeological Information System web platform.

Hiterto, SITAR Project has been completely self-funded by the Superintendence and, as ongoing project, it aims to integrate other important experiences promoted by Italian Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Tourism.

The scenario at the end of 2007

The following issues characterised the mid 2000's scenario of Public Archaeology at Rome:
> a missing detailed and digital archaeological map of Rome (ground and underground) to integrate old and new data and cartographies
> a gap between rapidly increasing material archives and need of ubiquitous field and raw data for many users
> a need to translate legacy data into easily accessible records, metadata, digital objects, web maps and open datasets
> a slow integration of ICT, new technologies and updated methodologies in office workflows and procedures
> a need to improve Superintendence time-response in terms of archiving, analysing, sharing and disseminating public data
> a lack of unambiguos informational services for: preventive archaeology; shared territorial and landscape planning; exploitation of monuments, sites and museums; publics involvement and engagement; participatory and responsible processes of knowledge production

Digital Libraries

e-Infrastructures

National Research Council of Italy

GARR

Open Access

R&I

IDEM

Open Data

Public Administrations

active connection

next connection

DATA

SITAR
SISTEMA INFORMATIVO TERRITORIALE ARCHEOLOGICO DI ROMA

USERS

Digital Archives

Universities
Research centers

Long-term preservation

ENEA
ENTE PER LE NUOVE TECNOLOGIE, L'ENERGIA E L'AMBIENTE

Territorial statistics

APPS

ARIADNE

13.000 GeoDB records
120.000 Digital Objects

Web Repository

WebGis
SITAR
Knowledge Base

SITAVR

The strategy of first seven years: 2008-2014

The first seven-years period of implementation has focused on these topics:
> annual allocation of internal funds to implement SITAR Project into a not fragmented framework
> identification and aggregation of the SITAR Steering Committee, design and data-entry workgroups
> definition and codification of new workflows and procedures, and rationalising of material archives
> data and applications via-web accessibility and ongoing enhancement of new SITAR web platform
> infrastructure for back-ups and long term preservation of geo-database, digital objects and apps
> resilient connections for internal/external users and machines to NREN "GARR-X"
> improvement of SITAR public information services delivering
> participation to inter-ministry committees, FP7 projects (ARIADNE and DCH-RP) and conferences
> referring to open science, open access and open data paradigms and open source solutions
> new forms of collaborative and multi-domain knowledge creation, sharing and recombination
> increasing publics engagement and active participation
> day-by-day evolving environment for the Public Archaeology of Rome

Key features and first results

SITAR Project implementation is performing the following key outcomes:
> ongoing digitalization process of material archives, towards digital libraries
> improvement of Superintendence organizational framework and accountability
> integrated centralized/distributed policies for data bank ubiquitous access and long term preservation
> new modes to deliver data and knowledge packages to users also through newly started web services
> newly activated socializing processes for a wider users participation in knowledge production
> increasing of SITAR digital data repository estimated in about 2 TeraBytes/year / new added 100 users
> a concrete contribute to definition of new national cultural strategies
> implementation of a Public Archaeology Knowledge System paradigm easily transferable
> fostering new institutional interactions and cross-domain integration actions
> encouraging more responsible uses of open standards, open data and ICT in the archaeological sector
> new expected results for territorial planning shared policies and actions, as well as for cultural tourism
> enhanced professional profiles qualification and job opportunities related to SITAR Project