

Webinar: Call for ECCCH Innovative use cases

30 June 2025

Welcome

Katja REPPEL, European Commission, Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation

Agenda

Moderated by Maria Claudia BODINO, European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation

- Explanation of the call topic
Speaker : Rickard BUCKSCH, European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation
- Presentation by project ECHOES
Speaker : Xavier RODIER, ECHOES Coordinator (CNRS), Dimitris KOTZINOS, ECHOES Knowledge and Innovation Coordinator (CNRS - CY Cergy Paris University)
- Presentation by project AUTOMATA
- Presentation by project HERITALISE
- Presentation by project TEXTaiLES
- Q&A
- Closing



Three phase support by Horizon Europe

WP2023

Design and implement the **basic architecture**, data model and **governance**, including steering and coordination entity for all implementation actions



WP2024

Research and develop **basic tools** and functionality that make the platform attractive, useful and user friendly



WP2025

Develop and test **real-world uses** of the platform together with stakeholders; pilot, test, improve, integrate



10 innovative tools projects
To start autumn 2025



Five year implementation plan, ~20 projs





Purpose of the WP2025 call topic

Thorough **end-to-end testing** of the ECCCH based on a number of **real use cases**

Contributions to **improve the platform** and make it more **powerful and user friendly**

Contributions to make the capacity of the ECCCH more widely known and **increase its use**

HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-HERITAGE-03:

A European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage – Innovative use cases (IA)

€ 26.0
million

~6-10 projects

Expected outcomes

- A thoroughly end-to-end tested and verified, seamlessly working, user-friendly and powerful European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage
- A wide collection of innovative uses of the ECCCH, which contributes to exemplify and illustrate its benefits and attract new users and user groups

Scope

- Implementation of concrete use cases by participating institutions, professionals and researchers with a view to improve their results or work processes
- Activities carried out should make use of several of the key features of the ECCCH, including the user tools implemented on it or/and interconnections with other related platforms such as EOSC of the European dataspace for cultural heritage
- A wide range of different organisations from across Europe should be involved, in accordance with the focus of the use cases
- Proposals should foresee own capacity to implement important improvements and fix problems detected

Deadline: 16 September 2025 17:00 CET

ECHOES: European Cloud for Heritage OpEn Science

Preserving the Past, Shaping the Future:
your Gateway to a Collaborative and Innovative European
Cultural Heritage Community

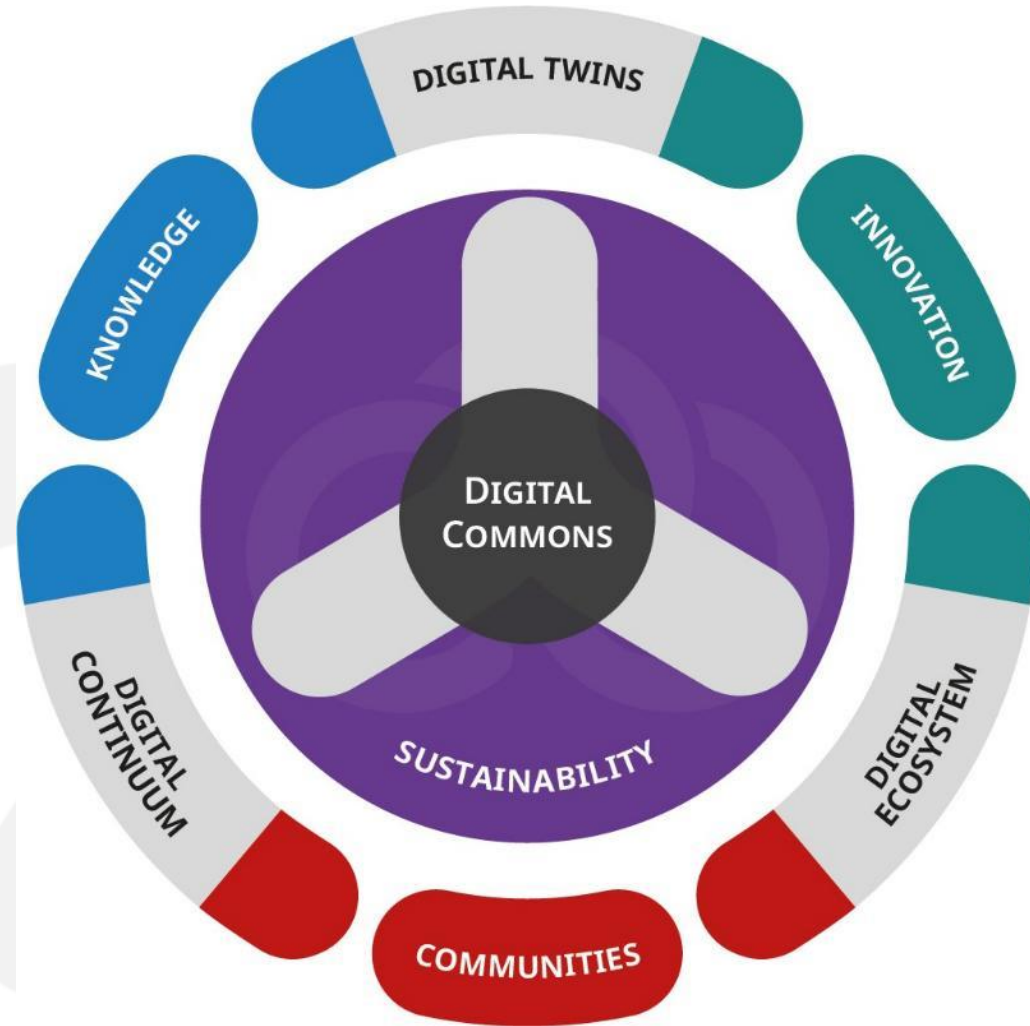
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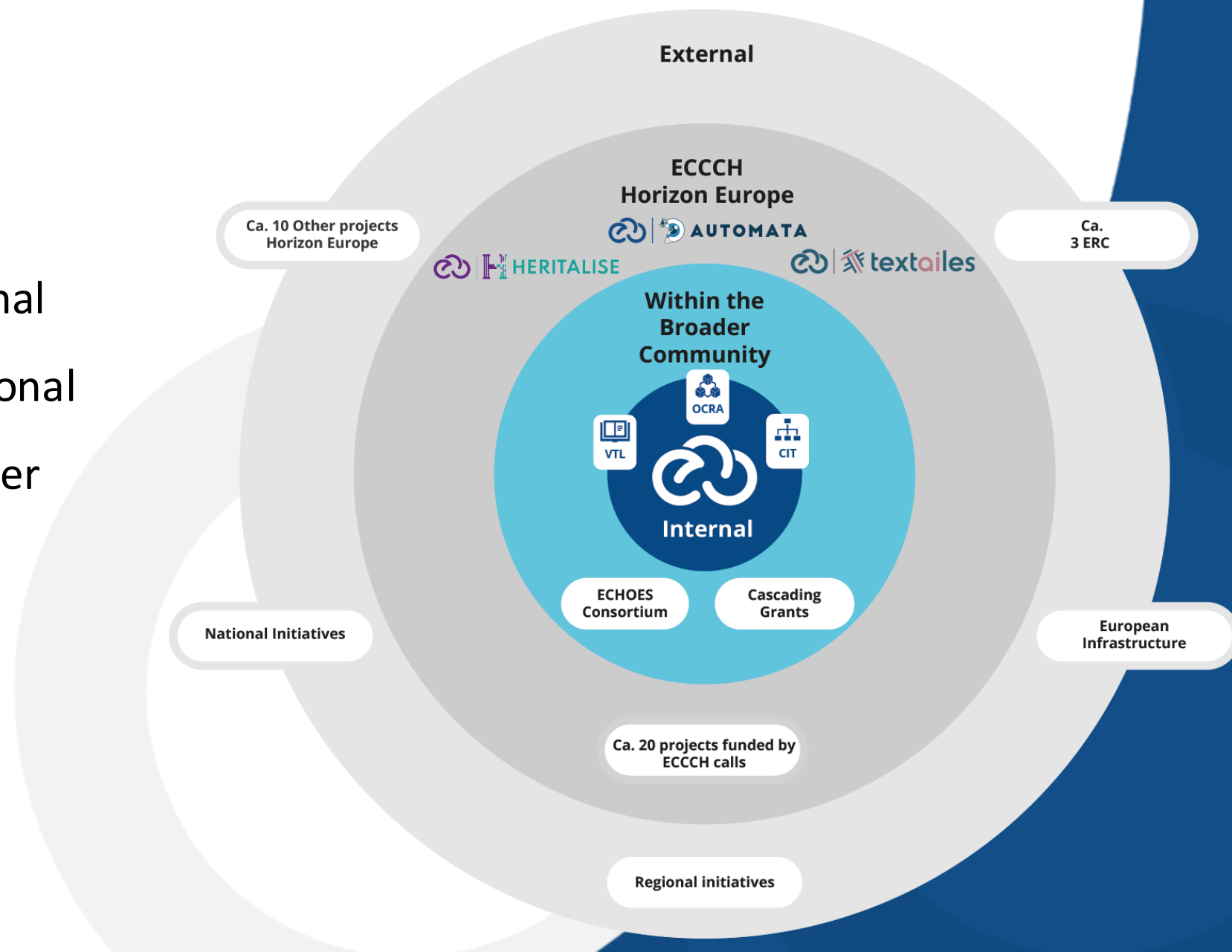
Mission

ECHOES' mission is to set up the **Cultural Heritage Cloud** or **European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage (ECCCH)**, a shared platform designed to facilitate collaboration among heritage professionals and researchers, providing them with access to data, scientific resources, training, and advanced digital tools tailored to suit their needs.



Levels of Integration

- From internal to external
- From local to international
- In connection with other infrastructures



ECHOES Integration Task Force (EITF)

ECHOES Integration Task Force (EITF)
Established in November 2024

EITF Coordination
Team

Communities

ECHOES Use Cases:

- Collaborative Conservation-Restoration Platform
- Virtual Transcription Laboratory
- Collection Ingestion Tool

ECCCH Projects:

- Call 1: AUTOMATA, TEXTaiLES, HERITALISE
- Call 2: XXXX, XXXX, XXXX, ...
- Call 3: XXXX, XXXX, XXXX, ...

ECHOES Integration Strategy

ECHOES Integration Roadmap

European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage

- 1 Cloud
- 1 + 20 Projects
- 20 Countries in 2025
- Fully implemented in 2029

AUTOMATA



[Visit the page](#)

TEXTaiLES

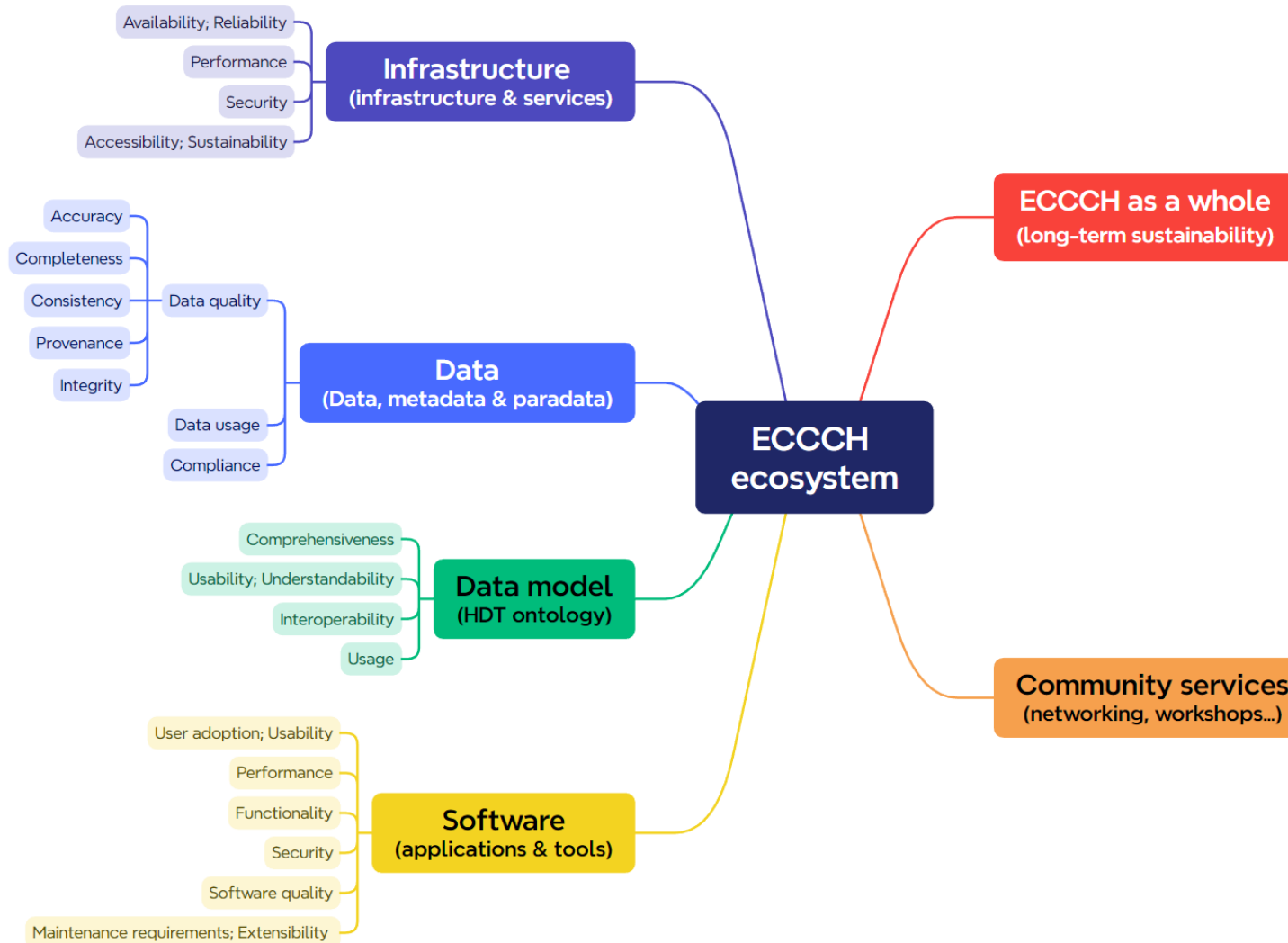


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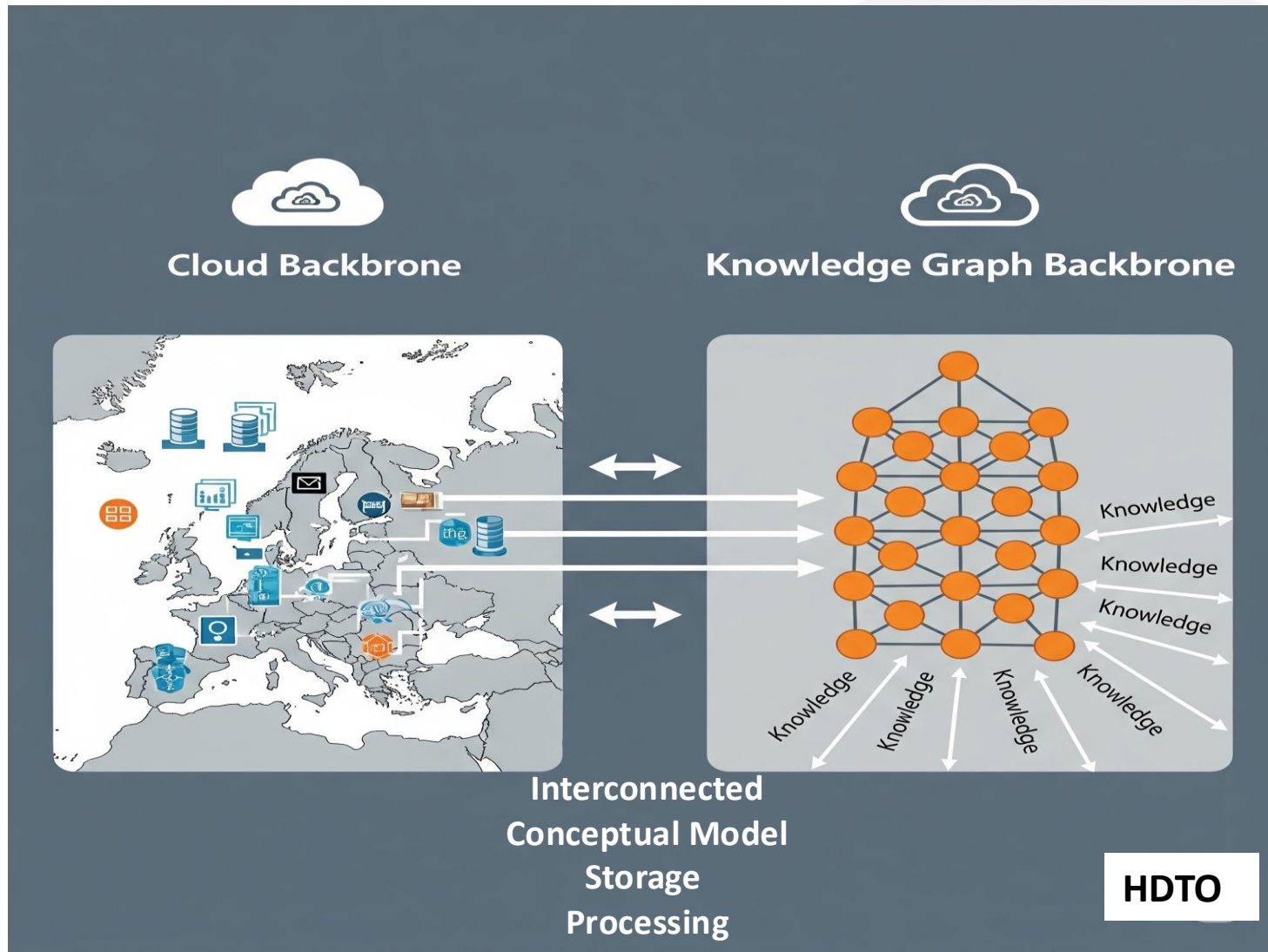
HERITALISE



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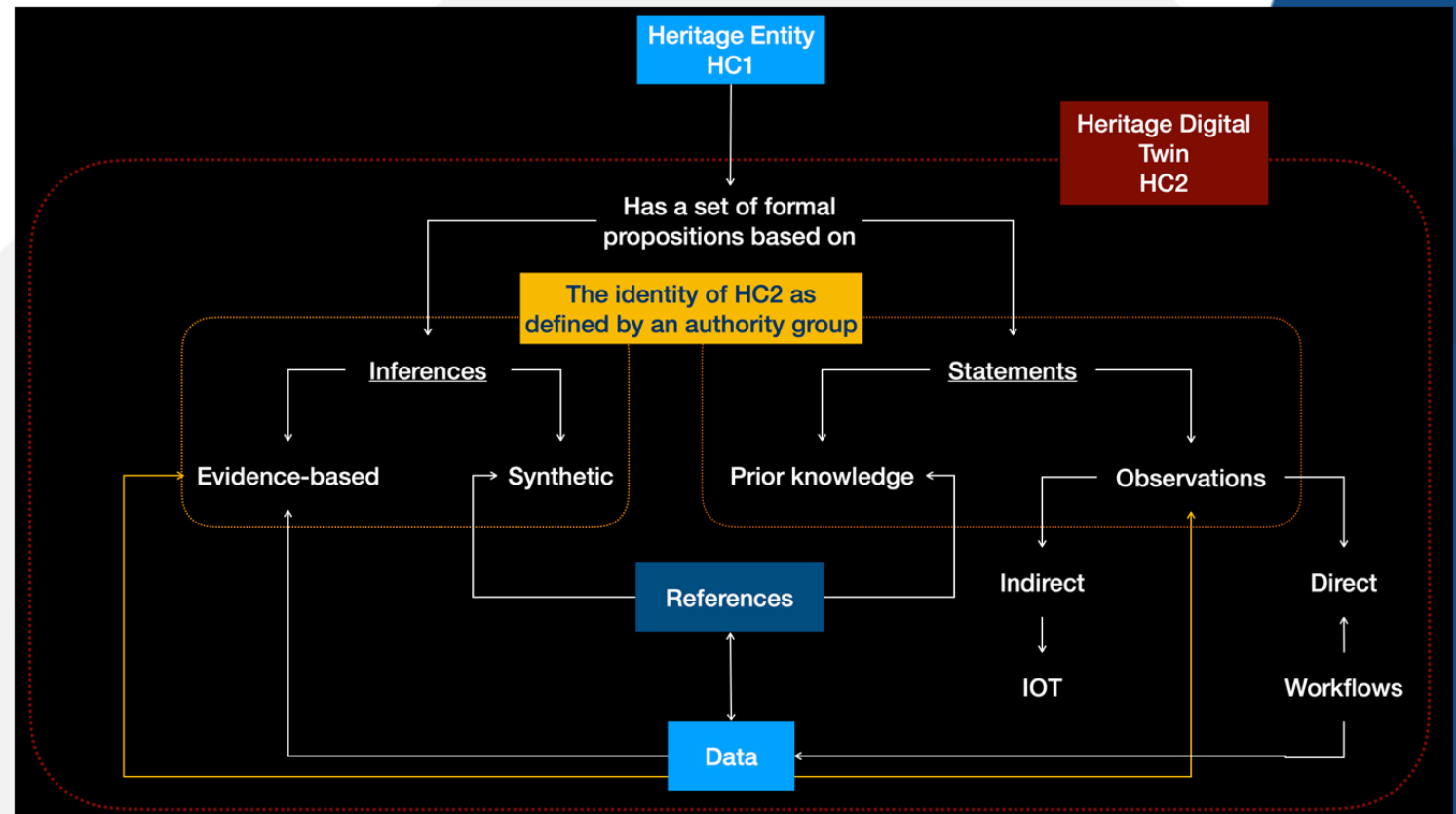
Setting up the ECCCH



Digital Commons Knowledge Base

The Heritage Digital Twin Ontology (HDTO)

- Upper **ontology** serving as the entry point for data, metadata, paradata descriptions
- Describe **Heritage Digital Twins**
- Definitions of the main **common concepts** and **vocabulary**
- **Extensible**
- Facilitate **connections** to other data sources including **Data Spaces**
- Build on **industry standards**

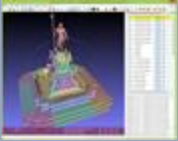


Setting up the ECCCH: Knowledge & Innovation Pillars

- Cascading Grants Projects
- Sister ECCCH projects
- Other relevant projects

Vertical Applications

OCRA



VTL

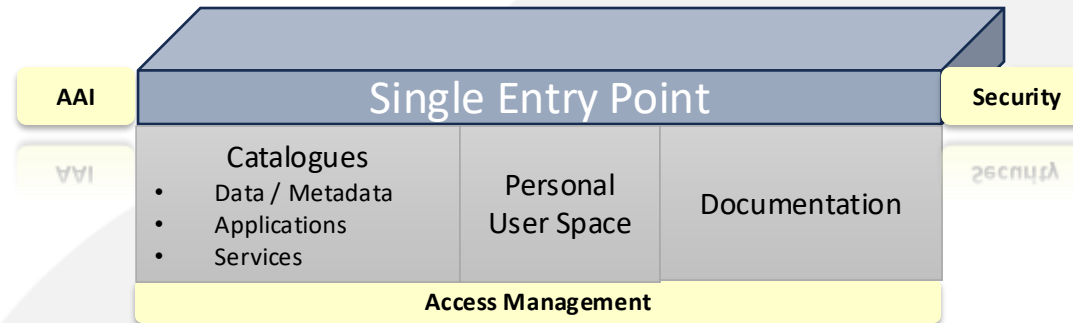


CIT

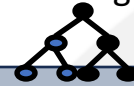


Logging

Support
Monitoring
Evaluation

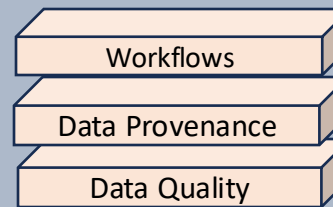


Knowledge Graph



HDTO

Distributed Knowledge Base



Distributed Processing

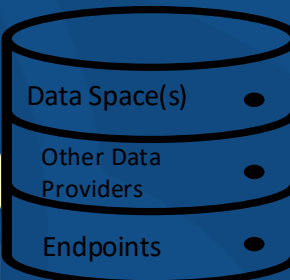


Distributed Storage

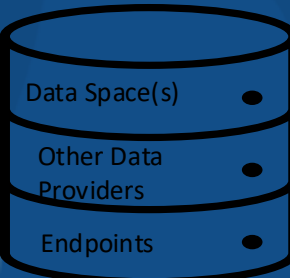


Base Cloud Components

Mappings



Mappings



DATA PROCESSING TOOLS

VA 1 - OCRA
3D analysis



VA 2 - VTL
Textual Resources



VA 3 - CIT
Data ingestion and enrichment



VA X
Future Applications

Entrance/Information:
Web site

MICROSERVICES

Single Entry Point

Authentication and
Authorization Module

Queue Manager

Integration Manager

Processing Manager

CI/CD Pipeline

Cultural Heritage Cloud
Base Layer

Monitoring
Component

Control Plane

Resource Manager

Node Manager

Security
Management

High Availability
Management

Data DB

RDF Triple
Store DB

EXTERNAL DATA STORAGE

Data DB

Metadata

RDF Triple
Store DB

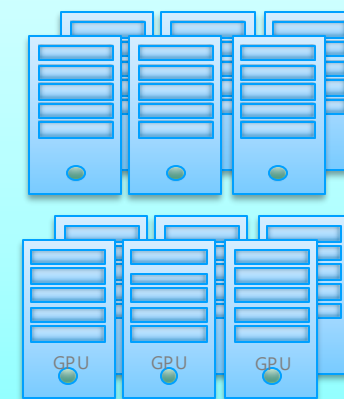
User Personal Space

ECHOES DATA STORAGE

DB to store
queue

DB for
logging

OPERATIONAL STORAGE



RESOURCES

DATA PROCESSING TOOLS

VA 1 - OCRA
3D analysis



VA 2 - VTL
Textual Resources



Accessibility
Interoperability
Efficiency

VA 3 - CIT
Data ingestion and enrichment



VA X
Future Applications

Entrance/Information:
Web site
UX



Training **Collaboration**
Single Entry Point

MICROSERVICES

Authentication and
Authorization Module

Queue Manager

Integration Manager
Modularity
Flexibility

Processing Manager

Cultural Heritage Cloud
Base Layer

Monitoring
Component

Maintainability

Control Plane



Resource Manager



Node Manager



Security **Availability**
Security
Management

Scalability
High Availability
Management

CI/CD Pipeline

Data DB



Interoperability
Scalability
Innovation

RDF Triple
Store DB

EXTERNAL DATA STORAGE

Data DB



Inclusiveness
Collaboration
Sustainability

Metadata



Privacy & autonomy
Quality

ECHOES DATA STORAGE



DB to store
Fairness



DB for
logging
Accountability

OPERATIONAL STORAGE



Inclusiveness
Impact
Equity

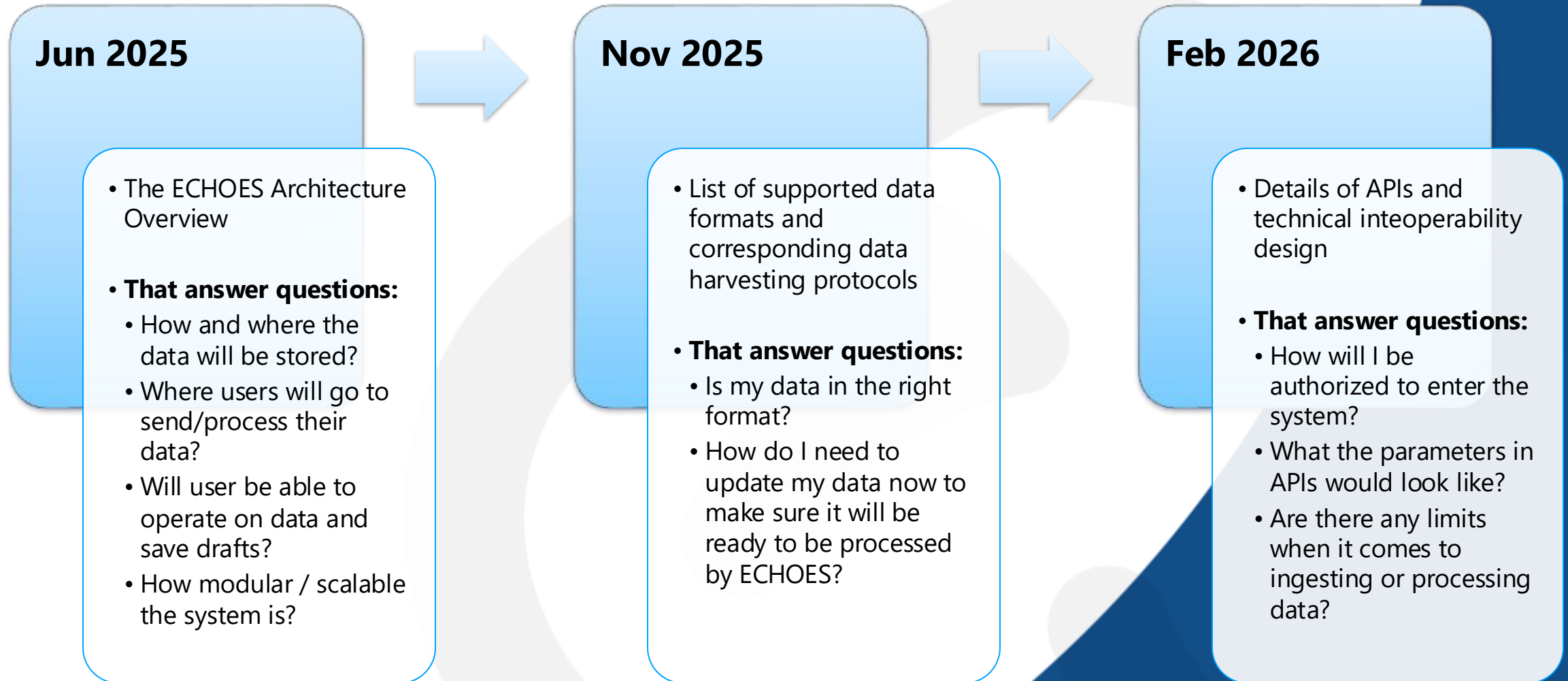
RESOURCES

System Component	Purpose
Single Entry Point	Main gateway for all incoming system requests.
Authentication & Authorization	Manages user login and access control.
Queue Manager	Handles task queuing for asynchronous processing.
Integration Manager	Handles data coming in various formats.
Processing Manager	Orchestrates data processing workflows.

Storage Component	Purpose
External Metadata DB	External metadata repositories.
External RDF Triple Store DB	External repositories for semantic data in RDF format.
ECHOES Metadata DB	Internal metadata repository.
ECHOES RDF Triple Store DB	Internal repository for semantic data in RDF format.
User Personal Space	Stores user-specific data, drafts and personal resources.
Queue DB	Holds task queue data for asynchronous processing.
Logging DB	Stores system and operational logs for auditing and debugging.

Cloud Component	Purpose
Monitoring Component	Monitors system health, performance, and availability.
Control Plane	Central management layer for cloud infrastructure and orchestration.
Resource Manager	Allocates and manages computing and memory resources.
Node Manager	Oversees the operation of individual compute nodes or containers.
Security Management	Ensures data and system security (e.g., encryption, access control).
High Availability Management	Maintains system uptime and fault tolerance.
CI/CD Pipeline	Automates the process of integrating, testing, and deploying code.

Timeline for the ECHOES Infrastructure

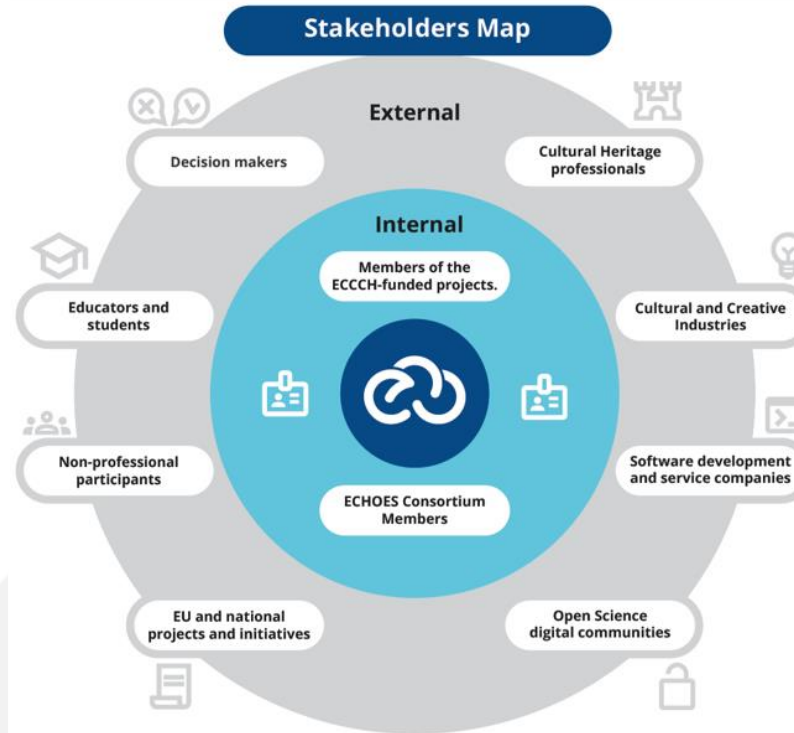


Concluding Remarks

- An effort to ***streamline development*** and provide a timeline that allows parallel advancement
- A ***6-months release cycle*** starting from M18 (11/2025)
- Advancing the ***cloud backbone***, the ***conceptual modeling for the HDT*** and the ***VAs*** at the same time
- Working with the ***sister ECCCH projects*** to integrate their developments as smoothly as possible
- Facilitate work through the ***ECHOES Integration Taskforce (EITF)***: coordinates integration of expects and welcomes input through different means: Cascading Grants, sister projects, existing projects

Target Users

The success of ECHOES depends on effectively engaging a diverse range of stakeholders. These groups, each with unique needs, roles, and contributions, form the backbone of the project's ecosystem. By addressing their specific requirements and setting up meaningful interactions, ECHOES builds a robust, **collaborative platform that supports cultural heritage preservation, research, and innovation.**



<https://groupes.renater.fr/imesurvey/index.php/553314?lang=en>

1600 responses
➤ 600 complete

Last chance to reply



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**UK Research
and Innovation**

ECHOES is a project funded by the European Union under Grant Agreement n.101157364, with the support of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) under the UK government's Horizon Europe funding guarantee n.10110142 & n.10110466.

Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Research Executive Agency. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

ECHOES sister projects

- Gabriele GATTIGLIA, AUTOMATA Coordinator (UNIPi)
- Mikel BORRAS, HERITALISE Coordinator (IDP)
- George Alexis IOANNAKIS, TEXTAiLES (Athena RC)



AUTOMATA



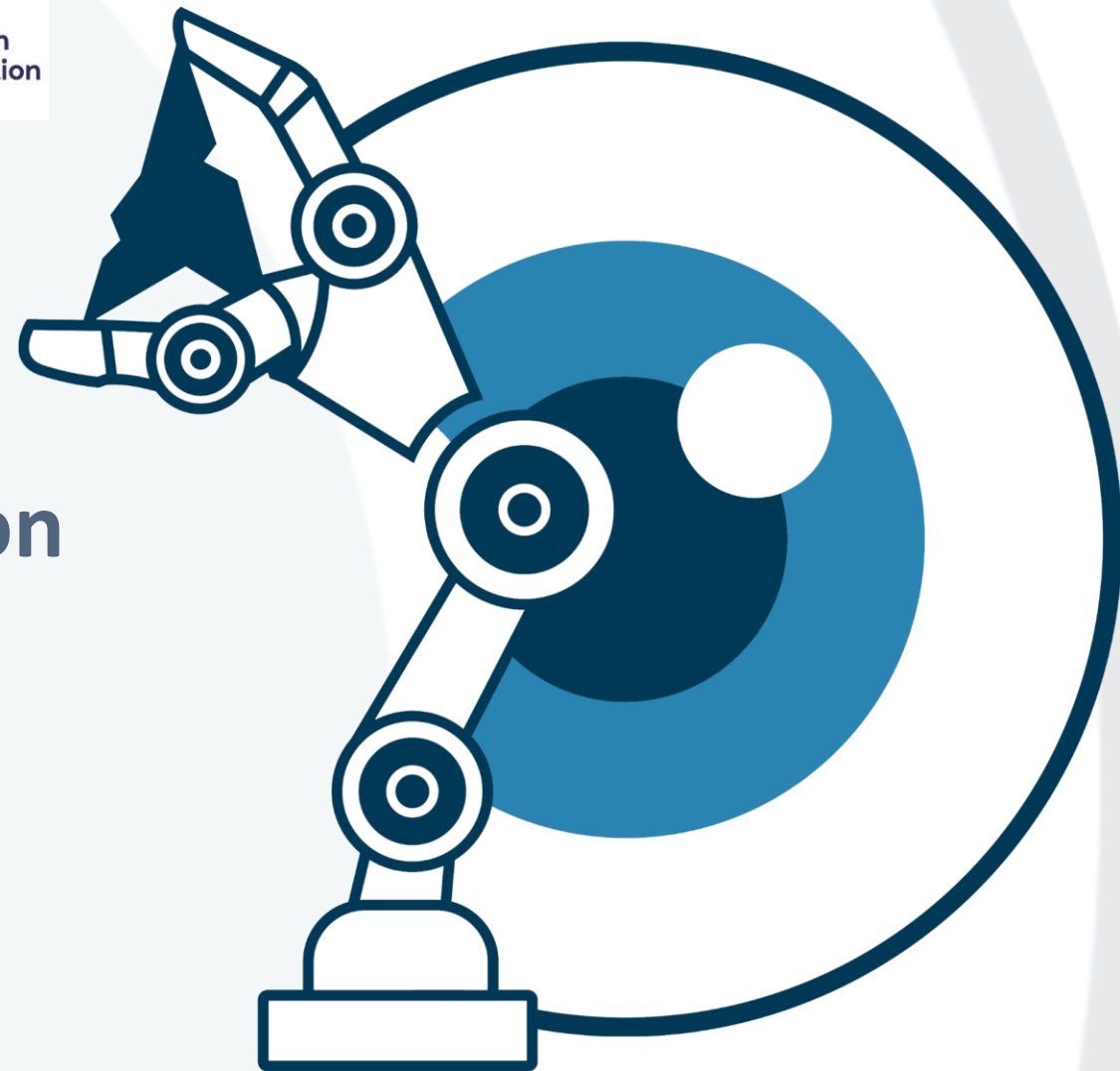
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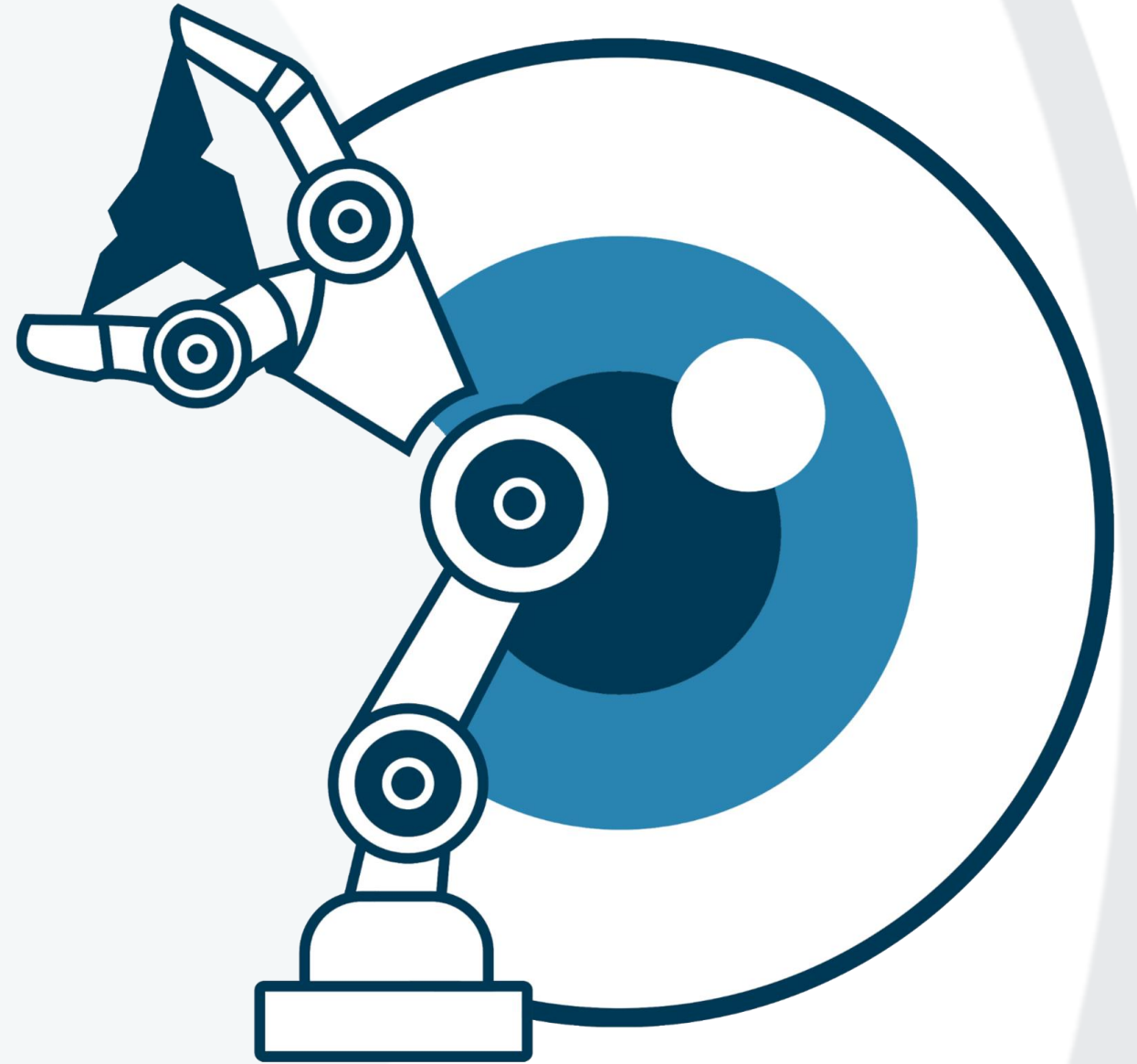
AUTOMated enriched digitisation of Archaeological liThics and cerAmics

Gabriele Gattiglia
University of Pisa



AUTOMATA

AUTOMATA will facilitate large-scale, rich, low-cost digitisation campaigns for archaeological finds (pottery and lithics) through an AI-augmented robotic system equipped with sensors. It will quickly and efficiently create 3D models of archaeological finds, enriched with archaeometric data, made freely available online, allowing effective data reuse by researchers and citizens.



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AUTOMATA



UNIVERSITY
of York



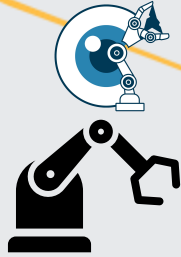
האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM
الجامعة العبرية في أورشليم القدس



54 months



Provide advanced technological solutions to create accurate 3D models and acquire archaeometric attributes
WP5/6.



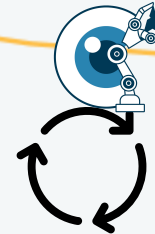
Create a robotic 'work cell' to digitise visible and non-visible characteristics of CH objects
WP3/4.



Enable Big Data collection
WP7/8.



Provide AI-based classification
WP9



Enable open reuse of all data collected and preserved in an open data repository
WP10.



Building skills and capacities of employees in the CH sector as well as of the creators of innovative use strategies

WP11.   **AUTOMATA**



Enable novel public uses of complex archaeological data
WP11.





This is part of the project that has received funding from the European Commission Horizon Europe Programme under Grant Agreement no. 101158081




This is part of the project that has received funding from UK Research and Innovation – Innovate UK under Innovation Funding Service (IFS) 10147707, 10135283 and 10147532

Quick Facts

 **Full title:** Heritage buildings and objects' digitisation & visualisation within the cloud

 **Coordinator:** IDP Ingenieria y Arquitectura Iberia S.L.


 **Beneficiaries:** 17 (from 7 countries: ES, IT, NL, CY, BE, MT and UK)

 **Topic:** HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-ECCCH-01-02

 **Type of Action:** RIA

 **EU Contribution:** 4,2 M €

 **UKRI Contribution:** 0,8 M €

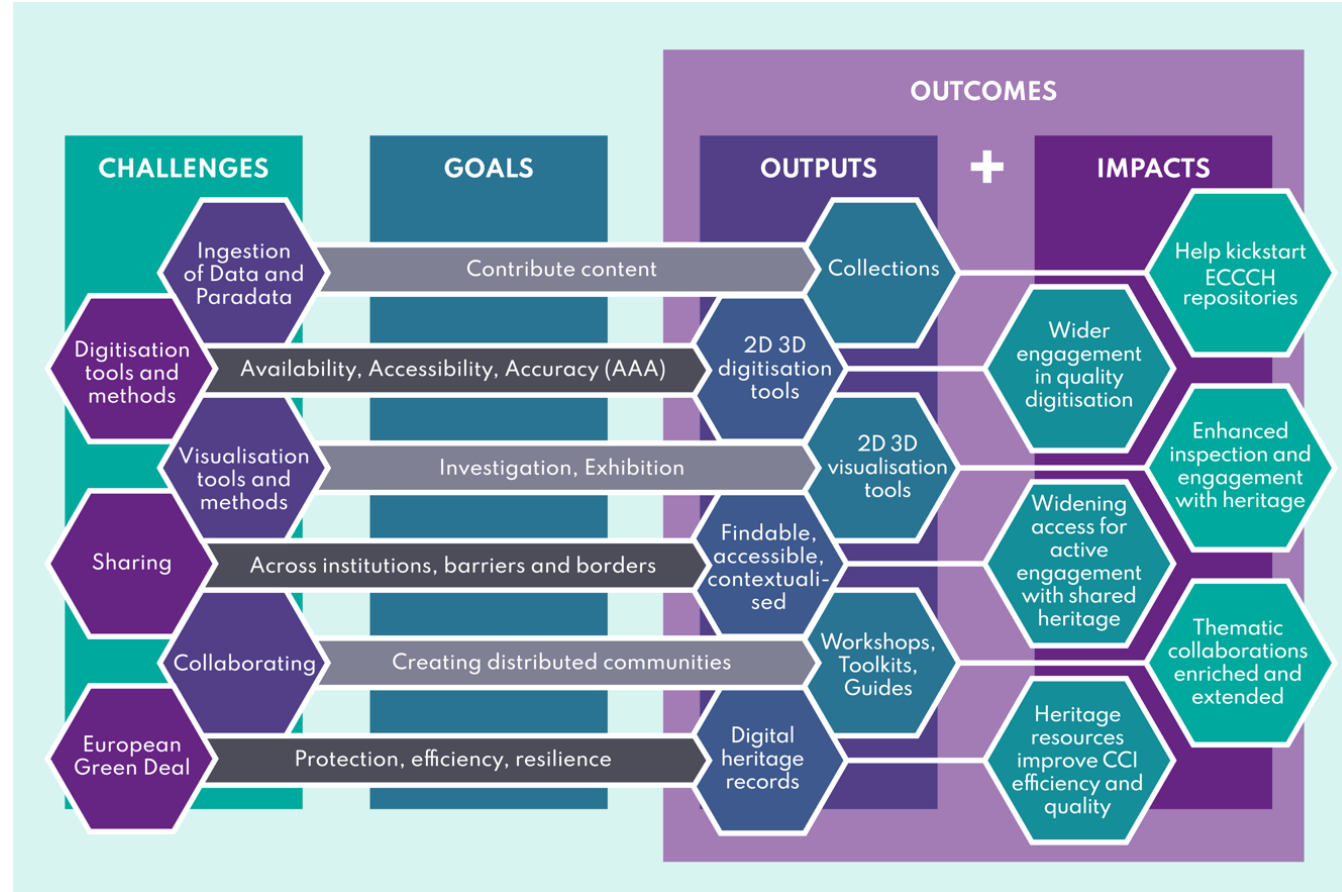
 **Duration:** 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2028 (4 years)

Meet HERITALISE

HERITALISE aims to transform cultural heritage (CH) documentation with advanced digitization and AI tools.

By **capturing both visible and hidden CH features** and using machine learning for optimized data processing, HERITALISE converts raw data into insights linked in a knowledge graph for easy exploration.

Integrated with the European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage (ECCCH), our **scalable, web-based platform will enable European CH institutions to share, access, and enhance digital resources** for preservation and research.



The OBJECTIVES

- **Review & Protocols:** Assess and define current digitization standards, methodologies and data requirements for tangible and intangible CH objects. Address gaps, set objectives and assess risks.
- **Advanced Data Acquisition:** Enhance 2D/3D technologies (e.g., LiDAR, photogrammetry) with improved calibration, metrology and multimodal capabilities for scalable, high-quality digitization.
- **AI-Powered Post-Processing:** Develop AI-driven workflows, data fusion and algorithms to streamline post-processing, integrating tangible and non-tangible data for conservation insights.
- **HW/SW Solutions:** Create tools (e.g., 3D printing, VR/AR platforms, Geo-HBIM) to enhance CH engagement, accessibility and real-time monitoring of digitized assets.
- **Interoperability & Sharing:** Develop open components for seamless data integration across CH databases – ECCCH (ECHOES Infrastructure), leveraging APIs, semantic standards and metadata.
- **Impact & Dissemination:** Address tech transfer challenges, standardize web platforms and showcase digitization applications via 4 proof-of-concept use cases.

The IMPACTS

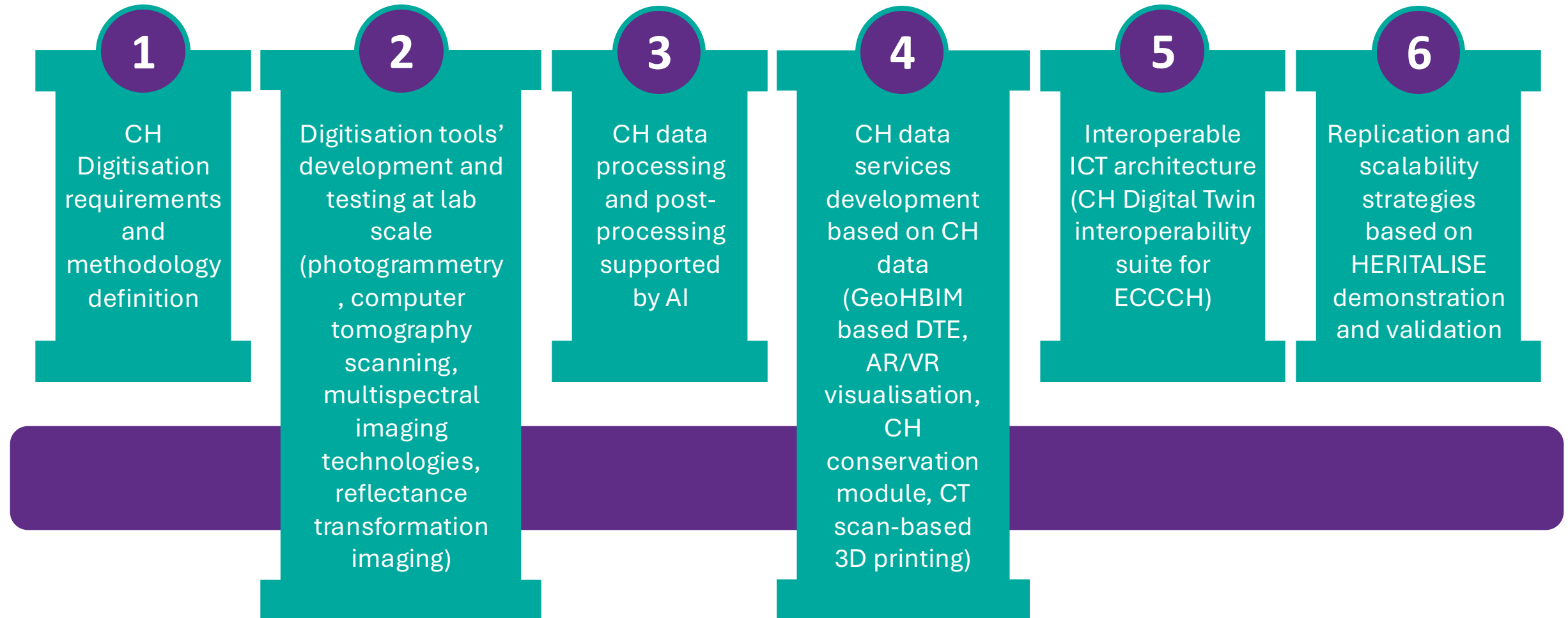
- **Enhanced preservation for cultural heritage:** By leveraging digital heritage data, we will enable **40% faster interventions, optimized maintenance, and precise detection of hidden issues, reducing risks of irreversible damage without dismantling objects**. Advanced methods like HBIM and data fusion will improve geometric accuracy and analysis, ensuring safer evaluations.
- **Impact:** Our initiative aims to support 2,000 heritage professionals, benefit 100 stakeholders, and reach 10 million users. It will **enhance museum engagement, align with Sustainable Development Goals, and foster deeper audience connections**.
- **Efficiency:** Offering **70% greater access to a FAIR-based ecosystem**, it will deliver **50% cost savings in maintenance**, boosting preservation planning and collaboration across Europe and beyond.

The IMPACTS

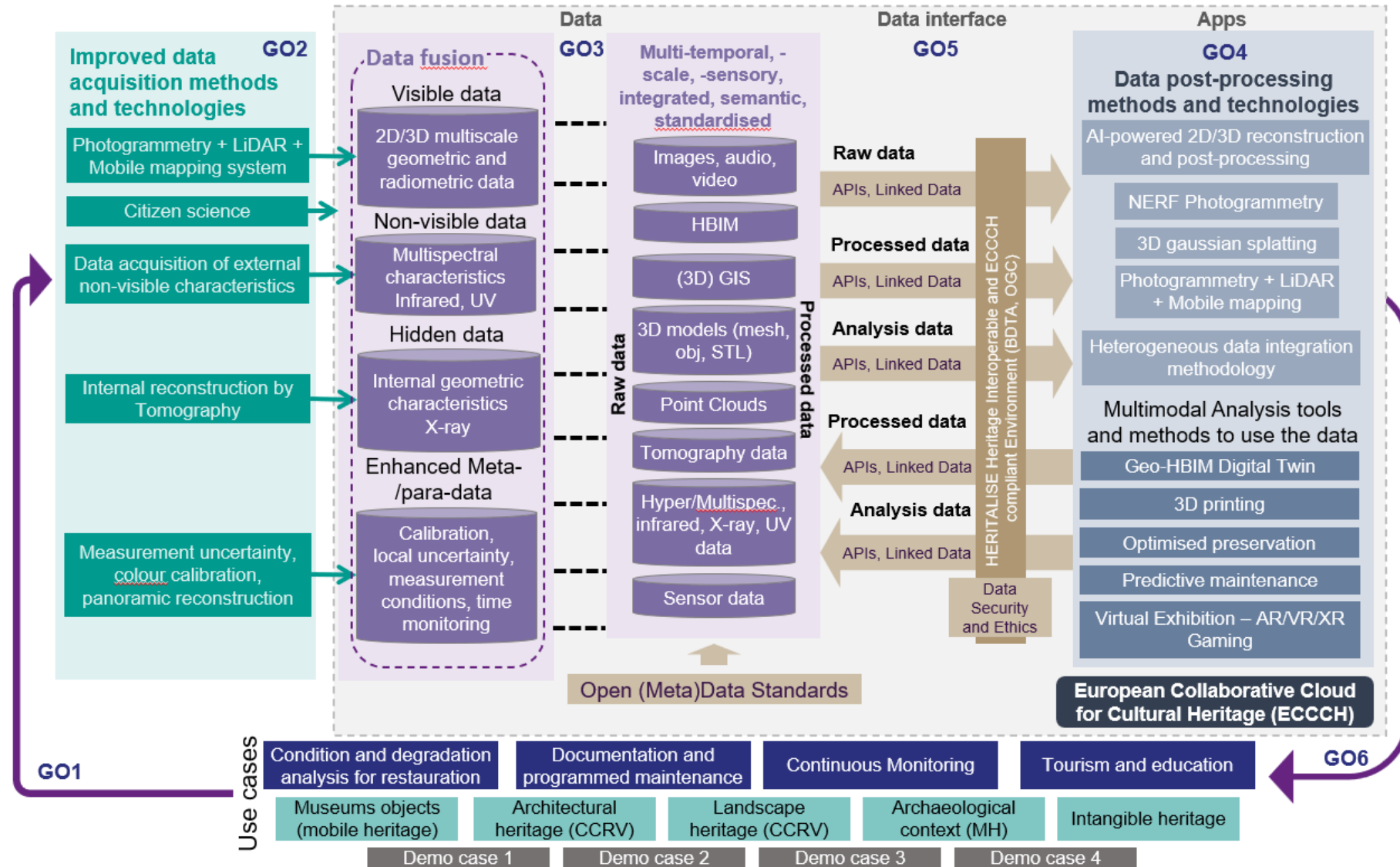


- Advancing digitization accuracy, HERITALISE will enable authentic digital twins of heritage objects, **supporting tourism, education, and European identity while promoting social cohesion and safeguarding cultural assets**. Integrating cultural heritage into the European Cloud for Cultural Heritage (ECCCH) will **enhance access for museums, enabling diverse thematic exhibits that foster inclusion, unity, and EU values**.
- **Aligned with the EU's Green Deal**, it will aid climate efforts by **enabling remote collaboration, reducing travel, and creating impactful exhibits of at-risk heritage**. Supporting the New European **Bauhaus**, it will enrich lives, promote sustainability, and **inspire creativity** through detailed metadata and accessible digital heritage.

The PILLARS



The PILLARS



The DEMONSTRATION SITES

West Highland Museum, Fort William, Scotland

Partners: WHM, USTAN

Building type: Category B listed

Potential outreach: 90,000 in person visitors per year, 200 heritage practitioners

Use case: Transforming Heritage through Digital Innovation

- Digitisation of the Jacobite and Carmichael collections and the building
- New digital exhibits for the museum, website and app to showcase landscapes, buildings, artworks and Gaelic cultural heritage
- Digital exhibits available through VR kiosks offering both touchscreen and immersive headset experiences



Contributing to a larger digital heritage archive



The DEMONSTRATION SITES

Timespan Museum, Highlands, Scotland

Partners: HHAS, USTAN

Building type: Museum and landscape

Potential outreach: Small museum and art gallery with international standing

Use case: Immersive Heritage Experiences

- VR Room: Timespan's new digital venue for hosting HERITALISE partners, developing VR/AR technologies for CH objects and showcasing exhibits using VR, Xbox and touchscreens
- Timespan Object Collection: offers HERITALISE a testbed for visualizing objects and artifacts, even incomplete ones, to study environmental and social changes across Europe
- Kildonan Landscape: a unique open-air museum with archaeological sites spanning 6,000 years, showcasing human occupation through varied historic remnants
- Helmsdale Fishing Village & Jurassic Coastline: A historic 1815 fishing village with VR models depicting its 1890s peak during the herring boom, reflecting Scotland's trade history
- Community & Museum Sector Engagement: Collaborative virtual events held in 2020 featuring digital models, 3D objects, and films, including virtual tours and reconstructions of historical sites like Helmsdale Castle and Iron Age settlements



The DEMONSTRATION SITES

Reggia di Venaria Reale, Turin, Italy

Partners: CCRS, CCR, POLITO

Building type: UNESCO site

Potential outreach: strong outreach potential by serving as a testing ground for new digital technologies in CH audience engagement

Use case: Advanced Digital Preservation

- Building Digitization: Multiscale, multisensor scans of the Reggia di Venaria Reale, focusing on St. Uberto Church and the Great Gallery, to support maintenance and enhance visitor experience
- Architectural Analysis: 3D surveys and historical documents will reveal structural and hidden details of the Church and Gallery, monitoring conditions like humidity and microclimate that affect artwork preservation
- Landscape Heritage: Digital tracking of Giuseppe Penone's *Gardens of Fluid Sculptures* to capture the dynamic aging process of this blend of art and nature.
- Object Documentation: 3D imaging and tomography of 18th-century furniture to study cabinet-making techniques and monitor degradation due to environmental factors



The DEMONSTRATION SITES

Villa Portelli, Kalkara, Malta

Partners: HM

Building type: Historic villa

Potential outreach: 300,000 visitors per year; tens of international stakeholders, restorers, companies

Use case: **Innovating Heritage through Digital Storytelling and Preservation**

- Oral History Digitisation: Record memories of former VP workers, especially around significant changes in the villa's landscape
- Building Digitisation: Document the entire villa for conservation and as a BIM model and digital twin, usable at other heritage sites
- Methodology Testing: Combine techniques like LIDAR, photogrammetry, laser scanning, and Reflective Transformation Imaging to capture detailed site data
- Public Outreach Tools: Experiment with VR/AR, holograms, and projections to engage Gen Z audiences and study their interactions with digital heritage tools



The TEAM





THANK YOU

<https://heritalise-eccch.eu/>



@heritalise



company/heritalise/



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Textile digitisation tools & methods for cultural heritage

George Ioannakis

Athena Research Center

Webinar: The Cultural Heritage Cloud call 2025:
implementation update

Monday, June 30th, 2025



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Research and Innovation SERI



Consortium



1. Athena Research Center (ARC), Greece
2. Sapienza University of Rome (SUR), Italy
3. Center For Research & Technology Hellas (CER), Greece
4. University of Warsaw (UWA), Poland
5. University of Oulu (OUL), Finland
6. TechnAI (TAI), Spain
7. Nubis PC (NUB), Greece
8. The Fraunhofer Society (FRA), Germany
9. ACCELIGENCE Ltd (ACC), Cyprus
10. Textile Museum St. Gallen (TSG), Switzerland



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA



CERTH
CENTRE FOR
RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY
HELLAS



UNIVERSITY
OF WARSAW



Textilmuseum
St.Gallen



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Monday, June 30th, 2025



textiles

TEXTaiLES concept (1/3)

Building the foundations for CH textile digitisation standards for ECCCH:

- **Our goal:** TEXTaiLES builds the methodological foundations for digitising CH textile objects and producing a standardised protocol in terms of technological means and methodological workflows that are offered to the scientific communities as part of the ECCCH.
- **Learn from the past:** Utilize current practices in textile digitisation in all of its phases



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TEXTaiLES concept (2/3)

Building the foundations for CH textile digitisation standards for ECCCH:

- **Standardise:** Tools and methods for the lifecycle of the digitisation process of textile objects which should be standardised by carefully examining and documenting all of these phases.
- **Innovative research:** AI tools specialised in analysis of textile objects for their deeper understanding and for unlocking their hidden and non-visible characteristics



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Monday, June 30th, 2025



textaiLES

TEXTaiLES concept (3/3)

Building the foundations for CH textile digitisation standards for ECCCH:

- **Offer to the communities:** We propose how these tools are deployed and integrated to archaeological research in a systematic manner through the ECCCH, we build innovative interdisciplinary research communities, and we provide upskill activities for the textile CH scientific community.
- **8 use cases** widespread along Europe
- **14 digital tools** (8 AI-based)



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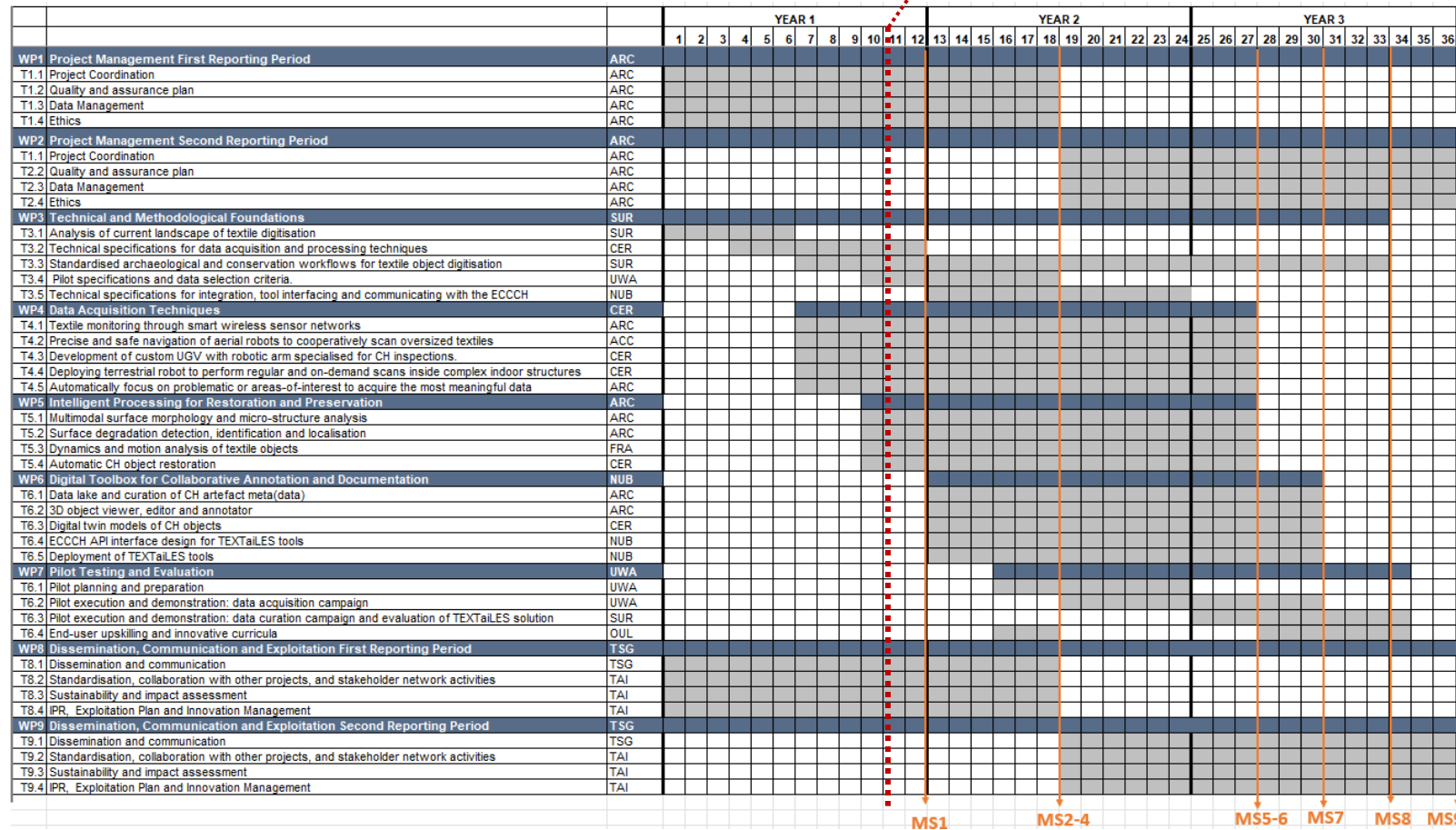
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TEXTaiLES Timeline

We are here



- **Project duration: 36 months (till 31st August 2027)**



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Monday, June 30th, 2025



textaiLES

TEXTaiLES Team

Christos Chatzisavvas | Stylianos Lazaros Alvanos | Vassilis Katsouros | Anestis Koutsoudis
| Nikolaos Mitianoudis | Ioannis Mourthos | Despoina Tsiafaki | Fotis Arnaoutoglou |
Melpomeni Karta | Vasilis Evangelidis | Samuel Reinikainen | Chairi Kiourt | Franscesca
Coletti | Marco Galli | Flavia Sorato | Agata Ulanowska | Katarzyna Żebrowska | Marek
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Zachari | Iraklis Gousis | Thomas Pappas | Panagiotis Rigas

*persons appear in random order



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Monday, June 30th, 2025



textaiLES



Thank you!

TEXTaiLES CAA2025 presentation ([link](#))



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**State Secretariat for Education,
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Q&A Session

Panelists

- Aleksandra NOWAK (PCSS, ECHOES)
- Sorin HERMON (Cyl, ECHOES)
- Paolo CIGNONI (CNR, ECHOES)
- Carlos ANDUJAR (UPC, ECHOES)

Q&A Session – Technical aspects

Integration

What are the guidelines for integrating tools into the Cultural Heritage Cloud? Are there APIs?

"Which other cloud systems are expected to be integrated in the project? e.g. tourism cloud, etc."

"Would it be possible to explore the connection between the Cloud and digital games?"

"Is the Europeana content going to be linked under the ECCCH?"

Q&A Session – Technical aspects

Tools

"Which tools are currently available or under development within the ECCCH, and where can they be accessed or listed?"

TRL

"TRL of the tools to be made available and tested in the use cases?"

Applications

"Are consortia expected to develop standalone applications/modules/tools to be integrated into the ECCCH?"

Q&A Session – Technical aspects

Use Cases

"There is space in this call to provide new tools that cover use cases that are not covered by the existing tools?"

"Is the focus to develop usecases for the three existing tools or is there space to build more tools interacting with the Cultural Heritage Cloud?"

Q&A Session – Technical aspects

Services

"Where can we find the specification of services going to be release by the cloud?"

"Is Semantic Search going to be available?"

"How do the ECHOES and ECCCH awardees engage or plan to engage with the wider scientific computing/HPC community? e.g. EuroHPC JU"

"what do you think of the use of the circle platform? thank you!"

Q&A Session – Technical aspects

Disciplines

"Music and music education place/s in the Cultural Heritage Cloud"

"There is an opportunity for projects related to geoconservation and geological heritage?"

"May projects for the digitisation of economic personnel organisation and heritage planning data also be submitted?"

"Intangible heritage?"

"Can be a project expanding a database on manuscripts and printed books fit into the call?"

Q&A Session – Technical aspects

Sustainability

"How will the costs for the future hosting and maintenance of ECHOES?"

"Does the Cloud foresee a market place where 3D files models of heritage items can be exchanged with a market value?"

Q&A Session – ECCCH Topic

Administrative and legal aspects

"Meaning of ""Entities from at least 5 different Member States should be involved as active users of the ECCCH platform""?"

"Can independent not an institutional based humanistic researcher apply for a funding for a project?"

"The call indicates that consortium partners must be "active users" of the ECHOES cluster. Does it mean that must be members?"



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