

THE VISION DOCUMENT

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MAIN POINTS - I

- **CONTEXT** : MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACIES
- **TIMESCALES** : FROM NOW TO CENTURIES AND MILLENNIA AFTER THE LEGACY IS GENERATED
- **AIM** : PROMOTE CONDITIONS THAT **MAXIMISE THE CHANCES** THAT RECORDS, KNOWLEDGE, AND MEMORY (RK&M) REMAIN ACCESSIBLE AND USABLE, OR ELSE THAT THEY CAN BE RETRIEVED OR RECONSTRUCTED

There is no single technique that can preserve RK&M over all time scales and possible futures.

- We must think of a combination of techniques
- The critical phase for adopting measures that maximize future preservation chances is when the legacy is being created. **THIS IS NOW**

MAIN POINTS – II

- **TARGET LEGACIES : RADIOACTIVE AND LONG-LIVED HAZARDOUS WASTE**
 - **IN SWEDEN:**
 - **TWO UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR REPOSITORIES ;**
 - **ONE UNDERGROUND REPOSITORY OF WASTE FROM SMELTING OPERATIONS; PLUS**
 - **A YET UNKNOWN NUMBER OF FUTURE NEAR-SURFACE REPOSITORIES WITH WASTE FROM REMEDIATING AT LEAST 1,300 SITES THAT ARE HEAVILY CONTAMINATED**

MAIN POINTS – III

- **WHY :**
 - FUTURE GENERATIONS **WILL BE** FACED WITH HAVING TO MAKE DECISIONS IN CONNECTION WITH OUR LEFT-OVER LEGACIES
 - THEY HAVE THE **RIGHT** TO MAKE KNOWLEDGEABLE DECISIONS ; WE HAVE THE **DUTY** TO HELP
- **IS THIS RIGHT / DUTY RECOGNIZED AND ASSUMED ?**
 - **NO** or **NOT CLEARLY RECOGNIZED** or **ASSUMED**

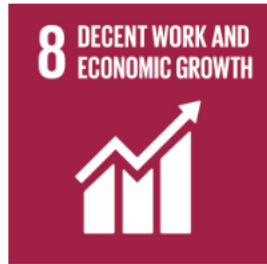
MAIN POINTS – IV

- **CURRENT SITUATION**

- TODAY'S CREDO : *CREATE, THEN MAINTAIN TILL THE NEXT GENERATION;
LEAVE IT TO THE FUTURE TO DO THE SAME.*

- Amongst all possible futures, the choice is implicitly made in favor of a future that is never interrupted, in which benevolence continues and the relevant institutions and individuals have the knowledge, the records and the financial means to act further.
- This vision of the future as a **rolling present** is unrealistic.
- Present preservation intentions may well go unfulfilled. In the future

Sustainable Development Goals



MAIN POINTS –V

- **CURRENT SITUATION**

- THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CREDO IS : **DO NOT CREATE LEGACIES ; EACH GENERATION DOES THE SAME , PLEASE.**

- No emphasis on RK&M preservation.
- In principle we are not creating long-term legacies ; we may not even need RK&M.

MAIN POINTS – VI

- **THE CURRENT SITUATION**
- **THE ROLLING PRESENT VISION DOMINATES**
 - “FUTURE” IS NOT A PROFESSIONAL SKILL, EVEN IN HERITAGE PROFESSIONS



MAIN POINTS - VII

- **CERTAINTIES ABOUT THE FUTURE.**
 - **At one time or another**
 - Institutional systems will be different,
 - New players will appear
 - Values will be other than today's
 - Funds will either be unavailable or will be apportioned differently
 - Major societal disruptions will take place
 - **Information and memory are more likely lost than kept.**

MAIN POINTS – VIII

- **WHAT TO DO ?**
- **IMPROVE UPON THE ROLLING PRESENT TECHNIQUES BUT ALSO GO BEYOND IT**
 - E.G., ARCHIVES. THE LONGEST LASTING ARCHIVES DO NOT NECESSARILY HAVE THE TASK OF DOCUMENTING ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACIES. ALSO, THEY DO NOT NECESSARILY LAST CENTURIES TO MILLENNIA. THEY CANNOT BE THE ONLY ANSWER EVEN IF WE IMPROVE ON THEM.
 - **THERE ISN'T ANY ONE SINGLE MEANS THAT CAN DELIVER CONFIDENTLY OVER CENTURIES AND MILLENNIA**

MAIN POINTS – IX

- **IMPROVING AND GOING BEYOND THE ROLLING PRESENT**

- Apply a **multi-faceted approach** that incorporates different tools and mechanisms encompassing technical, administrative and societal provisions.
- Construct this approach on **two modes of transmission**: one that is based on the presence of direct intermediaries between generations, and one based on the absence of intermediaries. The two modes can be described as **“mediated”** and **“non-mediated” transmission**.

MAIN POINTS – X

- **EXAMPLE OF STEPS IN A MULTI-FACETED APPROACH**
 - Define time scales: Short - , Medium-, Long-Term
 - Determine which tool would work best on each time scale and whether it is for: Records, Knowledge, Memory, or to raise Awareness upon Discovery
 - Consider how the identified tools work together: Duplicating function, Reinforcing function, Support function as a pointer, Independent function

Class of RK&M tool	RK&M tool	Mostly Mediated (M) or Non-mediated (NM)	Records (R), Knowledge (K), Memory (M), Awareness upon discovery (AuD)	Short (ST), Medium (MT), Long (LT) Term
Archives	National Archives	M	R	ST, MT, LT
	Regional/local Archives	M	R	ST, MT
	Land Registries	M	R	ST, MT
	Specialized Archives	M	R	ST, MT
Libraries	National Library	M	R	ST, MT
	regional	M	R	ST, MT
	academic	M	R	ST, MT
	others	M	R	LT
Time Capsules	Large size, visible	NM, M	R, K, M	MT, LT
	large size, non visible	NM, M	R, K, M, AuD	MT, LT
	Small size	NM	R, AuD	MT, LT
Markers	Surface traces	NM	AuD	MT, LT
	Surface markers	NM	M	MT, LT
	Sub-surface markers	NM	AuD	MT, LT
	Monuments	NM	M	ST, MT, LT
Cultural heritage	Local Cultural heritage	M	M	MT, LT
	Regional Industrial heritage	M	M	ST, MT, LT
	International Heritage	M	M	ST, MT, LT
	Traditions and rituals	M	M	ST, MT, LT
	Local history and enactment societies	M	M	ST, MT, LT
	Endowed Univ. Chair	M	R, K, M	ST, MT
International mechanisms	For controlling radwaste and materials	M	R, K, M	ST, MT
	For sharing knowledge on geology	M	R, K, M	ST, MT
	Related to environmental protection	M		ST, MT
	Related to cultural heritage preservation	M	R	ST, MT
Oversight provisions	Monitoring	M	R, K, M	ST, MT
	intermittent safety reviews	M	R, K, M	ST
	Transfer of responsibilities	M	R, K, M	ST
	Updating key repository documents	M	R, K, M	ST
	Training of personnel	M	R, K, M	ST
	Land use restrictions	M	R, M	ST
	Placing signs on maps	M	M, AuD	ST

Class of tool		Tool		Time Capsules			Markers				Cultural heritage				
		National archives	Long term (religious, ...)	Large size, visible	Sub-surface, large size	Small size at depth	Surface traces	Surface markers	Sub-surface markers	Monuments	Local cultural heritage	Regional Industrial heritage	International Heritage	Traditions and rituals	Local history and enactment societies
Archives	National Archives		C	R	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	C
Libraries	Long term (religious, ...)	C		S	S	S	S	S	S	C	C	S	S	R	S
Time Capsules	Large size, visible	R	I		R	S	S	S	S	S	I	I	I	I	I
	Sub-surface, large size	R	I	R		S	S	S	S	S	I	I	I	I	I
	Small size at depth	C	I	S	S		I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
Markers	Surface traces	I	I	I	I	I		I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
	Surface markers	I	I	S	S	I	I		S	S	I	I	I	I	I
	Sub-surface markers	I	I	I	I	I	I	I		I	I	I	I	I	I
	Monuments	S	C	S	S	I	I	I	I		I	I	I	I	I
Cultural heritage	Local cultural heritage	I	C	S	S	I	S	S	S	S		S	S	S	S
	Regional Industrial heritage	I	S	S	S	I	S	S	I	S	S		S	S	S
	International Heritage	C	S	C	C	I	S	S	I	S	S	S		S	S
	Traditions and rituals	I	R	I	S	I	I	S	I	S	S	S	S		S
	Local history and enactment societies	C	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	

R=Redundancy: When the two strategic components contain redundant records

C=Reinforcing: When the two strategic components contain different records providing similar or complementary information

S=Support: When one of the two strategic components may point to the other one

I=Independent: When one of the two strategic components likely does not relate to the other one

LONG-TERM RK&M PRESERVATION IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

WE ALL NEED TO ASK OURSELVES QUESTIONS ?

- **BASIC PRINCIPLES**
- **OVERARCHING QUESTIONS**
- **PRACTICAL QUESTIONS**


A CHART WITH PRINCIPLES AND GOALS

THREE PRINCIPLES

- **Enabling future members of society to make knowledgeable decisions is part of responsible, ethically sound management of environmental legacies in the context of sustainable development. It is also in line with a prudent approach regarding safety**
 - **The relevant institutions ought not to plan the ending of oversight, whereas the potential loss of oversight needs to be anticipated and planned for**
 - **Any strategy for the preservation of RK&M should integrate the possibility of discontinuities in the future.**

A CHART WITH PRINCIPLES AND GOALS

FOUR PRACTICAL GOALS

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- **Institutional and non-institutional players should to determine and communicate their role in preserving RK&M and take relevant, coordinated actions.** Ideally, law helps identify roles and goals and regulation guides practice.
 - **Preparing for future RK&M preservation is best addressed while a project leading to a legacy is being designed, implemented and funded.**
 - **All available communication channels should be explored and a few retained for the final preservation strategy.** There is no single best means of RK&M preservation over all timescales.
 - **Synergies should be sought with other societal institutions and international bodies.**
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CONCLUSIONS

- **THE VISION DOCUMENT AND THIS WORKSHOP CONSTITUTE FIRST STEPS TOWARDS PROMOTING THE NOTION, IN OUR DECISION-MAKING, THAT**
- **PRESERVING RECORDS, KNOWLEDGE AND MEMORY of LONG TERM LEGACIES**
 - **BENEFITS FUTURE GENERATIONS, AND THAT**
 - **IT IS A GOAL THAT BELONGS TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND NEEDS TO BE RECOGNIZED AS SUCH**

RESERVE



NOTRE DAME - PARIS

- “On one level it’s a physical **symbol of Western civilization**, even more than St. Peter’s in Rome, given its age,” said François Heisbourg, a French analyst. “But on another level it is **embedded into popular culture**.” It features in Victor Hugo, of course, but also in films like “Amélie” and “Ratatouille.” And it has been Disneyfied in “The Hunchback of Notre Dame,” an animated musical.
- “So even in distant sections of America and the rest of the world, everyone knows this cathedral,” Mr. Heisbourg said. “It’s **universal, Western, religious, literary and cultural**, and that’s what makes it different from any other object. It’s the whole spectrum from the trivial to the transcendent, the sacred to the profane.”

