Research and Competence Center Digitalisation Berlin (digiS)

Digitisation of cultural heritage

In order to make digital collections utilisable cultural institutions need to develop digital skills. They also need to be open-minded and to develop the courage to experiment and critically examine their own roles and structures. The Berlin Innovation Fund for Digital Development of the Cultural Sector and digiS support Berlin's cultural heritage institutions with practical advice and technical expertise in the development of sustainable digitisation processes.

Funding programme for digitisation by the Berlin Senate

In 2012, the Berlin Senate initiated an interdisciplinary funding programme for the digitisation of Berlin's cultural heritage. In addition to the funding programme, digiS was established at the Zuse Institute Berlin (ZIB) as a permanent competence and coordination office.

digiS advises cultural heritage institutions, coordinates the funding programme, and provides technical services for presentation, mediation, long-term availability and reusability of Berlin's cultural data even beyond the funding programme. The Berlin Senate initiative creates permanent access to the digitised cultural memory of Berlin.

Taking part

The funding programme for the digitisation of objects of Berlin's cultural heritage is run by the Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion.

Any cultural heritage organisation based in Berlin is eligible to apply for this funding that will be awarded through a competitive process based on the recommendations of an external jury of experts. Information on the funding programme and the procedure can be found on the digiS website. Even before an application, we offer all interested parties advice on their project concepts. In addition, digiS organises an annual Information day on the funding programme.

Collaborations

digiS cooperates with a wide range of partners in order to explore the topic of #culturaldigital in its various aspects, to establish it in the public discourse and to further develop sector-specific standards.

Together with the Berlin Open Access Office, digiS is working on the implementation of open access to Berlin's digital memory. digiS is part of the LIDO working group in the specialist group Documentation of the German Museums Association and is thus involved in the development of the XML exchange standard for collection objects. We are also responsible for the Berlin-wide

administration of the collection platform form museum-digital, which is used by many project partners to present their collections.

In cooperation with iRights.Law, digiS offers free legal advice to new project partners. In addition, iRights.Law and digiS regularly organise workshops together. digiS is also a partner of the international conference „Shaping Access".

Long-term archiving

digiS ensures the permanent availability of the programme's project data: Working together with the Cooperative Library Network Berlin-Brandenburg (KOBV), an organisational and technical infrastructure for long-term archiving (LZA) was developed at ZIB. The technical implementation of the LZA is secured by the Core Trust Seal certified system EWIG.

Knowledge and competence building

By offering a wide range of workshops, which are free of charge and also open to all interested parties outside the funding programme, the exchange of knowledge and the development of expertise beyond the boundaries of an institution or discipline are efficiently realised.

The key issues are data preparation and thus the reusability of cultural data, legal and technical aspects of digitisation, digital long-term availability and strategy development in the context of digital transformation. Accompanying materials such as e-lectures and handouts are available on the digiS website.

digiS-Team

Under the direction of Prof. Dr. Thorsten Koch eight employees plus student assistants work in the areas of coordination, consulting, research and development.

Contact

Please contact us for further information:

Telephone: 030-84185-200
E-Mail: digis@zib.de
Website: www.digis-berlin.de
Mastodon: @digiSberlin@openbiblio.social
LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/digis-berlin

Forschungs- und Kompetenzzentrum
Digitalisierung Berlin (digiS)
Zuse-Institut Berlin, Takustraße 7, 14195 Berlin