



Growing  
**ideas**  
through  
**networks**

# **COST 18128: SEADDA**

Saving European Archaeology from the Digital Dark Age

Julian Richards & Holly Wright, Management Committee, Brussels,  
4 March 2019



Funded by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme  
of the European Union

# Background

- Origins: ARIADNE, & ARIADNEplus
- Commences 4 March 2019
- Ends 3 March 2023
- Currently 26 COST full member countries confirmed
  - 13 Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs)
    - 2 Intentions: Belgium, Norway
    - 2 still nominating: Finland, Romania
    - Plus 4 International Partner Countries (IPCs): USA, Canada, Japan, Argentina



Plus:  
 Argentina  
 Canada  
 Japan  
 United States

# Challenges

- Fragility of digital data
  - Archaeology destroys its data
  - Comprehensive records are imperative
  - Archaeological data is often born digital
  - Archaeologists are creative in using data – multiple formats



# Challenges

- Lack of trusted digital repositories – just a few exceptions: ADS, DANS, SND, tDAR
- Digital data are often archived as objects rather than computerised information



3.5" Floppy



Rectangular Hole  
Punch Card



DC4\_120



5.25" Optical Disk



Memory Stick



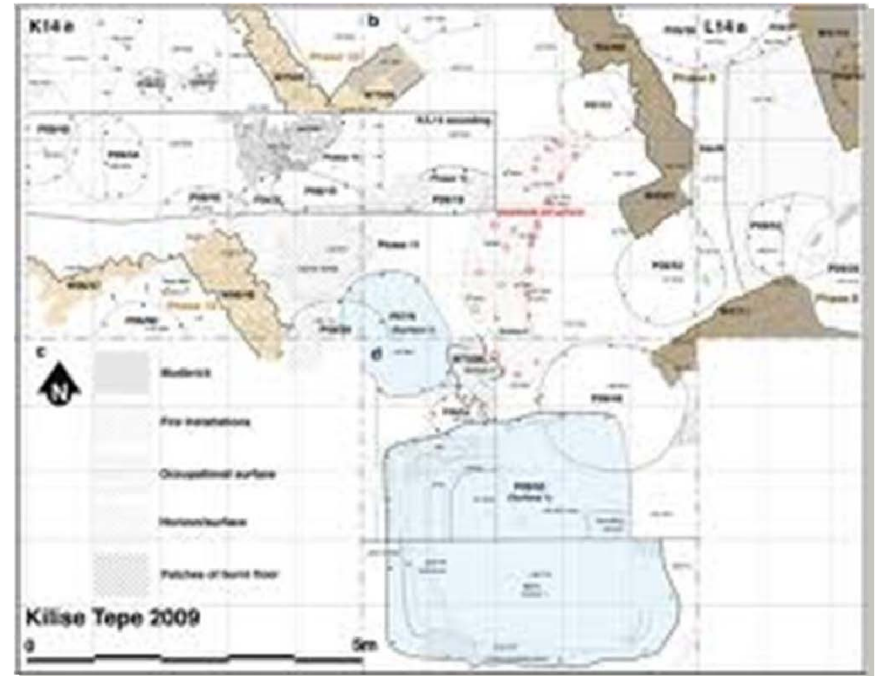
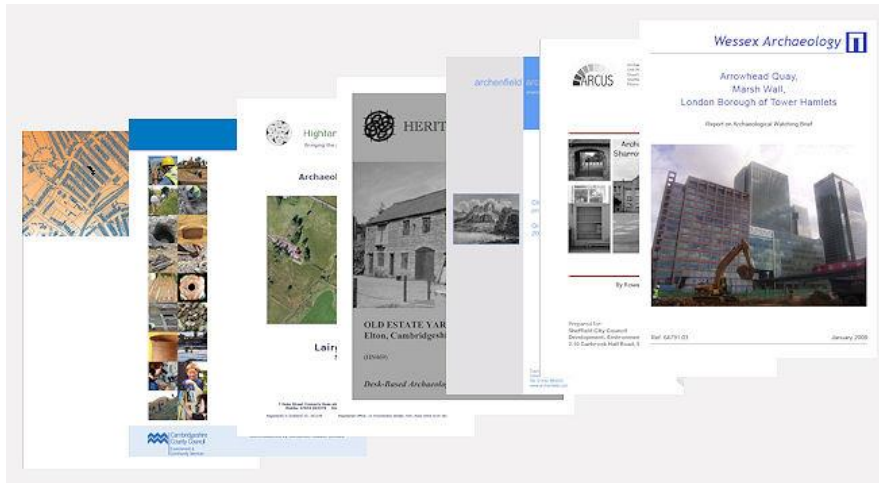
DVD-ROM



5.25" Floppy

# Digital Data and Archaeology

- Published data are limited
- Majority of data recorded in grey literature
- Data are not easily searchable
- Access to data is difficult



# Solutions

- Solutions:
  - Bring archaeologists and data management specialists together
  - Create publications & resources
  - Organise meetings and training events
  - Scientific missions



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# Research Coordination Objectives

- RCO1: Coordinate information collection to understand the current state-of-the-art regarding the preservation, dissemination and re-use of archaeological data.
- RCO2: Develop a common understanding of international best practice for preservation, dissemination and re-use of archaeological data
- RCO3: Develop a range of fundable research projects to solidify the priority research area, focussed on creating new long-term international partnerships



# Capacity-Building Objectives

- CBO1: Foster knowledge exchange around international best practice for preservation, dissemination and re-use of archaeological data
- CBO2: Increase representation of women in both archaeology and computer science (43% of current Management Committee are women)
- CBO3: Extend capacity through online & social media, conferences & workshops
- CBO4: Foster KE through innovation, working with e.g. Period0 & Pelagios



# Working Groups: Proposed roles

	Chair	Vice-Chair
<b>WG1: Stewardship of Archaeological Data</b>	Benjamin Štular, SI	Ulf Jacobson, SE
<b>WG2: Planning for Archiving</b>	Martina Trognitz, AT	Sharon McMeekin, UK
<b>WG3: Preservation and Dissemination Best Practice</b>	Hella Hollander, NL	Nurdan Atalan Çayırezmez, TR
<b>WG4: Use and Reuse of Archaeological Data</b>	Peter Jensen, DK	Holly Wright, UK
<b>WG5: Action Management</b>	Julian Richards, UK	Paola Ronzino, IT

**STSM Coordinator:** Edeltraud Aspöck, AT

# More opportunities

- Everybody will have to choose a primary WG to contribute to, and if willing, a secondary one, but can join more
- Proposals for additional deputy leaders are welcome!



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## Funded activities:

- Meetings (everyone's favourite)!
- Dissemination meetings (conferences)
- Training Schools (travel)
- Local organiser support
- Open Access publications
- Short Terms Scientific Missions (STSMs)
- Preference given to participants from Inclusiveness Target Countries and Early Career Researchers (including conference grants)

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# SEADDA WG1

Stewardship of archaeological data

Chair: Benjamin Štular, SI;

Vice-Chair: Ulf Jacobson, SE



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# WG1: Stewardship of archaeological data

**Objective:** To bring together members with varying levels of experience to share their successes and challenges around the stewardship of archaeological data to create a sub-network.

- Practical and ethical considerations will be explored:
  - Encouragements and resistances to sharing data and making it openly accessible within archaeology
  - Who is legally required to fund the short and long-term costs of preservation.

This working group will be the starting point for those new to the main aim of SEADDA and who wish to begin or progress dialogue in their region or country.

# WG1 Tasks

1. Survey of state-of-the-art for preservation and dissemination within Europe
2. Develop a European network of contacts, and determine which are well placed to host data management and stewardship workshops within their countries.
3. Organise an exploratory workshop on stewardship to define format and content most useful for data management and stewardship workshops
4. Organise a discussion workshop to synthesise the findings of the survey and create resources that can be used to inform key decision-makers for with regard to stewardship, e.g. position papers.
5. Create an open access publication on the current state-of-the-art of the stewardship of archaeological data in Europe.



# WG1 Deliverables

- D1.1: Survey on the state-of-the-art in the stewardship of archaeological data in Europe
- D1.2: Create a list of contacts focussed on advancing the stewardship of archaeological data
- D1.3: Create report on results of data management and stewardship workshops in receptive countries
- D1.4: Create report on results of exploratory workshop on advancing stewardship
- D1.5: Create report on results of discussion workshop on the state-of-the-art and advancing stewardship
- D1.6: Publication on the state-of-the-art and advancing stewardship

# WG1 Schedule

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
<b>WG1</b>	Survey archiving and dissemination in Europe			
		Create European network on stewardship		
			Data management/stewardship workshops	
	Exploratory Workshop			
			Discussion Workshop	
				Publication

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# SEADDA WG2

## Planning for Archiving

Chair: Martina Trognitz, AT

Vice-Chair: Sharon McMeekin, UK



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## WG2: Planning for Archiving

**Objective:** To identify the practical and technical issues surrounding the creation of an appropriate repository for archaeological data

- Understanding hardware and software options
- Management structures
- Training of archivists

The WG will identify existing best practice, changing future needs, and pragmatic technical and structural solutions.

# WG2 Tasks

1. Survey of current hardware and software options for archiving archaeological data
2. Organise exploratory workshop on practical issues around repository creation
3. Organise discussion workshop on repository implementation
4. Create practical materials for workshops organised by WG1
5. Create open access publication on experiences of new and emerging archives

## WG2 Deliverables

- D2.1: Survey on hardware and software options for archiving
- D2.2: Create report on results of exploratory workshop on repository creation
- D2.3: Create report on results of discussion workshop on repository implementation
- D2.4: Publication on new and emerging archives

# WG2 Schedule

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
<b>WG2</b>	Survey current hardware and software options			
	Exploratory Workshop			
		Discussion Workshop		
			Publication	

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# SEADDA WG3

Preservation and Dissemination Best Practice

Chair: Hella Hollander, NL

Vice-Chair: Nurdan Atalan Çayırezmez, TR



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# WG3: Preservation and Dissemination Best Practice

**Objective:** To understand current international best practice with regard to archiving and dissemination, and implementation by existing repositories.

- Open Archival Information System (OAIS) model
- The FAIR Principles
- Repository accreditation
- Cost modelling
- Dealing with data types

WG3 will bring together archaeological digital archivists together in a formalised network for the first time to share current practice, and survey future trends to understand the changing archaeological and digital landscapes (domain and technology watch).

# WG3 Tasks

1. Survey of current practice within existing archives
2. Create sub-network of digital archivists within archaeology
3. Review of current international best practice guidance, providing expansion and improvement where needed
4. Organise exploratory workshop on current best practice within existing archives
5. Organise discussion workshop on future challenges and trends in the archaeological and digital domains
6. Create open access publication on current best practice and future challenges within archaeological data archives

# WG3 Deliverables

- D3.1: Survey of current practice within archaeological data archives
- D3.2: Create a list of contacts focussed on digital archivists within archaeology
- D3.3: Create report on results of the best practice guidance review
- D3.4: Create report on results of the best practice guidance updates
- D3.5: Create report on results of the exploratory workshop on best practice and challenges
- D3.6: Create report on results of the discussion workshop on future challenges and trends
- D3.7: Publication on best practice and future challenges

# WG3 Schedule

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
<b>WG3</b>	Survey of current practice within archives			
		Create network for digital archivists in archaeology		
		Review of best practice guidance		
				Guidance Doc.
	Exploratory Workshop			
		Discussion Workshop		
			Publication	

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# SEADDA WG4

## Use and Re-Use of Archaeological Data

Chair: Peter Jensen, DK

Vice-Chair: Holly Wright, UK



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# Use and Re-Use of Archaeological Data

**Objective:** To understand how to optimise archives and interfaces to maximise the use and re-use of archaeological data, and explore how archaeological archives can better respond to user needs, and ways to document and understand both quantitative and qualitative re-use.

- Explore barriers to re-use, such as intellectual property rights and licencing
- Explore design of underlying data structures and their interfaces.

WG 4 will focus on initiatives like the FAIR Principles and technologies that improve and optimise searching, issues around how data is created, organised and disseminated, different options for interface design, and developing best practice around qualitative re-use.

# WG4 Tasks

1. Survey of archive search interfaces and underlying structures and technologies
2. Survey of qualitative analysis procedures and technologies to better understand re-use and barriers to re-use
3. Organise an exploratory workshop on current challenges around the use and re-use of archaeological data
  - a) Sub-tasks – e.g. specific workshops on vocabulary issues e.g. artefact vocabularies
4. Organise a discussion workshop on optimising archaeological data for re-use
5. Create an open access publication on the state-of-the-art of re-use of archaeological data, and future challenges

# WG4 Deliverables

- D4.1: Survey of archive search interfaces
- D4.2: Survey of qualitative analysis procedures and technologies
- D4.3: Create report on results of the exploratory workshop on current challenges on use and re-use
- D4.4: Create report on results of the discussion workshop on the future of optimising data
- D4.5: Publication on best practice and future challenges



# WG4 Schedule

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
<b>WG4</b>	Survey of archive technologies			
	Survey of qualitative analysis procedures			
	Exploratory Workshop			
			Discussion Workshop	
				Publication

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# SEADDA WG5

## Action Management

Chair: Julian Richards, UK

Vice-Chair: Paola Ronzino, IT



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# WG5 Action Management

**Objective:** To facilitate and organise the overarching tasks, milestones and deliverables of the SEADDA Action.

# WG5 Tasks

1. Develop and contribute content to COST Action website and dissemination outlets
2. Create an edited volume establishing the main aim as a new research area
3. Organise and participate in STSMs
4. Organise and participate in final conference
5. Develop new research projects and at least one major funding application

# WG5 Milestones & Deliverables

- M5.1, M5.2, M5.3: Annual meetings, with progress reporting by WGs
- D5.1: Creation and implementation of the dissemination plan
- D5.2: Publication of edited volume on the research area
- D5.3: Creation of report on the implementation of STSMs
- D5.4: Creation of final report including results of the final conference
- D5.5: Submission of major funding application

# WG5 Schedule

<b>WG5</b>	SEADDA website and dissemination outlets			
				Collected Volume
	Development of major funding proposal and other projects			
	STSM Coordination			
	Development of plans for new repositories			
	Participation by additional COST countries			
				Final Conference
				Final Report
	Up to 10 STSMs	Up to 10 STSMs	Up to 10 STSMs	Up to 10 STSMs

# Short Term Scientific Missions

- Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) are institutional visits aimed at supporting individual mobility, fostering collaboration between individuals.
- STSM applicants must be engaged in an official research programme as a PhD Student or postdoctoral fellow or can be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution, organisation or legal entity which has within its remit a clear association with performing research.

# STSM Host Institutions

- Located in another Participating COST Full Member or COST Cooperating Member
- Located in a Participating COST Partner Member
- An Approved IPC Institution
- An Approved NNC Institution
- The EU Commission or a EU Body, Office or Agency
- An Approved European RTD Organisation
- An Approved International Organisation



# Short Term Scientific Missions (STSMs)

Specific additional provisions have also been made possible to encourage the participation of Early Career Investigators (ECI) in STSM:

- The mission must have a minimum duration of 91 calendar days
- The mission has a maximum duration of 180 calendar days.
- STSM performed by ECI need to be carried out in their entirety within a single Grant Period and always within the Action's lifetime

## Draft Budget

- WG meetings (over 2-3 days) budget for around 35 participants, but assume not everyone will need to be there the whole time
- WG subtask *ad hoc* meetings – we should try to reserve budget for additional working party meetings during Year One
- One-day exploratory workshop for WGs 1-4 with travel for up to eight WG members each (+ subsistence for up to 25 participants)
- One-day MC meeting for up to 30 MC members
- Funding for travel for up to five people for conference dissemination, or extra accommodation for meetings where SEADDA participants are attending anyway
- Up to five scientific missions at 2500 Euros each
- At least three ITC conference grants at c.1500 Euros each

## Next meetings?

- June? WG initial meetings – meet together?
- EAA, Bern, Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> - Next MC meeting?
- CHNT, Austria, Nov 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> – WG2 meeting? and Dissemination activity?
- Oct 2019-Feb 2020 Exploratory workshops? – open to others
- CAA, Oxford or York March/April 2020 – First Year 2 MC meeting?

# Questions?

## Next Steps?

Web site: [seadda.eu](http://seadda.eu)

Twitter account: @SEADDA\_COST

Google drive for sharing documents

Basecamp for group emails?