

FORMAT		
1. Name of resource	Environmentally Sustainable Digital Preservation	
2. Location	https://www.dpconline.org/digipres/discover-good-practice/environmentally-sustainable-digital-preservation	
3. Alternative location		
4. Author[s]	Digital Preservation Coalition	
5. Publisher/producer/host	Digital Preservation Coalition	
6. Year	2022	
7. Suggested citation	Digital Preservation Coalition, Environmentally Sustainable Digital Preservation, https://www.dpconline.org/digipres/discover-good-practice/environmentally-sustainable-digital-preservation	
8. Languages in which available	English, webpages translate automatically	
9. Geographic area resource relates to	Global	
10. Does the resource relate to a specific time frame?		
11. Type	Report	
	Toolkit/Framework/Roadmap	
	Sign-post to other resource (database)	
	Case studies	Yes
	Other	Blogs
12. If this is part of an initiative, what is the initiative?		
COLLECTIONS AND COLLECTIONS-BASED INSTITUTIONS		
13. Explicit links to collections	Yes	
14. Explicit links to museums/libraries/archives	Yes	
15. Types of institutions the resource covers	Museums	X
	Archives	X
	Libraries	X
	Other	X
16. Types of collections/disciplines the resource covers	Arts, humanities and social sciences: philosophy, psychology, religion, social sciences, law, politics,	X

	language, arts and recreation, architecture, literature, history, geography and ethnology, anthropology, archaeology	
	Science, natural history, technology, medicine, engineering, manufacturing	X
17. If no explicit links to collections, justification for inclusion		
HOW IT CONTRIBUTES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		
18. Collections-related activities the resource relates to (mark all that apply)		
Develop collections to protect and safeguard wider cultural and natural heritage more effectively , for example by targeting collecting to threatened forms of heritage in strategic ways		X
Use collections to promote learning and educational opportunities that contribute to sustainable development more effectively , for example education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development and/or skills development relating to collections		
Use collections to promote cultural participation/social inclusion more effectively , for example by reducing barriers to participation, to ensure no-one is 'left behind'		
Use collections to promote sustainable tourism more effectively , for example by developing new products based on local cultural heritage, and/or considering the rights of stakeholder groups in relation to collections		
Use collections to support research that contributes to sustainable development (including all forms of personal and self-directed research at all levels that make use of stored collections) more effectively, for example by providing effective facilities, collections and information to meet researchers' needs		
Make decisions around collections that contribute to sustainable development more effectively		
i. employment (recruiting, staff training, staff safety)		
ii. energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, reduction, monitoring and reporting		X
iii. waste management and reduction of waste		X
iv. transport (forms of transport, energy use)		
v. commercial activities including copyright and IP		
vi. governance and management		X

vii. security, disaster preparedness and risk reduction	
Direct external leadership, partnerships and collaborations towards sustainable development more effectively , for example by developing impactful partnerships	
19. Does the resource relate clearly to any international conventions (mark all that apply)?	
Culture conventions:	
1952, 71 Protection of Copyright and Neighbouring Rights	
1954 Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict	
1970 Fighting Against the Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Property	
1972 Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	
2001 Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage	
2003 Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage	
2005 Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions	
Rio Conventions:	
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	X
AIMS AND CONTENT	
20. What issues does the resource aim to address?	“Digital preservation good practice is not solely about how successfully we preserve the bits and enable access to them, it must also take into account the broader context in which our work sits, and the wider responsibilities we have to society and the environment. Simply put, there is no point in preserving the bits if there is no one left to read and understand them. As a community we must therefore balance risks to the digital content that we hold not only against the financial cost but also the cost to the environment. We must consider how we reduce the environmental impact of our work, whilst continuing to maintain our valuable digital content for future generations. This is a challenging balancing act and we must work together as a community to evolve digital preservation good practice to minimise the environmental impact of our actions.”
21. Intended audience of resource	[Archivists, curators, librarians, collections managers involved in digital preservation decisions and management]
22. Process of development	“This web page brings together this content [on environmentally sustainable practices from Coalition members] in one place and includes links to blogs, events and other relevant resources from the Digital Preservation Coalition.
23. Organisation/structure/contents	Blogs: Here Comes The Tide - William Kilbride, 2010

A foot in the door is worth two on the desk - William Kilbride, 2017

A Greener Film Archive - Janice Chen, 2018

Enacting Environmentally Sustainable Preservation: some thoughts - Jenny Mitcham, 2020

It's not easy being green: Evaluating the impact of digital preservation - Elisabeth Thurlow, 2020

Is digital preservation bad for the environment? Reflections on environmentally sustainable digital preservation in the cloud - Matthew Addis, 2020

DPC RAM (version 2) - what has changed and why? - Jenny Mitcham, 2021

Adapting to abrdn – Towards a Sustainable, Open Source response to Digital Preservation - Karyn Williamson, 2021

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS with CSC Climate negative / zero Carbon data center - Veli-Antti Leinonen, 2021

Digital Preservation and Climate Change: Provocation to and from COP26 - William Kilbride, 2021

SEE ALL BLOGS

Events:

How Green is Digital Preservation? - panel session at iPRES 2010

Enacting Environmentally Sustainable Preservation - webinar, 2020 (a recording of this event is available to DPC Members)

Environmentally Sustainable Digital Preservation - moving from theory to practice - webinar, 2021 (recordings of each presentation are available to DPC Members)

Other Resources:

Version 2.0 of the DPC's Rapid Assessment Model (released in 2021) encourages practitioners to bring considerations of environmental impacts into digital preservation decision making

FRAMEWORKS

24. Framework structure	
25. Relevant policy considerations	Yes
26. Resources for implementation identified	Yes
27. Specific assessment points/indicators/milestones/action plan for monitoring	Yes
28. ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABILITY COVERED BY RESOURCE (mark all that apply)	
People (social sustainability)	
Planet (environmental sustainability)	X
Prosperity (economic sustainability)	
Peace	
Partnerships	
29. CROSS-CUTTING CONSIDERATIONS COVERED BY RESOURCE (mark all that apply)	
Gender perspectives	
North and South perspectives	
HOW THE RESOURCE CONTRIBUTES TO AGENDA 2030 AND THE SDGs	
HOW AGENDA 2030 AND THE SDGs FEATURE IN THE RESOURCE	
30. SDGs and Agenda 2030 specifically mentioned?	No
31. SDGs specifically mentioned?	No
32. SDG targets specifically mentioned?	No
33. SDG indicators specifically mentioned?	No
SDGs AND SDG TARGETS AND LINKAGES	
34. Comments on SDG linkages	The resource is most closely linked to SDG 12.6 (adopt sustainable practices and reporting), which helps support a number of targets around the sustainable use of natural resources (SDG 12.2), reducing waste generation (SDG 12.5) and SDG 13.3. (contributing to climate action), and supporting can be used to inform sustainable procurement (SDG 12.7). Development of sustainable infrastructure, which would include collecting approaches for

	sustainability, supports SDG 9.1 and retrofitting infrastructure supports SDG 9.4.
35. SDGs and SDG targets the resource helps advance	
<p>SDG 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation</p> <p>9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all</p>	<p>Development of research-useful collections to support reliable, sustainable and resilient use by researchers and others.</p> <p>Number and proportion of collections facilities and stores that support economic development and human well-being.</p> <p>Number and proportion of collections facilities and stores that provide affordable and equitable access for all.</p> <p>Investment in collections facilities.</p> <p>Inclusion of collections information in regional and transborder initiatives, notably via digital access for discoverability.</p>
<p>SDG 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation</p> <p>9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities</p>	<p>Number and proportion of collections facilities that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. make efficient use of resources, with an ongoing drive for efficiencies and reductions in energy use and waste of all forms. 2. use clean and environmentally sound technologies, including climate-friendly energy sources and materials, with an ongoing commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and waste of all forms. 3. adopt and/or prioritise collections-related processes and practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and waste of all forms.
<p>SDG 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</p> <p>SDG 12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources</p>	<p>Reduction of material footprint in terms of reductions in consumption of biomass, fossil fuels, metal ores and non-metal ores.</p>

<p>SDG 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse</p>		<p>Quantity and reductions in quantity of waste of all kinds, including avoidance/prevention of waste production, reuse, and recycling. Quantity of material recycled in comparison with quantity sent to landfill. Increases in recycling rate in comparison with landfill.</p>			
<p>SDG 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns 12.6 Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle</p>		<p>Clear visions, strategies and plans in place for all aspects of sustainability – environmental, social and economic (people, planet, prosperity)- across all areas of activity.</p> <p>Visions, strategies and plans relating to sustainability to be publicly available and incorporated into planning documents.</p> <p>Commitments to be in line with local, regional, national and/or international targets and ambitions.</p> <p>Incorporation of sustainability into reporting for funders and other stakeholders, including the public. Reporting to include commitments and progress towards targets.</p>			
<p>SDG 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns 12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities</p>		<p>Incorporation of sustainability considerations into procurement, in terms of advertisement and invitation to tender, contracts, and selection criteria for suppliers.</p>			
<p>SDG 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning</p>		<p>Plans in place to enhance positive contributions to addressing climate change through use of collections. Plans in place to ensure collections, collections institutions and broader society can adapt effectively to climate change.</p> <p>Plans in place for effective education and awareness raising on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.</p> <p>Plans in place to reduce negative contributions of collections-related functions, e.g. measuring greenhouse emissions with plans and targets in place to reduce them.</p>			
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7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	