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Overview of the Carnegie / NRF Digitisation Project

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Overview of the Carnegie / NRF Digitisation project

Mr. Hein Spingies
Manager: Information Resources & Services
SADI Workshop, 27 Febr. – 1 March 2013

Agenda

- Background
- Historical overview
- Audit of SA Digitisation Initiatives
- Managing Digital Collections – SA Framework
- National Portal
- Train-the-trainer and Training Modules
- Where are we going?
- Community of practice
  - *What is in the word collaboration?*
  - *Benefits*
- Next steps

Background

In 2009, the Carnegie Corporation of New York provided the NRF with a grant for a digitisation project. The aim of the project would be to:

- Determine the state of digitisation in South Africa
- Identify digitisation initiatives nationwide
- Establishment of a national portal / database
- Production of a digitisation manual, templates, standards and policies
- Establish a Digitisation & Preservation Centre *(technical support, training and knowledge sharing)*

Historical Overview

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2008

- Meeting with all stake-holders
- Proposal submitted
- NRF Proposal approved and Contract negotiated

2009

- Conduct national audit of Digitisation Initiatives in SA
- Establishment of National Portal (http://digi.nrf.ac.za)

2010

- Published the Managing Digital Collections – SA Framework

2011

- Facilitate and host Train the Trainer
- Start with development of Training Modules
- Investigate space for Digitisation Centre

2012

- National call for hosting of Digitisation Centre
- Evaluation of proposals received & communicate outcome to CCNY
- Finalise Training Modules

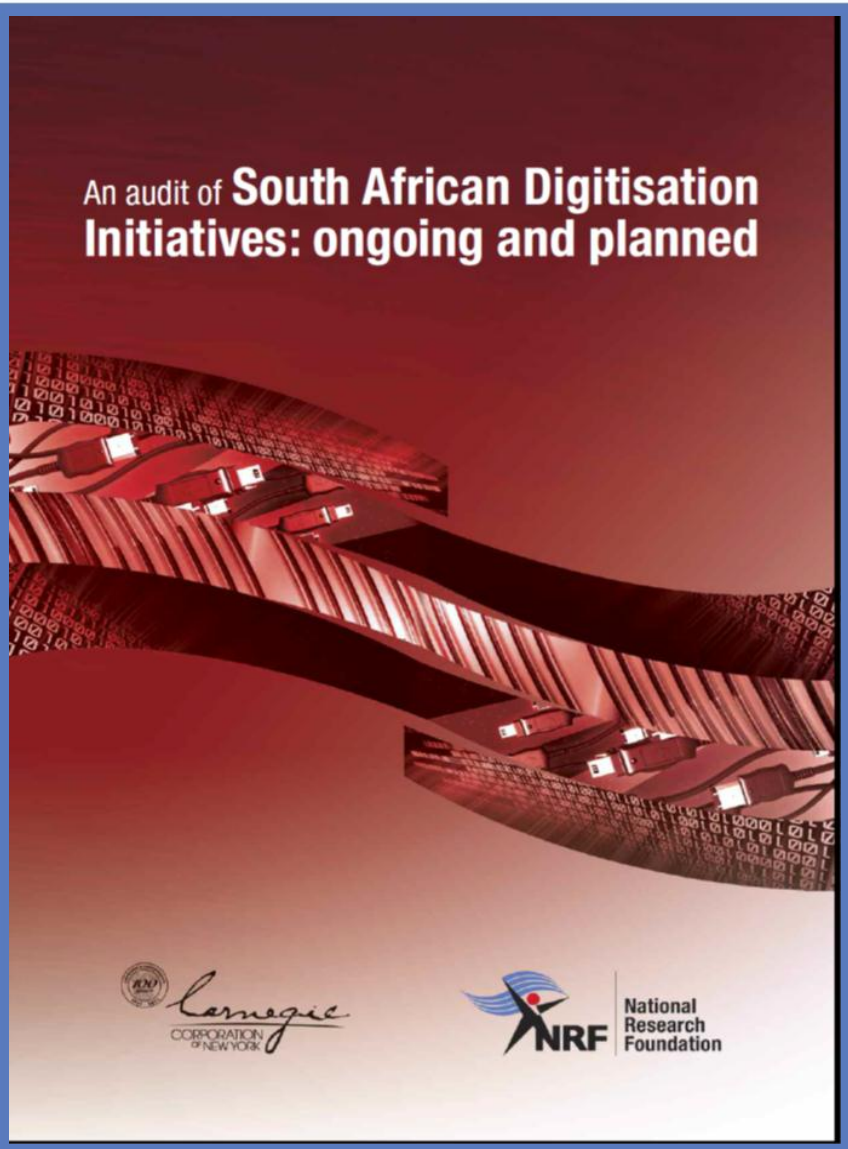
2013

- Host for Carnegie / NRF Digitisation & Preservation Centre to be appointed
- SLA for hosting
- Project deliverables and timelines agreed

SA Digitisation Initiatives – The Audit

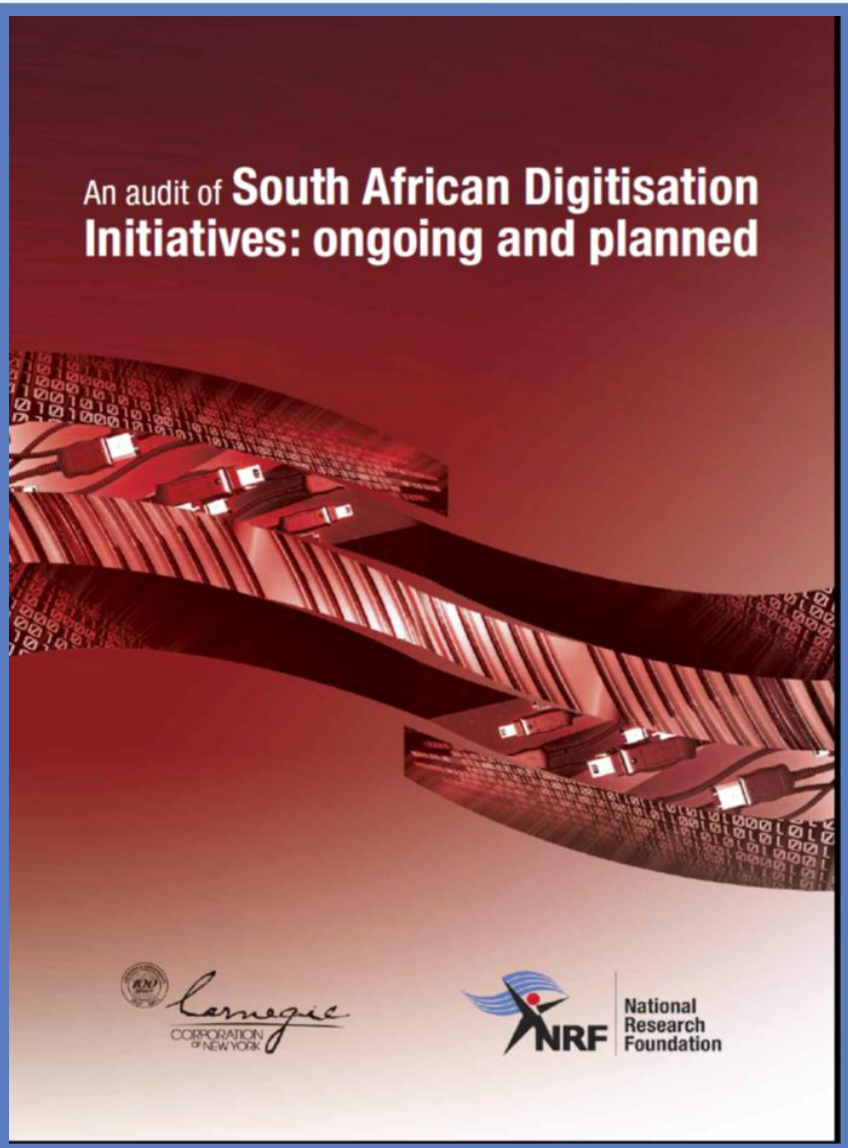
http://digi.nrf.ac.za/download/AuditReport.pdf

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- Identify institutions / digitisation projects
- Determine priority areas / content
- Provide list of current / on-going projects
- Merits of digitisation centre, its activities and governance structure
- Collect data & information for the establishment of a portal
- Identify levels of skills & expertise in digitisation (across institutions)
- Identify and establish digitisation needs and infrastructure requirements
- Generate a national database and hardcopy report

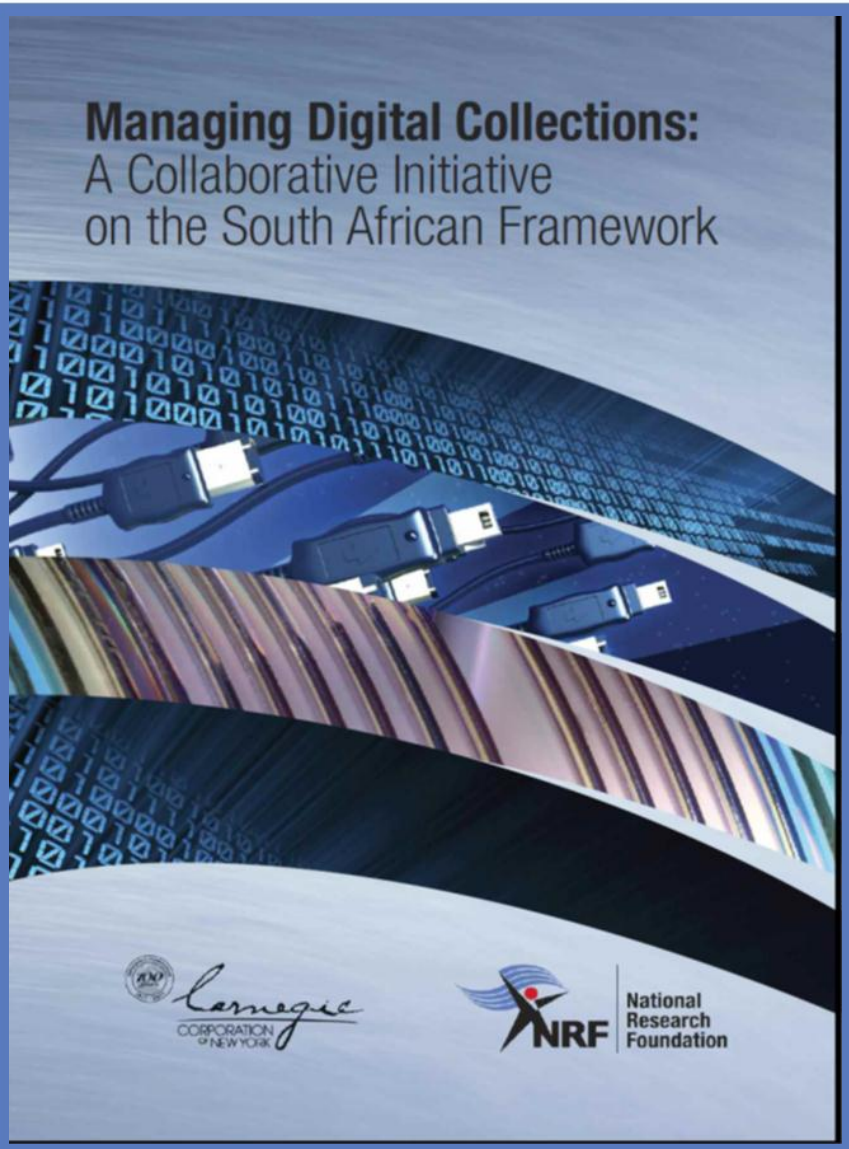
SA Digitisation Initiatives – The Audit Findings



- Digitisation activities
- Large-scale undertakings – *Freedom struggle, Rock Art, etc.*
- Some world-class outputs
- Many untouched collections
- Many collection in Open Access
- Standards are reasonably well managed
- Some institutions are expanding teams and upgrading facilities
- Aware of long-term sustainability needs, but few plans exist
- Need for capacity building / training
- Need for specialist advice
- Need for peer workshopping

Managing Digital Collections: SA Framework

http://digi.nrf.ac.za/download/managing_digital_collections.pdf



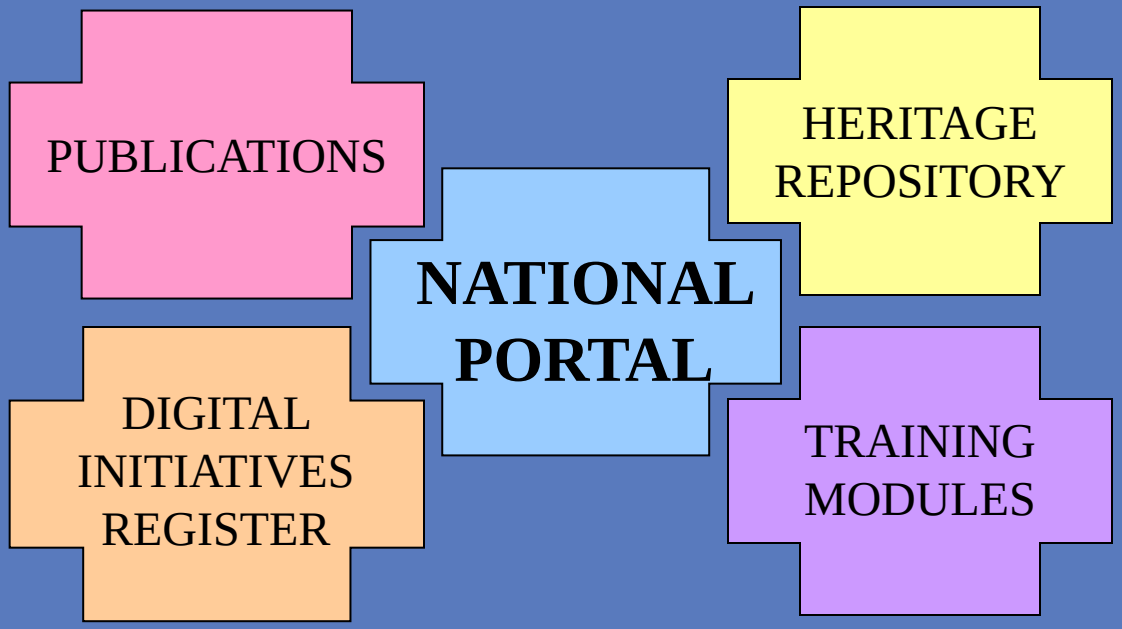
OBJECTIVE:

To provide high-level principles for planning and managing the full digital collection life-cycle

National Portal

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National Portal

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- Establishment of a National Portal (DSpace 1.6 as platform)
- **Heritage Repository** (purpose = to assist those institutions that don't have the required infrastructure)
  - Collection / materials based on themes of relevance to National Heritage
  - Three (3) broad theme selected
    - *Biodiversity and Natural Science History*
    - *Cultural History*
    - *Political History*
  - Materials from the NZG were added during a pilot phase
  - Materials relating to the history of forestry from CL Wicht was digitised and added to the collection
  - Tested the harvesting of metadata (from the University of the Witwatersrand)

National Portal

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- **Training Modules**
  - Developed in coordination with Centre for Curriculum Development (UNISA)
  - Currently under review by Nancy McGovern, *(Head, Curation and Preservation Services, MIT Libraries, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (US))*
  - Assist with the capacity building and skills development in digitisation / preservation

- **Digital Initiatives Register** (purpose = to have an understanding of all the current and planned digitisation initiatives and projects)
- Survey conducted during 2009 indicated 185 collections
- In the process of updating the register after sending request in December 2012
- Currently 233 collections registered

- **Publications**
  - An audit of South African Digitisation Initiatives
  - Managing Digital Collections: a SA Framework
  - Metadata Guidelines

National Portal

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Home | Publications | Digital Initiatives Register | Heritage Repository | Training | Contact us

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Digitisation and Data Preservation Centre

Carnegie Corporation of New York



HERITAGE RESOURCES

Biodiversity and Natural Science History

- Veterinary Science
- Arnold Theiler
- National Zoological Gardens of South Africa

Political History

- Wits History Workshop Papers

This Digitisation and Digital Data Preservation Centre is a collaborative South African digitisation initiative. This centre is hosted at the NRF and will

1. provide technical digitisation support, and services to those institutions that are not able to wholly or partially do it themselves;
2. provide or mobilise experts to conduct training and support for persons and institutions that would like to embark on digitisation and digital preservation exercise;
3. coordinate collaborative digitisation and digital data preservation initiatives among HEIs and as much as possible NGOs, and other organisations that are keen to collaborate and or provide digitisation support to others;
4. facilitate the sharing of knowledge through this portal

Latest news

Newly added to the National Zoological Gardens of South Africa collection



Train-the-trainer & Training Modules



- National Training Program : ***DIGITAL PRESERVATION MANAGEMENT Workshop & TRAIN-THE-TRAINER Workshop*** (Febr. 2011)
  - 5-Day workshop
  - 23 Delegates
- Facilitator / Learner Modules
  - In collaboration with the Centre for Curriculum Development (UNISA)

Where are we going from here?

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Communities of Practice are not about bringing knowledge into the organisation, but really about helping it grow…

Communities of Practice

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Collaborate / Collaboration / Collaborative

- Work together
- Join forces
- Act as a team
- Pool of resources
- Cooperate with each other

- Teamwork
- Partnership
- Group effort
- Alliance
- Relationships
- Cooperation

- Join
- Two-way
- Mutual
- Shared
- Together

Metadata / Standards / Capacity building

Communities of Practice
Benefits

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- Improves and Enhances efficiency
- Kept abreast of industry news
- Improves competence build up
- Drives industry though leadership
- Share lessons learnt
- Creates innovation





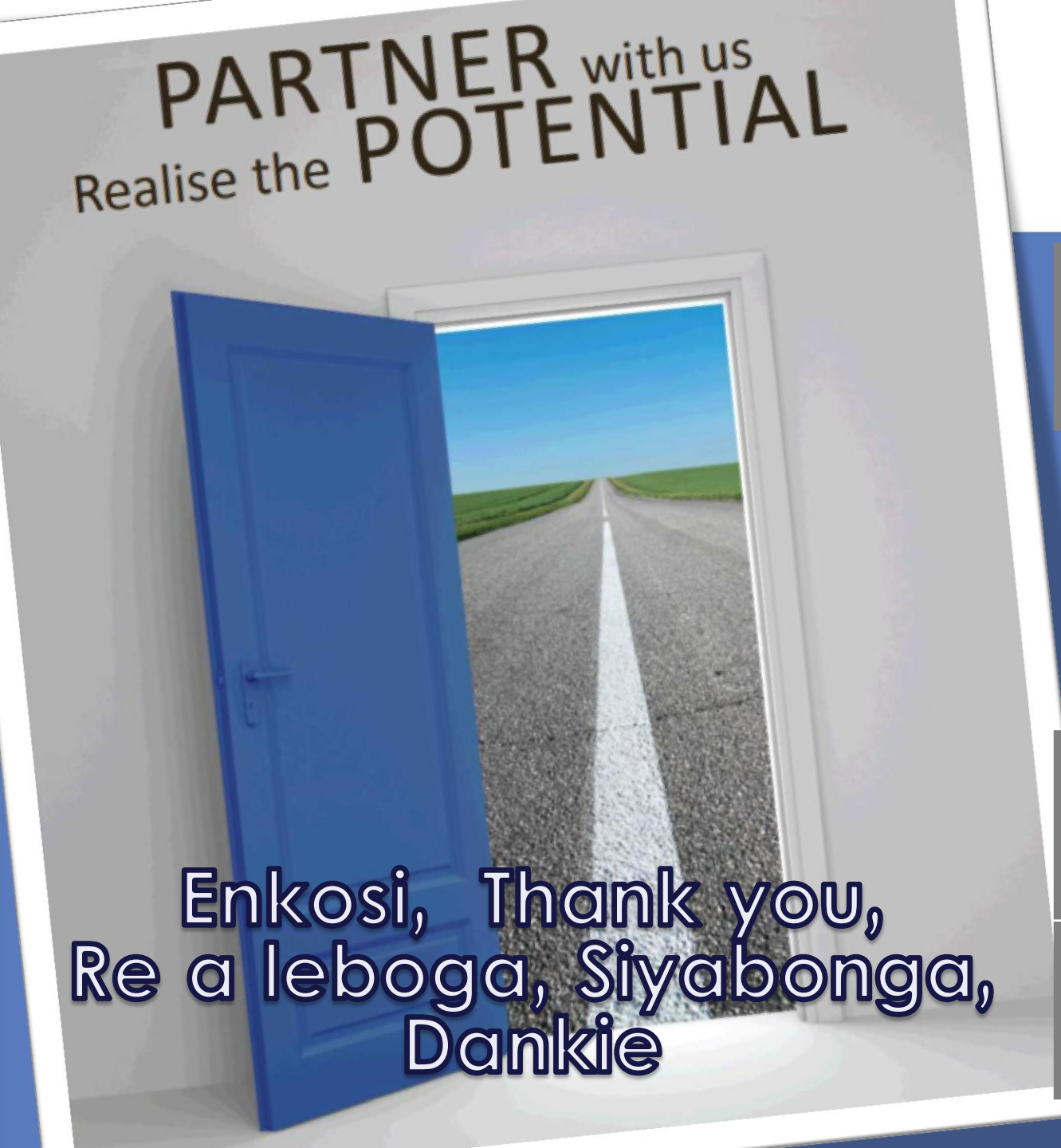
- Supports your reputation
- Communicate experiences
- User driven technology
- Strengthens your relationships
- Build networks

Next steps

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- Appoint a suitable hosting institution
- Agree on implementation and roll-out plan
- Project closure (December 2013)
- Sustainability post project – CoP to focus on the Metadata, Standards and Capacity building

PARTNER with us
Realise the POTENTIAL



Enkosi, Thank you,
Re a leboga, Siyabonga,
Dankie

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National Research Facilities
Research Infrastructure and National Research Facilities

HartRAO
Hartebeesthoek Radio Astronomy Observatory

SAAO
South African Astronomical Observatory

NZG
National Zoological Gardens of South Africa

SAEON
South African Environmental Observation Network

SAIAB
South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity

iThemba LABS
Laboratory for Accelerator Based Sciences

RISA
Research and Innovation Support and Advancement

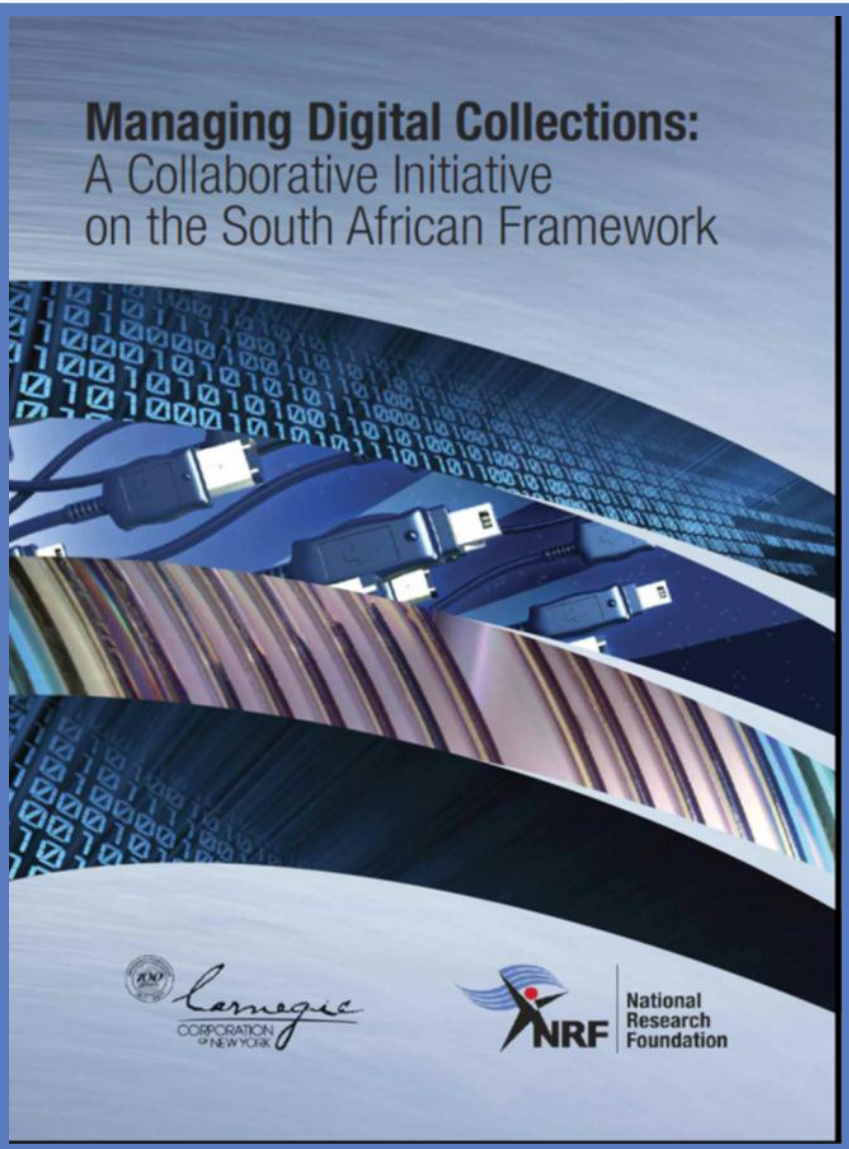
SAASTA
South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement

Additional slides

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Managing Digital Collections: SA Framework

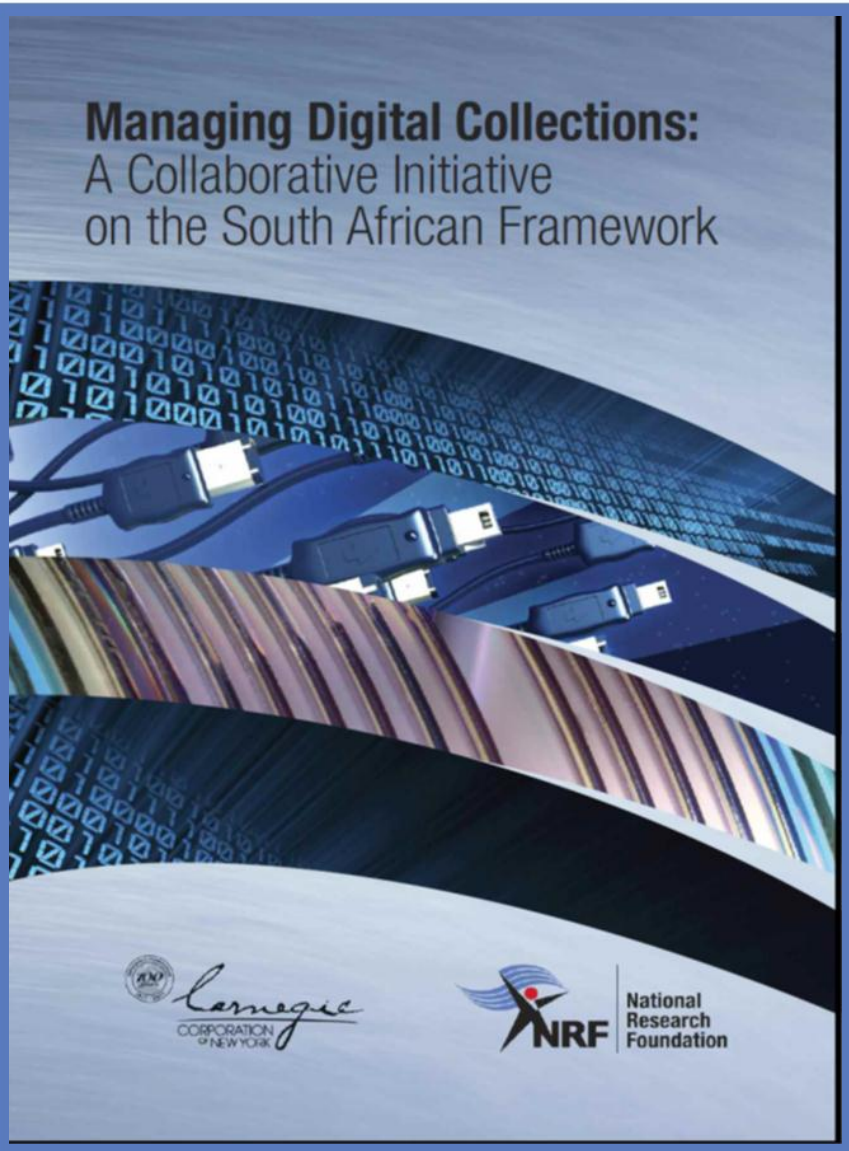
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AIM:

- Overview of components and activities involved in creating good digital collections
- Sense of the landscape of digital collections management
- Identify existing sources in support of the development of sound local practices
- Encourage community participation in best practices for digital collection building
- Contribute to the benefits of sound data management practices, data sharing and long term access

Managing Digital Collections: SA Framework



- Introduce data management & curation issues
- Assist cultural heritage organisations to create & manage complex digital collections
- Assist funding org's who wish to support & encourage the development of good digital collections
- Advocate the use of open standards to ensure quality and to increase global interoperability for better exchange & re-use of data and digital content

National Portal

http://digi.nrf.ac.za

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Go
Advanced Search

Browse

All of Heritage Repository

- Communities & Collections
- By Issue Date
- Authors
- Titles
- Subjects

This Collection

- By Issue Date
- Authors
- Titles
- Subjects

My Account

- Login
- Register

Official guide to the National Zoological Gardens of South Africa

Show full item record

Title:	Official guide to the National Zoological Gardens of South Africa
Author:	Bigalke, Rudolf Carl Heinrich, 1896-
Abstract:	The guide describes the animals in the National Zoological Gardens of South Africa. The history of the zoo is included. The work is illustrated with photographs and tourist maps.
URI:	http://hdl.handle.net/10624/370
Date:	1928

Files in this item

Files	Size	Format	View	Description
001hiboo00001.pdf	2.188Mb	PDF	View/Open	Guidebook p. 1-25
001hiboo00002.pdf	2.503Mb	PDF	View/Open	Guidebook p. 26-53

This item appears in the following Collection(s)

- National Zoological Gardens of South Africa

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