



Introduction to Saving European Archaeology from the Digital Dark Age

Digital Past, Aberystwyth, 13 February 2020

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UNIVERSITY *of York*



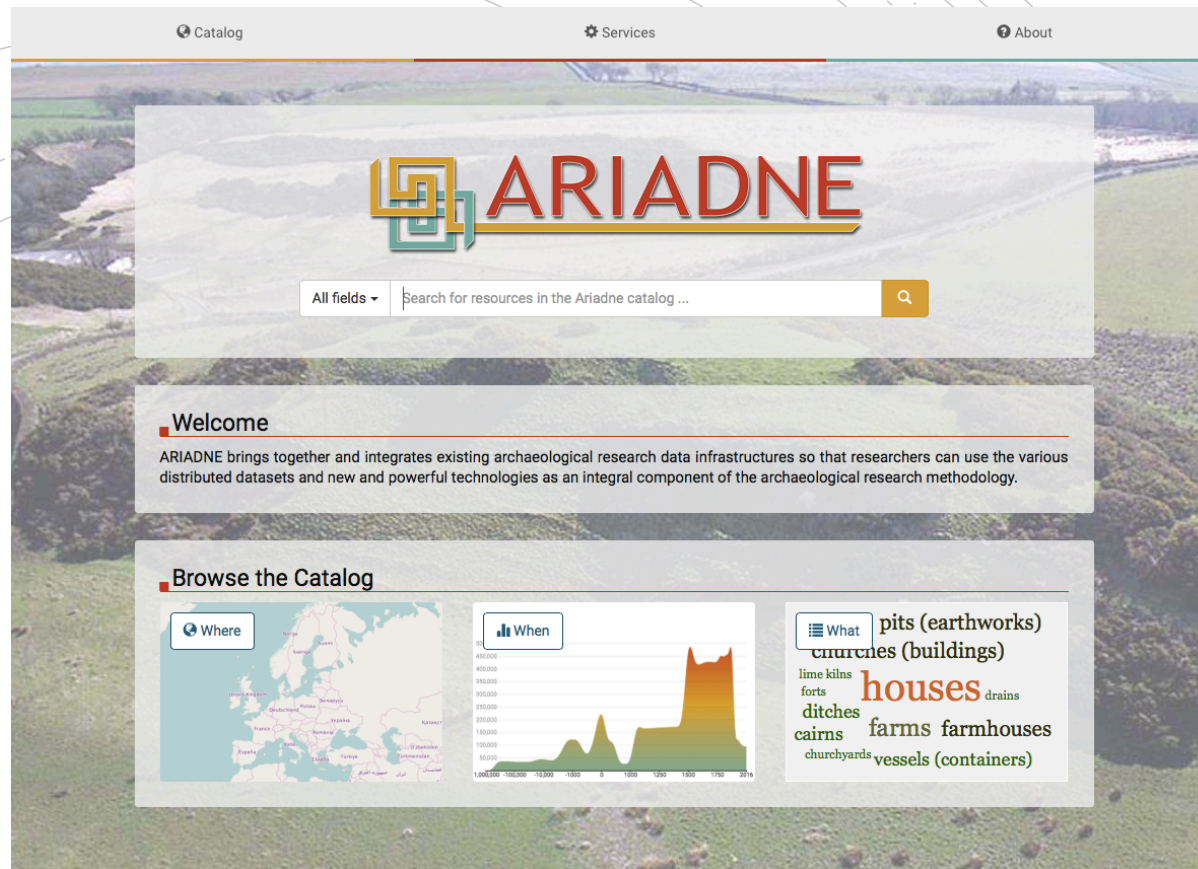
COST Action SEADDA (CA18128)
is funded by the Horizon 2020
Framework Programme of the
European Union.



Lessons from ARIADNE

- EU FP7 project under the 'Infrastructures' theme, including 23 European partners across 16 countries
- Four-year project: ended January 2017
- 17 Workpackages – primary deliverable: collection level metadata aggregation portal
- Coordinator: PIN Scri - Polo Universitario "Città di Prato" at the University of Florence
- Deputy Coordinator: ADS





Catalog Services About

ARIADNE

All fields ▾ Search for resources in the Ariadne catalog ... 🔍

Welcome
ARIADNE brings together and integrates existing archaeological research data infrastructures so that researchers can use the various distributed datasets and new and powerful technologies as an integral component of the archaeological research methodology.

Browse the Catalog

Where

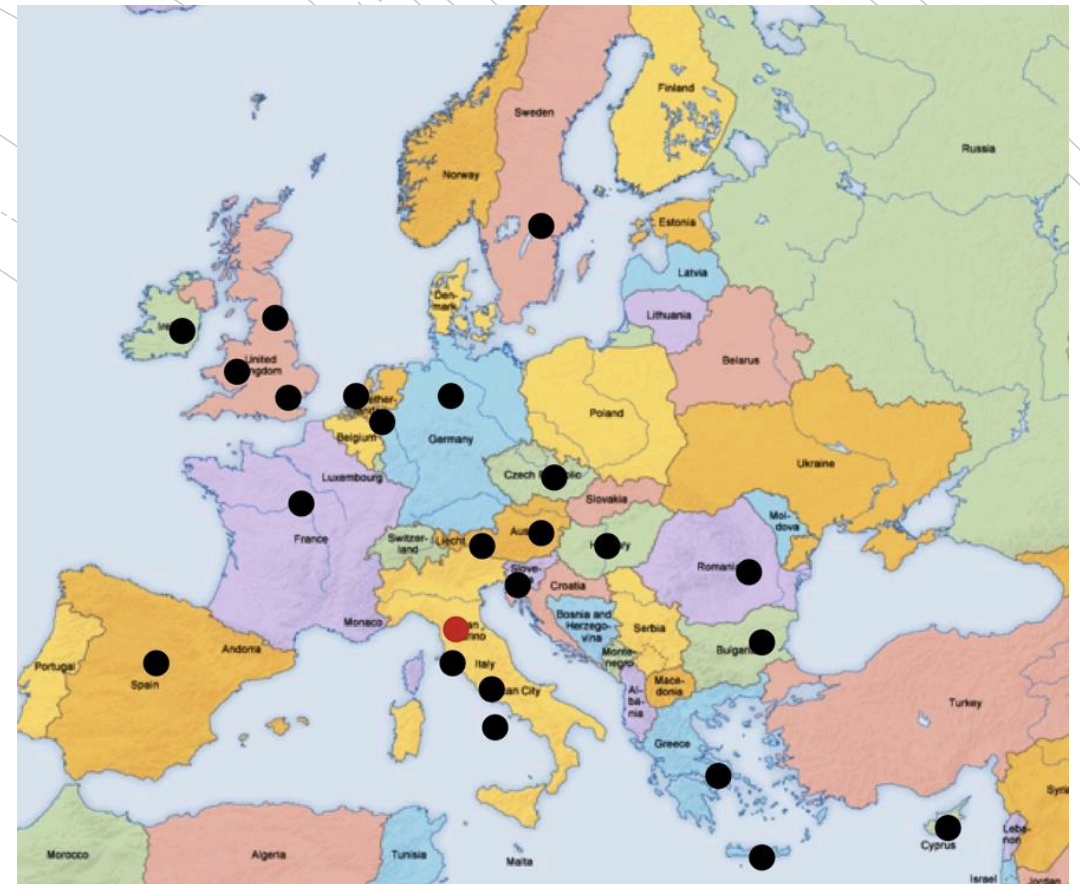
When

What

- pits (earthworks)
- churches (buildings)
- lime kilns
- forts
- ditches
- cairns
- churchyards
- houses
- drains
- farms
- farmhouses
- vessels (containers)

ARIADNE Community

- 9 ICT organisations
- 14 archaeological organisations
- 15 Associate partners
- Community building
 - Transnational access
 - Training events
 - Special interest groups



Internal Capacity Building

- Paper was given by partners in Slovenia and Ireland talking about “have’s and have nots” when it comes to having an acceptable place for their archaeological data
- Plans were made to offer data management workshops to partners in their own countries - Austria and Slovenia both accepted
- Much more successful than anticipated!

Data management workshops

Local ARIADNE partners worked hard to make sure governmental and institutional stakeholders attended, and took on understanding and presenting the state of play in their country



Data management workshops

Level of interest was much higher than expected:

- Pressure from funders to deposit data into an open repository
- Pressure from institutions to deposit data into an open repository
- Funding available; but no guidance
- No appropriate options for archaeological data
- Conversations continued on how to take expertise within ARIADNE and collaborate beyond current network
- Good practice guidance but “one size did not fit all” and working together was going to be critical to moving forward

Challenges

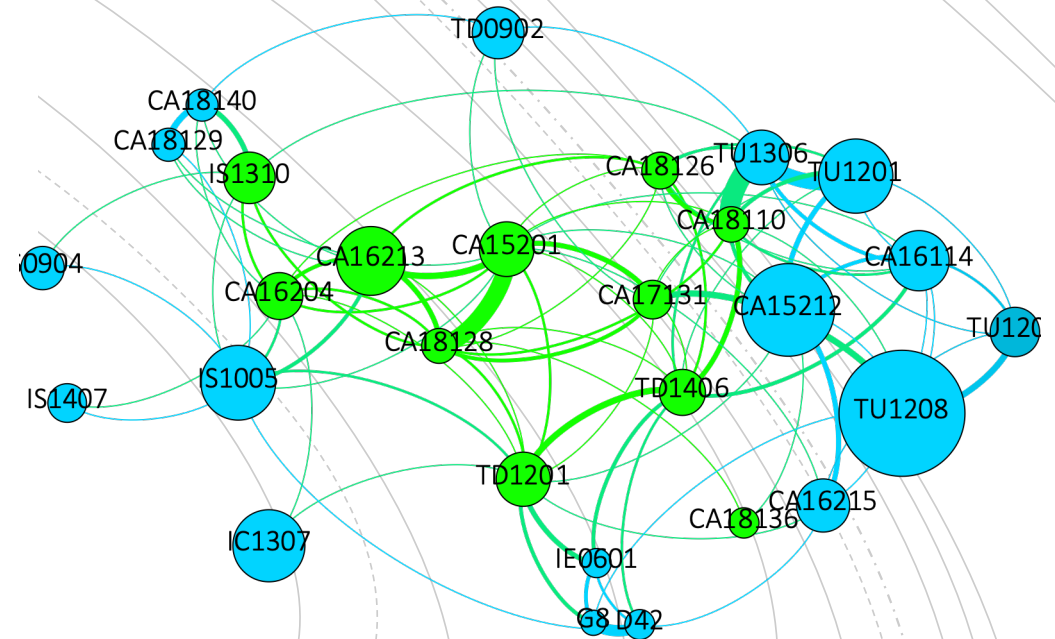
- Archaeological data often derived from non-repeatable interventions
- Digital data more fragile and subject to obsolescence
- Risk losing a generation of research – Urgency!



COST Action SEADDA : ***Saving European Archaeology from the Digital Dark Age***

EU funding (four years) for networking:
meetings, training sessions, scientific
missions, open access publications

- Members representing 32 countries
- Meant to complement
*Archaeological practices and
knowledge work in the digital
environment (ARKWORK)*



Research Coordination Objectives

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

Capacity Building Objectives

- Foster knowledge exchange around international best practice for preservation, dissemination and re-use of archaeological data
- Increase representation of women in both archaeology and computer science (43% of current MC are women)
- Extend capacity online, conferences, workshops, etc.
- Foster knowledge exchange through innovation, working with other leading initiatives

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 should be responsible in short and long-term for preservation

The starting point for those who wish to begin or progress dialogue in their region or country.

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.

Preservation and Dissemination Best Practice

Objective: Understand current international best practice for 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

Will bring together archaeological digital archivists to share current practice, and survey future trends to understand the changing archaeological and digital landscapes (domain and technology watch).

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. To 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 IPR and licencing
- Explore design of underlying data structures and their interfaces

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.

Current and Planned Activities

Surveys: each WG has at least one survey to complete during the course of the Action, to understand and share the current state-of-the-art

Exploratory Workshops: each WG will hold a workshop to refine strategy and hear from key advisors and stakeholders outside the Action

Short Term Scientific Missions: institutional visits aimed at supporting individual mobility, fostering collaboration between individuals.

ITC Conference Grants: Funding to present about the Action for members from Inclusiveness Target Countries

Publications: Surveys and other work will form the basis for a range of publications to communicate the current international state-of-the-art



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SEADDA is a community of archaeologists and digital specialists working together to secure the future of archaeological data across Europe and beyond.

seadda.eu Joined August 2015

115 Following 115 Followers

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Tweets & replies

Media

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Looking forward to meeting with members of our management committee tomorrow before the start of @eaa2019 in Bern. We will be planning our working group exploratory workshops, learning about synergies with @ARIADNEplus and much more! @COSTprogramme

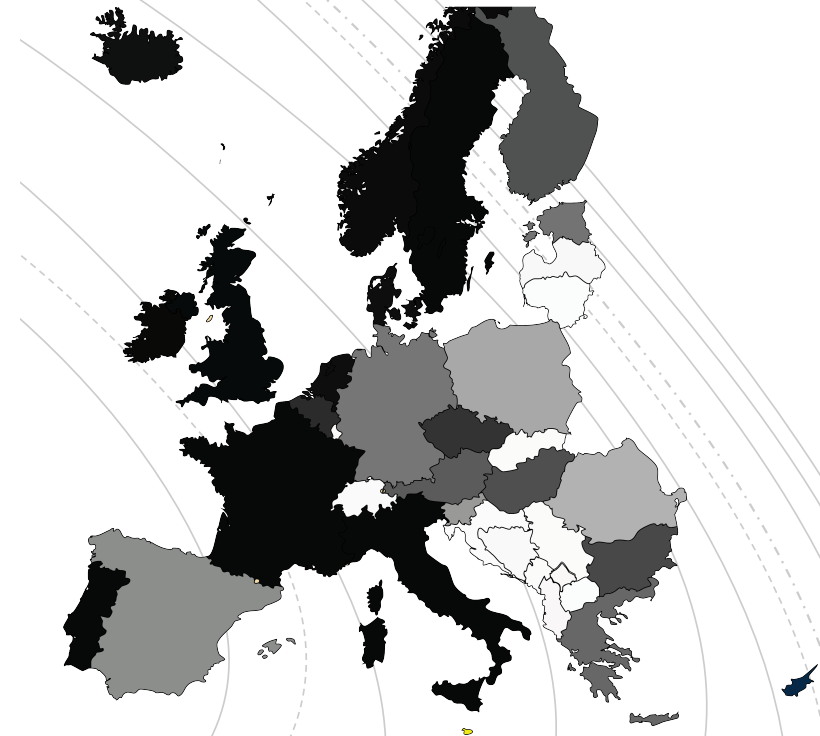


<https://www.seadda.eu/>

ARIADNEplus Community

- 41 partners
- 28 countries
- Majority are archaeological partners
- Extending thematic coverage
- Expanding participation

<https://ariadne-infrastructure.eu/>



Thank You!!

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Archaeology Data Service

<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk>

SEADDA COST Action

<http://seadda.eu>



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