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Press release for the launch of

Assets

Advanced Service Search and Enhancing Technological Solutions for the European Digital Library

Rome Italy, Auditorium- Parco della Musica, May 5th 2010.

24 partners from 10 different countries met in Rome in the stunning location of the Auditorium-Parco della Musica to launch ASSETS, a project co-funded by the European Commission, which aims to **improve the usability of Europeana**, the European Digital Library platform - which at the moment holds 7 million digital items including music archives, videos, movies, newspapers, paintings - by developing, implementing and deploying large-scale services **focusing on search, browsing and interfaces**.

During the 2 years project, ASSETS will deploy services, applicable to all digital libraries, involving directly targeted user groups in requirements analysis, design, large-scale implementation, testing and evaluation.

In strict cooperation with Europeana, the main expected **outcomes** from ASSETS project will be many-fold:

- **A set of value-added search, browsing and long-term access services** to directly enhance the content accessibility and improve the usability of Europeana's operational services
- **A large-scale validated implementation of such services** in the real context of use of Europeana
- **A set of recommendations, guidelines and best practices** concerning the technology adaptation, and service roll out strongly contributing to the promotion of the standards and specifications addressed in Europeana, and paving the way for an increased interoperability.
- **Making new multimedia digital content available to and accessible by Europeana portal**, as delivered by content providers in the ASSETS consortium (ANSC, Liberis, HASC, DIAS, Albeniz, UNESCO, F-Micheletti).

Funding: ASSETS is co-funded by the European Commission within the CIP-Policy Support Programme.

The Consortium includes 24 partners from 10 European countries (Italy, Austria, Spain, Netherlands, Greece, France, Germany, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Sweden) and one partner from Japan and has a multi-disciplinary dimension. Furthermore, the UNESCO participation in the project will guarantee a worldwide coverage.

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