15 years of nestor

German Network of Expertise in Digital Preservation
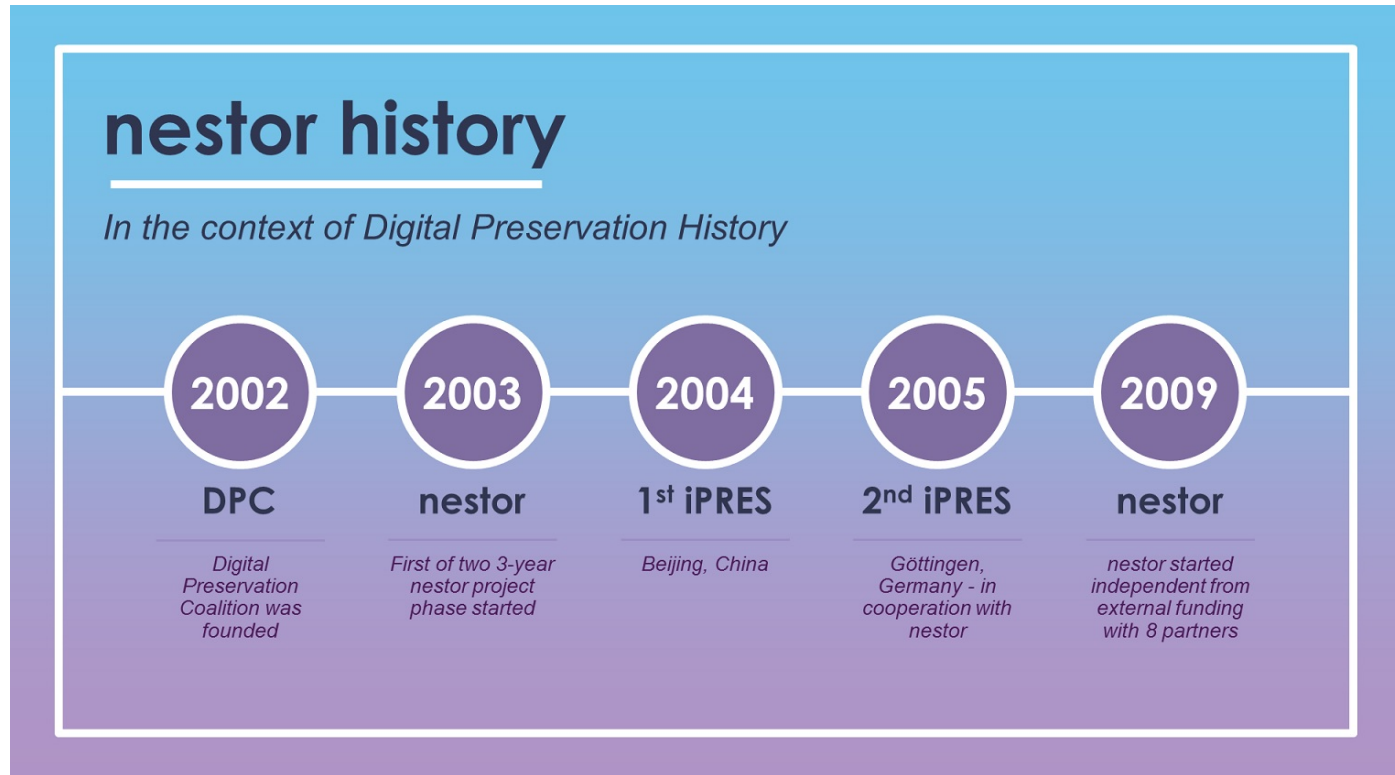
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Leibniz Information Centre for Economics

- What is nestor?

- nestor's History

- nestor's Governance Structure

- Key Activities

- nestor Working Groups

- Lessons learned

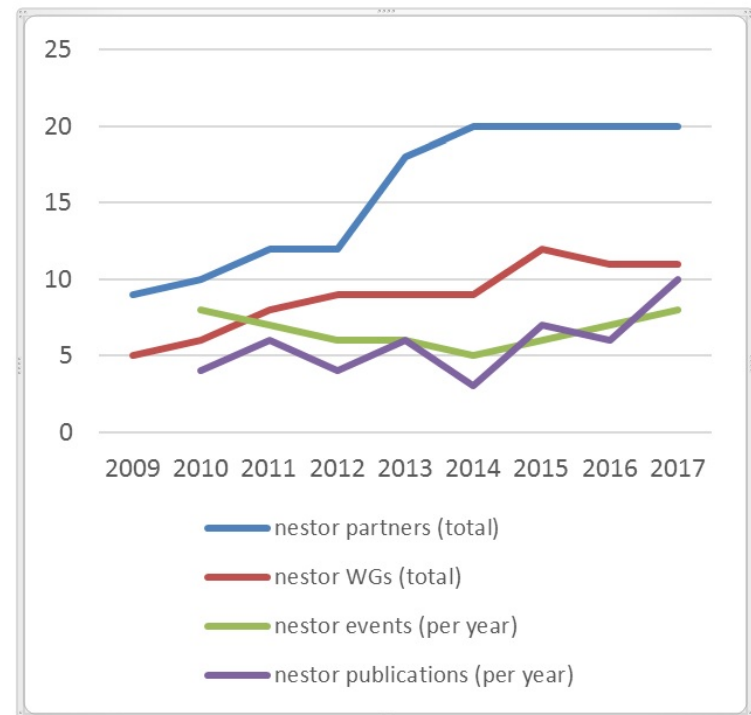- International Activities

- Future Plans

What is nestor?

- a German network fostering digital preservation in Germany and beyond …

- a network linking libraries, archives, museums …

- a network providing support for digital preservation in institutions

- an open network that is in contact with many global players in the field of digital preservation
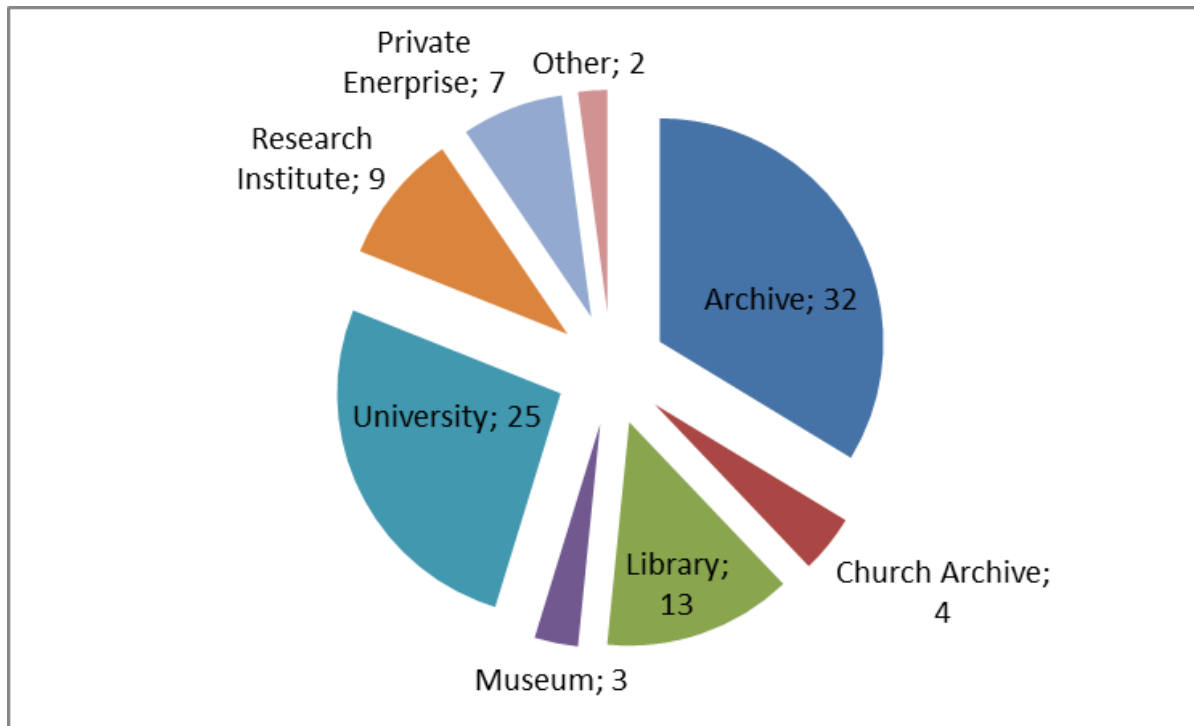
nestor's History I - the Past

nestor history

In the context of Digital Preservation History

2002	2003	2004	2005	2009
DPC	nestor	1st iPRES	2nd iPRES	nestor
Digital Preservation Coalition was founded	First of two 3-year nestor project phase started	Beijing, China	Göttingen, Germany - in cooperation with nestor	nestor started independent from external funding with 8 partners

nestor's History II - today I

- 19 partners
- 16 nestor working groups
- 53 events (end of 2017)
- 46 publications
  (end of 2017)

nestor's History II - today II

structure of institutions actively involved in nestor

Pie chart showing structure of institutions actively involved in nestor:
- Archive; 32
- University; 25
- Library; 13
- Research Institute; 9
- Private Enterprise; 7
- Church Archive; 4
- Museum; 3
- Other; 2

nestor's History II - today III

- 170 persons from 95 institutions are involved

- libraries / archives / museums

- private sector (e. g. PDF Association)

- newsletter with 1,600 subscribers

- 830 persons registered in nestor mailing list
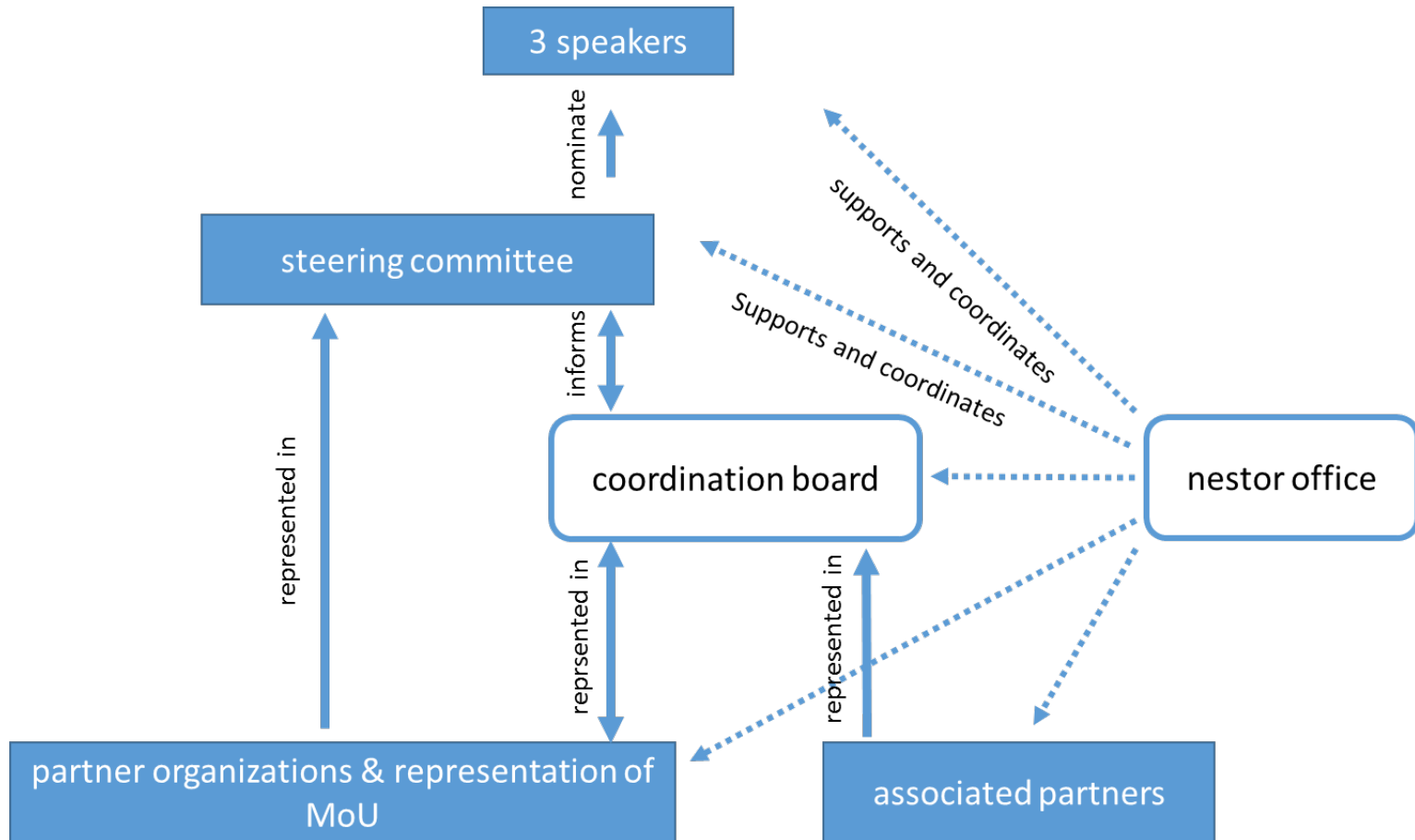
- 400 followers on Twitter

- nestor's Governance Structure I

  - Steering Committee

  - Coordination Board

  - nestor Office (with the DNB in Frankfurt)

  - Working Groups

- The network does not receive any third-party funding, but is maintained by in-kind contributions of its partners and membership fees

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nestor's Governance Structure II

- steering committee
  - all fundamental decisions concerning nestor
  - nominates the 3 Speakers
- nestor office
  - coordination and preparation of decisions
- coordination board
  - coordination of activities and decisions on the operative level

nestor's Governance Structure III

nestor's Governance Structure IV

16 Working Groups

- open for members and many other organisations
- permanent working groups or temporary ones
- different topics and different sizes
- they are at the heart of nestor's activities
- heads of the groups are members of the coordination committee

Key Activities I

- Certification

- Events

- Training

- Provision of Information Material (Handbooks …)

- Standardisation

Key Activities II

- Certification with the nestor Seal

- since 2016

- fits into the EU Framework for Audit and Certification

- Self-assessment process (basis: DIN 31644)

- 34 questions

- so far 4 organisations awarded

nestor Siegel 2018

Key Activities III

- Events: e. g. nestor Praktikertag

- since 2009

- hosted by one of the 19 partners

- ~100 visitors

- main theme e.g. 2018: PREMIS

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Key Activities IV

- training e. g. nestor School annually / bi-annually

- 11 higher education institutions signed MoU in 2007

- three days

- one main topic e.g. digital preservation of research data / format migration / digitization

Key Activities V

nestor Publications

Publication	Description
nestor materials	Expertises on special issues and nestor catalogues of criteria
nestor handbook	Brief Encyclopedia on digital long-term-preservation
nestor guide	Brief Guide on preservation of digital resources in museums
nestor edition	Selected scientific papers
nestor checklists	Assistance in the selection of the best system or system components
nestor newsletter	Released several times a year, with news and reports on recent activities
nestor topic	Short articles from day-to-day practice
Infosheets	Various volumes on digital preservation in museums
Reports	Reports on events
Press	Press releases
Miscellaneous...	Flyer, multimedia-presentations, memorandum

Key Activities VI

- nestor publications e. g. nestor materials

- 6 out of 22 have translations into English (link)

- 1 translation into Japanese

- 1 translation into Dutch

Key Activities VII

- standardization

- overview over existing standards / own proposals

- collaboration with WG „Records Management and long-term archiving of digital information objects" in DIN Standards Committee Information and Documentation

- preparation of national standardization

- nestor initiated 3 standardization projects

Working Groups I

- pick up, bundle and enhance current topics of interest

- work out concepts, handbooks, other information material …

- main focus on topics interesting for scientific and / or public organizations

- disseminate results (e. g. nestor materials, guides, short papers, lectures on conferences …)

Working Groups II

- e. g. Working Group Preservation Policy

- task: fostering of standardised preservation policies

- 12 members

- 24 months work / temporary working group

- results: handbook / blueprint for individual

  preservation policies of institutions

Working Groups III

- e. g. Working Group Certification

- task: developing a concept for trustworthiness and certifying of digital archives / carrying out reviews for the nestor-Seal

- 13 members

- permanent working group since 2004

- results: developing the 34 nestor criteria for trustworthiness / initiating the DIN 31644 / creating the seal and reviewing 4 institutions up to now

Working Groups IV

- e. g. Working Group Private Digital Archiving

- task: developing information material for private persons who want to preserve their digital assets e.g. for their heirs

- 12 members

- since 2016 / temporary working group

- results (planned): developing a website with information material / presenting these materials in a way that attracts the general public

Lessons learned I

- communication between librarians and archivists can be difficult

- different user groups

- different preservation goals

- unique material

- challenge of losing motivation: work is voluntary

nestor

Lessons learned II

- the perspective of a member institution

- TIB, ZBW and ZB MED are nestor partners

- It's easier to solve your own problems and to master your own challenges when you're in a strong network

- work in working groups makes it easier to develop good solutions for yourself e. g. for a preservation policy

International Activities I

nestor & the Digital Preservation Coalition	nestor and the Open Preservation Foundation
since 2013	since 2016
• share resources • enables members to work together • mutual access to each other's content & events	• co-working between organizations • join forces of knowledge • OPF supports nestor in overcoming language barriers • joint workshop planned for 2020

International Activities II

- members of nestor as speakers at conferences e. g. iPRES

- members of nestor as members of WGs of other international organisations e. g. OPF

- nestor as sponsor of the Best Paper Award of the iPRES in 2017

Future Plans

- focus on activities that are of immediate use for the Partners

- intensify collaboration

- contribute to community-built knowledge and tools

- contribute to „National Research Data Infrastructure"

Thank you for listening

Do you have questions?

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