

JocondeLab

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Organisation: Ministry of Culture

Country: France

Level of government: Central government

Sector: Recreation, culture and religion

Type: Communication, Digital, Public Service

Launched in: 2014

Overall development time: 8 months

Link to the innovation's website

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Description

The JocondeLab website resulted from an experiment conducted by the Ministry of Culture and Communication with the aim to show the advantages of the semantic web, aka 'Web 3.0' and how the interweaving of linked cultural data and multilingualism can enhance ergonomics and interactivity.

In particular, the innovation is aimed at facilitating the access of a wider audience to French cultural resources and makes a significant contribution to linguistic diversity by developing the multilingual content of the Ministry of Culture and Communication. The data does not have to be translated as it is available via Wikipedia in other languages.

The innovation gives access in 14 languages (French, English, Italian, Spanish, German, Portuguese, Arabic, Russian, Japanese, Chinese, Catalan, Basque, Breton and Occitan) to over 300 000 detailed records retrieved from the Joconde Catalogue. This Catalogue contains the whole collections of the French National Museums, and is the most widely used database of the Ministry with over a million visitors or visiting websites in 2012.

It also provides opportunities for exploring new ways of browsing online cultural resources, experimenting with collaborative tagging, and completing information on Joconde with data from the online encyclopaedia Wikipedia, approved by a large number of people (over 20 million French visitors per month).

This innovation is designed to serve as an example for other heritage websites and will update the tools used within the Ministry for managing cultural resources.

Why the innovation was developed

The aim of the innovation is to show the advantages of the semantic web, aka 'Web 3.0' and how the interweaving of linked cultural data and multilingualism can enhance ergonomics and interactivity.

Objectives

Improve access, Improve social equity, Improve user satisfaction, Increase citizen engagement

- Provide access to the Joconde database to users who do not speak French, especially tourists around the world.
 - Provide new ways to navigate and contribute to cultural heritage.
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Main beneficiaries

Academia, Civil Society, Ethnic or racial minorities, General population

All Internet users with an interest for culture or art speaking one of the 14 languages used for the experiment (French, English, Italian, Spanish, German, Portuguese, Arabic, Russian, Japanese, Chinese, Catalan, Basque, Breton and Occitan).

Existing similar practices

HDA-Lab

In my own organisation

Ministry of Culture

<http://hdalab.iri-research.org/hdalab/>

Results

Service quality

Accessibility:

- Joconde database fully accessible in 14 languages instead of one.
- Mostly complies with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG).

Reliability:

No failures since the launch in January 2014.

Evaluation

Security Audit: zero failures or breaches. Warnings were all addressed before the launch.

Development

Design

Policy officers at the Ministry of Culture and researchers from INRIA (French Institute for Research in Computer Science and Automation) and IRI (Institute of Research and Innovation) have designed the innovation.

Design time: 3 months

Implementation

Tools used:

JocondeLab is a proof of concept to demonstrate the advantages of linking data especially when one set of data is multilingual.

Resources used:

- Staff:
 - About 6 - 8 people from the Ministry of Culture.
 - 2 - 3 people from the Institute of Research and Innovation IRI.
- Budget: EUR 50 000.

Implementation time: 3 months

Diffusion

Demonstrations, presentations, highly cost effective.

Partnerships

INRIA

Academics and Research Bodies

Partnership with INRIA (French Public Institute for Research in Computer Science and Automation) to build the linked data set from Wikipedia.

Institut de Recherche et d'Innovation (IRI)

Private sector

Partnership with the Institute of Research and Innovation IRI to develop the website.

Lessons Learned

Lessons Learned

- Linking data with a database like DBPedia (which is an extraction of Wikipedia) allows for very innovative designs and functionalities, the number one being multilingualism without the need to translate: all linked data becomes multilingual.
 - Very cost-effective solution yet reliable.
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Conditions for success

- Existing data must be well organised/described.
- Existing data must be linked to a multilingual set of data to provide multilingualism (best example is Wikipedia through Dbpedia).

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