

# **EAC Working Party Archaeological Archives**

## ***Yearly Report 2012***

The activity of the EAC working party Archaeological Archives in 2012 was largely defined by the ARCHES-Project, the European Union co-funded project to establish common high level guidance and Standards and guidance for the creation, preparation and deposition of archaeological archives

The individual members of the ARCHES project are essentially the same as the working party. Still the working party and ARCHES are not exactly the same thing. ARCHES is structured in Work Packages, a member of the working party each being responsible for one of these Work packages:

- 1 Project management and coordination (Baden-Württemberg)
- 2 Core Standard Production (English Heritage)
- 3 Organisation of Workshops (Archaeological Heritage Agency, Iceland)
- 4 Bibliographic Survey (Sachsen Anhalt)
- 5 Applied Standard Production (Archeologicky ustav AVCR Praha, v.v.i)
- 6 Dissemination (Brussels Capital Region)
- 7 Sustainability measures (Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed)

The Swedish: Riksantikvarieämbetet, RAÄ has a role in each working party, rather than organising one itself.

ArchaeoConcept in Switzerland is an associate of the ARCHES-Project and is proceeding with a project analogue to ARCHES in Switzerland, though no EU-Financing flows to Switzerland.

Apart from the ongoing project management (WP1) in the first six months of the ARCHES project work has been carried out on the preparation of the core standard (WP2), The organisation of workshops with the accompanying questionnaires(WP3) as well as the creation of a first sustainability concept.

The core standard is a concise, high level document defining the archaeological archive and stipulating standards, principles and responsibilities for the creation and composition thereof. This document was finalised at the second ARCHES plenary meeting in Prague 30.-31.01.2013. This final draft is added to this report (Appendix 1).

At the time of writing, the ARCHES workshops aiming at encouraging bidirectional information on local/national archiving practice and future visions as well as elucidating the survey have taken place successfully in Germany, Sweden, Iceland and Switzerland. They are still to follow in the Belgium, Czech Republic, England and the Netherlands (WP3). The analysis of the results of the workshops will take place until the end of May as the initial phase of WP5.

A high level questionnaire on policy, source and capacity, which we kindly request that the EAC board (or the appropriate person within the board members' national/regional

administrations) to fill out, has also been prepared and was sent to the chair of the EAC Board for redistribution on 22.02.2013.

Under the auspices of WP 6 the development of an ARCHES web presence in cooperation with ADS York, has begun. A first Information-flyer is also complete and added to this report (Appendix 2).

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