



Digital**Preservation**Coalition

Risk Management and Digital Preservation

Getting Started in Digital
Preservation,

The National Archives, 4th April 2014

Risk Management and Digital Preservation

- Risk management basics
- Risks to digital media
- Having a go
- Taking it further

What is Digital Preservation?

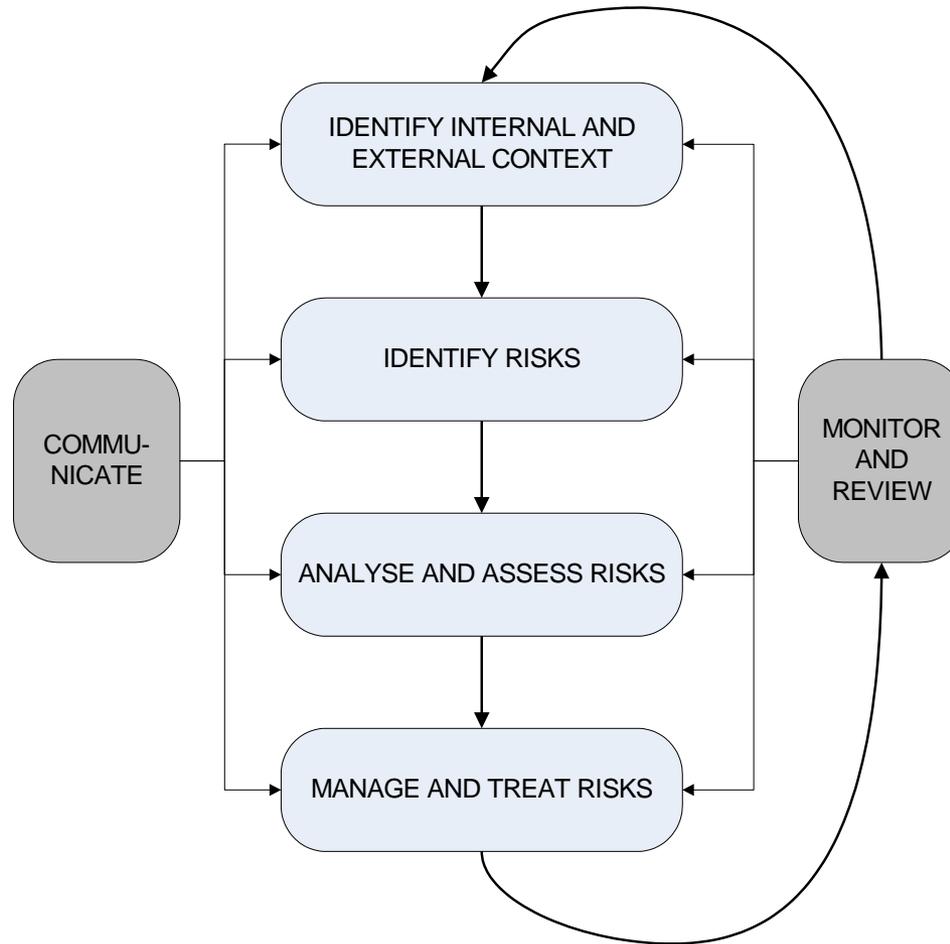
“the series of managed activities necessary to ensure continued access to digital materials for as long as necessary”
(Beagrie & Jones, Digital Preservation Handbook)



- What is risk?
- ISO:31000 “the effect of uncertainty on objectives”
- Positive or negative
- So what is risk management?
- Why is risk management a good thing [for digital preservation]?



Overview of RM Process



Some examples of risks to digital media:

- File format obsolescence
- Media degradation (bit rot)
- Media obsolescence
- Hardware obsolescence
- Viruses
- Dissociation (loss of context)
- Network failures
- ...etc...

Having a go: A simple risk assessment

- Identify Risk
- Consequence
- Likelihood
- Impact
- Score
- Proximity
- Owner
- Responses
- New Likelihood
- New Impact
- New Score
- Frequency of Review

Evaluating Risks

	Consequences		
Likelihood	Major	Moderate	Minor
Likely	High Risk (Red)	High Risk (Red)	Medium Risk (Orange)
Possible	High Risk (Red)	Medium Risk (Orange)	Low Risk (Green)
Unlikely	Medium Risk (Orange)	Low Risk (Green)	Low Risk (Green)

Group Example: Archaeological Excavation

c. 1000 pages digitized text (TIFFS and PDFs)	TIFFs on CD PDFs on server
c. 500 photographs (TIFFs and JPEGs)	TIFFs on CD JPEGs on server
c. 100 data tables (held as text)	On CD
c. 25 Excel spreadsheets	On CD

Example Risk

RISK	CDs are damaged and not readable
Consequence	Data loss, Disassociation of other data sets
Likelihood	4
Impact	5
Score	20
Frequency	Annual check
Owner	Senior Information Risk Owner
Response	Copy it, backup onto a network server, Wrap information together into a single container
New Likelihood	2
New Impact	2
New Score	4
Frequency of Review	Annual

Taking It Further

- Risk appetite
- Explosive risks
- Risk AND opportunity
- PRINCE2 project management
- Intelligent Risk Management



Some Resources

- ISO:31000
Risk management. Principles and guidance
www.iso.org/iso/home/standards/iso31000.htm
- DRAMBORA
www.repositoryaudit.eu/about/
- TIMBUS
www.timbusproject.net/
- TNA digital continuity service
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/information-management/our-services/dc-risk-opportunities.htm
- SPOT
www.dlib.org/dlib/september12/vermaaten/09vermaaten.html