

DPC Translations Strategy

1. Objective and purpose

The Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC) exists to secure our digital legacy, enabling our members to deliver resilient long-term access to digital content and services, helping them to derive enduring value from digital assets and raising awareness of the strategic, cultural and technological challenges they face. We achieve our aims through advocacy, community engagement, workforce development, capacity-building, good practice and good governance.

The DPC has grown over the years to include more than 100 organizations in 14 countries around the world, most of which use English as their first language. This growth suggests, and conversations confirm, that there is also an appetite for support in digital preservation where English is not the first language.

Recognizing this, the DPC aims to:

- Empower individuals and organisations to communicate about digital preservation in their own language
- Expand and connect the digital preservation community around the world
- Equip workforces around the world with the resources to apply digital preservation practices
- Share good practice across borders and geographies

Over the years our work has included the production of many guides and reports which have supported the development of digital preservation tools and standards, as well as the professional community engaged in digital preservation. These resources have been produced in English although they are of universal relevance. The translation of DPC material into other languages is therefore only a vital way of supporting the digital preservation community across the world, and a key part of the DPC's internationalization strategy.

This Translation Strategy sets out the DPC's plans for identifying, translating and making available a set of DPC resources in different languages in support of these objectives. It accompanies the DPC's Translation Policy that describes the essential practices and processes for the provision of translations.

2. Background

a. Translation Work to Date

For World Digital Preservation Day (WDPD) in 2017, the DPC offered versions of the WDPD logo in several languages, and in 2019 the following language versions were offered and downloaded:

English	4112	Traditional Chinese	1044
German	2831	Italian	1038
French	1361	Thai	1033
Arabic	1341	Portuguese	1032
Dutch	1305	Simplified Chinese	1027
Bahasa Malaysia	1273	Spanish	1026
Finnish	1271	Turkish	1025
Bahasa Indonesia	1239	Japanese	1022

Filipino	1238	Welsh	988
Greek	1238	Persian	986
Hindi	1215	Urdu	986
Hebrew	1197	Myanmar	947
Irish	1096	Russian	941
Swedish	1070		

The download figures of the WDPD logo then informed translations of the DPC prospectus in the following languages in 2019, download figures for each are also shown:

English	12494
Spanish	11141
Arabic	11104
German	11084
French	10742

b. Resources translated

Since the publication of the prospectus in 2019, the DPC has either pursued or been offered translations of the following resources into the following languages:

	Arabic	French	German	Italian	Japanese	Portuguese	Spanish
DPC Prospectus	✓	✓	✓				✓
DPC Handbook				✓			
Executive Guide	✓	✓					✓
DPC RAM		✓		✓	✓	✓	

3. Phased plan

Ultimately, the DPC would like to offer uniform and consistent access to the resources it makes available in as many languages as possible. However, it also recognizes that to translate all of the DPC's published materials into all of the world languages would be costly, time-consuming and difficult to sustain.

a. Proposed languages

Based on anecdotal evidence, the downloads of previously translated DPC materials, and those translations offered to date, it is therefore proposed that the following languages become 'core languages' for DPC resources:

- Arabic
- Chinese
- French
- Japanese
- Portuguese
- Spanish

These languages will support the DPC’s aspirations to make better connections in Asia-Pacific following the opening of the DPC’s office in Melbourne, and foster the growth of the DPC in developing regions of the world, particularly in Africa and South America. Other languages may also be added when a critical mass of DPC Members is gathered within a specific language community.

b. Proposed resources

The DPC has produced a number of resources, all of which are made available online. Of these, the most suitable for translation would be discrete publications which are unlikely to be added to or amended outside a planned update cycle, as follows:

- DPC Handbook
- Rapid Assessment Model
- Policy Toolkit
- Executive Guide
- Business Case Toolkit
- Procurement Toolkit
- DPC Online Training (Novice to Know-How module)
- Technology Watch Guidance Notes
- Technology Watch Reports

c. Presentation

While the translated publications could be presented as downloadable documents alongside their English language counterparts, offering language collections which could be accessed in the same way as the English versions would make a more satisfactory user experience – and would be more likely to be employed.

However, to recreate the DPC website in its entirety, in eight different languages would be costly, time-consuming, and unsustainable.

Therefore, it is proposed that a microsite is created for each of the languages offered, which contains a brief ‘About’ section with information about how to join the DPC, as well as a further section containing the translated resources available.

d. Timeframes

This strategy will be applied over the course of two DPC years, beginning at the start of the 2020-2021 DPC year (August 2020) and concluding at the end of the 2021-2020 DPC year (July 2020). The completion of the plan will coincide with the DPC’s 20th anniversary, the publication of a new Strategic Plan and an aim to be ‘fully international.’ For this reason, it is proposed that in addition to the resources identified above, the DPC’s new – fully international – Strategic Plan should also be translated and published in the core languages.

Phase 1: August - September 2020

Complete the translation process as outlined in the Translation Policy, and offer PDF versions of translated materials alongside English versions on the website:

	Arabic	Chinese	French	Japanese	Portuguese	Spanish
DPC Prospectus	1		1			1
DPC Handbook						
Executive Guide	1		1			1

DPC RAM			1	1	1	
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Phase 2: August – July 2021

Through an open call for volunteers, seek translations of the resources below that have not yet been translated, ideally to be completed within the DPC year (July 2021). During this time, preparations should be made for microsites through which each of the language versions of each resource will be made fully available (not just as PDF).

	Arabic	Chinese	French	Japanese	Portuguese	Spanish
DPC Prospectus	1		1			1
DPC Handbook	2	2	2	2	2	2
Executive Guide	1	2	1	2	2	1
DPC RAM	2	2	1	1	1	2
DPC Website: microsite	2	2	2	2	2	2

Phase 3: June - July 2021

Produce DPC Prospectus in Chinese, Japanese and Portuguese

	Arabic	Chinese	French	Japanese	Portuguese	Spanish
DPC Prospectus	1	3	1	3	3	1
DPC Handbook	2	2	2	2	2	2
Executive Guide	1	2	1	2	2	1
DPC RAM	2	2	1	1	1	2
DPC Website: microsite	2	2	2	2	2	2

Phase 4: August 2021 – July 2022

Seek volunteer translations for toolkits and Technology Watch Guidance Notes with these resources to be made fully available through the microsites.

	Arabic	Chinese	French	Japanese	Portuguese	Spanish
DPC Prospectus	1	3	1	3	3	1
DPC Handbook	2	2	2	2	2	2
Executive Guide	1	2	1	2	2	1

	Arabic	Chinese	French	Japanese	Portuguese	Spanish
DPC RAM	2	2	1	1	1	2
DPC Website: microsite	2	2	2	2	2	2
Policy Toolkit	4	4	4	4	4	4
Business Case Toolkit	4	4	4	4	4	4
Procurement Toolkit	4	4	4	4	4	4
Technology Watch Guidance Notes	4	4	4	4	4	4
DPC Strategic Plan	4	4	4	4	4	4
Technology Watch Reports	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+
Online Training	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+	4+

Phase 4+ (July 2022 onwards)

Ultimately the goal would also be to offer other language versions of the Technology Watch Reports and online training. If translations of these resources are offered and made available during any of the previous phases, these should be published in line with others within that phase, otherwise the translations for these resources should be sought following the completion of phase 4.

Following phase 4, the DPC should seek translations in all 6 core languages (plus any others which arise through a critical mass of Members within a language community) of any new resources produced and published as standard.

e. Iteration and review

Once produced and published in a core language, it is expected that a DPC resource will continue to be made available in its latest version in that language. Therefore, the periodic review and update of the key resources identified and any new resources made available should include updated translation as standard.