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THE ISSUES



Preservation together with access and use provide opportunities for social and economic development.

Physical deterioration, technological obsolescence and various disasters are threatening content held in outdated formats (example: in Europe some 57-63% of content is in need of digitization).

Many sound and image collections are held in cultural and research institutions that do not specialize in this area.

Knowledge on sound and image preservation and access is fragmented and trapped in separate areas of expertise.

A RESPONSE



In 2007 ICCROM, an intergovernmental organization dedicated to the conservation of cultural heritage, launched an international programme, SOIMA (Sound and Image Collections Conservation) with these goals:

Capacity building training for mid-career professionals in charge of conservation and archiving of sound and image collections.

Encouraging collaboration between professionals in different countries.

Focusing on audiovisual collections residing in institutions that primarily care for non-audiovisual materials (libraries, museums, archives, cultural centers, etc.).

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Sounds and images comprise a major portion of the world's memory and information.



Yet most of the world's sound and image heritage of the past century is at risk of being lost!

HOW SOIMA WORKS

SOIMA develops practical learning objectives based on participants' evolving needs, such as:

Values, ethics, copyright issues.

Collection management: media/formats, risk assessment, storage etc.

Sustainable preservation strategies.

Access and use strategies.

Communication and awareness raising.



Since 2007, six SOIMA multi-partner capacity building initiatives in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America have trained more than 100 professionals from 56 countries!

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