



Software Heritage

</> Newsletter </>

Issue #9, July 21st, 2022



Planning for the future the short, the medium and the long term

"Un objectif sans plan s'appelle un vœu."

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

At the [Digital Assembly 2022](#), held in June, we had an opportunity to discuss the role of [Software Heritage as a key digital commons](#) with [its ambitious mission](#) to collect, preserve and make readily accessible the source code of all publicly available software ever written.

As for all long term missions, we need to plan our actions at multiple time scales, and we are delighted to share in this newsletter a few pointers to what is going on at each of these levels of granularity.

In the short term, we are following up on our annual technical roadmap: we started publishing it last year, we [improved it for the new 2022 edition](#), and you can see already one of the outcomes in the [add forge now feature that has been just released](#).

In the medium term, we are engaging with collaborative projects where Software Heritage provides a strategic infrastructure for the common good, and you can see already the first new ones in [the recently announced european projects FAIRCORE4EOSC and FAIR-IMPACT](#).

For the long term, we are looking forward to a collaboration with a groundbreaking research consortium on new revolutionary DNA/polymer storage technology that [holds the promise to hold all of Humankind's source code in the proverbial nutshell](#).

Yes, it is a humbling undertaking that we took over [several years ago](#), but we are making steady progress thanks to the essential support of a number of key partners: [sponsors](#), [mirrors](#), [grant making organizations and expert contributors](#), [ambassadors](#) and many more.

If you or your organization are looking for an opportunity to contribute to a long term mission that makes sense, at the service of society as a whole, do not hesitate to [get in touch!](#)

We are hiring!

In order to pursue our [mission](#), we are now looking for passionate people that want to join our enthusiastic team.

[Three positions are currently open, all the details are online.](#)

OUR MISSION

[We collect and preserve software in source code form](#), because software embodies our technical and scientific knowledge and humanity cannot afford the risk of losing it.

Software is a precious part of our cultural heritage. We curate and make accessible all the software we collect, because only by **sharing** it we can guarantee its preservation in the very long term.

Collect



Preserve



Share



Software Heritage will provide solid, common foundations to serve the different needs of [heritage preservation](#), [science](#), and [industry](#).

Donate

IT'S NEW!

July 12, 2022



Research Software gets on stage in two new European projects

we are happy to announce that we are taking part in two new European projects that will contribute to turning the SIRS report into reality, and that just held their kickoff meeting in Amsterdam:

- [FAIRCORE4EOSC](#) – “Developing EOSC-Core components to enable a FAIR EOSC ecosystem” led by Tommi Suominen, CSC
- [FAIR-IMPACT](#) – “Expanding FAIR solutions across EOSC” led by Ingrid Dillo, DANS

[Read more](#)

July 5, 2022



Introducing the Add Forge Now feature

You can now request the archival of a whole forge!

The process for “Add Forge Now” follows a validation workflow, including curation, and verification that the forge technology is supported by Software Heritage tools (at the moment we will only archive “compatible” forges, but when a

forge is not supported yet, we suspend the request to keep track of it and process it later when the proper adaptor will become available).

[Read more](#)

June 28, 2022



All of humankind’s source code in a nutshell

we had the honour to participate in the launch event of MoleculArXiv, an ambitious multidisciplinary research project that explores new ways of storing information in DNA chains: Software Heritage will provide one of the use cases, alongside INA (the French national audiovisual

archives), BnF (the Bibliothèque Nationale de France) and the archives of the European Parliament.

[Read more](#)

May 10, 2022



Introducing Gavin Henry, our 20th ambassador

We are delighted to introduce our 20th ambassador, Gavin Henry, the CIO of TelcoSwitch and founder of the recently acquired SureVoIP, an Internet Telephony Service Provider. Gavin has a technical background and his interests include all aspects of software engineering, identity management

(especially around OpenLDAP), all layers of the network stack, systems programming and the free software ecosystem.

[Read more](#)

April 14, 2022



What you wanted to know about Software Heritage, and never dared to ask

You have a question about Software Heritage, and look for an answer? We are delighted to announce that starting from today you can refer to a new, rich and evolving [FAQ page](#).

[Read more](#)

April 5, 2022



The 2022 Technical Roadmap is out!

We have successfully achieved most of the key tasks from the 2021 roadmap (e.g., improved save code now, improved download efficiency, deployed new archive counters, added a per-user view of deposited software, automated check of code documentation), and initiated many others (e.g., mirrors and copies, searchable metadata, improved deposit, scale-out object storage).

Today, we are delighted to announce our 2022 Technical Roadmap!

[Read more](#)

GRANTS



Helping you to contribute to the mission

Source code is spread around a broad spectrum of code hosting platforms and websites, and developed using a variety of version control systems. In order to collect and archive it properly, Software Heritage needs adaptors for each of the platforms and version control systems out there.

We partnered with the [Alfred P. Sloan Foundation](#) and the [NLnet foundation](#) to provide grants for experts that are willing to engage with the long term mission of Software Heritage.

[For more information on how to apply for the programs that are still open.](#)

YOU CAN HELP!



The Software Heritage archive will serve the needs of the many, from [cultural institutions](#) to [scientists](#) and [industries](#).

Everyone can help us achieving these ambitious goals and there are several ways to help.



Become a sponsor

Pursuing our roadmap for the archive requires significant resources. We welcome companies, institutions, and individuals who would like to join our sponsorship program and sustain the Software Heritage.

[Discover our sponsorship program!](#)



Tackle scientific challenges

Building, maintaining, and exploiting the universal source code archive poses relevant scientific challenges. We welcome scientists who would like to contribute to this mission by participating in our research activities.

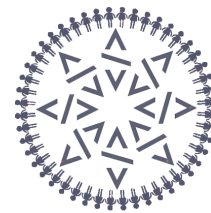
[Join our research community!](#)



Code with us

All the software we develop ourselves is open source. We welcome contributors that are willing to delve into it and help us building the many components that are needed to make the archive progress towards the next milestones.

[Dive into the code!](#)



Host a mirror

Institutions and companies from all around the world are welcome to join our mirror program. This is essential to prevent information loss, and will greatly simplify access to humankind's software heritage.

[Contact us to host a mirror!](#)



Discover the growing number of [institutions, organizations and companies that sponsor Software Heritage](#), and those that express support for the [software preservation mission](#). [Take a look at their testimonials!](#)

Individual [donations](#) are also most welcome, in any amount, just click on the button below to give to the mission.

Donate

SELECTED MILESTONES



December 16, 2021



Meeting at UNESCO to celebrate five years of Software Heritage

This year 2021 we celebrate five years of continuous and passionate dedication to the Software Heritage mission, which we announced to the world on June 30th 2016: to collect, preserve and share all the available

source code, for the benefit of society as a whole.

[Read more](#)

July 29, 2021



Software for Open Science: a leap forward

On July 4 2018 the first French national plan for Open Science identified Software Heritage as a key initiative to support software used and produced in research and led to the creation of the working group dedicated to free and open source software inside the french national committee for Open Science.

Three years later, we are excited to see software fully recognized as a key pillar of Open Science in the second national plan for Open Science, unveiled by the French Ministry of Research on July 6 2021 (you can find an english translation online here).

[Read more](#)

October 10, 2019



Curating and archiving landmark legacy source code: you can help!

We are delighted to make a step forward about an important and urgent challenge: collecting and curating landmark legacy source code written by pioneers of the digital age, many of which are still around, and willing to contribute their knowledge, but only for a limited time. They are spread all around the world, and the amount of knowledge at risk of

being lost is huge, so we'll only succeed if a broad international community steps up to tackle this noble task.

[Read more](#)

September 5, 2019



Software Heritage for Open Science

On July 4th 2018 was unveiled the French national plan for Open Science, that identifies Software Heritage as one key initiative to support. Today we are delighted to welcome the French Ministry of Research as our first gold sponsor, contributing effectively to our efforts. On this occasion, we are happy to recall why Software Heritage is building an infrastructure that plays a key role for Open Science.

[Read more](#)

February 26, 2019

*Part of our Heritage, Pillar
of our Present, Enabler
of our Future*

The Paris Call is here: calling for action to sustain Software Source Code!

A shared mission and a continuing collaboration with UNESCO: a call to action on software, and software source code

[Read more](#)

April 4, 2017



Raising awareness for Software Source Code preservation and access

At Unesco's headquarters in Paris, a formal partnership agreement has been signed between Unesco and Inria to establish a framework for collaboration on preserving the knowledge embedded in software source code, and making it

widely available.

Read more

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



The Software Heritage annual report is out!

Despite the health crisis we have been experiencing since March 2020, Software Heritage pursues its mission of collecting, preserving and sharing software source code, which started many years ago and

was unveiled to the public on June 30th 2016.

The archive is growing steadily, counting now **over 11 billion unique source files from more than 170 million projects**, from a growing number of origins: we are grateful to the volunteers that submitted **over 100.000 Save Code Now requests**, and to the many expert contributors that helped expand the coverage of the archive (more on this in the annual report).

We will continue to expand the international community around Software Heritage: collecting, preserving and sharing all the software source code is a humbling undertaking that requires institutional support, with sponsors and partners (take a look at the different sponsorship program possibilities), as well as individual engagement, ranging from collaborators to contributors, from ambassadors to the donors that are answering the call of the ongoing end of year fundraising campaign (yes, you should join too!).

We look forward to working with all interested parties: let's work together to preserve our past, improve our present, and prepare a better future.

Read more



You can read news from Software Heritage [on our blog](#), follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and also our [RSS flux](#)!

You can watch Software Heritage's presentations on our YouTube [video channel](#)!

And if you missed our newsletter's first issues, consult the [archive](#)!

Let's spread the word!

